The 2013-2015 Strategic Plan for the Wisconsin Public Health Research Network

What progress has been made?

The Wisconsin Public Health Research Network (WPHRN) creates a new Strategic Plan every three to five years. The Strategic Plan details the purpose of the network, our core values, our vision and the specific goals, and the strategies necessary to reach those goals. As part of strategic planning, the Steering Committee looked back to assess the progress made in achieving the goals of the last strategic plan. This brief report summarizes our goals and progress toward achieving them from 2013 to 2015.

Goal 1. Increase the number of academic partners in the network
Status: Complete
- Since 2013, network membership has increased significantly in all categories and includes public health practitioners, public health researchers, students, and others.
- Outreach has increased to both WPHA and WALHDAB through meetings, poster presentations, and website engagement. Click for membership information.
- The network is continuing to work on recruitment of additional Champions to join Dr. Susan Zahner (UW-Madison) and Dr. John Meurer (Medical College of Wisconsin).

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Goal 2. Increase dissemination and assess spread of findings
Status: Completed & Ongoing
- A library access factsheet was developed and a health-focused library resource webinar was conducted in collaboration with our partners.
- The webinar, Cross-Jurisdictional Shared Service Arrangements in Local Public Health (11/13/2015; CJSSA) was presented by Susan Zahner, DrPH, RN and Kusuma Madamala, PhD, MPH. The webinar recording and accompanying materials were posted.
- Additional dissemination efforts such as posters and other research briefs from network-sponsored research findings and webinars can be found here.

Goal 3. Increase amount of research
Status: Completed & Ongoing
- Network information was sent to Deans, Research Directors, and Student Services from nursing and public health programs. Faculty and students engaged in public health research were highly encouraged to use the network research questions.
- Two presentations were given to entering UW-Madison MPH students that included information about the WPHRN and the PRQs.
- New members are sent an email that includes a link to the WPHRN PRQs, found here.
- Funding opportunities and a link to the WPHRN PRQs are sent out monthly to members via an electronic mailing list. A fact sheet about funding opportunity updates was written and posted on the WPHRN website.
- The WPHRN PRQs were updated by surveying WPHRN members about PRQ relevance and importance to public health practice. Based on the survey data, PRQ categories were ranked in order of importance to improve public health in Wisconsin. There were 47 new PRQ added to the PRQ list and 13 were removed. A report and brief about the process and outcomes were written.
- These research projects were conducted:
  *The Future of Teaching in Local Health Departments
  *Quality of Wisconsin’s Community Health Improvement Plans and Processes
  *Measuring Variation in the Integration of Primary Care and Public Health
  *Inter-Organizational Collaboration in Local Public Health Systems
  *Cross-Jurisdictional Shared Service Arrangements in Local Public Health

Goal 4. Grow funding to sustain network
Status: Ongoing
- Four proposals were submitted to the RWJF; three were funded. Three Quick Strike proposals were submitted, but none were funded.
- Two WPHRN practice members requested calls for assistance from a primary investigator and both received assistance.
- Three WPHRN members, all from local health departments, inquired about project assistance or requested feedback. Network members were able to assist with each request.

Conclusion
Substantial progress was made in achieving the goals set by the WPHRN for 2013 to 2015.

Looking to the Future:
2016-2019 Strategic Plan Goals
Goal 1: Increase the number of strategic partnerships
Goal 2: Build stronger member engagement
Goal 3: Build capacity for sustainability

◊ For more information on the Wisconsin Public Health Research Network or how to join, please visit www.wphrn.org
◊ Webinars can be found here: http://www.wphrn.org/webinars.html
◊ To follow the WPHRN on Twitter: https://twitter.com/wphrn

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