Why is PACE-EH Effective?

• Establishes active solutions to community identified issues
• New and improved leadership role in community regarding environmental health issues
• New professional partnerships
• Confidence to take on large initiatives results in empowerment
• New relationship between local health agencies and communities

PACE EH methodology developed by:

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
Centers for Diseases Control (CDC) and Prevention

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PACE EH
PACE-EH

Historically, public health has focused on sanitation, food safety, and water quality. New threats to public health have emerged – air toxics, noise pollution, solid and hazardous wastes. Today, public involvement and community participation are key in identifying, prioritizing, and addressing public health concerns, especially environmental and community health.

PACE-EH is a tool that is designed to encourage local health officials and community members to work together. Collectively, they will identify important environmental health concerns affecting the community.

PACE-EH is a systematic means to involve all the various stakeholders to work together to address the environmental health issues. Collaborative problem-solving is an essential element of the success of the PACE-EH.

Today, we face many challenges, such as, persistent health disparities and emergence of new health threats, changing demographics, and fears of terrorism in the community. Thus, PACE-EH seeks to strengthen public health leadership, promote community collaboration, and encourage environmental justice.

OBJECTIVES OF PACE-EH:

➢ Evaluate environmental health conditions
➢ Target populations at risk
➢ Set priorities
➢ Support health equity and social justice

LONG-TERM GOALS OF PACE-EH:

➢ Promoting improved communication between environmental health professionals and their communities
➢ Addressing outstanding environmental hazard issues and public health concerns
➢ Empowering communities to express and define their environmental health issues
➢ Inspiring long-term community-based environmental health interventions.

PACE-EH 13-STEP METHODOLOGY

The methodology consists of a series of tasks to engage the public’s involvement, collect necessary and relevant information pertaining to community environmental health status, rank issues, and set local priorities for action. The tasks include:

• Determine Community to Undertake the Assessment
• Define and Characterize the Community
• Assemble Community Environmental Health Assessment Team
• Define the Goals of the Assessment
• Generate the Environmental Health Issue List
• Analyze Issues with a Systems Framework
• Develop Appropriate Community Environmental Health Indicators
• Select Standards
• Create Environmental Health Issue Profile
• Rank the Environmental Health Issues
• Set Priorities for Action
• Develop an Action Plan
• Evaluate Progress and Plan for the Future

For information on NACCHO PACE-EH project homepage, please visit the Web site:
www.naccho.org/topics/environmental/CEHA/PACEEHDemoSiteNACCHO.cfm