Local Public Health Funding

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Overview

• Finance for local health departments (LHDs)
• Budgets
• Grants
• Program evaluation
• References

Finance for LHDs

• Public health finance is a complex system involving funding streams, economic factors, and policy and political changes.
• This complexity along with the lack of transparency and the wide variation in local public health discretionary spending make it difficult to develop a “blueprint” for all public health agencies to embrace.

CREDIT: LEAP Project.
Finance for LHDs

• What are the current funding sources for programs in the public health department in your community?

Finance for LHDs

• Tax levy

• Revenues & fee for service
  • Vaccine administration fee
  • TB skin testing
  • Medicare & Medicaid
  • Shared services
  • Licensing and inspection fees

• Grants
  • Maternal and Child Health
  • Public Health Preparedness
  • Immunization

Finance for LHDs

Other 3%
Federal Funds 22%
State General Purpose Revenue 8%
Program Revenue/Fees 15%
Medicaid/Medicare 8%
Local Tax Levy 44%
Wisconsin LHD Funding Sources 2010
Finance for LHDs

Budgets

- Written, detailed schedule of financial activities in an agency, a plan for agency expenditures and revenues and the act of balancing the expenditures with the revenues

- Line Item Budget: The line item budget is a commonly used financial accounting technique used to forecast costs for expenditures that ideally support an organization’s strategic business goals and objectives.

- Performance Based Budget: Focuses attention on work that is being accomplished, direct benefits to the community, and cost of these services.

Budget - I

CREDIT:
Shawano County Health Department
2011 Financial Report
Grant Funding

- Grants are monetary awards given by a governmental agency, foundation, or other entity to plan, implement, or operate a program or fund a project.
- May be competitive or non-competitive.
  1. Know your resources.
  2. Become familiar with funding sources.
  3. Collect strong and recent data.
  4. Identify a project that is evidence based.
  5. Plan for sustainability.
  6. Collaborate!

Consider the following:

- Your agency received a request for proposal (RFP) for funds up to $50,000 to support injury prevention programs in your community.
- The funding agency requires a pre-proposal (3 pages) and, if selected, the department will be expected to submit a full proposal in 3 months.
- Describe the steps you would take to write the pre-proposal and other information you would like before you precede.
Program Evaluation

- Agencies are under continual pressure to demonstrate that monies spent have been effective
- Traditionally, programs were considered effective by the number of individuals served
- Shift is toward greater accountability and demands evidence that public health funds are spent on programs with positive outcomes
- Public health accreditation is helping agencies through Performance Management Plans

Questions?