

# Promoting Collaboration Between the Cooperative Extension Service and Public Health

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The 2006-2007 Kentucky Public Health Leadership Institute provided a unique experience for Public Health staff this year by also incorporating Cooperative Extension Staff to this year's program. As we began formulating ideas for Change Master projects we found that there was great opportunity for the two groups to come together, share ideas, and create a project.

Our team "Common Ground" is comprised of five Cooperative Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Agents and three Public Health employees. Our project focuses on areas where there has been or could be more collaboration between our two agencies and how to share information easily among ourselves. By tracing the evolution process of each organization it became clear that we share a common mission creating a valuable need for shared resources and renewal of shared commitment. We focused on taking a look at behavior over time and the interaction between the two groups.

The 10 Essential Public Health Services, National Public Health Performance Standards and Healthy Kentuckian 2010 goals were valuable resources for this project. The research for this project was done via electronic survey to the Local Health Departments and Extension Offices throughout the State of Kentucky. The goal of the survey was to receive feedback on past and present collaboration between County Extension Agents and Public Health Employees in their communities. We based our survey topics on the "Healthy Kentucky 2010" objectives and received a total of 74 survey responses.<sup>9</sup> This included 78.4% from Cooperative Extension Staff and 21.6% response from Local Health Departments.

We found through this survey that our most prevalent barrier to collaboration was lack of knowledge regarding available resources or programs of the other agency. It is the recommendation of our group for the creation of the "Healthy Kentuckians Collaborative Grants Initiative" which will give the organizations an annual program needs assessment. It is our hope that the development of this initiative would increase knowledge and communication and find "Common Ground" between our two agencies.

## **INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:**

A long term health crisis threatens Kentucky communities as multi-generational risk factors, such as rising obesity rates, declining physical activity levels, increasing social drug use and poor dietary intake, spiral dramatically out of control. The urgent demand and unprecedented social need for preventive education and health promotion continues to rise beyond the fulfillment capacity of any single profit or non-profit agency. The Cooperative Extension Service and Public Health Districts share tenets of historic mission as tax-based agencies committed to increasing clientele quality of life through multi-faceted, diverse programming, especially in the preventive education arenas. Yet each agency, with changes over time regarding service delivery strategy, shifts in mission and focus as well as dramatic changes in revenue funding streams, now finds collaborative efforts increasingly difficult to maintain. The impending health crisis, coupled with increasing revenue and personnel challenges, mandates a stronger collaborative partnership to overcome the looming health crisis confrontation. Understanding each agency's historic background and commonality of mission provides a first step toward comprehending the dramatic impact mutual collaboration provides for each Kentucky community.

## A General History of Public Health

The government's role in protecting public health goes back 200 years in this country. The Marine Hospital Service became the first Federal Public Health Program in July of 1798. It provided for the care of sick and disabled seamen. In July of that year, the Fifth Congress passed, and President John Adams signed the Act for the Relief of the Sick and Disabled Seamen in response to the nation's need to have a healthy Merchant Marine to compete with the British.<sup>2</sup>

In 1855, the first State Board of Health was established. This was in New Orleans and its purpose was to enable the city to reopen its ports and support commerce. In 1869, Massachusetts organized a state board of health and established what many refer to as the first state health department. The earliest boards of health were concerned with the control of communicable disease due to the many diseases prevalent during that time. This included such diseases and epidemics as: smallpox, yellow fever, plague, tuberculosis, and cholera.<sup>2</sup>

The Kentucky Board of Health was organized in 1879 due to yellow fever outbreaks. The public Health Service Commissioned Corps was set up in 1889 to help prevent the spread of disease.<sup>3</sup>

In 1912 the Federal Government expanded the responsibilities of the public health service by empowering it to investigate the cause and the spread of diseases and the pollution and sanitation of navigational streams and lakes. The responsibilities of the public health service included the medical inspection of immigrants arriving at Ellis Island, field investigation of endemic rural diseases.<sup>2</sup>

Different disciplines were incorporated into the public health sector: physicians diagnosed contagious diseases, sanitary engineers built water and sewage systems, epidemiologist traced the sources of disease outbreaks and their modes of transmission, vital statisticians provided quantitative measures of births and deaths, and lawyers wrote sanitary codes and regulations. The public health nurse provided care and advice to the sick in their homes.<sup>4</sup>

In 1964 the Surgeon General's report raised awareness about the hazards of smoking. Health departments promote healthy lifestyles through educational materials on smoking and other health risks and are helping to lead aggressive campaigns to stop youths from smoking.<sup>3</sup>

In the late 1980s the Kentucky Health Department Association was incorporated under Kentucky law for the following five purposes: to promote better health services, to obtain and exchange information, to investigate problem areas common to health department administration and suggest solutions, and to promote continuing education for health department directors and employees, and to establish a framework for more effective communication among health departments, state agencies, local agencies and other interested parties.<sup>5</sup>

Also during the late 1980s, the largest public health mailing in history was delivered to 107 million United States households. It was a pamphlet on understanding AIDS. Soon after, many health departments began to offer free HIV testing. Past public health efforts have wiped out or brought under control such deadly diseases as: polio, malaria, yellow fever, smallpox, and tuberculosis. Many health departments provided immunization clinics and other special programs to prevent health problems; these programs included yearly flu shot clinics.<sup>3</sup>

The environmental protection sector focused on protecting the water, air, and other resources from contamination in efforts to protect public health and enforcement of safety codes. Health departments have legal authority to enforce standards for sanitation and safety in housing, businesses and public places.<sup>3</sup>

Nursing in public health began with the efforts of Florence Nightingale. During the early years, the public health nurse went into homes to care for the sick. They mainly worked out in the field, caring for the sick, and helping individual families to learn and to practice the rules of healthful living, due to the tuberculosis and child health movements there was great need for these services.<sup>4</sup>

In 1965, Medicare and Medicaid were established. This contributed to a trend to bring nurses in from the field into clinics where they performed individual, personal, and preventive services.

Today, public health is still about protecting people's health and well-being. They provide many services on the national, state, and local levels tackling social problems, setting health standards, and educating the public. Health departments work with community leaders on ways to address public health issues. Partnerships with health care providers allow them to provide referrals to link individuals to the health-care professionals who can best meet their specific health needs.

The use of the Ten Essential Public Health Services, which were introduced in 1994, guide the sector in how to carry out the basic public health responsibilities at all levels of the national public health system. These essential services include:

1. Monitoring 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 person 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.

With the help of these essential services, groundwork is being laid for significant improvement in local public health practice.<sup>4</sup>

### **The Cooperative Extension Service – Taking the University to the People in Every County of the United States**

Three acts signed by President Lincoln in 1862 shaped U.S. Agricultural history: the act authorizing a U.S. Department of Agriculture; the Homestead Act, encouraging settlement of public domain lands; and the Morrill Act establishing land grant colleges in every state and placing instruction in agriculture and home economics in higher education. The Homestead Act caused a stampede for land (which was practically for free) and new problems arose. How could all these new landowners learn about farming and how could it be possible to educate the poor people working on farms now?

