

# Cross-sector Innovation Initiative

## Overview

With funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Center for Sharing Public Health Services (CSPHS) and the Public Health National Center for Innovations (PHNCI) are co-leading the Cross-sector Innovation Initiative (CSII), a joint effort that aims to understand and support innovative multi-sector partnerships between public health, healthcare, and social services that ultimately transform practice towards working in alignment to improve population health, wellbeing, and equity for all. The CSII is supported by an Advisory Committee comprised of leaders in public health practice, healthcare, and social services, and actively engages with experts from other sectors to connect innovative thought leaders.

## Current Activities

The CSII is a three-year endeavor aimed to move multi-sector partnerships involving public health beyond single-focused, time limited projects to truly align values, goals, and outcomes necessary to ultimately transform communities. As a result of this initiative, the CSPHS and PHNCI expect to understand the unique role of governmental public health in alignment, what facilitates and/or impedes cross-sector collaborations, and the value of these collaborations to all partners involved.

The initial activities include an environmental scan and the establishment of an Advisory Committee to guide the work moving forward. The next activities include the development of a Call for Proposals and establishment of a learning community, where selected grantees will implement their alignment innovations and will come together to share their experiences. PHNCI and the CSPHS will foster learning among and between grantees as learnings are captured, distilled, and disseminated to the field through tools and resources, stories and other communication materials, and a formal evaluation.

## Center for Sharing Public Health Services

Since 2012, CSPHS has served as a national resource on cross-jurisdictional sharing (CJS), building the evidence and producing and disseminating tools, methods, and models to assist public health agencies and policymakers as they consider and adopt CJS approaches.

CJS is a strategy that involves collaboration between health departments across jurisdictional boundaries. The purpose of CJS is to deliver public health services and address problems that cannot easily be solved by a single organization or jurisdiction. Based on steps along the *Roadmap to Develop Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Initiatives*, the CSPHS and its companion website COMPASS ([www.compass.phsharing.org](http://www.compass.phsharing.org)) provide access to tools, methods, and models to help explore, prepare for, plan, implement, and improve a CJS arrangement.

## Public Health National Center for Innovations

Since 2015, PHNCI, a division of the Public Health Accreditation Board, has aimed to identify, implement, and spread innovations in public health practice to help meet the health challenges of the 21st century in communities nationwide. PHNCI acts as a leader to coordinate and align national initiatives and share innovative ideas as communities transform to improve health outcomes.

At the core of PHNCI's current body of work are learning communities comprised of statewide coalitions, health departments, and other agencies implementing the systems transformations and innovations needed to improve public health practice and health outcomes.

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