

Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board Work Plan

Developing an Environmental Public Health Framework for Minnesota

Purpose of the Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board:

The Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board (EHCIB) was chartered by the Local Public Health Association (LPHA) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) in 2014 to fundamentally advance Minnesota's state-local partnership in Environmental Health (EH). The EHCIB initially worked on current Food, Pools and Lodging Services (FPLS) challenges and now works more broadly to monitor and advance state-local work in EH.

Rationale

Since environmental public health (EPH) activities vary greatly across the state, it is hard to define what EPH is and the roles and responsibilities of those involved – making it hard to advocate for EPH. An EPH framework for MN is needed to outline the various EPH roles, responsibilities, stakeholders, and expectations, helping to define EPH and make advocating for it easier. Other potential benefits of an EPH Framework for Public Health Services in MN include:

- Identify gaps in EPH services across MN
- Help assure Minnesotans receive the EPH services they should
- Help improve partnership/coordination to deliver EPH services

Work Plan Steps

- 1) Identify and engage stakeholders

Who else needs to be involved in developing the EPH framework? How should they be engaged in the process?

- 2) Define elements of a framework

What does the final product look like? Agree on a desired set of environmental public health services that all Minnesotans should expect, regardless of where they live. Review examples from Minnesota and other states, identify best practices in environmental public health.

- 3) Assess current state

Use the framework as a tool to assess what is currently happening across the state. Who does what at the state and local levels?

Analyze current state

Compare the “current state” to the “desired state” outlined in the framework. Where do gaps exist? What is our capacity? What are the implications of the assessment findings for environmental public health services in Minnesota?

4) Define roles and responsibilities

Based on the analysis of the current state, incorporate roles and responsibilities into the EPH Framework for MN – who should be doing what?

5) Use the framework as a tool to develop measures, performance targets, and monitor delivery of state and local services.

How can we use the framework to monitor and improve performance?

DRAFT

EPH Framework for MN Work Plan:

Goal	Activities	Individual(s) Responsible	Timeline (tentative)	Notes/Status
Identify and Engage Stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine who needs to be involved and how to engage them in the process 	EHCIB members	9/2016-ongoing	
Define elements of the framework	<p>Review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minnesota Local Public Health Act Minnesota LPH Act Measures Essential EPH services DP&C Framework National Standards and Measures (PHAB) Other states (Oregon, Washington, etc.) Foundational Public Health Services <p>Develop framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify general buckets of work Determine services within buckets 	EHCIB members	9/2016-5/2017	
Assess and analyze current state	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop assessment plan Create assessment tool Implement assessment plan Analyze assessment data 		5/2017-1/2018	
Define roles and responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine who should be doing what 		1/2018-9/2018	
Monitor EPH Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop performance measures and targets 		9/2018 - ongoing	