

# Michigan Public Health Training Center

## University of Michigan School of Public Health



### Overview

The Michigan Public Health Training Center (MPHTC) works to promote and protect the health and quality of life in Michigan's communities by strengthening public health practices of organizations, practitioners, and future workers. MPHTC collaborates with organizations to advance strategic planning, education, and resources development. MPHTC improves public health workforce competency through training, collaborations, mentoring students in field placements, and technical assistance to organizations.

MPHTC serves the eighth most populous state and its communities, including the city of Detroit that has poverty and unemployment rates of 34% and 28%, respectively. MPHTC focuses on improving public health outcomes in medically underserved areas and populations.

### Key Activities

- Improving the competency of the public health workforce serving in medically underserved areas and with medically underserved populations.
  - Detroit's Department of Health and Wellness Promotion is a primary relationship for MPHTC. Collaboration includes identifying needs and training staff on areas related to „healthy homes“ and lead prevention.
  - MPHTC hosted a Public Health Grand Rounds for Detroit public health workers and the community, on services and strategies to improve the health of Black men and reduce men's health disparities.
  - MPHTC trained over 150 maternal/child health workers from 20 community-based organizations in Detroit to improve their public health competency.
  - In an on-going relationship with an alliance of community organizations, MPHTC provided the fourth in a series of trainings in program management.
- Providing strategies and training for public health organizations to improve their effectiveness
  - For the fall of 2011 launch of national public health accreditation, MPHTC held an event on quality improvement and accreditation planning for Michigan's 45 health departments and state agencies.
  - One MPHTC-hosted Public Health Grand Rounds focused on chronic disease management and healthcare reform from a community and population-level approach. *“This session reminds health providers that 'health' goes beyond the patient in front of you,”* said a participant in March 2011.
- Student field placements in medically underserved areas/medically underserved populations
  - MPHTC supports the work of 16 organizations through student field placements, serving medically underserved areas such as Detroit, Flint and Jackson and populations such as Arab American and tribal communities.

## **Public Health in Action**



Maternal and child health workers attending a communications workshop. Detroit, Michigan, March 30, 2011.

## **Impact on Public Health Workforce**

Reaching workers throughout Michigan, MPHTC distance learning and face-to-face training includes: communications, coalition-building, social media applications to public health, community-academic research methods, epidemiology, public health law and qualitative data methods. *"I'm planning on carrying out qualitative research to begin a public health initiative in Hamtramck/Detroit,"* said a participant after completing MPHTC online course in December 2010.

Trainings conducted in 2010-2011: 43. Number of workers trained: 3,800.

## **Key Partners**

- Detroit Department of Health and Wellness Promotion
- Genesee County Health Department
- Great Lakes Chapter-Society for Public Health Education
- Maternal & Child Health Community Training Program
- Michigan Association for Local Public Health
- Michigan Department of Community Health
- Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research
- Michigan Primary Care Association
- Michigan Public Health Institute
- Southeast Michigan Community Alliance
- Spectrum Health
- University of Michigan School of Nursing
- University of Michigan Taubman Health Sciences Library

## **Leadership**

**Principal Investigator: Phyllis Meadows, PhD, MSN, RN**

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# HRSA Public Health Training Centers



The Health Resources and Services Administration funded Public Health Training Centers (PHTC) are partnerships between accredited schools of public health, related academic institutions, and public health agencies and organizations. The PHTC Network improves the Nation's public health system by strengthening the technical, scientific, managerial, and leadership competence of current and future public health professionals. Public Health Training Centers assess the learning needs of the public health workforce, provide accessible training, and work with organizations to meet other strategic planning, education, and resource needs.

<http://www.publichealthtrainingcenters.org>



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