# Program: Northwoods Collaborative

# Situation: The Northwoods Collaborative is a cross-jurisdictional collaboration of 10 public health departments that contribute local public health preparedness funds to collaborative efforts around preparedness, surveillance, and epidemiology. The collaborative seeks additional financial resources through grant-writing.

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| **Inputs** |  | **Outputs** |  | Outcomes -- Impact |
|  | *Activities* | *Participation* |  | Short | Medium | Long |
| Trust, commitment, and history of working together Shared financial resources (Public health preparedness, Public Health Improvement grant funds)Shared Services Learning Community grantShared public health staff within collaborative agenciesShared staff employed by fiscal agent, Marathon County Health DepartmentSupportive board membersTechnology (Adobe Connect, Survey Monkey, Microsoft Project, Visio)Knowledgeable and experienced partners |  | Develop annual work plan, budget, staff assignmentsResearch and respond to funding opportunitiesResearch, plan, promote training opportunitiesConduct annual collaborative evaluationConduct strategic planningDevelop plans, templates, toolsParticipate in DPH workgroups, panelsParticipate in exercises and drillsProvide TA on WEDSS (Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System), PCA Portal, Everbridge, social media, website design | Collaborative agency health officers and staff Marathon County Health Department staffDivision of Public Health Regional OfficesDivision of Public Health Public Health Emergency Preparedness staffDPH Wisconsin Public Health Improvement InitiativeMI-WI Border Coordination CommitteeWisconsin Hospital Emergency Preparedness Program/Healthcare CoalitionsWisconsin Emergency ManagementShared Services Learning Community |  | Member agencies are aware of PHP contract requirements and necessary steps to complete themMembers are aware of staff expertise and services available to them in the collaborativeAgency staff increase knowledge in NIMS/ICS, performance management, communicable disease reporting and investigation, using PCA Portal and EverbridgeCollaborative members are satisfied with communications, how meetings take place, administration of the budget, and staff responsiveness  | Public health plans are created and updated Public health emergency response partners practice their rolesStaff increase competency in emergency responseMember agencies complete annual contract objectives and grant deliverablesMembers increase meeting and completing Public Health Accreditation Board standards and measures  | Increased local capacity in public health preparedness, surveillance and epidemiology, accreditation readinessAgencies are prepared for applying to be an accredited health departmentPublic health emergencies are identified early and contained with minimal death, disability, and environmental damage  |

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| **Assumptions** |  | **External Factors** |
| Pooling funds contributes to staffing efficiencies and makes resources available to health departments for preparedness and accreditation readiness, improving capacity and infrastructure.Sharing knowledge and expertise through a regional approach increases the quality and capacity of preparedness and response and delivery on essential services of public health in the community. | The collaborative is dependent on grant and annual funding, both unpredictable revenue sources that limit strategic planning and sustainability.Public health funding continues to fall, placing a greater burden on health departments to contribute to a collaborative effort and meet accreditation requirements. |

2013-14