The history and formation of the cooperative extension dates back to The Hatch Act of 1887, which established a cooperative bond between USDA and the nation's land grant colleges allocating annual federal funding for research. This was one of the ways to improve the productivity of the farms and by doing this, build up the economy and also help the communities. It was the driving force for the land-grant colleges to meet the agriculture's needs. The second Morrill Act in 1890 expanded access and was the genesis of the historically black colleges and universities. The Smith-Lever Act in 1914 provided funds for cooperative administration of agricultural extension education by USDA and the state land grant colleges.<sup>6</sup>

### **Milestones in the Development of Cooperative Extension** <sup>6,7</sup>

1857 – Sen. Justin Morrill introduced a land bill in 1857. Bill would donate federal land for states to sell to support agriculture and mechanics colleges. The bill was vetoed by President Buchanan for several reasons. South argued it was a states' rights issue

1862 -- President Lincoln signed three acts significant in shaping U.S. Agricultural history: the act authorizing a U.S. Department of Agriculture; the Homestead Act encouraging settlement of public domain lands; and the **Morrill Act** establishing land grant colleges in each state and placing instruction in agriculture and home economics in American higher education.

1863 -- Kentucky accepted 330,000 acres of public land for a land grant university, 30,000 acres for each member of congress.

1860s -- Various methods used in dissemination of information to farms, including Farmer Institutes, the first of which was held in Kansas in 1868; agricultural fairs; corn schools and shows.

1887 -- The Hatch Experiment Station Act established a cooperative bond between USDA and the nation's land grant colleges by providing annual federal funding for agricultural experiment stations in all the states.

1899 – George Washington Carver at Tuskegee had idea of “moveable schools” using mule-drawn wagons.

1902 – 4-H began as “Boys & Girls Agricultural Clubs” in Ohio by A.B. Graham, superintendent of Springfield Township Schools.

1903 -- Dr. Seaman A. Knapp submits a proposal to establish a demonstration farm under the auspices of the US Department of Agriculture. The success of the first demonstration on the Texas farm of Walter C. Porter led Congress to appropriate \$250,000 to combat the boll weevil, \$40,000 of which was assigned to Dr. Knapp to establish more demonstrations. Dr. Knapp's philosophy of Extension was:

*What a man hears, he may doubt. What he sees, he may possibly doubt. But what a man does for himself, he cannot doubt.*

Nov. 12, 1906 -- First county agent in the United States, W.C. Stallings. is appointed to serve Smith County, Texas. Boll Weevil damage was so severe in Texas and Louisiana that businessmen volunteered to help pay a large share of expenses in employing agents.

1909: The 4H Cloverleaf was first used. Kentucky's first 4-H club formed in Fayette County

1909 -- Country Life Commission appointed by Teddy Roosevelt. Report said "each state college of agriculture should be organized, as soon as practical, a complete department of college extension, so managed as to reach every person on the land in the state, with both information and inspiration." Set stage for congressional funding of Extension.

1910 -- Dean Scovell recommended Agriculture College be organized into a Department of Research, Department of Teaching, and Department of Extension. Department of Teaching also included Home Economics. T.R. Bryant became head of the Department of Extension Work on July 1 and was its sole staff member. Previously Extension was a division of the Experiment Station.

1911 -- Kentucky held its first Farmer's Week, later evolved into Farm and Home Week at UK

1912 -- State legislature makes first annual appropriation to Experiment Station, funds also supported Extension. First Extension Specialists hired in September of 1912 (Hubert Hendricks and J.H. Carmody) First Agents hired later that year (Frank Montgomery and Charles Mahan)

1912 -- Kentucky first used "movable school" idea in 1912; faculty would go to any place that had an "adequate hall and would guarantee attendance of 50 people"

May 8, 1914 -- President Woodrow Wilson signs the Smith-Lever Act authorizing cooperative extension work between the Land-Grant Colleges and USDA. The act makes provisions for extension agents to provide instruction and practical demonstrations in agriculture and home economics to persons not attending college. The system was to be organized at county, state and federal levels. The act bears the names of the two congressmen who introduced it: Senator Hike Smith of Georgia and Representative A.F. Lever of South Carolina. B.A. Calgary becomes the first director of the Division of Extension Work.

The Smith-Lever Act provided funds for cooperative administration of agricultural extension education by USDA and the state land grant colleges, with the twin purposes of increasing farm productivity and improving rural life. Formula funding intended to encourage placement of county agents was distributed on the basis of rural population. Kentucky received Smith-Lever appropriation of \$10,000 in 1914

1917 -- The Emergency Food Production Act Stimulated the wartime production of agricultural commodities and greatly increased the number of extension agents throughout the states. There was a great need for food production and preservations as the nation was to provide foods for armed forces and allies. At the time, 49 counties had agricultural agents and 28 had county home demonstration agent. Number increased rapidly due to congressional emergency appropriations.

1919 -- 74 emergency agricultural agents and 63 emergency home demonstration agents had been employed. Agricultural agents sent letters to farm leaders in the county, setting the campaign in motion (to boast food production). "Remember that there can be displayed as much patriotism on the farm as in the trenches, and all of us will be needed. We are counting on you". (page 150). Extension agents were called upon to conduct programs or assist in the following campaigns: home gardens, increased potato acreage, canning labor, Liberty Loan, Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., War Savings Stamps, increased wheat acreage, food saving pledge cards campaigns.

1921 -- The Family and Consumer Sciences Extension program was introduced with efforts being dedicated to fostering a balance between farm and home. The overall mission of the program was to improve the quality of individual and family life through education, research, and outreach.

1921-- Home demonstrations agents were placed in 23 counties. During this time, project efforts focused on foods, clothing and home management.

1924 -- Home demonstrations and homemaker clubs helped in developing the hot school lunch programs. Efforts were also made to raise money to install running water.

1925 – Efforts of home demonstration agents had expanded to include food, clothing, home improvement, home, health and sanitation, and community activities. This included programs on sanitation, keeping physically fit, control of communicable diseases, home care of the sick, invalid cookery, and control of household pests.

1928 -- Home economics extension got its first food specialist, Miss Ida Hagman.

1928 -- The Capper-Ketcham Act expanded extension work and encouraged agriculture and home economics in 4-H clubs.

1930s -- During the early 1930s, home economics extension emphasized a live-at-home program, home production and preservation of food and clothing for the family.

1933 -- The Agricultural Adjustment Act, the federal government's response to the Great Depression, created "the new USDA." The act provided programs of direct economic assistance to farmers, emphasizing production controls and marking the beginning of government price supports. Extension agents assisted with implementing some of these programs. In 1933, with the depression at its worst, foods programs focused on production of food for home consumption, preservation and storage of food, selecting purchased foods and meal preparation, and problems of nutrition and adequate diet.

1937-- Agents respond to disaster (flood of the Ohio River). Agriculture agents manned boats and rescued man and livestock. Home agents organized and fed vast numbers of refugees and gave efforts in assembling food and clothing.

1939 -- Home demonstration agents were in 53 counties.

1930s (late) -- Home demonstration agents served free school lunches, helped needy families to preserve food, advised families on spending habits, managed community canning centers, gave and distributed foods to the needy.

1945 -- The Bankhead-Flanagan Act expanded federal funding of county extension work on the basis of farm population.

1953 -- Congress amended the Smith-Lever Act, consolidating previous legislation, reformulating the federal share of cooperative funding, and specifying separation of extension activities from those of the Farm Bureau. The formula was again changed in 1962.

1961 -- Section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Amendment was added to allow funding for special programs such as resource and community development, farm safety, urban gardening, pest management and non-point pollution control.

