

## Program Development 4

### PD 4: Proportion of health department programs that have internal partnerships

#### Why measure this?

Health agencies have limited resources available from which to support a multitude of programs. Internal program partnerships can help to make efficient and effective use of agency resources especially when they are established between programs that reach similar populations or provide complimentary services or health messages. Data from this indicator can help state health officials assure the public that programs are being monitored for program efficiencies and public resources have been wisely spent.

**Measurement specifications:** The number of health department programs that have internal partnerships divided by the total number of health department interventions.

**Reporting Period:** Annually

#### PHAB Alignment

Although there is no direct alignment with PHAB measure, this indicator can contribute to PHAB Domain 3: Inform and educate about public health issues and functions and PHAB Domain 4: Engage with the community to identify and address health problems as it aims to establish partnerships between and among internal programs to better promote similar health messages and serve the same community population(s).

#### Operational Definitions

**Health department programs:** In the context of this indicator, health department programs may include a focus on: (1) prevention and health promotion (e.g., tobacco, HIV, nutrition, injury, physical activity, sexually transmitted disease counseling, diabetes, hypertension, violence, unintended pregnancy, childhood and adult immunizations, environmental epidemiology, newborn screening, and emergency preparedness); (2) clinical and diagnostic services (e.g., access to health care, screening for disease conditions, treatment for diseases, and laboratory services); and (3) surveillance (epidemiology). Health departments may also provide technical assistance, training, research and evaluation services for any and all of these program areas. Programs should have at least one staff person assigned and represent a discrete area of agency focus. Administrative programs are excluded from this definition.

**Internal partnerships:** Partnerships between two or more programs within the same health department (e.g., immunizations and WIC, oral health and WIC, etc.). Documentation should exist that specifies the partnership's goals, activities, and status of their joint efforts.

**Annually:** This indicator should be reported during a 12-month cycle (i.e., calendar year, fiscal year, etc.).

**Possible data sources:** Unique to each partnership and/or agency, but may include a performance management IT system or surveys/tools assessing partnerships that ask for the details of that partnership.