
Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Project

- Final Narrative Report
-

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Prepared for:

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Background

In 2012, the City of Portland's Public Health Division (PPH) received a two-year grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to explore various regional approaches for organizing, structuring and providing public health services in the Cumberland county area. This grant, known as the *Cross Jurisdictional Sharing Learning Community (CJS)* initiative supported the investigation of models or approaches that lead to improved public health capacity and efficiency.

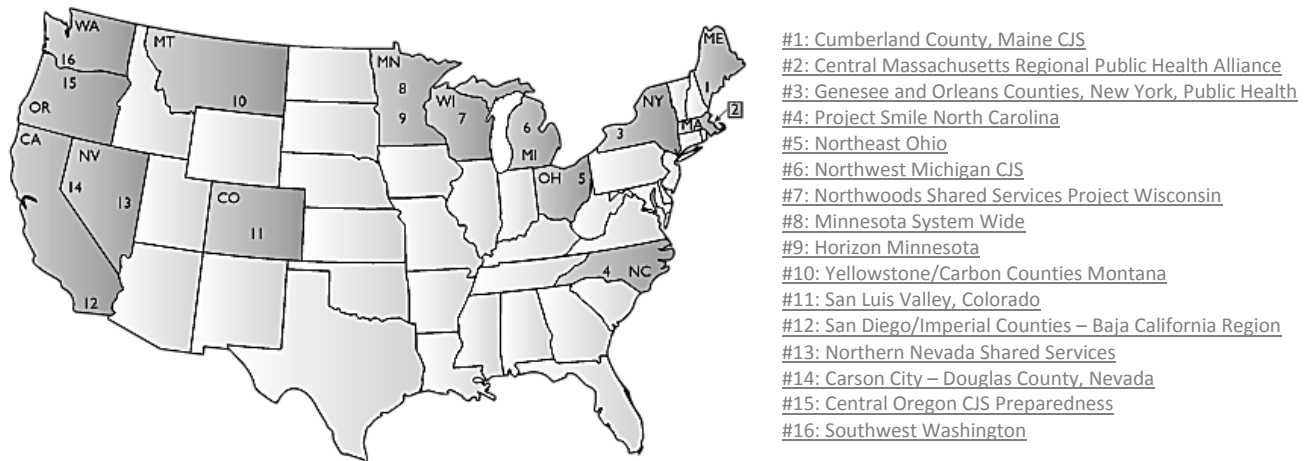
As part of the grant, the City of Portland's PPH contracted with the Muskie School at the University of Southern Maine to:

- Facilitate meetings
- Provide technical assistance
- Moderate discussion groups
- Conduct interviews
- Present findings

Grantees

As seen in Figure 1, Portland was one of 16 sites funded. Each site includes a team from the health department that participates in the CJS national learning community. This learning community is designed to identify and share best practices based on the experiences of grantees in using different types of CJS arrangements.

FIGURE 1. GRANTEE MAP



Public Health's Project

The CJS grant allowed PPH to engage a diverse group of constituents and community leaders to discuss opportunities and models for strengthening public health service delivery in Cumberland County. A grant Leadership Team was developed to inform the deliberations and guide the direction of the project (see Appendix A). Early efforts focused on soliciting input from regional partners about the current status quo, needed services, and opportunities for increased coordination, consolidation and collaboration. A preliminary feasibility analysis of various models was then developed and vetted by the stakeholder group and efforts were pursued by PPH to begin expanding specific services.

Key Activities

The major activities undertaken by USM's Muskie School are summarized below.

Meeting Facilitation. Our team assisted in developing agendas and facilitating stakeholder meetings. As facilitators, we served as neutral members of the group, posed questions, and solicited input from participants.

Technical Assistance. Our team provided the PPH staff with technical assistance, in large part, based on our work in Public Health Systems and Services Research. We met with PPH staff, de-briefed after meetings, and assisted with required tasks.

Discussion Groups. Members of our team facilitated a series of regional discussion groups with public health partners. We used a structured script and summarized the findings in a report.

Interviews. Our team conducted a series of key informant interviews with the members of the Leadership Team to all participants the opportunity to reflect on the initiative. The interviews were based on a semi-structure protocol and a summary report was developed.

Presented Data. The discussion group and interview findings were presented to public health partners at two separate meetings.

Appendix A. Leadership Team Members

Name	Title	Organization	Role
Mark Grover	Commissioner, District 3	Cumberland County	County elected official
Peter Crichton	County Manager	Cumberland County	County manager
Becca Matusovich	Cumberland District Liaison	Maine CDC	County/State health official
Ed Suslovic	City Councilor, District 3	City of Portland	Local elected official
Colleen Hilton	Mayor	City of Westbrook	Local elected official
Tony Plante	Town Manager	Town of Windham	Local town manager
Chris Zukas	Deputy Director	Maine CDC	State health official
Dr. Sheila Pinette	Director	Maine CDC	State health official
Deb Deatrack	Vice President	MaineHealth	Community Partner