The Public’s Health

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Health Commissioner, City of New Orleans

Children’s Hospital Grand Rounds  »
September 19, 2012
Overview

- The Public’s Health Challenges
- Transforming the Health Department to meet the challenges
- Current priorities
- Dialogue
Assessing Need

- Support from HHS, CDC, HRSA, NACCHO
- Transition Team
- Secondary data
- Formal community health assessment
- Special focus areas for more depth
A tale of two cities

- **Positive change:**
  - Best practice primary care for 20%
  - Electronic health record penetration
  - Bronze bicycle recognition
  - Doubled budget for playgrounds
A tale of two cities

- **Grim reality:**
  - 1 in 5 uninsured in Orleans Parish
  - Teen pregnancy rate higher than Croatia
  - High rates of smoking, chronic disease, overweight and obesity
  - Murder rate 7-10 times the national average for 30 years
  - Orleans ranked 60th out of 64 parishes in County Health Rankings

United Health Rankings; County Health Rankings; LA DHH; Louisiana Health Insurance Survey; DOJ
County Health Rankings

Health Outcomes
Mortality
Morbidity
Health Factors
Health Behaviors
Clinical Care
Social and Environmental Factors
Physical Environment

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The Public’s Health is Poor

- Public health extended life expectancy
  - Basic hygiene
  - Social determinants
- Medicine became the panacea
  - Drugs, devices, interventions extended life span
- We are now losing the battle
  - Life expectancy stalled or declining
  - Cost per person exorbitant

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Health Outcomes

Premature Mortality (50% of outcomes)
• years of potential life lost - YPLL

General health status (50% of outcomes)
• self-reported fair or poor health

Health Determinants

Health care (10% of determinants)
• Access to care
• Quality of care

Health behaviors (40% of determinants)
• Tobacco
• Diet and exercise
• Alcohol use
• High risk sexual behavior
• Violence

Socioeconomic factors (40% of determinants)
• Education
• Income
• Social disruption

Physical environment (10% of determinants)
• Air quality
• Water quality
• Built environment

Source: University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute
Transforming Public Health to Meet that Challenge
Transformation allows the Department to fulfill the three overarching functions of public health

- **Assessment**: Collection and analysis of information to identify key issues

- **Assurance**: Assure appropriate services are available and accessible to meet the needs of the population

- **Policy**: Setting priorities and developing strategies based on the assessments of health needs
Increasing Individual Effort Needed

Increasing Population Impact

Clinical Interventions

Long-Lasting Protective Interventions

Changing the Context to Make Individuals’ Default Decisions Healthy

Socioeconomic Factors

The Health Impact Pyramid, Tom Friedan, Director, CDC
Transformation Pathway

Stabilize the Environment
- Healthy Start
- WIC
- Lead
- Ryan White
- Homeless Health Care
- Dental
- Primary Care
- Business
- Other roles?

Build the Fundamentals
- Transform the City Health Department into a highly functioning, 21st century model that is regarded as one of the best in the nation.

Evidence-based Programs
- Essential public health functions
  - Assessment
  - Assurance
  - Policy

Broader Population Health
- Establish and implement a policy framework for population health to support “health in everything policy-making” and bring a reputation to our city as one with healthy people living in a healthy community.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Progress</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internal Controls</td>
<td>Budget and financial controls; human resources, inventory, communications and other policies, legal review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical plant</td>
<td>Repairs; consolidation; clean-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Records management</td>
<td>Organize; disposition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program leadership and compliance</td>
<td>Homeless health care in compliance; WIC up to date and standardized; senior team change</td>
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<tr>
<td>Move away from direct service</td>
<td>Transition primary care; transition dental</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency preparedness</td>
<td>Restore relationships; streamline and update plans; modernize</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strategic direction</td>
<td>Departmental strategic plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diversify</td>
<td>Relationships; funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accreditation</td>
<td>Initiated and in progress; complete 12/13</td>
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Establish and implement a policy framework for population health to support “health in everything policy-making” and bring a reputation to our city as one with healthy people living in a healthy community.
Major Public Health Challenges

1. Violence (NOLA for Life)
2. Mental Health/Substance Abuse
3. Access to care:
   1. New Orleans East Hospital
   2. Primary care
4. Healthy children and families
5. Fitness (Fit NOLA)
Fit NOLA

- Top 10 Fit City by 2018
- Partnership laid out blueprint
- Work across sectors
- Policy and structural approach
- Live, learn, work and play
- Kid’s Rethink
- Health care goals

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New Orleans East Planned Projects
Winning the Battle

- Better coordination between public health and medicine
  - Agenda setting
  - Data sharing
  - Workforce training
  - Funding
  - Incentives
Thank you.

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