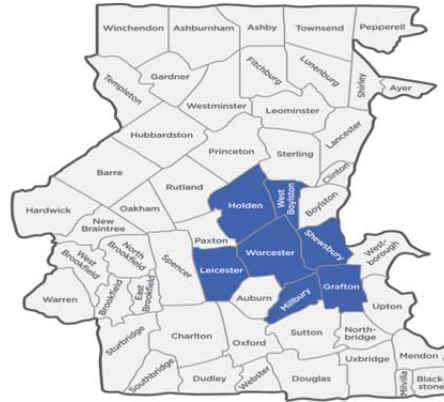


# Central Mass Regional Public Health Alliance

*Building a Better Regional, Comprehensive Services Model to Improve Public Health*



## What is the Central Mass Regional Public Health Alliance (CMRPHA)?

The Central Mass Regional Public Health Alliance is a coalition of seven municipalities (Towns of Grafton, Holden, Leicester, Millbury, Shrewsbury, and West Boylston and the City of Worcester) working cooperatively to create and sustain a viable, cost-effective, and labor-efficient regional public health district. The regional health district provides a comprehensive array of services to partner municipalities through a single organization managed by Worcester’s Division of Public Health. The inspiration to develop a regional alliance arose from the considerable disparity in size, available resources, and kinds and types of resources offered by each municipality.

## Key Goals, Initiatives, and Future Plans

Build a Road to Sustainability	Develop a plan to expand and actively pursue a diverse set of resources and funding streams from grants, philanthropic contributions, healthcare revenue, and user fees. <i>Update: Currently the Division of Public Health operates on a \$1.7 million/per year budget with 50% derived from grants and philanthropic contributions, 25% from regional partners and 25% from the City of Worcester</i>
Improve Organizational Effectiveness	Strengthen the qualifications of the local Public Health workforce, by recognizing the need to enhance professional development in order to deliver consistent services to the communities. <i>Update: Public Health Staff (PHS) training included ServSafe, Certified Pool Operator, and MA Public Health Inspector Training (MA-PHIT) – Housing. Additionally, an internal Quality Council has been formed to identify areas of improvement and overall effectiveness</i>
Mobilize a Community Coordinated Approach	Align partners’ mission and priorities of public health practices and leverage that knowledge into innovative and responsive community and public health approaches. Bringing together student (undergraduate, graduate, medical) interns with professors from academic institutions to assist the CMRPHA in local public health programs for the creation of a Center for Public Health Practice. <i>Update: A formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been reached with Clark University to collaborate with the Division of Public Health in the creation of the Center for Public Health Practice. Similar</i>

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*MOUs are under review with Worcester State University and the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Funding has been received from Clark University - \$30k, UMass Memorial Medical Center - \$30k, contributions were made by other organizations to include \$50k from a local trust fund coordinated through Clark University, \$42k from The Health Foundation and \$72K from the Fairlawn Health Foundation.*

<p>Make Data-Driven and Evidence-Based Decisions</p>	<p>Conduct a Community Health Assessment that will be used to formulate a Community Health Improvement Plan with the vision of making the Greater Worcester area the healthiest district in New England by 2020. <i>Update: Community Health Assessments (CHAs) and Community Improvement Plans (CHIPs) have been created for all the CMRPHA communities. Detailed report can be found at: <a href="http://www.worcesterma.gov/uploads/4d/a4/4da4fc5c6460990490334c1f5d255471/c/hip-report-2013.pdf">http://www.worcesterma.gov/uploads/4d/a4/4da4fc5c6460990490334c1f5d255471/c/hip-report-2013.pdf</a></i></p>
<p>Achieve voluntary Accreditation</p>	<p>Improve the scope and quality of local public health services in Central MA, consistent with the “Ten Essential Services of Public Health” in order to acquire accreditation by 2015 through Public Health Accreditation Board. <i>Update: Application for Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has been submitted. The Division of Public Health, along with CMRPHA, is currently on track to be the first accredited Health Department in Massachusetts. Documents are in the process of being submitted for review and the division is awaiting a date for the official site visit.</i></p>

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