

# Improvement Team Briefing Sheet (Example)

## Spring County Local Public Health System Assessment

### Essential Service #1:

#### Monitor Health Status to Identify Community Health Problems

This service evaluates to what extent the LPHS conducts regular community health assessments to monitor progress towards health-related objectives. This service is measured by whether or not the LPHS gathers information from community assessment activities and compiles the data into a Community Health Profile (CHP). This service is also measured by how well the LPHS utilizes current technology to manage, display, analyze, and communicate population health data. Finally, this service is measured by whether or not the LPHS develops, maintains, and regularly contributes to health-related registries to track health related events such as disease patterns and vaccine coverage.

#### Scoring Analysis

<b>Overall Essential Service #1 Score</b>	<b>47</b>
1.1 Population-Based Community Health Profile	14
1.2 Access to and Utilization of Current Technology	30
1.3 Maintenance of Population Health Registries	96

This service ranked 7<sup>th</sup> overall and is one of the weaker essential services for Spring County. Indicator 1.1 which measures the population-based community health profile (CHP) is one of the overall weakest scoring indicators. One of the key discussion points for this indicator was the lack of a comprehensive community health profile, which is reflected in the scoring. The score for indicator 1.2 was also weak, since the lack of a CHP means the county lacks certain data and thus the technology used to track and/or analyze the data. Results do indicate Spring County scored well on the maintenance of population health registries, which indicates the local health department is doing a good job of maintaining these.

#### Possible Causes and Opportunities (Based on Participant Comments)

- A comprehensive health profile does not exist because an overall health assessment has not been conducted on a regular basis in Spring County; it should be noted that Spring County does have several agencies/organizations that conduct community assessments for specific population groups and/or targeted diseases.
- There is an absence of coordination to define local community health priorities in Spring County.
- Information/data is not always shared; some information is reported due to state mandates, however this information is not always used in the decision making process.
- Health resources have not been concentrated in the mental health and substance abuse arenas.

#### Possible Action Steps

Develop a comprehensive community health profile. In order to do this, the LPHS will have to determine a) who the responsible entity is for developing the CHP, b) how buy-in is to be achieved in the process, c) how the process is organized so that the CHP is used to direct/guide budget decisions, and d) how often the profile is to be updated.