



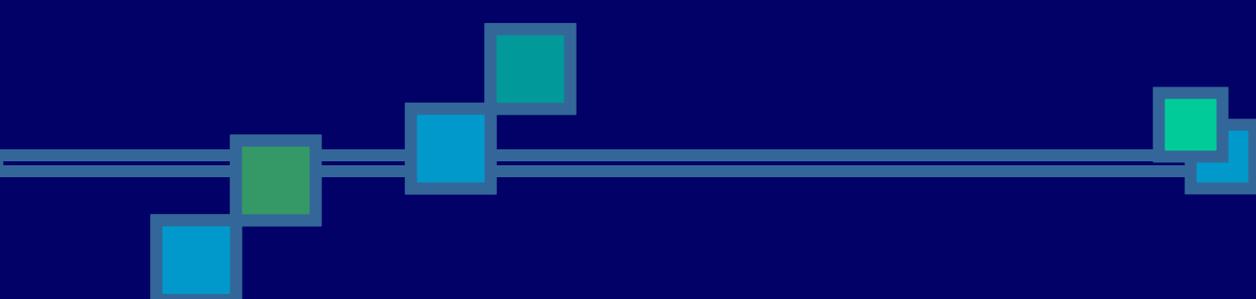
NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTY & CITY
HEALTH OFFICIALS

Local Public Health Perspectives on Environmental Public Health Tracking

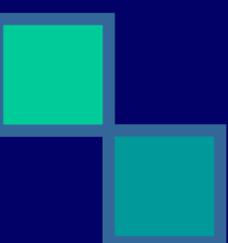


National Association of County & City Health Officials
Jennifer Li, Program Manager

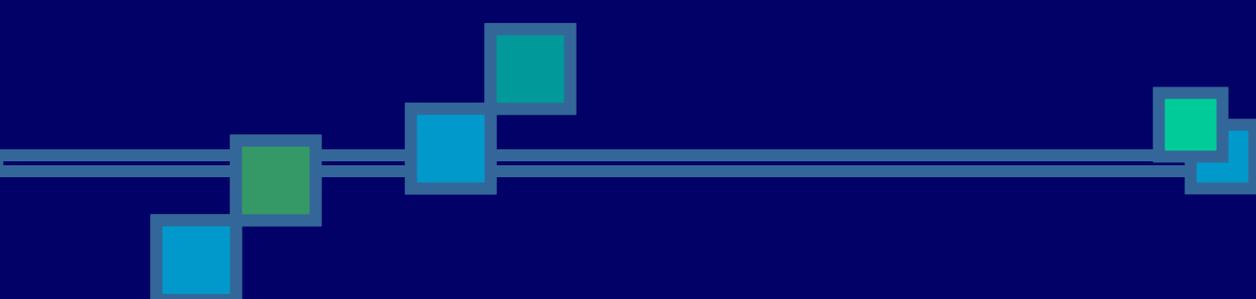
2nd Annual National EPHT Conference • April 20, 2005



NACCHO's Background

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- Serves all 3,000 local public health agencies (LPHAs)
 - Provides education, information, research, and technical assistance to LPHAs
 - Facilitates partnerships among local, state, and federal agencies to promote and strengthen public health.
 - Assists county and city LPHAs through programs, trainings, and advocacy to accomplish their public health missions more effectively
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Project Objectives

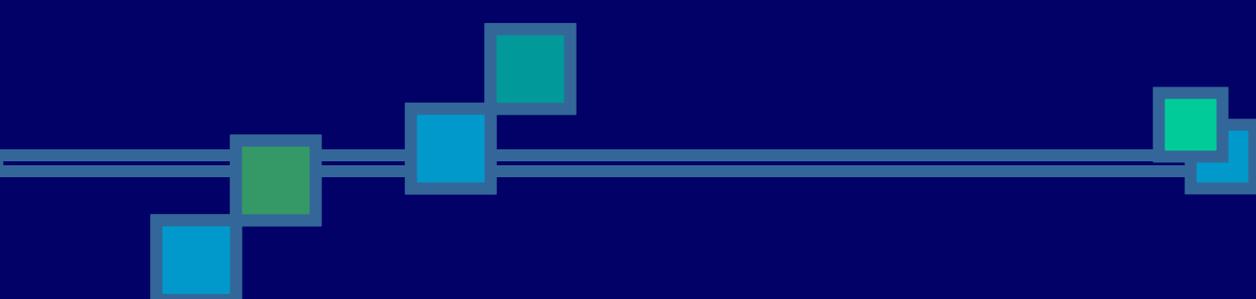
- To promote and increase the knowledge about the EPHTN among local environmental and public health professionals.
 - To enhance collaboration between relevant partners and agencies to improve the efficacy of the Environmental Public Health Tracking Network (EPHTN) program.
 - To identify and communicate the needs of LPHAs in development of the Network as producers and users of data.
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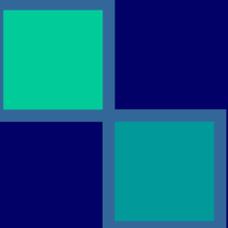
Accomplishments & Outcomes

- EPHT Primer for local public health practitioners
- Promotion of EPHTN through NACCHO newsletters, distribution lists, and conferences
- Facilitated Discussions
- EH Tracking Listserve – New!
- EH Tracking Resolution
- Collaborative Efforts with National Partners (ASTHO, ECOS, NEHA, PSR, Centers for Excellence)
- Collaborative Work on CDC subgroups, Change Control Board, and Steering Committee
- Travel Scholarships to EPHT Conference





Facilitated Discussions



Why?