1969 -- The Expanded Food and Nutrition Program (EFNEP) was established under section 3(d), appropriations rising from \$10 million in 1969 to \$60.5 million in 1975. The goal of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is to education limited resource people with young children to acquire knowledge, improve skills and change behavior necessary to achieve health and well-being

1972 -- The federal Rural Development Act authorized expanded extension work in rural communities in nonagricultural as well as agricultural fields.

1973 -- Congress earmarked funds for 4-H work in urban areas and rural community development.

1977 -- The federal Food and Agriculture Act provided for small farm extension programs.

1978 -- The Renewable Resources Extension Act authorized support for extension forestry and other renewable natural resources programs.

1985 -- The Food Security Act amended the Smith-Lever Act to allow a larger role for extension personnel in applied research activities.



## Family and Consumer Science Extension Today

Over the years, the vision of Family and Consumer Sciences Extension has remained strong. The multidisciplinary field focuses on building assets of individuals and families to address the perennial problems faced across the lifespan. Family and Consumer Sciences Extension operates within an ecological framework with the basic needs of food, clothing, and shelter at its core. The next level emphasizes well-being with a focus on human development, parenting, resource management, nutrition, health, and aesthetics. At the community level, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension prepare individuals for community and economic development and activity. Professionals in Family and Consumer Sciences Extension enable individuals and families to develop capacity for strengthening families and building community for an ever-changing society.

With each agency's historic shared mission toward increasing quality of life, as well as mutual governmental tax-based funding challenges, it would seem that collaborative partnerships would naturally evolve for efficiency and maximum impact. But increasing misperceptions, spiraling resentment and an "us versus them" mentality with subsequent division, provides a more accurate description of current professional relationships.<sup>8</sup>

The critical need for renewal of shared vision and partnerships provided the catalyst for the KPHLI Common Ground Change Master Team to initiate research summarized with the following:

### *Problem Statement*

**Why are there barriers to collaboration between Cooperative Extension Service and Public Health and how can a model of collaboration be developed?**

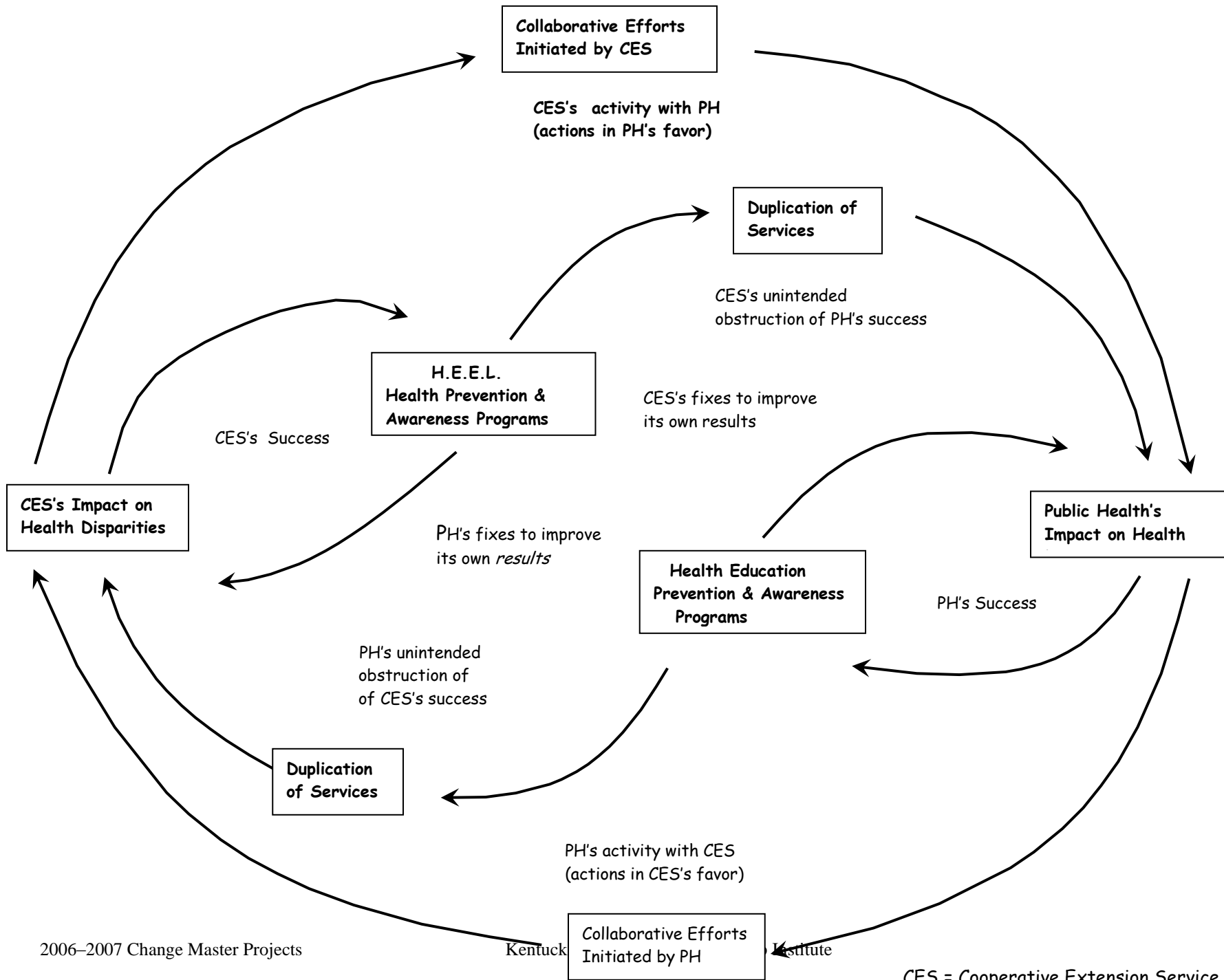
*Behavior Over Time Graphs:*

Earliest Beginning (1700 -1900)	1900 - 1960	1960 - Present
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1798- First Federal Public Health program was established  
1855- First State Board was established  
1869 - First state health department established  
1879 – KY Board of Health was organized  
1887 – Hatch Experiment Station Act provides funding for agricultural experiment station in all states

1906 – First County Extension Agent in United States  
1912 – First County Extension agent in Kentucky  
1912 – Kentucky first used “moveable school” to teach about agricultural and improve rural life.  
1912 - Responsibilities of Public Health expanded  
Public Health personnel still providing home-based services while providing medical expertise and preventive measures.  
  
1925 - Home economics extension traveled to homes to offer programs on food, clothing, home, health and sanitation..  
1937 – Agents respond to flood of Ohio River

1964 – Surgeon Generals report raised awareness about the hazards of tobacco  
1965 – Medicare and Medicaid was established.  
Public health focus changes from home-based services and targets clinical services.  
1969 – Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) established  
1985 – Extension takes greater role in applied research activities  
2002 – Health Education through Extension Leadership (HEEL) was established.  
1988 – Largest public health mailing in history (HIV/AIDS)  
Public health still targets clinical services and focuses on disease prevention.



