Health Objective: 23-8 Competencies for public health workers
Block Grant Funding: 75-99% - Primary source of funding

Issue:
In 2008, Boone County completed the CDC, National Public Health Performance Standards Program, Local Public Health System Assessment. This Assessment was completed as part of the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), Indiana Public Health System Quality Improvement Program. Areas for performance improvement in the county’s public health system constitute the foundation for subsequent interventions.1

Intervention:
The Boone County Healthy Coalition was formed in 2008, subsequent to the county’s participation in the ISDH Indiana Public Health System Quality Improvement Program. The Coalition seeks to promote the health of Boone County’s 55,027 residents, and to assure a healthcare environment and healthcare/public health services that best serve the population. The Coalition held the first Boone County Health Summit to engage local partners in April 2009. The primary objectives of the summit were to enhance communication among partners and to extend an invitation to partners to become formally involved in, and/or support, the Boone County Healthy Coalition. The first Boone County Healthy Coalition meeting was held in June 2009. The Coalition currently has 20 members. Local public health system partners that are represented in the Coalition include the Boone County Health Department, The Community Foundation, Witham Health Services, Coalition to Reduce Under Age Drinking, Boone County Family YMCA, Purdue Extension, Boone County Senior Services, Tobacco Free Boone County, Mental Health, Pediatricians, and others. The Coalition meets monthly and has selected a logo, and completed work on a communications and a strategic plan to identify goals and objectives as next steps.

Impact:
The April 2009 Summit included ‘visioning activities’ among partners. When asked to submit responses to what they envisioned as being needed for a ‘Healthy Boone County’, responses were categorized by the Coalition into the following areas:

- Healthcare/Dental
- Tobacco/Drugs
- General Health /Exercise
- Mental Health
- Other

In July 2009, the Coalition completed additional visioning activities at the Boone County Fair. County residents provided more than 200 responses. This data is currently being categorized. An electronic survey for healthcare providers in the county is also underway. This survey will collect data from physicians, pharmacists, optometrists, ophthalmologists and dentists on healthcare and public health strengths and needs in the county so that a Community Health Improvement Plan can be completed in 2010.
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Footnotes:
1
- ES 2 - Model Standard 2.1 Community Health Profile 19%
- ES 4 - Model Standard 4.1 Constituency Development 33%
- ES 4 - Model Standard 4.2 Community Partnerships 17%
- ES 7 - Model Standard 7.1 Identification of Population Needs 50%
- ES 9 - Model Standard 9.1 Evaluation of Population Services 34%

Quote:

Photo and Release Filenames:
(none)