

## Project Public Health Ready: A NACCHO and CDC Program Helping Local Health Departments Develop Core Public Health Competencies



### Program Description

Project Public Health Ready (PPHR) is a criteria-based training and recognition program the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) created to help local health departments (LHDs) develop core public health, emergency preparedness competencies. This intensive 18-month program provides LHDs the structure to build training and preparedness capacities using a continuous quality improvement model.

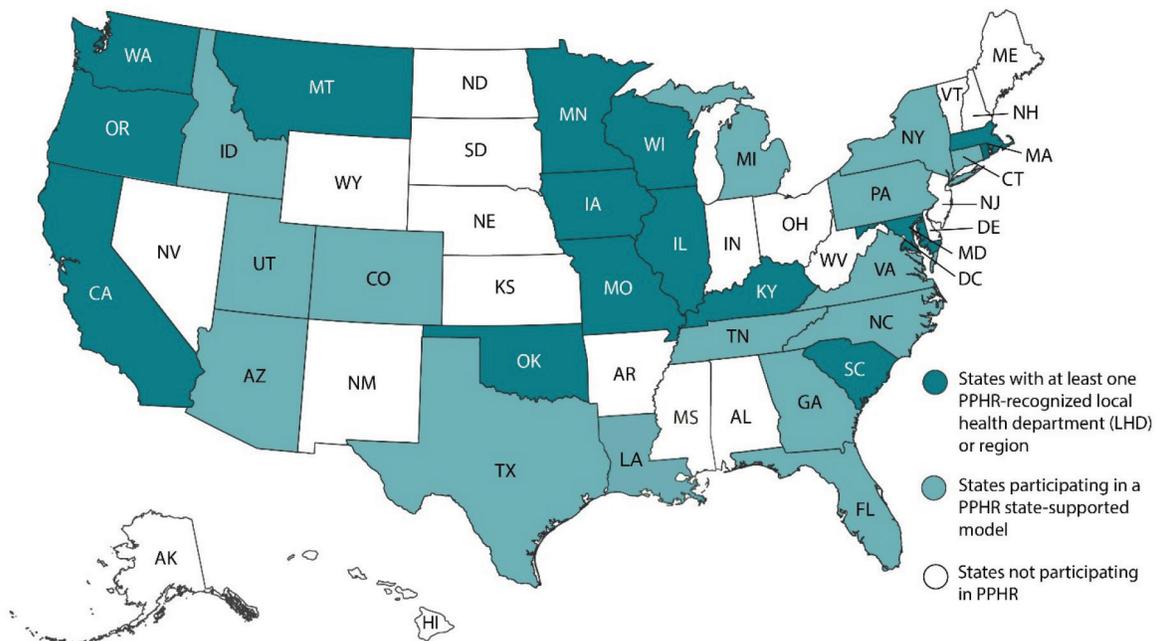
### Program Objectives

The goal of the PPHR program is to help emergency preparedness offices at the local level become more fully integrated into the response community and to be prepared to respond to any emergency. The PPHR program offers LHDs an opportunity to (1) build partnerships with state and federal leads, community response partners and other stakeholders; and (2) facilitate collaboration and team-building across the entire health department. At the end of the program, LHDs will have a written all-hazards response plan that aligns with national and federal standards.

### PPHR Criteria

To meet the PPHR criteria, participants must create and implement an all-hazards preparedness plan, complete and maintain a training needs assessment and workforce development plan and staff competencies, and demonstrate readiness through an exercise or a real event. The PPHR criteria is updated regularly to align with federal guidelines and national initiatives, including:

- CDC Public Health Preparedness Capabilities
- Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Standards and Measures
- Operational Readiness Review (ORR) tool
- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)



# [FACT SHEET]

May 2018



Program began in **2003**

**500** jurisdictions in 29 states are covered by a current or former PPHR-recognized agency

The number of hours volunteers dedicate each year to review applications and provide feedback **50**

## What Participants are Saying

"Undertaking the PPHR reapplication process in 2014 helped the LENOWISCO health department finely tune its COOP [continuity of operations] for a variety of situations. As a result, we were prepared to handle the temporary loss of facilities and shortage of personnel during the 2015 winter storm. After working with partners through PPHR to improve its All-Hazards Response Plan, LENOWISCO was better able to work with response partners and agencies in the preparedness community during this winter storm to assist in reducing illness, mortality and damage."

**Sydney Manis**

LENOWISCO Health District, Virginia

"The PPHR application process prompted a review of all the department's emergency preparedness and response plans, programs, and tools. Having worked through and revised all of these documents during the initial PPHR review process and re-recognition process, Fairfax County Health Department was in a great position to use the plan for the emergency preparedness and response portions of the PHAB accreditation application. Additionally, from a project management perspective, the initial PPHR recognition process taught Fairfax County how to evenly distribute the workload and how to form a team of individuals to manage the various aspects of a major recognition project."

**Jesse Habourn and Marc Barbiere**

Fairfax County Health Department, Virginia

Learn more about the application timeline and program criteria by visiting [www.naccho.org/PPHR](http://www.naccho.org/PPHR), or by contacting the team at [preparedness@naccho.org](mailto:preparedness@naccho.org).

# NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health



The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to improve the health of communities by strengthening and advocating for local health departments.

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