2006–2007 Change Master Projects

Kentucky

Collaborative Efforts  
Initiated by PH

CES = Cooperative Extension Service  
PH = Public Health

***Essential Public Health Services/National Goals Supported:***

Our Change Master Project supports the following goals:

Essential Public Health Services Goals:

3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues
4. Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems

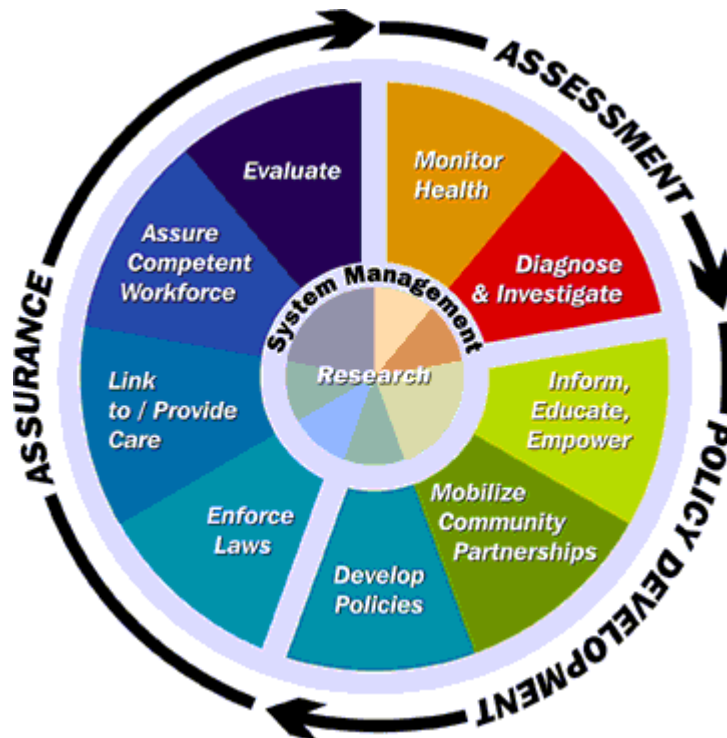
National Public Health Performance Standards Program

Encourage and leverage national, state, and local partnerships to build a stronger foundation for public health preparedness

Healthy People 2010

7. Educational and Community-Based Programs

Goal: Increase the quality, availability, and effectiveness of educational and community-based programs designed to prevent disease and improve health and quality of life.



## PROJECT OBJECTIVES/DESCRIPTION/DELIVERABLES:

Through our Change Master Project we hoped to do the following:

1. provide an increased understanding regarding local health department directors and county extension agent perceptions regarding barriers to partnership collaborations
2. develop awareness of successful Public Health/Cooperative Extension partnership impacts towards Healthy Kentuckians 2010 goals for improved health quality

Our team decided to work on promoting collaboration between the Cooperative Extension Service and Public Health in Kentucky. We decided to create a web survey [http://www.ca.uky.edu/heel/KPHLI\\_Survey/](http://www.ca.uky.edu/heel/KPHLI_Survey/), where county extension agents and public health employees could give us feedback on past and present collaboration efforts being done in their communities. 1

To show collaboration over time, we asked for a time range in the feedback to report efforts from as far back as 21 years or more ago, up to the last 3 years. In our survey, we used the Healthy Kentuckians 2010 topics as general headings to get feedback on. With the survey we hoped to get a snapshot look at what was being done presently and in the recent past, across the state, between the Cooperative Extension Service and Public Health.

We thought this feedback might show increased collaboration in the last decade due to the addition of county community health educators by Public Health and health education resources established with the University of Kentucky HEEL (Health Education through Extension Leadership) program in Cooperative Extension. We also were interested in seeing if there was much difference in collaborative efforts across the different geographic regions in the state.

With the survey, we immediately experienced an example of a barrier or slow down to collaboration because we had to navigate the internal review board (IRB) channels of the two overall institutions: University of Kentucky and Kentucky Public Health, to get approval to ask for data feedback with this simple survey.

We also found that it was hard logistically to ask for employees to participate in this survey. Just requesting via email for participation doesn't get us a high percentage of returns. We needed time to get administration to buy in and promote giving feedback. We found we got more survey participation when we were able to ask co-workers, in a face-to-face setting, to participate. With Cooperative Extension, this gave us the opportunity to try and explain what KPHLI was and why this was being done and that we had agents involved.

Our experience shows that there needs to be a simpler way for the two groups (CES & PH) to share information, resources and ideas. This may be done already on a county level between extension agents and local Public Health staff, but there is no easy way to share successful program ideas, helpful resources, etc. across regions or the state. Cooperative Extension & Public Health administration may want to look at using some type of web based or electronic communications, such as a shared internal message board, to allow for easier communication across the state.

We all need to work ‘Smarter not Harder’ and not have to reinvent the wheel each time. If a Health or Wellness program is a success in one county or district, we need an easy and timely way to promote and share that statewide. It would be wonderful if this kind of shared information could be easily posted by all participants, archived and be searchable.

### **Deliverables:**

- Web Survey and Survey Summary
- Common Ground power point document showing collaboration examples from across the state, shared by team members
- List of Health, Nutrition & Wellness resources available from CES
- List of Health, Nutrition & Wellness resources available from PH

## **METHODOLOGY**

The Common Ground group consisted of individuals from both Public Health and Cooperative Extension. It was quickly decided that we must work together to achieve optimal success by meeting at least four times during the year. Our first main goal was to develop a survey that could be utilized to determine the amount of collaboration that already exists between the two entities.

As a group, we developed the instrument that represented work in both areas. After the development of the survey, the instrument was sent to the proper individuals for IRB approval at the University level. This took much time and effort by our entire team. After several drafts, the University of Kentucky approved our study. Next, we contacted the IRB for Public Health and again went through a very long process to receive approval. After approval from both organizations, our survey was sent to all extension agents across the state and to public health directors.

This study was a descriptive research study and examined collaboration between the Cooperative Extension Service and Public Health. The target population, those to whom the researcher wishes to generalize and the accessible population, those sampling units available for the study were employees of both organizations. The sample was a non-probabilistic sample, which is non-random and can not specify the odds that a subject will be selected. This type of non- probabilistic sampling is considered a convenience sample. A convenience sample involves using available subjects for the study and is regarded as the weakest of all sampling techniques.

In this study, employees of Cooperative Extension and Public Health were considered as the sample. The accepting sample was those individuals who responded and chose to participate by completing the questionnaire. The nominal scale for variables simply categorizes without. In this study, the amount of time as an employee is considered nominal. These aspects were analyzed to assist us in determining the background and overall description of the population used.

## RESULTS:

### Survey of Collaborative Efforts Summary

- 74 total surveys
- 78.4% were employees of Cooperative Extension Service; 21.6% were Public Health employees
- 13.5% employed less than 3 years; 13.5% employed 3-5 years; 18.9% employed 5-10 years; 5.4% employed 11-15 years; 16.2% employed 16-20 years and 32.4% employed 21 years or more.
- 10.8% work in Western part of the state; 37.8% in Central; 10.8% in Northern; and 37.8% in Eastern

Barriers preventing stronger partnership between Public Health and CES from most prevalent to least prevalent are:

1. 39.2% said lack of knowledge regarding available resources or programs of the other agency.
2. 32.4% said lack of awareness of program driven initiatives
3. 32.4% said lack of funding
4. 25.75 said turf issues regarding program leadership
5. 24.3% said turf issues regarding funding
6. 21.6% said lack of interest in building partnerships
7. 20.35 said lack of administrative support to develop collaboration
8. 16.25 said personality conflicts between agency personnel

In the Western part of the state the most prevalent barriers were 1, 2 and 3 as indicated above. In the Central part of the state the most prevalent barriers were 1, 2, and 3 as indicated above. In the Northern part of the state the most prevalent barriers were 4, 6, and 7 as indicated above. In the Eastern part of the state the most prevalent barriers were 1, 3, and 5 as indicated above.