- Identify and communicate needs of LPHAs
 - Promote the EPHTN
 - Ensure coordination between local/state health agencies
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Where?

- St. Paul, MN – July 14, 2004
- Washington, DC – November 9, 2004
- Troy, NY – March 11, 2005



Features and Utility of the Network

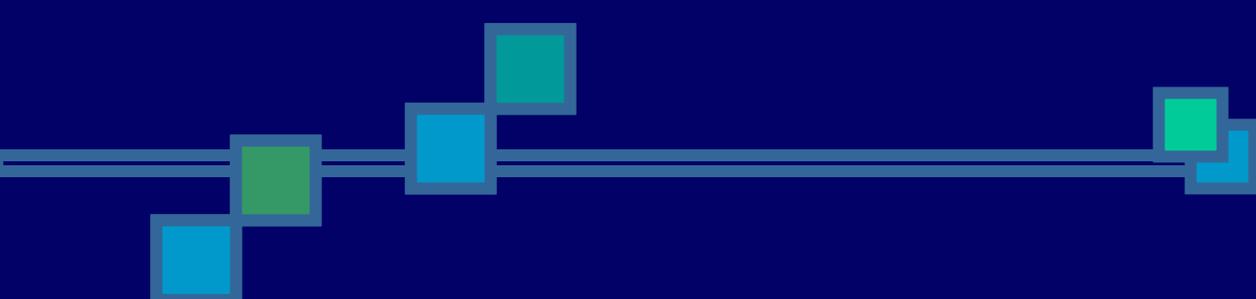
- Effective linkage, coordination, and compatibility among data systems
- Find, share, and communicate data in a user friendly format
- Address difficult data issues and tailor system to local needs
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Data exchange among states
- Broader definition of EH (e.g., land use planning)
- Prediction of future disease trends
- Integration of socio-economic data



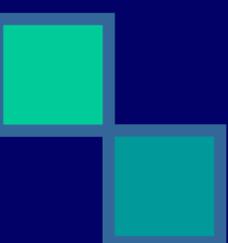
Benefits to Local Public Health Agencies

- Integrate EH and PH
- Enable users to identify emerging issues
- Provide quality analysis and interpretation of data
- Raise public consciousness about EH



