

Mid-America Public Health Training Center

University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Public Health



Overview

The Mid-America Public Health Training Center's (MAPHTC) mission is to improve the public health infrastructure and move Illinois (IL) more effectively towards attainment of the objectives within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services *Healthy People 2020*. MAPHTC is a project that builds public health system capacity through assessment, training, and workforce development activities for the Illinois public health workforce at state and local health departments, community health centers, hospitals, and community based organizations. Individuals and organizations receive training through distance education, face-to-face and blended instruction that reflects the public health core competencies by the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice.

Key Activities

Annual Rural Public Health Institute:

MAPHTC created the region's first IL Rural Public Health Institute to provide a venue for half and full day trainings on current, and cutting edge issues in the area of rural public health. The Institute is designed to provide an opportunity for professional growth, education enrichment and networking for professionals who work in the fields of rural public health, health care, chronic disease, food safety, epidemiology, surveillance, and emergency preparedness. The 7th Annual Rural Public Health was held in March 2011 where the theme of the conference was Prevention and Planning: Rural Health Priorities. Over 130 public health professionals from rural Illinois attended the conference and had an opportunity to select trainings addressing rural public health from the following four tracks: Skills Building, Emerging Issues, Preparedness and Hospital.

Project Best Practice:

Building Public Health Infrastructure Through Training: For the past five years, MAPHTC has selected health departments in Illinois to develop training programs (Project Best Practice) that builds agency and system capacity. Agency specific trainings are delivered quarterly for one year based on training needs identified by the selected health department through IPLAN and other needs assessment data. In 2010-2011, MAPHTC selected Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) as its Project Best Practice site. The Prevention Services Unit (PSU) of CCDPH requested that MAPHTC as part of project best practice facilitate the continuation of its strategic planning process that had been stalled in 2009. Through MAPHTC's guidance and facilitation, PSU division at CCDPH has made notable progress with their strategic planning process by developing work plans for all units within PSU.

CHC Clinical Leaders Training:

The Illinois Primary Healthcare Association in collaboration with MAPHTC organized a two day Community Health Centers (CHC) in which Clinical Leaders training geared for clinicians who have recently assumed leadership positions or are aspiring to assume such positions in the near future. By attending this training, current and future clinical leaders learned about different aspects of CHC operations, what is expected from them as clinical leaders and how they fit into CHCs overall governance structure.

Management Skills Academy:

MAPHTC, in collaboration with UIC Great Cities Institute and Maternal and Child Health Division at UIC School of Public Health, implemented a Management Skills Academy – a professional development initiative designed to strengthen the public health workforce’s basic and intermediate level management skills. The curriculum encompasses 12 management topics offered on a monthly basis for three hours. Through these trainings, participants have the opportunity to build their knowledge base on management practices, policies, and principles, sharpen comprehension of complex topics, and practice ways to apply new knowledge as a manager in public health.

Public Health in Action



7th Annual Rural Public Health Institute, March 15-17, 2011 in Effingham, IL

Impact on Public Health Workforce

Private-public partnerships are increasingly seen as an important mechanism for improving community health. The Mid-America Public Health Training Center provides an excellent example of providing invaluable linkages between expertise of academia, public health practice and programmatic support towards initiatives that better prepare the community and foster collaborative practice. In the past year, MAPHTC has provided 82 trainings and trained over 4,000 public health professionals throughout IL.

Key Partners

- Illinois Primary Healthcare Association
- Southern Illinois Public Health Consortium
- Illinois Department of Public Health
- Cook County Department of Public Health
- University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Public Health – Maternal and Child Health Division
- Great Cities Institute at University of Illinois at Chicago
- Illinois Public Health Association
- Illinois Boards of Health
- Northern Illinois Public Health Consortium
- Illinois Rural Health Association
- Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council

Leadership

Principal Investigator: Louis Rowitz, PhD

Mid-America PHTC

1603 West Taylor St. Chicago, IL 60612

312.355.3825

lrowitz@uic.edu

<http://www.midamericacphp.com/>

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>



Published August 2011