# Planning Checklist – Phase Two: Prepare and Plan

This planning checklist for the ***Prepare and Plan*** phase was developed using the Center for Sharing Public Health Services (CSPHS) framework, *A Roadmap to Develop Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Initiatives.*  This framework includes the three process phases that cross-jurisdictional sharing arrangements typically move through: 1) ***Explore***, 2) ***Prepare and Plan***, and 3) ***Implement and Improve***.



Source: *A Roadmap to Develop Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Initiatives.*  Center for Sharing Public Health Services (CSPHS) framework, 2013.

## References Used

The development of the planning checklist was informed by a literature review on shared services in government and public health, the CSPHS framework, health officer interviews held from June – August 2013, and board of health discussion groups held from September 2013 – February 2014 in the Northwoods Shared Services Project area.

## Using the Checklist

Once a decision has been made to move forward with a cross-jurisdictional sharing arrangement, the ***Prepare and Plan*** checklist could be used to develop the shared service. The checklist systematically guides the partners through context and history, governance or organizational structure, fiscal and service implications, agreements, legal issues, logistics, communications, change management, timelines, and monitoring.

This tool could be used by health officers, staff and stakeholders in the ***Prepare and Plan*** phase but could also be adapted or abbreviated to report to policymakers on the progress of the planning for a cross-jurisdictional sharing arrangement.

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| Planning Checklist for Phase Two: Prepare and Plan |
| Products: Implementation assessment and plan, evaluation plan, formal agreement |
| Context and history | CRITERIA  | DECISION |
| An analysis of possible strengths-weaknesses-opportunities-threats (SWOT) to consider in the development of the new initiative’s action plan has been conducted by the key partners.  | YES NO Comments:  |
| The key partners have considered lessons learned from past CJS initiatives. | YES NO Comments:  |
| The service delivery model respects the cultural uniqueness of each county/tribe and is adaptable based on local needs if possible. | YES NOComments:  |
| Governance | The governance structure will have clear roles and responsibilities of each member, including the lead agency/fiscal agent. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLE Comments:  |
| The governance structure clearly articulates member decision-making responsibilities for goals, objectives, data collection, budget, and future planning. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLEComments:  |
| The governance structure sets up conditions for continually improving communications, relationships and outcomes. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLEComments:  |
| The organizational structure is adequate to assure proper management of the CJS. | YES NO Comments:  |
| Conflict resolution is addressed in the governance structure or agreement. | YES NOComments:  |
| The oversight committee has the knowledge to evaluate if services are happening as proposed or planned. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLE Comments:  |

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| Fiscal and service implications | The proposed service model strives for increased efﬁciency and effectiveness. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLEComments:  |
| The sharing arrangement increases health department capacity to meet national accreditation standards or is neutral. | YES NOComments:  |
| There are existing and potential funding streams that can assure adequate and sustainable operational funding beyond 1 – 2 years. | YES NOComments:  |
| The implementation plan assures a service level that meets or exceeds current levels of performance. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLE IF NEWComments:  |
| The implementation plan assures a quality of service that is satisfactory for expectations of our jurisdiction. | YES NOComments:  |
| Flexibility is honored for services that need to be tailored to each jurisdiction. | YES NOComments:  |
| Legal sharing agreement | The type of agreement is acceptable (Informal, contract for service, MOU, Mutual Aid Agreement, Other). | YES NOComments:  |
| The agreement articulates who will have the authority to make decisions. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLEComments:  |
| The agreement is clear about who will have the authority for staffing decisions. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLEComments:  |
| The agreement articulates who will have the authority to allocate resources. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLEComments:  |
| The agreement is clear about how and when a partner can opt out of the agreement. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLEComments:  |

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| Legal sharing agreement, continued | The agreement articulates the financial commitment of each partner. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLEComments:  |
| The agreement, if needed, has gone through appropriate committees and boards. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLEComments:  |
| Policies and procedures specific to the shared arrangement have been developed and approved by the members. | YES NO NOT APPLICABLEComments:  |
| Legal issues | Issues related to personnel and vendor contracts (e.g., beneﬁts, collective bargaining agreements, procurement processes, travel policies, residency requirements, information sharing, etc.) have been worked out. | YES NOComments:  |
| Liability and insurance issues have been addressed. | YES NOComments:  |
| Corporation Counsels, as needed, have been consulted. | YES NOComments:  |
| Logistical issues | The agreement addresses buildings, ofﬁce space, transportation, other properties and other logistical issues. | YES NOComments:  |
| Adequate facilities to house all personnel, equipment and programs within reasonable geographical proximity to the customers for the shared services have been secured. | YES NOComments:  |
| Recruitment of staff with the desired expertise in the location(s) needed is progressing as planned. | YES NOComments:  |
| Strategic communicationspPlan | External audiences with whom the partners should communicate have been identified. | YES NOComments:  |
| The messages, messengers and communication methods have been articulated. | YES NOComments:  |

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| Change mgmt. | A change management strategy has been developed for major shared service projects, especially those that impact management oversight, staffing and services. | YES NOComments:  |
| Timeline | A timeline that includes speciﬁc steps to assure success of the sharing initiative has been developed and approved by the key partners. | YES NOComments:  |
| Monitoring | An evaluation plan to measure success and effectiveness has been developed and approved by the key partners. | YES NOComments:  |
| Members agree upon the metrics to be used to evaluate progress. | YES NOComments:  |
| Data collection methods have been identified and implemented to assure the completion of the evaluation plan. | YES NOComments:  |

Adapted from A Roadmap to Develop Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Initiatives, Center for Sharing Public Health Services, 2013.