



# OREGON COALITION OF LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS

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Dr. Elaine Scallan Walter  
Director, Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center  
Colorado School of Public Health  
13001 E 17th Pl B119  
Aurora, CO 80045

July 21, 2022

Dear Dr. Walter,

**\*Draft\***

On behalf of Oregon's Coalition of Local Health Officials (CLHO) I am pleased to offer this letter of support for the Regional Public Health Training Center Network's application for Component B of the CDC's OE22-2203: Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems grant opportunity. We are grateful that you are providing leadership to the network with this application.

CLHO is the state association of county health officials providing services to the 33 local health departments in Oregon. Like other states in the Northwest, our public health agencies are largely rural, with our member agencies serving counties of 1,400 to 810,000 residents and the vast majority of them serving populations of less than 100,000. The Region X Public Health Training Center at the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice (NWCPHP) has been vital to our public health practice community in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest as it knows the unique needs of our practice community and partners, and regularly draws from expertise and resources of the wider Regional Public Health Training Center (PHTC) Network. The NWCPHP and the PHTC Network, thus, play key roles in workforce development, building our local public health capacity, and supporting efforts in local communities. Examples of recent technical assistance and supports CLHO members have benefited from relative to the NWCPHP and regional network of PHTCs include:

- Oregon's participation with the NWCPHP in the *PH WINS for All* data collection and training needs assessment which invited all of the state's local health departments to participate, achieved a high response rate, and obtained rural PH WINS data for the first time in the history of PH WINS's implementation.
- The delivery of high-quality training to build foundational capabilities, such as the NWCPHP's *Public Health & Primary Care Leadership Institute*, *Public Health Management Certificate*, the "Data for Rural Health Equity" training series, and the popular *Hot Topics in Practice* monthly webinar series.
- Working collaboratively with other academic partners across our state to maximize involvement of academic partners and resources and the inclusion of students in rural areas.
- Student field placements in public health practice settings throughout Oregon.

Participation with the NWCPHP gives us the opportunity to provide workforce activities in our region that are effective and relevant for CLHO member agencies, leaders, and staff while also supporting access to the training resources and expertise of a national network of PHTCs. As the public health workforce needs in our state and region are more acute than ever, we look forward to the additional training and technical assistance resources that this CDC grant would lend to the Regional PHTC Network, thus, amplify their means of partnering with us to support workforce development activities.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Warren, PhD, MPH  
CLHO Chair and Health Administrator  
of Lane County Public Health

Sarah Lochner, MPS  
CLHO Executive Director

For more information, contact Sarah Lochner, Executive Director  
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