



Public Health Infrastructure

(Approved by Board 01/12)

The New Hampshire Public Health Association (NHPHA) recognizes that the purpose of public health is to prevent disease, injury and disability, promote physical and mental health and protect the community. It is a shared responsibility among public, private and volunteer entities in NH and is best achieved at the local level.

New Hampshire has been building regional public health infrastructure in the form of Public Health Networks (PHN) that consist of fifteen geographic service areas inclusive of all 234 municipalities in the state. These are partnerships among sectors in the community such as municipal and local government, public safety, education, health care services, transportation, community-based and civic organizations such as: social services, business, media and faith-based organizations, with host agencies that serve as fiscal agents

NHPHA supports and actively participates in the Public Health Improvement Services Council as it works to broaden the scope and increase the capacity of the PHN to address NH public issues.

NHPHA is committed to the vision of public health system that provides the Ten Essential Services of Public Health. These can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/nphpsp/essentialServices.html>

NHPHA actively supports components of a strong public health infrastructure in NH including:

- Adequate funding
- Public education
- Collaborative involvement of partnerships among sectors in the community
- Workforce development
- Implementation of evidence based programs that improve health, prevent disease and reduce costs for NH

Resources

<http://www.cdc.gov/nphpsp/essentialServices.html>

<http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dphs/ipnhh/regionalization/publications.htm>

<http://nhphn.org/>