CDC’s Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS) plays a vital role in helping health agencies work to enhance their capacity and improve their performance to strengthen the public health system on all levels. OSTLTS is CDC’s primary connection to health officials and leaders of state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) public health agencies, as well as other government leaders who work with health departments.

What We Do

**Improve health department capacity and performance**

- Administer the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant, which provides all 50 states, 2 American Indian tribes, 8 US territories, and the District of Columbia with funding to address their unique public health needs in innovative and locally defined ways
- Enhance performance management capacity of public health departments
  - Performance Improvement Managers Network
- Support STLT health agencies in meeting national standards and attaining accreditation
  - National Public Health Performance Standards Program
  - National Voluntary Accreditation for Public Health Departments
  - Community Health Assessment and Improvement Planning
- Increase support to improve training and workforce programs for public health professionals
  - Public Health Associate Program
  - Support for CDC Field Staff
- Help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of health departments and other partners in the areas of health system financing and service delivery through increased connections and collaborations among public health, health care, and other sectors
  - Health System Transformation
- Consult on policy and legal options that affect CDC health priorities
  - Public Health Law Program works to advance the use of law as a public health tool by providing services and resources such as technical assistance, publications, legal epidemiology, and workforce development to CDC programs and STLT communities
- Coordinate tribal support for CDC programs and policies that focus on American Indian/Alaska Native communities, including implementation of the CDC/ATSDR Tribal Consultation Policy and Charter and coordination of the CDC/ATSDR Tribal Advisory Committee
- Maintain cooperative agreements with 25 national nonprofit organizations that strengthen the nation’s capacity to deliver public health services by providing guidance, support, and technical assistance to people and organizations on the frontlines of public health
Develop assessment and capacity building tools

- Prevention Status Reports highlight—for all 50 states and the District of Columbia—the status of policies and practices designed to address important public health problems
- CDC Grant Funding Profiles tool offers searchable grant and cooperative agreement information

Engage STLT health officials with CDC

- Annual Orientations for New Health Officials help newly appointed health officials learn more about CDC and how it works, as well as provide them an opportunity to collaborate with CDC leaders to support their public health efforts
- *Vital Signs* Town Hall Teleconferences are held a week after the release of CDC’s monthly *Vital Signs* report and provide a venue for STLT health officials and professionals to discuss strategies, lessons learned, success stories, and challenges and provide a chance to build public health networks
- Weekly *Did You Know?* emails promote timely news from across CDC to inform public health programs and move data and recommendations into action
- *Have You Heard? Facts From The Field* shares stories of success and innovation from STLT health agencies
- STLT Gateway is a website developed specifically for health department staff that provides a central place to find many CDC resources, including the STLT Collaboration Space

Information about these resources is available on the STLT Gateway at [www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth](http://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth).

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