Logic Model

Using the Environmental Public Health Performance Standards to Improve Program Performance to Control Drinking Water Exposures

Inputs

Drinking water programs and activities:
- Public and private partnerships
- Proven experience in water program management
- Completed performance assessment of DW program using the 10 essential services, including gap analysis and performance improvement plan to address gaps
- Leveraged funding
- Policy environment
- CDC: Technical Assistance, Training, Guidance

Activities (Examples)

- Strategy: Improve drinking water (DW) program efficiency and effectiveness by closing programmatic gaps
  - Organize DW quality, water system and health data in a format that aids clear communication and interpretation by the public and policy makers.
  - Collect and use DW hazard, exposure, and health outcome data from a range of sources involved in environmental and public health protection (e.g., epidemiology, disease registries, tracking partners, local and state departments of environmental quality).
  - Develop partnerships with epidemiologists, statisticians, laboratory professionals, toxicologists, hydrologists, and others needed to assist in analyzing DW program data (hazards, exposures, health outcomes).
  - Establish working environments/coalitions so that multiple partners (e.g., health department, planning and zoning, public works, building, environmental advocacy groups, and the media) have a forum to work together on DW education and promotion activities.
  - Develop partnerships among government agencies and the private sector to enhance DW program effectiveness.
  - Promote prevention and protection policies for community members who bear a disproportionate burden of disease, or that are at greater risk of exposure to DW hazards.
  - Organize the updating and/or modification of existing, or new laws, regulations, and ordinances designed to assure and improve DW protection programs and DW quality.
  - Create and provide leadership for work groups of multiple agencies that have responsibility for assuring that DW program services delivery system is coordinated, timely and responsive to all community members.
  - Communicate workforce gaps and needs to appropriate stakeholders (governing bodies, advisory groups, academic institutions, and public and private agencies) that have the capabilities to effect change.
  - Develop an activity to assess and measure the satisfaction of stakeholders and residents with drinking water services program that includes a process to provide increased quality of services.
  - Develop partnerships with colleges, universities and research organizations needed to conduct drinking water research to improve program performance.

Outputs

- Surveillance systems established
- The timely processing of DW samples & inspections
- Investigations/assessments completed to relate DW problems to environmental factors
- The implementation of community meetings with diverse representation
- The delivery of targeted DW educational activities (social media, web, etc.)
- Partnerships/coalitions established
- A plan to revise and create feasible new policies/regulations/recommendations
- A plan to collect standardized data to identify hazards and exposures
- An evidence-based intervention plan to identify & remove hazards
- A written, inclusive workforce improvement plan to assure timely delivery of DW services
- A plan to assess the improvement of customer satisfaction
- A written agreement between DW researchers to prioritize issues and share findings

Short
- Increase in community awareness of DW problems, hazards, exposures and related illness
- Increase in awareness and knowledge about the policies/regulations that affect DW
- Increase in the willingness of partner organizations to collaborate in evidence-based activities to reduce exposure to DW contaminants
- Increase customer satisfaction with DW services

Medium (Examples)
- Increase in enforcement of feasible policies and regulations based on evidence and need
- Increase the reach of DW programs
- Increase in DW programs that have established a continual process to routinely close performance gaps to improve DW services

Long
- Decreased hazards that threaten water systems
- Reduced exposures to waterborne contaminants
- Decreased number of people in the US drinking contaminated water
- Improved health of Americans through access to safe water

Program Scope

- Safe water activities focus on individuals and systems not protected by the Safe Drinking Water Act.
- Safe water priorities are to improve drinking water program performance and reduce exposure to waterborne contaminants in the US.