#### Physical Activity and Fitness

79.75% have done programming in this area with 48.7% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 21.65% for 3-5 years.

#### Nutrition

81.1% have done programming in this area with 27.2% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 29.75 for 3-5 years.

#### Tobacco Use

33.8% have done programming in this area with 10.8% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 14.95 for 3-5 years.

#### Education and Community Based Programs

48.7% have done programming in this area with 16.25% having offered the program for 3-5 years and 13.5% for 5-10 years.

### Environmental Health

24.3% have done programming in this area with 8.1% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 5.4% for 3-10 years.

### Food Safety

46% have done programming in this area with 12.2% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 8.1% for both 5-10 and 21 years or more.

### Injury/Violence Prevention

28.4% have done programming in this area with 8.1% having offered the program for 3-5 years and 6.8% for both less than 3 years and 5-10 years.

### Occupational Safety and Health

8.1% have done programming in this area with 2.7% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 1.4% for 5-15 years.

### Oral Health

36.5% have done programming in this area with 17.6% having offered the program for 3-5 years and 12.2% for less than 3 years.

### Access to Quality Health Services

17.6% have done programming in this area with 5.4% having offered the program for 3-10 years and 4.1% for less than 3 years.

### Family Planning

16.2% have done programming in this area with 5.4% having offered the program for 3-5 years and 4.1% for 21 years or more

### Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

37.8% have done programming in this area with 13.5% having offered the program for 3-5 years and 9.5% for 21 years or more.

### Medical Product Safety

6.8% have done programming in this area with 6.8% having offered the program for less than 3 years.

### Public Health Infrastructure

4.1% have done programming in this area with 2.7% having offered the program for 11-15 years and 1.4% for 5-10 years.

### Health Communication

12.2% have done programming in this area with 4.1% having offered the program for 0-5 years.

### Arthritis, Osteoporosis, and Chronic Back Conditions

13.5% have done programming in this area with 6.8% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 4.1% for 3-5 years.



Cancer

47.3% have done programming in this area with 17.6% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 8.1% for 3-10 years.

Diabetes

58.1% have done programming in this area with 18.9% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 16.2% for 3-5 years.

Disability and Secondary conditions

1.4% have done programming in this area with 1.4% having offered the program for 21 years or more.

Heart Disease and Stroke

37.8% have done programming in this area with 24.3% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 4.1% for 3-5 years.

HIV

8.1% have done programming in this area with 2.7% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 1.4% for 3-5 and 11-20 years.

Immunization and Infectious Diseases

18.9% have done programming in this area with 6.8% having offered the program for 3-5 years and 5.4% for less than 3 years.

Mental Health

5.4% have done programming in this area with 2.7% having offered the program for less than 3 years and 5-10 years.

Respiratory Diseases

1.2% have done programming in this area with 1.4% having offered the program for 21 years or more.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

13.5% have done programming in this area with 2.7% having offered the program for 0-10 years and 21 years or more.

Substance Abuse

16.2% have done programming in this area with 6.8% having offered the program for 0-5 years.

## **Programs offered:**

### Physical Activity and Fitness

Dancing and Prancing  
Longest Day of Play  
Get Moving Kentucky  
Walk Away the Pounds  
VERB  
Get up Get out Get Fit  
Step into Spring  
Lighten up  
Walk for your health  
Weight off Wisely  
Weight Down  
Dining with Diabetes  
The Big Loser  
After school health and fitness programs  
Weight: the Reality Series  
Walkable communities seminar  
Active Aging  
Senior Citizens Olympics  
Obesity Coalition  
Boone county Wildcat Walkers  
4-H Bicycle Safety Rodeo  
Body Recall  
Get Walking  
4-H Health Jam (Camp)  
Physical Activity Coalition

Walking Program using pedometers  
Take 10  
Media Smart  
Physical Activity and Recipe Cards for  
4, 5, 6th graders each month  
Youth Fitness Program  
Active For Life  
Let's Get Physical  
PACE  
Worksite Wellness Program  
Wellness Coalition  
Physical activity programs with schools  
Walk for your heart  
Family Fitness Day  
Elementary school walking clubs  
Yoga  
Step Aerobics  
Jump into Fitness  
Walk through the  
Walk Across Kentucky  
Step Into Shape  
Walking Buddies  
Physical Education Bootcamp  
REACT  
Take Twenty  
Family Week  
Family Fun and Fitness Class  
Hoop Fest  
Arthritis Self help

### Nutrition

Weight: the Reality Series  
Diabetes Management  
My Pyramid  
Commodity Distribution educational  
programs  
Diabetes Cooking School  
Health Fair  
Living Well  
Healthy Plate  
Lighten up  
Healthy Habits to Lighten up  
Melt Down

Kindergarten 5 a day nutrition program  
Nutrition lessons for parent groups  
Food prep cooking schools for parents  
Building Blocks for a Healthy Start  
Educational Baby Shower  
Diabetes Support Group  
Youth Wellness Program  
Healthy Holiday Foods  
Tasty Snacks for the Food Pyramid  
Guide  
FCS Programs

Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program  
Expanded Food Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)  
4-H Food Demonstrations and 4-H Afterschool Programs  
Mr. Produce Man  
Healthy Eating/Weight Loss  
Slow Cooking  
Snack Smart  
Living Well with Chronic Disease  
LEAP  
Food Safety  
Basic Nutrition  
Going with the Grain (Eating Whole Grains)  
Fabulous Fish  
Winter Grilling Workshop  
Hale and Hearty Diabetes Support

Cooking with Pressure  
New Kentucky Foods  
Media demonstrations  
Homemaker lessons  
Super Star Chef  
Cooking Schools in Spring and Fall  
Youth Nutrition Fair  
Adult Nutrition Fair  
Toolkit  
Senior Nutrition  
The Skinny on Fat  
Color is the Key  
Nutrition Lessons  
Breastfeeding Coalition  
Group nutrition for teenagers  
Tickle Your Appetite  
Trim Down  
Caring About Nutrition Program  
Individual Nutrition Counseling

#### Tobacco Use

Cooper Clayton Tobacco Cessation Classes  
No If's And's or Butt's  
Heart and Soul  
Let's Clean the Air  
Tobacco Prevention Coalition  
Health Coalition  
DARE/Community Anti-Drug Coalition  
Smoke Free Partnership  
Champions for a Tobacco and Drug Free  
Tobacco Education Groups (TEP) curriculum  
Teg/Tap  
School Presentation on Preventing Initiation  
TNT (Towards No Tobacco Use)

TATU(Teens Against Tobacco Use)  
Asthma Camp  
Quit and Win  
Power Team Motivational Speakers in Schools Champions coalition  
Here's Looking at You  
ASCENT  
Tobacco and You  
Tobacco Free Sports  
Get Real About Tobacco  
Teen Tobacco Cessation and Education Program  
Do Right, Don't Smoke  
Tobacco Education  
Smoking Cessation and Stop Smoking Campaign

### Education and Community Based Programs

Leadership Tomorrow  
Cancer Coalition  
Diabetes Coalition  
Community education network  
HANDS  
Women's Wellness Forum  
CPR/First Aid programs for Daycare Providers  
Senior Commodity Distribution  
MAPP Magoffin Avian influenza summit  
EMS county groups  
Pandemic Flu Preparedness  
Extension and Health  
Women's Health Forum  
Health and Extension  
Community Education Breast Cancer Awareness  
Cancer Education  
Health Advisory Council  
Health Fair  
4-H Farm and Home Safety Program  
4-H Summer Day Camp  
4-H Camp  
Diabetes Education

