

# Community Health Improvement Processes: Models & Frameworks

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July 19, 2011



## Definition: Community Health Improvement Process

- A comprehensive approach to assessing community health and developing and implementing action-plans to improve community health through substantive community member and local public health system (LPHS) partner engagement. The community health improvement process yields two distinct yet connected deliverables: a community health assessment presented in the form of a community health profile and a community health improvement plan.



## Required Community Health Improvement Process Characteristics for Demo Sites

- Engage community members throughout the process
- Include local public health system representatives throughout the process
- Address social determinants of health
- Use quality improvement or quality planning techniques
- Leverage local and state resources



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## Different Frameworks

- PRECEDE-PROCEED (1970s)
- Planned Approach to Community Health (PATCH) (1983)
- Healthy Communities (1980s)
- Assessment Protocol for Excellence in Public Health (APEX PH) (1991)
- Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence in Environmental Health (PACE EH) (2000)
- Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (2001)



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## Common Elements in Community Health Improvement Process Models

- 1) Prepare and plan
- 2) Engage the community
- 3) Develop a goal or vision
- 4) Conduct community health assessment(s)
- 5) Prioritize health issues
- 6) Develop community health improvement plan
- 7) Implement community health improvement plan
- 8) Evaluate and monitor outcomes



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## Different Community Health Improvement Process Scope & Philosophy

- Programmatic area
- Agency division
- Local health department
- Public health system
  
- Biomedical model
- Socio-ecological model
- Social justice/health equity model
  
- Health promotion
- Strategic planning
- Performance measurement



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## Mobilizing for Action through Planning & Partnerships

- A community-based strategic planning process for improving public health
- A method to help communities prioritize public health issues, identify resources for addressing them, and take action
- NACCHO's gold standard in community health assessment & improvement planning

*A CDC supported initiative.*



## Mobilizing for Action through Planning & Partnerships



## Mobilizing for Action through Planning & Partnerships

- Strategic planning
- Community owned & engaged process
- Local public health system focus
- Dialogue
- Focuses on assets in addition to needs
- Broad definition of public health
- Iterative process



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## Traditional CHA Data & Intervention

DATA: Infant mortality is higher among African Americans than whites.

INTERVENTION: Preconception and prenatal health education programs tailored to African American women



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## MAPP Assessment Data

CHSA: Infant mortality is higher among African Americans than whites.

CTSA: Literature links chronic stress contribute to poor health outcomes. Residents in the focus group name housing concerns as their top stressor.

LPHSA: The public health system is strong in monitoring health (ES 1) and health education (ES 3) but weak in mobilizing the community (ES 4) and developing policies and plans (ES 5).

FOCA: City policies are leading to gentrification and inadequate high-quality housing stock.



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## Application of MAPP Assessment Data

Strategic Issue: How can we advocate for and implement policies that contribute to equitable housing conditions?

Strategic Issue Applied to Priority Area: How can we advocate for and implement policies that provide equitable housing conditions for African American women living in neighborhoods with high rates of infant mortality?



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## Group Exercise

What framework/model will you use in your community?

At all phases of your process, how will you ensure that your process will

- Engage community members throughout the process
- Include local public health system representatives throughout the process
- Address social determinants of health
- Use quality improvement or quality planning techniques, and
- Leverage local and state resources?



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