

TAOS CARES HEALTH COUNCIL ANNUAL WORK PLAN – FY'11

Health Council Name: Taos CARES Health Council

Vision Statement: Taos County is a place where our residents are as healthy as Taos is beautiful.

Health Council Mission Statement: The mission of the Taos C.A.R.E.S. Health Council is to unite community efforts and coordinate resources that will enhance the health and well being of area residents by doing the following:

- Providing an environment that fosters regional involvement and true collaboration,
- Assessing the health needs of our communities,
- Engaging in community-based comprehensive health planning,
- Disseminating information on state and federal funding opportunities,
- Advocating for comprehensive community health issues in a way that benefits Taos County,
- Providing linkage and sharing information with and among community partners in health, such as local government, the Union-Colfax-Taos Local Collaborative (UCTLC), the Behavioral Health Planning Council, the Taos Public Health Office and the Taos Municipal Schools, and,
- Expanding to incorporate and collaborate with previously “unlikely” partners such as local justice system and law enforcement.

Health Council Assessment:

Current status:

- No funding as of July 1; so need to address staffing issue and prioritize activities.
- Continuing Activities: Current Coordinator will be working for TeamBuilders (TB), and TB has offered volunteer time to continue some health council functions, including, assist with monthly meetings, maintain the health profile, and update the resource directory. Current Coordinator also offered to maintain the website. and has shared log in information with Transition Team members to assist with updates. HCH grant for health center planning can pay the annual fee for the website hosting for the next year.
- UNM Health Sciences/HERO representative reviewed Taos CARES health profile and community plan to align her work with what

CARES identified as community priorities. Important to see this relationship maintained and the key functions continued.

- Strengthening ties with commissioners and other elected officials continues to be a high priority.

Future Vision:

- To leverage resources and create process for collecting/measuring the good works that health council and others do toward common goals.
- Promote best practice, mindful of shift to “practice-based evidence.”
- To grow into the evaluation plan.
- To develop healthy community policies. Example discussed = No Discovery/after school program is major void this summer. CARES role is to advocate, leverage, pressure County and Town to fund programming. Give them the data and models. Be proactive.
- To mobilize community via interactive technology. The convening function is critical. Crises can be a catalyst. Build our capacity to work together.
- To develop more relevance around community health issues through topic-based engagement.

Health Council Work Plan: Action Plan Matrix

A. Council Development

System/Capacity Outcomes	Health Council Objectives	Health Council Action Steps	Indicators
1. Planning: The Health Council is recognized as a community health planning and information body or hub.	Increase visibility, understanding and <i>impact</i> of the work of the health council.	Promote best practices among health council members.	Effort is documented by reports produced by the health council.
2. Membership: The Health Council has a stable, diverse, and growing membership.	Increase participation from health care providers, county officials, law enforcement. Include broader range of representatives from professional fields Expand out into community to rejuvenate	Invite participation and membership of identified groups.	Health council roster.

	relationships		
3. Internal structures: The health council is sustained and institutionalized with effective structures & practices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership team • Committee structure • Effective meetings • Member participation 	Continue current structure but allow for flexibility in leadership. Increase member participation.	Identify specific subgroups to assume responsibility for health council activities.	Subgroups formed.
4. Internal processes: The health council uses productive group processes.	Continue current transparency.	Use technology & communication tools (ex. internet & email) to encourage broad participation.	Minutes.

B. Community Assessment & Prioritization

System/Capacity Outcomes	Health Council Objectives	Health Council Action Steps	Indicators
1. Community assessment: The health council is able to assess community health strengths, needs, problems, and resources.	Update Taos County Health Profile on a quarterly basis	Update secondary data (quarterly); Analyze and interpret data (annually).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Health Profile
2. Monitoring progress: The health council is able to monitor progress in achieving outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving health • Improving community systems 	All members of health council share evaluations, reports regarding their efforts in the community.	Solicit this type of reporting from members.	Community Health Profile includes locally gathered data.
3. Emerging issues: The health council has the capacity to respond to emerging issues.	Build community capacity.	Use technology to communicate and mobilize community.	Community partnerships are formed.

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C. Community Action: Coordination & Leadership

System/Capacity Outcomes	Health Council Objectives	Health Council Action Steps	Indicators
1. Networks and partnerships are built and/or enhanced.	Build community capacity.	Use of interactive technology to mobilize community partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared planning projects • New linkages between community entities • Joint initiatives established or strengthened
2. Community programs are jointly developed or strengthened.	Collaboration among community members toward common goals.	Topic-based engagement.	Collaborations formed, maintained, successful outcomes.
3. Policies are changed and/or constituencies are built for policy changes.	Develop healthy community policies	Develop reports that illustrate and explain the connection between health issues and education and economic development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy change initiatives backed started • Discussions of policy changes • Constituencies established or strengthened. • Advocacy strategies discussed or implemented
4. Funds are received or leveraged in the community.	Measure impact of community partnerships.	Develop questionnaire and/or evaluation tool.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint applications for funding • Additional income received