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# Public Health Nutrition/Community Nutrition Action Plan

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September 2013

The HOD Public Health/Community Nutrition Task Force Action Plan was developed as a follow-up to the Fall 2012 Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics House of Delegates Meeting dialogue session on public health nutrition and community nutrition. The purpose of the plan is to provide direction on how members can prepare to become actively employed in public health nutrition and community nutrition. The plan also identifies the role the Academy can play to assist members in this effort. Achievement of the Academy strategies will require working in collaboration within the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (organization units e.g., state affiliates, dietetic practice groups, Public Health/Community Nutrition Task Force, Foundation, ACEND, Professional Development, Quality Management, LPPC, Member Services, Nominating Committee), other public health/community nutrition organizations such as those listed on page 7.

MEMBER STRATEGIES	Timeline	Lead	Cost	Next Steps
<i>The strategies identified will assist members to become actively employed in public health nutrition and/or community nutrition.</i>				
<b>ASSESSMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS</b> 1. Complete a self-assessment checklist to determine professional development needs in one or more of the following areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research, institutional review boards</li> <li>Grants, contracts, fund raising</li> <li>Statistical data analysis, epidemiology, program evaluation, performance management</li> <li>Needs assessment (individual, family), motivational interviewing, health disparities, health equity, cultural and linguistic competence, diversity</li> <li>Needs assessment (community), priority setting, program planning, implementation, evaluation</li> <li>Leadership, negotiation, business, management, strategic planning, collaboration, participatory facilitation and convening skills</li> <li>Communication, health literacy, social marketing, media</li> <li>Public policy development, advocacy, writing</li> <li>Policy, environmental and systems change strategies</li> <li>Sustainable food systems</li> <li>Ethics</li> </ol>	Ongoing	Task Force		Review the <i>Self-Assessment Tool for Public Health/Community Nutrition</i> posted on the University of Minnesota for possible use.
<b>EDUCATION AND TRAINING TO ENHANCE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS</b>				
2. Read educational materials (available on online resource toolkit) related to public health nutrition and community nutrition. <i>Cross-reference Academy strategy #1.</i>  Possible resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academy’s position and practice papers</li> <li>Academy’s research toolkit</li> <li>Academy’s standards of practice (SOP) and standards of professional performance (SOPP)</li> <li><a href="http://www.astphnd.org">www.astphnd.org</a> or, eventually, <a href="http://www.asphn.org">www.asphn.org</a></li> <li><i>Bright Futures Nutrition</i></li> <li><i>Blueprint for Nutrition and Physical Activity: Cornerstones of a Healthy Lifestyle</i></li> <li><i>Moving to the Future: Nutrition and Physical Activity Program Planning</i> (<a href="http://www.movingtothefuture.org">www.movingtothefuture.org</a>)</li> <li>ASPHN briefs that describe and promote the role of public health nutrition and the public health nutritionist</li> <li>ASPHN public health nutrition success stories</li> </ul>	Ongoing	PHCNPG HEN FCP PNPG SCAN Task Force		Identify resources; create and maintain a resource toolkit. Utilize prime movers to address strategy.

MEMBER STRATEGIES	Timeline	Lead	Cost	Next Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community Tool Box (<a href="http://ctb.ku.edu/en/default.aspx">http://ctb.ku.edu/en/default.aspx</a>)</li> <li>• <i>Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnerships</i> (<a href="http://www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/mapp">http://www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/mapp</a>)</li> <li>• CDC resources like Recommended Community Strategies and Measurements to Prevent Obesity, Community Prevention Guide, similar resources for breastfeeding evidence-based practices, diabetes, heart disease and stroke prevention, etc.</li> <li>• <a href="http://centertrt.org/">http://centertrt.org/</a> resources about interventions, evaluation and evidence-based practices</li> <li>• HRSA’s Bureau of Health Professions</li> <li>• SNEB; <i>Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior</i></li> </ul> <p>3. Participate in federally funded training programs related to public health nutrition and community nutrition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MCHB-funded public health nutrition training programs (<a href="http://mchb.hrsa.gov/training/grantee_network.asp">http://mchb.hrsa.gov/training/grantee_network.asp</a>)</li> <li>• BHP-funded public health training programs to obtain CPEU (Note: Need to get approval by CDR for CPEU.) (<a href="http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/grants/publichealth/trainingcenters/search.html">http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/grants/publichealth/trainingcenters/search.html</a>)</li> </ul>				
<p>4. Participate in Academy-sponsored certificate programs (e.g., pediatric and/or adult weight management, leadership. <i>Cross- reference with Academy strategy #4.</i></p>	18 months for development of certificate program	Professional Development PHCNPG ASPHN CDC	Development of certificate program is a cost to the Academy funded by the Professional Development Team.	Discuss with Professional Development Team; identify members to lead effort.
<p>5. Obtain a master’s degree in public health, public policy, or health administration, public administration.</p>	Ongoing	Task Force ACEND	None	Need to provide more guidance; need to make list of programs easier to locate.
<p>6. Seek Academy Foundation scholarship opportunities to further education and training in public health nutrition and community nutrition.</p>	Ongoing	Foundation Task Force	None	Need to initiate discussion with Foundation regarding existing opportunities.

