

Oklahoma Public Health Training Center

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center



Overview

- The mission of the Oklahoma Public Health Training Center (OPHTC) is to provide improved access to education and training for the current and future public health workforce by expanding partnerships among state, local and tribal agencies in Oklahoma.
- The OPHTC provides core, competency-based training as well as advanced, leadership building education and training through a multi-level approach combining online, web-based courses and live courses delivered throughout Oklahoma. The need for this project and the specific focus on Oklahoma is linked to the exceptionally poor health outcomes in the state, the decline in workforce levels, and the lack of adequate funding to support sufficient levels of competency based training to meet the needs of the agencies and tribes.
- The OPHTC focuses on employees in state, city, and county health departments, as well as Oklahoma's large Native American population.

Key Activities

- We have a large constituency including the entire state of Oklahoma and its public health workforce, with the training dollars going to each of the key partners. If the PHTC funds were to go away, there would not be training dollars to improve the public health workforce in Oklahoma.
- Oklahoma is home to 39 American Indian tribes. The OPHTC partners with the Oklahoma Area Intertribal Health Board, which is a voice for all of the tribes.
- The OPHTC has executed contracts with each of its key partners in order to form the basis for engaging in training development.
- An advisory board of key individuals from state stakeholders helps guide the OPHTC in a direction that is most beneficial for the state workforce.
- Education funds are being used to support partner educational opportunities for the Certificate program, MPH and DrPH programs.
- A needs assessment and gap analysis of the public health workforce in Oklahoma is currently being conducted and analyzed. Reports will be provided to OPHTC partners upon completion.
- The OPHTC edited the national Community Health Representative (CHR) training curriculum for tribal health educators.
- A website and related social media were recently developed in order to provide partners and interested individuals with pertinent center information.

Public Health in Action



Oklahoma Public Health Training Center Planning Meeting

Impact on Public Health Workforce

- The center has partnered with the Oklahoma State Department of Health to serve 5,221 online training users and impact public health workforce in 69 of 77 Oklahoma counties, many of which are rural and underserved.
- Many activities are in progress, such as the NACCHO MAPP training, QI Training, cultural competency training, leadership development and local public health policy development training.
- MPH courses were developed for online and non-traditional access for working students.
- The center has provided approximately \$253,000 to OPHTC partners to develop and implement public health trainings.

Key Partners

- Oklahoma State Department of Health
- Oklahoma City County Health Department
- Tulsa City County Health Department
- Oklahoma City Area Inter Tribal Health Board
- Comanche County Health Department

Leadership

Principal Investigator: Daniel Boatright, PhD

Coordinator: Vicki Tall Chief, EdD

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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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