Community Health Assessment Resources Inventory

Resources: Where to find them!

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2012 Community Health Assessment Institute
Health Resources Inventory

- **Existing Resources**
  - Check out previous CHAs and other health department information
  - Check out other community directories/referral lists

- **Needed but Missing Resources**
  - Base needs on identified priorities/needs expressed by community
  - Need both health promotion and clinical resources

- **Brief narrative to explain how both influence resident’s health**
Develop a Community Health Resource Inventory *(Required)*

- Determine how to collect information
  - Look at existing information (CHAs, other surveys)
  - Brainstorm (2 heads are better than 1!)
    - Well-connected community residents
    - Health Department, Social Services, other agencies and organizations’ staff
    - Community Health Survey
  - Use Asset Mapping

- Organize & revise the list (spreadsheet)

- Identify/find information on **missing** services/agencies/organizations

- Plan how to present information in CHA document
Potential Resources

- Mental Health Facilities, Substance and Alcohol Abuse Services
- School Health Services
- Hospitals, Emergency Medical Services, Rural Health, Community Health, Midwife and Birth Centers
- Pharmacies, X-Ray, Laboratory Services, Medical/Health Transportation, Medical and Health Equipment Suppliers
- Nursing, Medical, dental and related School Services
- Nursing Homes, Adult Homes, Health and Respite Care
- Volunteer/private medical centers, free clinics and pharmacies
- Dental providers
- Foundations (national, state and local)
- Linkages to facilities outside county (regional-state)
- Jail Health
- Insurance providers, Employer health benefits/services
- Chiropractic services
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All agencies and organizations have some effect on community health!
One Way to Organize Resources

- Health Facilities
- Health Providers (group by specialty)
- Supportive Services (group like services)

Check to see if there is a Health Inventory established (i.e. Chamber of Commerce, Library, DSS)
Potential Resources to Include...

**Health Facilities**
- Traditional & non-traditional facilities
  - Hospitals
  - Emergency rooms
  - Pharmacies
  - X-ray and Laboratory services
  - Clinics (rural health, community health, birth centers, free)
  - Nursing Home/adult care
  - Home health and Hospice
  - Medical and health equipment suppliers
- Recreational & fitness facilities
More Potential Resources...

Health Providers

- Physicians, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners
- Dental
- Chiropractic
- Mental health
- School health
- Midwives
- Medical transportation
- Insurance
More Resources...

Supportive Services

- Social Services
- Child Care, Head Start
- Senior Centers
- Parks and Recreation
- Chamber of Commerce
- Economic Development
- Law Enforcement
- Faith community
More Potential Resources...

- Community leaders or neighborhood groups
- Community organizations like Boy and Girl Scouts, Jaycees, Lions Clubs
- Business and Industry
- Religious Organizations
- Higher Education
- Local Charitable Foundations
Asset Mapping—A Positive Approach

- **Asset based**: Focuses on strengths and resources **NOT** deficits and problems
- **Community assets**: Looks for internal talents, gifts, abilities and resources that can be used to solve existing problems
- **Relationship focused**: Looks at potential resources and linkages to address health problems
- **Maps** the resources that exist in the community
Asset Mapping Principals
(Kretzmann and McKnight 1993)

Change:
- Must begin inside the community
- Must build on existing capacities and assets
- Is relationship driven between local residents, associations, and institutions
- Should be oriented towards sustainable community growth

A community asset is a quality, person, or thing that is an advantage, a resource, or an item of value to the community.
Potential Areas to Map

- **Individuals** (skills, jobs, hobbies, interests)
- Informal and formal **citizens associations** (churches, service clubs, neighborhood clubs, cultural groups)
- **Local institutions** (business and industry, official agencies and institutions)
- **Physical assets** (medical, recreational and community facilities, schools)
Another Way to Organize Resources

Community Assets Map

Source: Building Communities from the Inside Out by John P. Kretzmann and John L. McKnight
Using Asset Mapping

- Mobilize and match assets to benefit community
- Look to build relationships between assets
- Convene a group to make a community plan
Present Your Inventory Results

- CHA - highlight relevant resources or needs by health outcome or population served

- Community – (Optional) - Create a separate directory of community health resources.
  - For community members (information booklet)
  - For healthcare providers (referral booklet)
Potential Uses for Inventory

- Support community projects
- Encourage collaboration
- Build community pride
- Track usage of resources
- Attract new businesses, resources, or people

Create a process of regular updates/review
Knowing your Community is the KEY to getting your job done.