Get Healthy Carroll county  
Literacy-Health Effort  
LEAP-Literacy, Education, and Physical Activity  
Backpack program  
Educational Baby Shower  
Radon Program  
Assisted Living  
Safety Camp  
Life skills  
VERB  
Choose To Move  
Veggie Friends  
SOAR  
President Challenge  
Sister-Together  
Five-A-Day  
Food Guide Pyramid  
Abstinence  
Drunk Driving Simulation Program  
Handwashing Techniques  
Sunscreen Awareness  
School Health Education  
Postponing Sexual Involvement  
Puberty Teas  
Food Service Schools

### Environmental Health

Youth Water System Program  
Shelter in place program  
Rat Eradication  
Walk Your Land  
Allergies and other Pesty Critters  
Solid Waste management/recycling campaigns  
Second Hand Smoke  
Radon Detection

Radon Awareness.  
Lead Prevention  
Sun Safety  
Environmental Health Services  
Pool School  
Sewage system installers classes  
Food Service Schools  
Well Water Testing  
Water Pollution

### Food Safety

Glow germ  
Passion for Poultry  
Food Preparation for Hispanics  
Correct food safety methods for a temporary food service setup at fairs and festivals  
Fight Bac and GloGerm  
Holiday Road Show  
Safe Grilling and Serving  
Mountain Cattleman Association meeting on meat processing and proper storage  
FSNEP  
EFNEP  
Cooking for Crowds: Don't Make Them Sick  
Thrill of the Grill  
Master Food Volunteer Series  
Hands on Food Preservation Clinic

Cattlemen's Association Food Safety Training  
Reducing the Risk of Food Borne Illness with At Risk Clientele  
Sanitation and Food Safety for Food Service Workers  
Seniors and Food Safety  
Food Safety First  
Food Preservation programs; classroom programs community presentations  
Holiday Food Safety  
Food Preservation Safety  
General Food Safety throughout year  
Handwashing lesson  
Food Handlers Permit Classes  
Safety Camp  
E. Coli Education  
Environmental Health Services  
Food Managers training for restaurants  
Food Safety curriculum for high schools

### Injury/Violence Prevention

Farm Safety Day Camp  
Domestic Violence Education  
Domestic task force formed  
Lighten Up, Life's Not that Serious  
Storm Preparedness  
On Your Own  
Preventing Back Injury in Day Care Employees  
Child Fatality Committee  
Domestic violence Month  
Bike-A-Thon Helmet Program  
Health Start in Childcare  
Child Fatality Review Team/Safe Kids Coalition

Safe Kids Car Seat Program  
Sparks in the Park  
Car Seat Safety Checks  
Child Passenger Safety  
Child Restraints  
Helmet and Safety Belt Use  
ATV Safety  
Never Shake a Baby  
Pre-Prom Health Fair  
Helmet Safety  
Second Step  
Steps to Respect

### Occupational Safety and Health

OSHA Program  
Meth Education

Industry Health Fairs

### Oral Health

Make a Healthy Difference Day  
World's Greatest Baby Shower  
Dental Health  
Oral Health Wellness Program  
Tooth Fairy  
HEEL Oral Health  
Preschool Programs  
Oral Health Curriculum  
Healthy Snacks  
Get Healthy  
Smile KY  
Distribution of toothbrushes and  
toothpaste in Backpack Hunger Program

Brushing teeth (elementary school)  
Colgate Bright Smiles  
Doogan/Dental Varnishing  
Oral Health Education  
UK Dental Outreach Program  
Dental Health  
Basic Oral health education  
Dental Health Month  
Dental Hygiene  
Dental Sealant  
Dental Screening  
Brushing your Teeth  
Elementary Dental Education

### Access to Quality Health Services

Medicare Prescription Drug fact sheets  
Medicare D Program  
Migrant Coalition  
Women's Health Fair  
Community health council and health  
coalition  
SAPO Program

Local advertising for programs offered  
at health dept  
Referrals to the Mobile Health Clinic  
Healthcare for the Homeless Advisory  
Committee  
Women's Cancer Program  
EPSDT outreach  
Work with area partners to find ways to  
increase access to care

### Family Planning

Family Fun Nights  
Teen Parenting and Pregnant Teen  
programs  
Parenting classes  
Brown Bag Program  
Family Planning Clinic  
I and E committee  
School Health Grant Committee

Choosing the Best  
Family Planning  
Postponing sexual involvement and  
reducing the risk  
Sexually Transmitted Disease Program

### Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

Parenting Express Newsletter  
Food Stamp Education  
EFNEP program  
UK Parenting Program  
LEAP (Literacy Eating and Activity for  
Pre-schoolers)  
Building Blocks For a Healthy Start  
Educational Baby Shower

WIC  
Healthy Snacks for KIDS  
Day Care providers training  
Two-County Baby Shower  
Parent Express  
4-H Babysitting  
WIC Farmers Market Program  
General Nutrition

Growing Healthy Kids  
Backpack Program  
Breastfeeding coalition  
EPSDT Program  
HANDS program  
Healthy Start Program  
Early Childhood Council  
School physicals

Medical Product Safety

Educate before you medicate (CES  
HEEL curriculum)

Public Health Infrastructure

Service Providers Meetings  
Need New Facility

Health Communication

Educate Before you Medicate  
Health Education Newsletter  
Celebrating the Memories of our lives,  
funeral planning and living wills  
Monthly Family and Consumer Sciences  
Newsletters  
Just Between Friends  
Weekly newspaper column  
Chooser Your Cover  
Puberty

Arthritis, Osteoporosis, and Chronic Back Conditions

Get Moving Kentucky  
Food Guide Pyramid Lessons  
Women's Health Forum  
Bone Health

Cancer

Screen Savers  
Cancer Coalition  
Diabetes and Cancer Prevention Health  
Fair  
Prostate Cancer screening  
Colorectal Cancer Awareness  
Annual Mobile Mammogram Unit in  
county  
I Can Cope

Immunizations  
well child exams  
Baby Expo  
Prenatal Class  
Health Access Nurturing Folic Acid  
Program  
Nutrition Program  
Provided in clinics

Pill Look Alike

Community Planning  
Creation of a 10 year master health plan  
internal assessments and planning

First Aid  
CPR  
Bioterrorism  
Emergencies  
TB  
Radon  
West Nile Virus

PACE  
Program for osteoporosis  
Chronic Disease Self-Management  
Arthritis Self-Help Course

Ovarian Cancer Screening  
Health Fairs  
Early detection prevention  
Cancer Awareness Coalition  
Cooking for the Cancer Survivor  
Relay for Life  
Cervical Cancer screening programs  
Colon Cancer Screening  
Breast Cancer Awareness

Healthy Eating to Help Prevent Cancer  
Women's Health Forum  
Women's Cancer Coalition  
Colorectal Cancer Campaign  
CAB  
Cancer Survivor Support Group

Live Smart  
Women's Health Day  
Pink Ribbon Day  
Pretty in Pink Party  
Cooper Clayton

#### Diabetes

Diabetes Self Management  
Diabetes and Cancer Prevention Health  
Fair  
Diabetes Coalition  
Dining with Diabetes  
Diabetes Support Group  
Diabetic Cooking School  
County Agricultural Field Day  
Diabetes Day Camp  
Diabetes Awareness  
Healthy Holidays Workshop  
Diabetes up-date  
Education on the Go

