Partnering with the Experts - How to Connect with Certified Infection Preventionists
Objectives

1. Discuss how to engage local IPC networks to support and build trust with long-term care facilities.

2. Review successes and lessons learned from multiple LHD IPC consultant partnership train-the-trainer projects.

3. Understand available LTC IPC resources for future support of IPC programs for the LTC community.
Your IPC Network

Near, Far, Wherever They Are!
Building Your IP Network

**You Are Not Alone!**

**National Network**
- Government IPC friends:  
  - CDC, CMS  
- NACCHO  
  - Virtual Communities  
  - Toolbox  
  - Workgroups  
- SHEA (Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America)  
- APIC (Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology)  
  - Infection Prevention and You

**Local Network**
- Local APIC Chapters  
  - [www.apic.org/chapters](http://www.apic.org/chapters)  
- Local Hospital IPs  
  - LHD participation in hospital Infection Control Committee meetings  
- IP Consulting Firms  
  - Outsource grant funding/projects to the experts!
Partnership Successes
NACCHO!

Not Your Average Association

Local health departments impact our lives every day

Image credit: https://www.naccho.org/about
NACCHO!

Not Your Average Association

IPC-AT Infection Prevention and Control Assess and Train

• Trained 35 LHDs via CDC/NACCHO funded project, deploying over 22 local(ish) consultants.
• APIC Consulting tapped local and regional networks to deliver train-the-trainer education.
  • Project included a customized toolkit which included email templates and resources.
• Access to customized ICAR (Infection Control Assess and Response) education and training to better equip LHDs to perform IPC assessments at LTCFs, including a tele-ICAR.
NACCHO

IPC Toolkit

- Developed by IPC SMEs who supported LHDs on the IPC-AT project
- Estimated publish date July 2024
- 23 chapters of curated IPC tools and for LHDs
  - Including checklists, PPT decks to use as training tools, and more.

Mock TeleICAR Interactive Tool

- Interactive course to train LHDs to utilize the new CDC ICAR tool/modules
- CDC/NACCHO collaboration
- Estimated publish date TBD
- Stay tuned to NACCHO communications and the Education and Training Library!
NACCHO

MDRO Toolkit

• Create resources on 4 MDROs: CRE, CP-CRE, C. Auris, CRAB
• MDRO Decision Trees on next steps
• 6-part webinar series, testing/screening, org reviews, transmission, etc.
• MDRO Fact Sheets org overview, most affected patient populations, prevention & treatment

NACCHO HAI Technical Assistance BUILD HAI/AR

• Provide technical assistance for BUILD HAI/AR demonstration sites
• Strengthen capacity for HAI prevention and response,
• Support LHD engagement in AR-related initiatives
• Webinars, CoP calls, Resource Repository, communication products
• Build strategic approaches to HAI/AR with focus on addressing health equity
NYSACHO

IPC Consultant utilized to develop and deliver training.

Partnership to deliver CDC Project Firstline training and education for NY-LHDs

• Tailored education based on learning needs assessment
• Trainings included two regional in-person courses and 4 regional virtual courses.
  • Virtual courses recorded to ensure global access
• Topics included: Intro to IPC, PPE, COVID-19, Introduction to Reservoirs, Environmental Cleaning, Source Control, and Virus Strains
State and City DOH Collaborations

Building Trust in LTCFs

Enhanced Infection Control Support

- Placed certified IP consultant in LTCF for 2-4 weeks
- Emphasized non-regulatory and non-punitive
- Placement included:
  - Personalized Assessment and Tracking Tool
  - Audits and Observations
  - Education
  - Weekly summary reports of findings, resources, sustainability

IPC Capacity Building and Technical Support

- Placed certified IP consultants in SNFs to conduct a comprehensive IPC program assessment
- After assessment, delivered a customized and trackable action plan to monitor and mitigate identified IPC gaps and areas of improvement
- Timeline with each facility between 3-6 months
Questions?

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