

Community Health Improvement Planning Initiative E-news

Welcome to **Compass Points**, the Florida Department of Health (DOH)'s forum for news and discussion on community health assessment and health improvement planning. We strongly encourage you to submit questions, anecdotes, lessons learned and success stories to be shared with others across the state. These quarterly e-news bulletins will include information on activities, resources, and tips for conducting community health assessments in your county.

Please share this e-news with community partners, colleagues, and anyone interested in impacting your community's health.

Best regards,

Chris Abarca and the COMPASS (Comprehensive Assessment, Strategic Success) Team

Compass Points: Winter 2006/2007

1. **News** from the Field – Reports from Citrus, Marion, Sarasota, and Escambia County Health Departments (CHDs)
2. Statewide **Meet-Me Call** on health improvement planning and Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP), Monday, January 22 from 3-4 pm ET.
3. **COMPASS Website** and Web-based Tool Kit
4. **CHARTS** Update
5. Upcoming **Events, Trainings, Resources and Opportunities**

1. **News from the Field**

- At the fall meeting of the Citrus Partnership in Health, members of Citrus County's health advisory group celebrated the hard work and successes of their workgroups. **Ginni Crandall**, **Citrus CHD**'s assistant community health nursing director reports that the partnership continues to attract new members. The partnership will be conducting a data review and discussing next steps at their January 2007 meeting. Great work deserves recognition—congratulations!
- The Public Health Foundation's (PHF) **Improving Performance: Resources for National Public Health Performance Standards Program (NPHPSP) Users** electronic newsletter focused its October 2006 issue on "getting things moving" and featured an article about **Marion CHD**'s assessment work. In the feature article, **Herman Hale**, senior community health nurse, shares pearls of wisdom for rekindling community interest in population health assessment, public health system improvement and health planning. Hale advises, "Look forward, rather than apologize..." when facing challenges with institutional structures. The newsletter is attached here and will be posted on the [PHF](#)'s website. Congratulations on the national recognition and thank you for sharing your experiences!
- In November, **Sarasota County Openly Plans for Excellence (SCOPE)** premiered the film documentary, *Aging: The Possibilities* as part of their "[Stories](#) Project." In an effort to put a human face on the community's issues, SCOPE partnered with Kimberly Stocker of the Education Channel to create this film. Other topics addressed through the film series include family violence, school dropout, mental health, redevelopment and infill, and race and cultural relations. **Leslie Clarke**, Community Health Improvement Partnership ([CHIP](#)) Project Coordinator, **Sarasota CHD**, and other CHD leaders are key partners with [SCOPE](#). Check out the latest [CHIP newsletter](#). Innovative approaches and promising practices for sure!

- The **Escambia Community Collaborative** has 55 active members representing a wide array of community organizations, reports **Escambia CHD MAPP coordinator, Andrea Hartsog**. The collaborative has met four times this fall and has organized into committees to accomplish tasks such as data reviews, developing marketing materials, and surveying the community. At their December meeting, collaborative members developed goals and objectives and measures for monitoring progress. In a matter of months, the collaborative has published four newspaper articles and representatives have appeared on a local television show to promote community-driven health planning and action. An on-line survey to collect community input on health-related issues was developed and launched; to date more than 1000 surveys have been completed. By February, the collaborative aims to have a report ready for release as well as the formation of “solution teams” to work on priority issues. These are no small accomplishments! Great work!
- **Your CHD’s and/or community’s news belongs here!** Share your news with colleagues; e-mail items to Christine.Abarca@doh.state.fl.us

2. Next Statewide Meet-Me Call, Monday, January 22 from 3-4 pm ET

Mark your calendar and plan to join your colleagues from around the state for a conversation on community health assessment, health improvement planning, and MAPP on **Monday, January 22 from 3-4 pm ET**. This is an opportunity to express your opinions, ask questions, raise concerns, and share your achievements. The toll-free call-in number is 888-808-6959, conference code 7538520. The agenda will be e-mailed to members of the COMPASS distribution list. Send agenda items and/or additions to the distribution list to Christine.Abarca@doh.state.fl.us Future meet-me calls are scheduled for 3-4 pm ET on Mondays, April 16, July 16 and October 15.