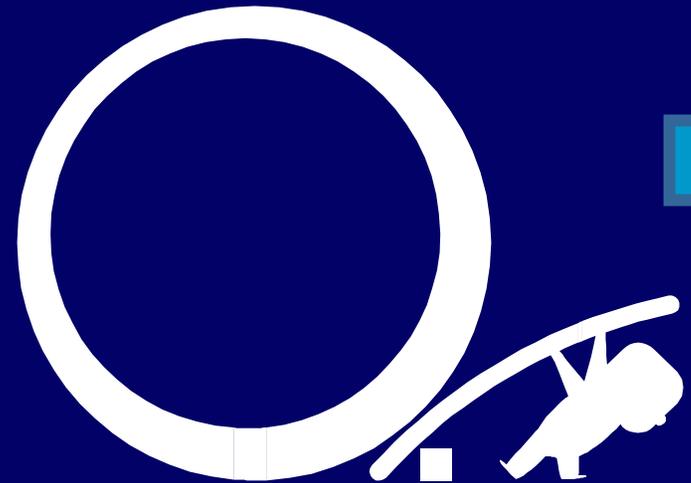


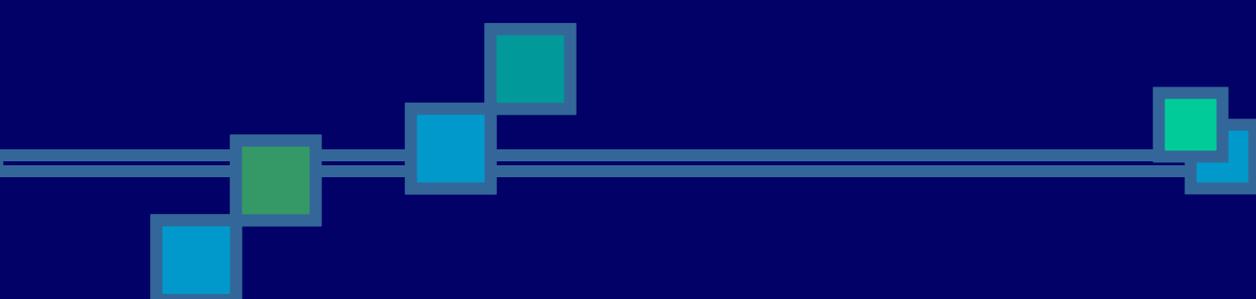
Use and Value of the Network

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- Provide evidence and legitimacy for decision-making
 - Crisis management
 - New mandates
 - Priority setting
 - Assist with community environmental health assessments
 - Hazards identification
 - Health impact assessments
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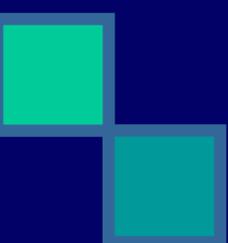
Obstacles and Challenges for LPHAs

- Data management
- Resources and capacity for analysis
- Ongoing communication between locals and states
- One source v. multiple factors
- Lack of mandatory reporting
- Reporting methods
- Role of community & LPHAs





NACCHO's Role

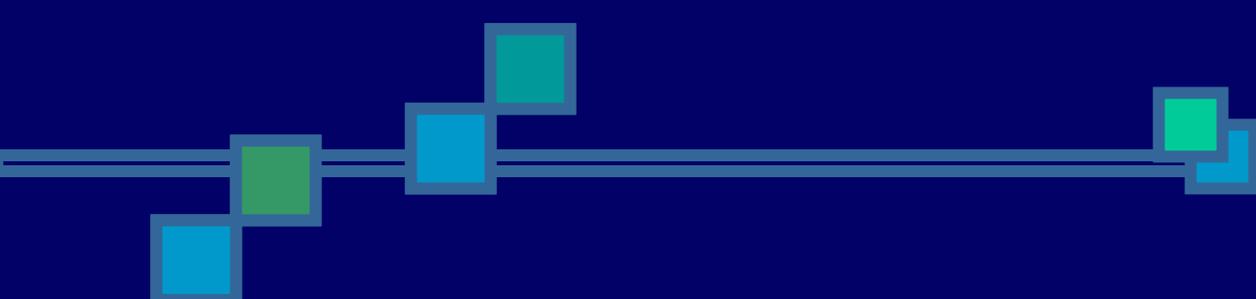
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- Create ongoing “clearinghouse” for local feedback
 - Facilitate dialogue between state, local, and federal agencies
 - Communicate and incorporate needs of LPHAs
 - Market/promote EPHTN to locals
 - Assist locals with the use of the Network
 - Continue collaborative efforts with partners
 - Evaluate Network/define success
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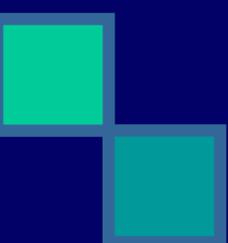
Next Steps

- Second series of facilitated discussions exploring local-state collaboratives
 - Maryland (September 2005)
 - Oregon (October 2005)
 - Wisconsin (December 2005)
 - California (February 2006)
- Outreach meeting with partners to bring various sectors of the PH system together
- Continue promotional efforts (NEHA, APHA, NACCHO-ASTHO conferences)



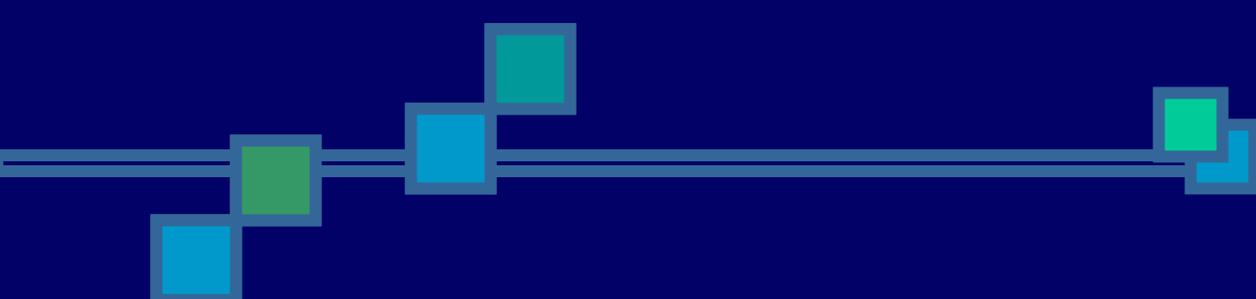


Key Points

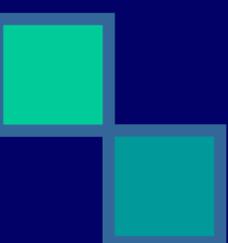


- Encourage effective collaborations between local and state governments and their constituencies
 - Engage data producers and users of the Network throughout entire process
 - Incorporate a broad range of EH issues beyond specific contaminants
 - Support a user-friendly, flexible, and accessible Network
 - Ensure the Network's capability to Inform public policy decisions
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Thank You!



Contact Information

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