Healthy Eating and Choices  
Hale and Hearty Diabetes Support group  
Health Jam  
Women's Health Forum  
Diabetes expo  
Comprehensive Diabetes Classes  
You're too Sweet Already  
Diabetes Support Group  
Comprehensive Group for Diabetes  
Comprehensive Diabetes Self  
Management program  
Diabetes Education and Screening

#### Disability and Secondary conditions

NONE

#### Heart Disease and Stroke

Heart and Soul  
Shades of Red  
Cardiovascular health classes  
Heart Health  
County Agricultural Field Day  
Heart Health Eating  
Go Red  
Healthy Eating for a Healthy Heart  
Womens Health Forum  
Bless Your Heart

Red Dress Day  
Senior Center Education  
Sister-Together Program  
Signs of Heart Disease & Stroke  
Health for your Heart  
Nutrition and Heart Safety  
Blood Pressure Screening  
Nutrition Counseling and Physical  
Activities Programs

#### HIV

Choosing the Best  
Case management services for those  
infected

Community mobilization, testing,  
prevention education, professional  
education, etc

#### Immunization and Infectious Diseases

Flu Shot Clinics  
Mass Flu Vaccination clinic

Pandemic Flu Preparations for Business  
Emergency Preparation for Seniors and  
those with disabilities



Flu and Pneumonia vaccination  
Diabetes expo  
Communicable Disease among school students  
E. Coli Education  
STD treatment  
Screening and Counseling

Well Child Exams  
Immunizations  
Be Wise Immunize  
Get your Flu Shot  
Have Diabetes? A Flu Shot Can Save your Life  
TB Awareness and Smallpox  
Immunization Survey

#### Mental Health

Drug Court Therapy Group  
Depression  
Grief Counseling  
Youth development and developmental assets

#### Respiratory Diseases

NONE

#### Sexually Transmitted Diseases

STD's Prevention  
STD Class  
I and E committee  
Signs  
Symptoms and Transmission of STD's  
Youth Fest  
Treatment in clinics, investigations of contacts, education

#### Substance Abuse

Walk Your Land  
Drug Abuse council  
Champions Coalition  
Defensive Action Against Drugs  
KY-ASAP  
Health Council  
Substance Abuse and Misuse  
Meth Trainings for the Community  
Project Alert  
Local ASAP (KY Agency for Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy)  
Life skills

## **CONCLUSIONS:**

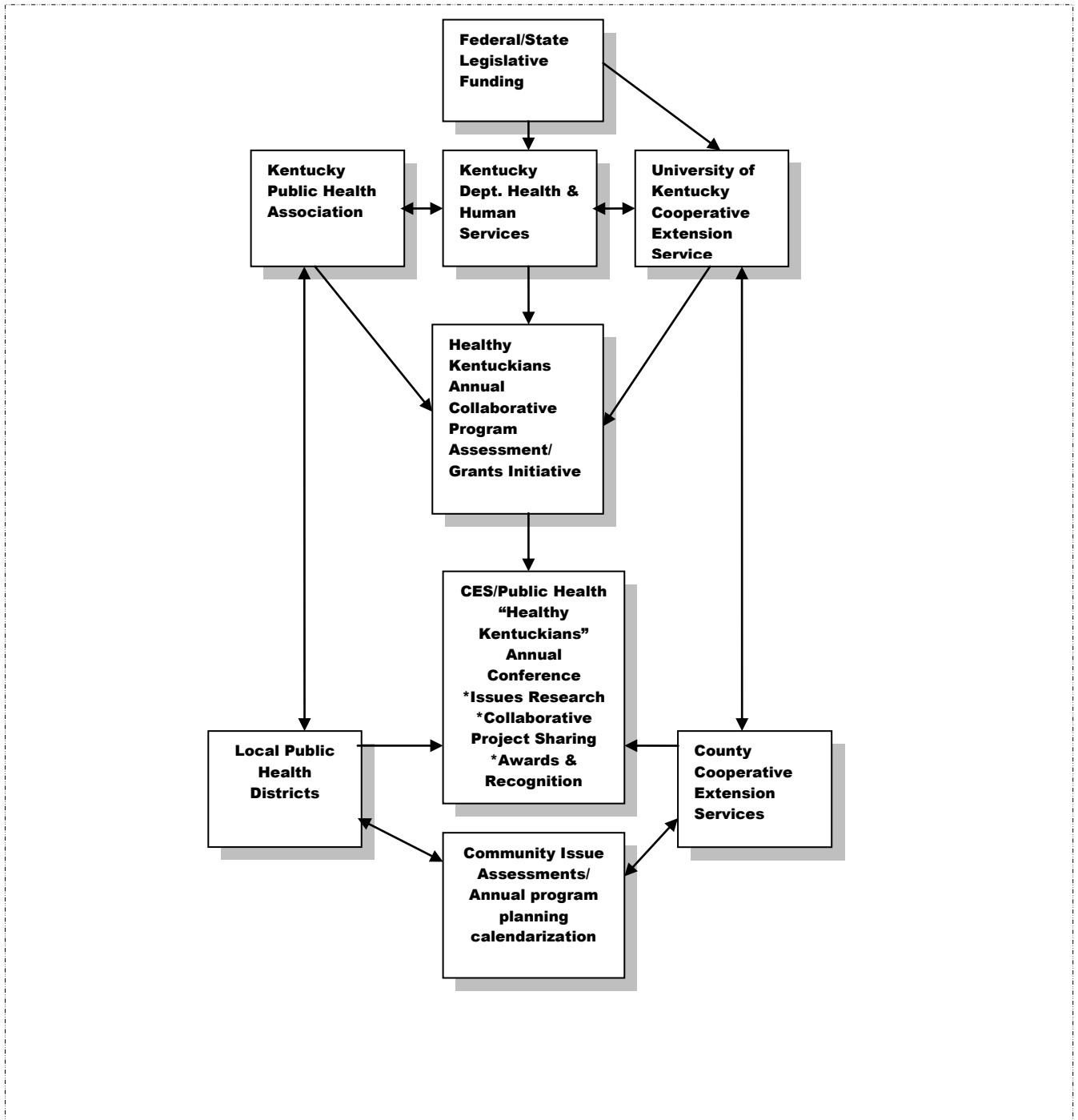
Conflict may be defined as an expressed struggle between at least two interdependent parties who perceive incompatible goals, scarce resource and interference from others in achieving their goals. The findings of the KPHLI Common Ground Change Master Survey confirm both subtle and dramatic interpersonal as well as intergroup conflict existence between the UK Cooperative Extension Service and Public Health agency personnel.<sup>9</sup>

The relationship exemplifies Senge's definition of the 'Accidental Adversary' archetype, which has become a governing force of both systems, and threatens the combined capacity for maximum effectiveness.<sup>10</sup> Why would two groups, with much to gain from working together, repetitively harbor resentment and deliberately act in self-serving ways (often unconscious of the effect on the other) that continually damage the impact of community health prevention, promotion and education efforts?

The conclusive answer seems to be a lack of constructive communication with consistent interaction, loss of subsequent relationships, and the lack of a systems model designed to provide interaction for overcoming identified barriers toward collaboration. Realization of such a collaboration system begins with the need for changed individual mental models and attitudes, recognizing the value of partnership development, from the top down in each organization's hierarchy.

With such willingness demonstrated, a model of consistent collaboration system change is proposed with innovative motivators for barrier removal outlined. See the Collaborative Systems Model on next page.