<b>MEMBER STRATEGIES</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
<b>ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO BECOME INVOLVED IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND/OR COMMUNITY NUTRITION EFFORTS</b>				
7. Join the Public Health/Community Nutrition Dietetic Practice Group (PHCNPG) and other dietetic practice groups (DPGs) (e.g., Hunger and Environmental (HEN), Food and Culinary Professionals (FCP) (and supermarket subunit)).	Ongoing	PHCNPG HEN DPG FCP DPG		Need promotional piece.
8. Volunteer for tasks through the PHCNPG and other practice groups, when opportunities exist.				
9. Work with a mentor to learn about the area of practice, or serve as a mentor to share knowledge and experience with others. Members can utilize <i>Guidelines for Community Nutrition Supervised Experiences</i> as a resource.	Ongoing	PHCNPG Task Force Member Services ASPHN CDC		Identify mentors; consider use of Academy mentoring program.
10. Network with RDNs and DTRs working in public health nutrition and community nutrition to further understanding of the area of practice.	Ongoing	PHCNPG		Need to further develop.
11. Join other public health organizations (e.g., APHA Food and Nutrition Section, ASPHN, Community Food Security Coalition, SNEB) to further understanding of the area of practice. <i>See Academy Strategy #13.</i>	Ongoing	PHCNPG		Need to consider how to promote and why.
12. Participate in public policy–related opportunities, such as meetings and webinars (e.g., Academy Public Policy Workshop, state and local public health board meetings, public policy or coalition meetings) to advance knowledge and skills to effect change. <i>See Academy Strategy #13.</i>	Ongoing	PHCNPG State affiliates		Need to link benefit to member.
13. Get involved in public policy–related activities (e.g., APHA state chapter, state and community-based food policy councils) and work with elected officials’ health staff to increase their knowledge and understanding to impact public health and community nutrition issues at the local, state, and national levels.	Ongoing			Identify purpose and guidance to members.
14. Nominate and elect members with public health nutrition and community nutrition expertise to Academy positions.	Ongoing	PHCNPG HEN DPG FCP DPG Nominating Committee	None	

ACADEMY STRATEGIES	Timeline	Lead	Cost	Next Steps
<i>These strategies will be addressed by the Academy and its organizational units to assist members to become involved in public health nutrition and/or community nutrition.</i>				
1. Share the Academy’s definition of public health nutrition and community nutrition externally to relevant groups.		Task Force PHCNPG ASPHN		
2. Develop and maintain a (webpage on eatright.org) resource toolkit to include key readings in public health nutrition and community nutrition and links to other information and materials developed by the Academy and others. Include a section in the toolkit for educators to enhance understanding and promote intersection of public health nutrition and community nutrition competencies. <i>Cross-reference member strategy #2.</i>	Summer 2014	Professional Development Web Strategy		
3. Provide a public health nutrition and community nutrition mentoring program. <i>Cross-reference member strategy #8.</i>	Winter 2013	Member Services PHCNPG HEN DPG FCP DPG	None	
4. Review certificate programs and promote those relevant to public health nutrition and community nutrition (e.g., leadership or executive management certificate). <i>Cross-reference member strategy #4.</i>	Winter 2013	Professional Development		
5. Develop a certificate program on public health nutrition and community nutrition, if needed. <i>Cross-reference member strategy #4.</i>	18 months	Professional Development		
6. Develop a public health nutrition and community nutrition fact sheet to include background information, definitions, and examples of members working in both settings to share with Academy members, organizational units, and other organizations. (Note: similar initiatives within ASPHN) <i>Cross-reference member strategy #2.</i>	Ongoing	Quality Management PHCNPG Task Force ASPHN	None	
7. Update <i>Guidelines for Community Nutrition Supervised Experiences</i> (hosted on PHCNPG’s website). <i>Cross-reference member strategy #2.</i>	Spring 2014	PHCNPG ACEND Task Force		
8. Promote use of <i>Strategies for Success: Curriculum Guide (Didactic and Experiential Learning, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition</i> (hosted on AGPPHN’s website). <i>Cross-reference member strategy #2.</i>	Spring 2014	PHCNPG ACEND Task Force AGPPHN		
9. Update <i>Personnel in Public Health Nutrition for the 2000s</i> (hosted on the ASPHN’s website) and include information on responsibilities related to DTRs and human resources. <i>Cross-reference member strategy #2.</i>	Spring 2014	ASPHN and AGPPHN as lead and working with PHCNPG CDC		

**ACADEMY STRATEGIES**

**Timeline**

**Lead**

**Cost**

**Next Steps**

<p>10. Develop public health nutrition and community nutrition SOP/SOPP. <i>Cross-reference member strategy #2.</i></p>	<p>Summer 2014</p>	<p>Quality Management PHCNPG</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>In process.</p>
<p>11. Develop more scholarship opportunities in public health nutrition and community nutrition. <i>Cross-reference member strategy #6.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>PHCNPG Foundation</p>		
<p>12. Publish and promote availability of practice application articles in the <i>Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics</i>. <i>Cross-reference member strategy #2.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Task Force PHCNPG HEN FCP</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Discuss with <i>Journal</i> staff.</p>
<p>13. Maintain, and ideally build, the advocacy efforts for public health nutrition programs and for public health nutrition approaches to food, nutrition, and health legislation and programs. Work with APHA Food &amp; Nutrition Section to cross list advocacy training opportunities and public policy calls to action.</p>		<p>Task Force LPPC PHCNPG ASPHN APHA Food &amp; Nutrition Section</p>		

## Acronyms

Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)  
Association of Graduate Programs in Public Health Nutrition, Inc. (AGPPHN)  
American Public Health Association (APHA)  
Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH)  
Association of State Public Health Nutritionists (ASPHN)  
Bureau of Health Professions (BHPr)  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
Food and Culinary Professionals Dietetic Practice Group (FCP)  
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)  
Hunger and Environmental Nutrition Dietetic Practice Group (HEN)  
Legislative and Public Policy Committee (LPPC)  
Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)  
National WIC Association (NWA)  
Pediatric Nutrition Dietetic Practice Group (PNPG)  
Public Health Community Nutrition Dietetic Practice Group (PHCNPG)  
Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB)  
Sports, Cardiovascular, and Wellness Dietetic Practice Group (SCAN)  
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)