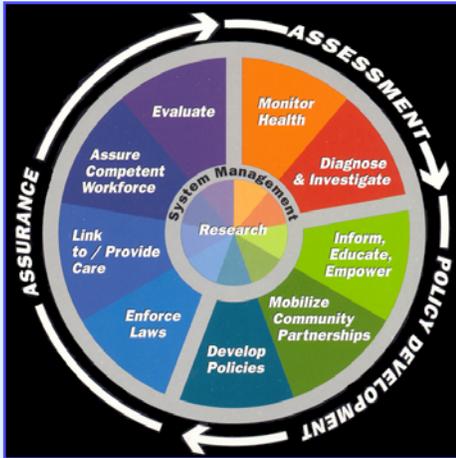


The 10 Essential Public Health Services

What are the 10 Essential Public Health Services?

The 10 Essential Services were developed by the Core Public Health Functions Steering Committee (convened by the Department of Health and Human Services) in 1994 to describe all of the public health activities that should be undertaken in all communities. All public or community health responsibilities (whether conducted by the local public health department or another organization within the community) can be categorized into one of the services.



These 10 Essential Services, as seen in the “public health wheel” to the left and as listed below, are the framework used in the public health system assessment tool which we will be using at the 2006 Health Forum. These are the services that we will discuss in more detail and assess how well we are performing and providing to our community. Please take a minute to review these and think about the questions below.

Building an Understanding of the Essential Services and the Public Health System

There are many different organizations and entities that contribute to a local public health system and delivering the 10 essential services. To get a better sense of the public health system and the essentials services, think about the following questions:

- **WHICH ESSENTIAL SERVICES DOES YOUR AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION HELP PROVIDE FOR THE COMMUNITY?**
- **WHO ELSE IN THE COMMUNITY HELPS IN PROVIDING OR CONDUCTING THESE SERVICES?**

Your organization, the other entities you identified, and many others, are our health system partners and collectively we deliver the 10 essential services to our community. Therefore, it is crucial that we have a broad representation of public health system partners involved in the performance assessment process at the 2006 Health Forum. Your participation in this unique public health system assessment to determine how well we are delivering these essential services to the residents of our community is invaluable.

10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

1. **Monitor health status** to identify community health problems.
2. **Diagnose and investigate** health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. **Inform, educate, and empower people** about health issues.
4. **Mobilize community partnerships** to identify and solve health problems.
5. **Develop policies and plans** that support individual and community health efforts.
6. **Enforce laws and regulations** that protect health and ensure safety.
7. **Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care** when otherwise unavailable.
8. **Assure a competent** public health and personal health care **workforce**.
9. **Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality** of personal and population-based health services.
10. **Research for new insights** and innovative solutions to health problems.