

2011

HEALTH COUNCIL ANNUAL WORK PLAN TEMPLATE

Health Council Name: **Hidalgo County**

Vision Statement:

The HCHC defines community health using a Wellness Wheel Model (appendix 1). The consortium work is based on the broad definition of health; it is not just medical or clinical well-being, but a complete community to healthy lifestyles.

We envision a community wherein individuals demand and receive full, best quality health services, resulting in good health and quality of life. We envision a community in which all individuals make informed choices resulting in healthy lifestyles. We envision an economically healthy community, offering a quality of life that attracts new residents and retains current residents. We envision the development of future leaders in health and wellness services and promotion through more active involvement of our community's youth.

Some cultural characteristics unique to the county include race/ethnicity, and language, both being closely related. Approximately 56% of the county's population is Hispanic with the other 43% being White/non Hispanic. The other 1% is other races. Foreign-born residents make up 11% of the population with 7% of that 11% not being citizens. Language in the county is thus a barrier. 43% of the county residents speak a language other than English and 35% of that number speak English less than "very well." 16% of residents speak limited or no English at all.

Health Council Mission Statement

The Hidalgo County Health Consortium is a regional, collaborating network of services providers and consumers leading the fight to insure the quality of life, health and well being for Hidalgo residents.

Health Council Assessment:

We have summarized survey responses to the 2008 Health Council Survey in this assessment portion of the plan.

The majority of members who make up the Health Council have been members for 1-5 years, with a little over half of those belonging to some other health-related partnership. Nearly 70% of the members feel that they personally have some decision making power in the council, and are satisfied with the decision making and planning processes used by HCHC. The majority of the group feels that the responsibilities of the council are to educate, network, and coordinate programs, activities, and services within the community.

An average of 80% feel that being a member of the Health Council has benefitted their organization in some way and that they have received recognition accordingly. Almost all members felt that the Health Council was essential in making significant progress in community health status changes.

Of the 18 members who participated in the survey, most responses were positive with the exception of one negative response on each of the survey questions regarding the abilities/knowledge of the coordinators/council.

Regarding the SWOT worksheet that was completed by the Council, it is apparent that members feel the information and knowledge gained at Health Council meetings is very valuable not only to the members, but to the community as well. Members felt that this knowledge and information could be even more useful to the community if the Council were to publish monthly meeting summaries as well as Council descriptions in the local newspaper.

Another positive pointed out through the SWOT was the fact that the HCHC meetings allowed providers and/or

agencies to stay informed of what other agencies were doing thus avoiding duplication of services or activities.

Health Council Work Plan: Action Plan Matrix

A. Council Development

System/Capacity Outcomes	Health Council Objectives	Health Council Action Steps	Indicators
<p>1. Planning: The Health Council is recognized as a community health planning and information body or hub.</p>	<p>Obtain formal recognition of the health council's planning role from the County Commission.</p> <p>Increase public awareness of health council planning activities in support of identified priorities by June of 2010.</p>	<p>Conduct a presentation to the county commission regarding the Community Health Improvement Plan</p> <p>Implement a marketing strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacts with policy makers • Requests for resource directory • Requests for Community Health Profile & Plan • Frequency of media coverage
<p>2. Membership: The Health Council has a stable, diverse, and growing membership.</p>	<p>Increase varied representation on the health council executive board by one additional seat and increase varied attendance of regular meetings by June 2010.</p>	<p>Conduct two community meetings in rural areas outside of Lordsburg</p> <p>Distribute information on health council membership in waiting/sitting areas of rural health clinics/providers/stores</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Council Roster • Addition of one health council member
<p>3. Internal structures: The health council is sustained and institutionalized with effective structures & practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership team • Committee structure • Effective meetings • Member participation 	<p>Strengthen committee structure and fund leveraging by increasing participation in and by reviewing present committees, clarifying roles, and revising by-laws as necessary.</p>	<p>Conduct review of committee roles, functions and membership with members</p> <p>Amend by-laws if necessary</p> <p>Assign council members to committees as necessary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership Team minutes • Committee minutes • Health Council minutes
<p>4. Internal processes: The health council uses productive group processes.</p>	<p>Allow input /meeting suggestions from members</p>	<p>Add community input section to each monthly agenda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and provider representation on agendas • agendas

B. Community Assessment & Prioritization

System/Capacity Outcomes	Health Council Objectives	Health Council Action Steps	Indicators
<p>1. Community assessment: The health council is able to assess community health strengths, needs, problems, and resources in order to accurately leverage and /or apply for funding.</p>	<p>Appropriate community and/or school assessments will be done throughout the county in order to show areas of need.</p>	<p>Use council/community meetings to involve community members in decision making process regarding the assessments</p> <p>Collaborate with other community resource providers to implement/provide an appropriate assessment and evaluation process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate information possessed and applied to funds that are applied for.
<p>2. Monitoring progress: The health council is able to monitor progress in achieving outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving health • Improving community systems 	<p>Partner with other community agencies to implement a useful community assessment</p>	<p>Use results from community assessment to assess priorities and/or activities and steps taken to impact the community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process for monitoring outcomes • Re-evaluate progress in a follow-up survey
<p>3. Emerging issues: The health council has the capacity to respond to emerging issues.</p>	<p>Develop and implement a plan to identify possible emerging health issues by December 2010</p>	<p>Schedule presentations to health council from county programs, health providers, school officials and environmental groups at monthly health council meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Council minutes: discussions of emerging issues • Study/investigation of emerging issues • Funds leveraged in relation to needs

C. Community Action: Coordination and Leadership

System/Capacity Outcomes	Health Council Objectives	Health Council Action Steps	Indicators
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<p>1. Networks and Partnerships: are continued</p>	<p>HCHC will continue to partner with numerous agencies and/or providers and seek input. Meetings will be held on a regular basis.</p>	<p>Media coverage Newspaper Articles Public meeting announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared planning projects • Shared funding opportunities
<p>2. Community programs are jointly developed or strengthened</p>	<p>Funding will be sought so that County programs/activities may be implemented and/or built upon in the future that strengthen the communities within</p>	<p>Survey local schools and agencies for community needs. Interpret and prioritize the information gathered and use accordingly.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding leveraged according to community health needs

<p>3. Funds are received or leveraged in the community</p>	<p>Grant proposals will be passed through the Health Council prior to submission to ensure that the county does not have excessive applicants thus reducing funding opportunities. Council will use its time and coordinator position namely to seek funding for long-term sustainability of the</p>	<p>Health Council will provide and document acceptable grant proposals with meaningful assistance and county information. Appropriate proposals will be endorsed for submission. Submissions of grants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical assistance related to grant proposals provided • Endorsements of grant proposals considered • Joint applications for funding • Additional income received
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