3. Visit the COMPASS Website and Web-based Tool Kit

There’s always something new on the **COMPASS website!** The information and resource warehouse for community health assessment practice in Florida is updated regularly. Navigate to the website at <http://www.doh.state.fl.us> using the drop-down box to select COMPASS or from the DOH intranet home page, select Health Statistics from the left menu and then look for COMPASS under Community Health.

The Core Functions and Ten Essential Services of Public Health and MAPP: A Training Course for Florida’s Public Health Workforce is now available for download. This curriculum has been designed to familiarize the workforce and their partners with the concepts of the core functions and essential services of public health. It is unique in that it uses the MAPP framework to teach about public health. The modules can be used separately or combined to meet your training needs. This comprehensive curriculum features presentations, group exercises, tools and reference documents. The print version of the curriculum will be available while supplies last. Download and/or order your copy today! Contact Christine.Abarca@doh.state.fl.us for more information or to order.

4. What’s new on CHARTS?

Have you visited CHARTS lately? New reports and enhanced features are added regularly to the public health statistics website Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS)!

The [Florida-U.S. Health Status Comparison Report](#) provides data for key health indicators at the state and national levels. Data categories include actual causes of death, socio-economics, health status and access to care, and chronic diseases. This new report features Florida and U.S. rates and percentages, Florida rankings and Healthy People 2010 goals.

The new [Florida Birth Query System](#) provides access to data on low birth weight infants, prenatal care status and pre-term births. Create custom reports using this system that filters data by variables such as race, age, marital status and ethnicity of the mother.

Visit www.floridacharts.com today!

5. **Events, Trainings, Resources and Opportunities**

- The **19th Annual Conference of the Southeast Evaluation Association** (SEA) on Ethics, Evaluation and Accountability will take place on **January 18-19** in **Tallahassee**. SEA also offers a pre-conference workshop on “Doing the Right Thing: Exploring Ethical Challenges in Evaluation” on January 17. Early registration discounts apply through January 5. Complete conference information and on-line registration is available at <http://southeastevaluation.com/index.php>.
- Attend the Florida Department of Health’s **First Annual Clinical and Preventive Practice Management Summit** being held **January 23-25** in Jacksonville. The summit provides a forum for public health practitioners to focus on clinical best practices while fostering dialogue around a variety of issues including chronic disease prevention, health care access, Medicaid reform, information technologies and business applications, health disparities, health literacy and future trends. The program features plenary speakers of national renown and concurrent sessions in the five interest areas of prevention, evidence-based clinical practices, business practice management and efficiencies, role and application of technology, and health literacy. The agenda, on-line registration and information on local accommodations are available through the [Northeast Florida Area Health Education Center](#)’s website or by calling 904-482-0189.
- The [Grant Institute](#)’s **Certificate in Professional Program Development and Grant Communication** will be held at the University of Miami, James L. Knight International Center on **January 22-26**. The certificate program is a five-day intensive and interactive workshop consisting of four courses: program development and evaluation, advanced grant writing, strategic grant research and advanced communication strategies. The \$997 registration fee includes all materials, continuing education credits and certificate. [Registration is available on-line](#) or by phone at 888-824-4424.
- The **National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)** Annual Conference Workgroup invites you to submit “**Sharing Session Proposals**” for the upcoming NACCHO Annual 2007 Conference in Columbus, Ohio on July 11-13. The **NACCHO Annual 2007** Conference will be the year’s largest gathering of local public health officials in the U.S. The conference provides a vital and central venue for public health practitioners and their partners to examine strategies, share ideas and plan actions designed to address issues of health inequity and environmental public health from local to global perspectives. Proposals must be submitted on-line by Friday, **January 19, 2007** at www.naccho.org. Simply click on the “Call for Sharing Session Proposals” and follow the prompts. For more details or questions, contact nacchospeakers@conferencemanagers.com or call 703-964-1240.
- [Calm River Demographics](#) presents **Demographic Analysis and Using Census Data in GIS Mapping workshops** in Orlando and Tallahassee. The one-day Demographic Analysis – Focus on Florida workshop is being held in Orlando on Feb. 5 and in Tallahassee on Feb. 13 at a cost of \$280. Using Census Data in GIS Mapping – Focus on Florida is a two-day workshop scheduled for Feb. 6 and 7 in Orlando and Feb. 14 and 15 in Tallahassee for the registration fee of \$560. More information and on-line registration is available at www.calmriver.com or by calling 800-707-2256.
- The **Robert Wood John Foundation** (RWJF) has recently posted a **call for proposals** related to vulnerable populations. The “**Improving the Health of Immigrant and Refugee**