## Collaborative Systems Model UK Cooperative Extension Service & Public Health



The “Healthy Kentucky” Collaborative System represents an internal organizational systems model for developing annual consistent local communications between the Public Health districts and represented county Cooperative Extension Services. Components would include ongoing communication and strategic planning operating at both the state and local levels. State administration with the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, Kentucky Department of Health and Human Services, as well as the Kentucky Public Health Association, would conduct annual program needs assessment (using issues and data identified from local Public Health and Cooperative Extension strategic planning) with the development of the “Healthy Kentuckians Collaborative Grants Initiative”.

Funding acquisition from state, federal tax-support as well as private foundation sources, would provide the basis for a competitive CES/PH grant program, designed for design and implementation of local educational programming. These programs would be specifically designed to reduce eminent health risk factors and would be delivered by local health department and county extension personnel.

An annual conference would also provide opportunity for showcasing successful programming with accountable impact, awards and recognition. Additionally, it would provide professional development, through current research training, programming delivery methodology, and on-going leadership development, for relationship building.

Local Public Health Districts and County Extension Services would conduct annual applicable needs assessments and program planning with calendarization, avoiding service duplication and allowing for efficient application of resources. Critical needs of local entities for program delivery would be communicated directly through each agency’s administrative channels, but specifically through the Kentucky Public Health Association. This would require aggregated representation of each Public Health service sector, increasing internal awareness and understanding of the entity as a whole.

The increased quality and quantity of communication at all levels, specifically through a systematic model, provides consistent opportunity to build trust, shared vision and mission. In addition, it would provide long term funding foundations designed to strengthen the position of each agency, to meet critical societal public health needs. Stated simply -- together, each accomplishes more.

In conclusion, the renewal of shared focus, with unprecedented collaboration, would allow the development of explosive creative force. Each agency would evolve as a more effective catalyst for community health lifespan change.

## **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

### ***Amelia Brown***

At the beginning of my KPHLI experience, I would have stated that it was simply a “good” opportunity. Never in my mind, did I expect to emerge as an individual who painted the world as black or white but now in shades in gray. I have grown as a leader from this experience. I have seen that everyone has an opportunity in his or her life to step out of their box or comfort zone and invest their talents into new experiences. KPHLI has given me a clearer view of who I am as a professional! I have truly enjoyed interacting with other KPHLI participants who are compassionate about learning, interested in getting involved, and most of all have concern for others! I highly recommend the KPHLI program to anyone who wants to increase their leadership potential.

### ***Renata Farmer***

KPHLI provided me the opportunity to go beyond my personal comfort zone and look at myself in an entirely new perspective. The assessments conducted on leadership styles and abilities were most beneficial. Participation in the program has led to a personal evaluation of leadership skills and personal/professional goals. The program has enhanced my leadership ability by enabling me to set goals and address challenges.

Most importantly, the KPHLI experience has allowed an in-depth look into the workings of public health. As an Extension Agent, interactions with members of the public health sector were a learning experience. Within our change master teams, we were able to both learn about the goals and programs of public health and also share the vision and programs of Extension. After each meeting, our team members were able to leave with newly discovered facts about each organization. Personally, I found a new respect and deeper understanding of public health. KPHLI has been a true asset in fostering my personal leadership abilities.

### ***Ashley Froman***

What a difference a year makes! The Kentucky Public Health Leadership Institute has given me great opportunity for growth and development over the past year. This institute has enhanced my leadership skills as well as public health knowledge. I have found the assessments such as 360 Degree and emotional Intelligence to be very beneficial. It has given me great insight for my own personal development. I feel privileged to be a part of a pioneer Change Master Group that includes Public Health as well as Cooperative Extension Services staff. We have worked together to help bridge the gap of collaboration between our offices as well as ourselves. I have enjoyed the friendships and look forward to the on going effort between our two agencies.

***Theresa A. Howard***

Participation in KPHLI has been a definite learning experience. It has allowed me a greater view of Kentucky Public Health beyond my county or district level. And it also expanded my experience with UK resources outside of the College of Agriculture and the Cooperative Extension Service. I am glad I had the opportunity to experience and use a (new for me) electronic teaching and communication tool- (Blackboard). I hope our team's efforts will go beyond KPHLI and perhaps encourage administration in CES & PH to work on a simpler way for educators in both organizations to share successful ideas and programs in the future. It would be good to see these ideas go beyond a theory/discussion level and have administration apply them to something that would work in a real life situation at the county level.

***Janet H. Johnson***

The Kentucky Public Health Leadership Institute has provided unique and exciting learning experiences for professional leadership development and personal growth. A new perspective and appreciation of the public health mission as well as value and opportunities of Cooperative Extension/Public Health partnerships have been gained through group discussions, project work and the personal relationships developed with public health professionals across the state. The personal evaluation tools, including the 360 surveys, provided new insight in potential growth areas and aided in more introspective thinking toward long term goals. The 'creative tension' produced in mastering the Blackboard technology system, the challenging exposure to new speakers and authors with refreshing and enlightening ideas, or simply the accepted charge to slow down and 'think' with emphatic listening, have all combined to make KPHLI a rewarding and certainly unforgettable opportunity.

***Ruth Kingkade***

"No man is an island" This has certainly been true this year during my KPHLI experience. I could never have accomplished what our group did as a whole. The concept of teamwork was reality to all of us. It was fun and interesting to observe our varying perspectives and work through our differences. Our group, Common Ground, has been a living example of openness and collaboration. To state here what I have learned during the past year would be too lengthy. Suffice it to say, I will never be the same. My mind has been opened, my intellect stimulated, and my heart warmed by the people I have had the privilege to encounter this year. It is my goal to allow these lessons to impact my job and interpersonal skills throughout the rest of my life in a positive way. I am forever grateful for the opportunity to be a part of KPHLI and am proud to be part of this wonderful team of people.

***Charlotte Sawyers***

I have enjoyed participating in the Kentucky Public Health Leadership Institute Program this year. KPHLI has been a beneficial experience for me. I have enjoyed the Summits. They were informative and created a learning environment which broaden leadership skills. I feel I am more aware of my leadership skills due to the social profile, the emotional intelligence and the Personal Development Plan. They have helped in both aspects, personally and professionally.

I appreciate all the KPHLI staff. They have helped make this a truly eventful learning experience and a fun year. It has been very enlightening and a pleasure to work with the Cooperative Extension Services and my fellow Public Health personnel. I have enjoyed working and getting to know everyone on our team and also other KPHLI teammates. I've gained knowledge and understanding of the many services that are being offered through Cooperative Extension Services and also how we together can better serve our communities.

***Debbie C. Temple***

The KPHLI Institute has been a rewarding experience in leadership and self-discovery that I will never forget. The various assessment tools that were provided proved very useful to me. They helped me to discover some things about myself; some good and some that let me know I need to work on some things. This experience has helped me to look deeper into myself and to think about how I could be better at my job and even my personal relationships. It really helped me to see that some things were noticed by my peers and/or co-workers. Once those things have been revealed, you are faced with doing something about them. It has also been a real eye opener for me regarding Public Health. It has helped me to see that they are dealing with some big issues themselves. I am glad we chose the project that we did. It has helped me to see what some of the barriers have been which have prevented us from working together, in some parts of the state. I am also very appreciative of all of the wonderful resources provided to us. I know I will use the information working with Public Health and others in our efforts to be change masters for the health of the Commonwealth.

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