Communities” initiative aims to give these groups the tools and support needed to improve and maintain their own health. Language barriers, lack of education and cultural differences sometimes make it harder for immigrants and refugees to obtain services, outreach or other information that could help them lead healthier lives. Proposals should address accommodating the unique needs of different and changing immigrant and refugee populations and employ strategies to overcome barriers. The first review deadline is **January 15, 2007**. Details and [how to apply are available on the RWJF’s website](#).

- The [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) has released a **call for proposals** for the **Community Access to Child Health (CATCH)** implementation program. CATCH provides grants to support pediatricians in the planning and pilot stages of implementation of community-based child health programs. Projects must be led by a pediatrician who is significantly involved in proposal development as well as project activities. Priority will be given to projects serving communities with demonstrated health care access need and health disparities. Awards of up to \$10,000 are made annually. The deadline for proposals is **January 31, 2007**. More information and application details are available at www.aap.org/catch/.
- [RWJF](#) is sponsoring **“Games for Health”** to promote the development of computer and video games that improve people’s health. The **nationwide competition** will award prizes totaling \$30,000 to entrants who develop game concepts or prototypes aimed at improving aspects of health and health care. Three prizes will be awarded: one for a working prototype and two for storyboard/design treatments. Entrants in the storyboard competition will design a game that identifies a specific problem faced by health care providers (such as training staff to counsel family members or raising awareness about bone marrow donations) or address a significant health issue and offer potential strategies for addressing the problem (two prizes of \$5,000 each in this category). The prototype competition will result in a working prototype of a health-related game in a playable form. The games can be about any health or health care topic and help with training, health education, disease management, prevention or general awareness (one prize of \$20,000). Entrants are encouraged to involve representatives from a health care organization, patient population or other health-related audiences in the concept design and execution. Competition deadline is **March 30, 2007**. Details on contest categories and information on application procedures are available at <http://www.gamesforhealth.org/competition>.
- [America’s Health Rankings](#)[™] combines 12 individual measures classified within four determinants of health and six measures classified as health outcomes into one comprehensive review of the health of all 50 states, separately and collectively. It employs a unique methodology that weights the contributions of various factors, such as smoking, preventable disease, high school graduation rates, children in poverty and others, to a community’s health. The report’s methodology was developed and is periodically reviewed by a panel of top public health scholars, led by the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The report is based on data from the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, Commerce, Education and Labor, the National Safety Council and the National Association of State Budget Officials. View the entire report at www.unitedhealthfoundation.org.
- The [2005 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System \(BRFSS\)](#) maps are now available. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion is pleased to announce the release of the 2005 BRFSS Maps. [BRFSS Maps](#) is a unique interactive website that allows users to quickly and easily generate maps that graphically display the prevalence of behavioral health risk factors by state and metropolitan/micropolitan statistical areas. Maps and data are available from 2002 through 2005 on-line at <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/gisbrfss/default.aspx>

- New **NPHPSP** resources have been posted on the PHF website. The **NPHPSP Resource Center** is a powerful on-line database for NPHPSP users and other public organizations using the Ten Essential Public Health Services framework to improve performance. Easily search by keyword, Essential Service or NPHPSP model standard. The Resource Center is accessible at www.phf.org/nphpsp/.