**Conference of Local Health Officials**

**Annual Committee Report of Activities - 2017**

*Please complete the following form and return to Morgan (*[*morgan@oregonclho.org*](mailto:morgan@oregonclho.org)*) by October 13, 2016*

***Please plan on having someone from your committee present at the October13th, 2017 CLHO meeting to present your Annual Report****. Thank you!*

**Committee: Healthy Structure (Systems and Innovation)**

**Chair/Co-Chair**: Florence Pourtal-Stevens (Coos County)  
Michael Baker (Jefferson County)

**What is the purpose of your committee (please include the issues are within your committee’s purview)?**Historically, the Healthy Structure Committee was created in order to develop short and long term priorities and objectives related to local public health standards and funding. Originally, the committee was set up to review funding formula changes or proposals that were submitted by the State Public Health Division programs. The Committee would then provide recommendations to the larger CLHO. In 2017, the purpose of the Healthy Structure Committee was to identify a method to realign CLHO committees with the upcoming public health modernization.

**What are the objectives of your committee?**

Overall, the Healthy Structure Committee continues to work in the following areas to develop recommendations to CLHO and the PHD in order to make public health system improvements:

* Revise and Update the Minimum Standards for Local Public Health and ensure alignment with national standards
* Consider models and make recommendations for fully operationalizing the revised Minimum Standards
* Consider models and make recommendations for improving local review processes (i.e. triennial review) and aligning with the revised Minimum Standards
* Consider methods for aligning funding with revised Minimum Standards and review processes
* Develop ideas for incorporating Quality Improvement tracking and reporting into review processes and aligning with funding and standards

**What specific issues did your committee work on in 2017 (please be sure to include Program Element and Funding changes in addition to other topics)?**

Under the direction of the Joint Leadership Team (JLT), the primary role of the Health Structure committee in 2017 was to develop recommendations to align the Conference of Local Health Officials’ overall committee framework with the modernization Oregon’s public health system.

**Were there any specific issue challenges or structural challenges your committee encountered this year?**

In 2016, the role of the committee was not as clear, especially considering the upcoming changes as a result of modernization of public health system in Oregon. Originally, there was discussion to dissolve the Healthy Structure committee with merge the work and committee members with the Health Transformation committee. Additionally, one of the Co-Chairs had resigned in August and the second retired shortly thereafter. Two new directors assumed the Co-Chair responsibilities to begin work on the new committee structures.

**How has your committee discussed or incorporated Public Health Modernization as it pertains to your committee’s objectives?**

The Healthy Structure committee proposed work based on existing program elements and future work as indicated in the modernization manual. The exception is the Systems and Innovation committee which will be responsible for working with committees to embed foundational capabilities in public health work and create guidelines for how to address new public health work as it relates to public health modernization. Additionally, the Healthy Structure committee recognizes that Preparedness and Response is a foundational capability, yet the program elements and work are substantive enough that it requires a committee to address it.

**The CLHO Board has recommended a slightly restructured CLHO committee structure to better align with the Foundational Public Health Services Model, or Public Health “Modernization”. What work of the committee do you want to make sure doesn’t get lost in the transition?**

Best practices were identified to continue on the work of existing committees, especially during the transition phase to the new committee structure.

* All committees must have clear expectations and desired outcomes.
* Create “ad hoc” committees for public health issues, PEs, or funding formulas that span multiple committees
* In most cases, meetings should be held on an “as needed” basis.
* Committee membership is a balanced mix of content experts, State staff, and local public health administrators.
* Expectations for committee participation and leadership are clearly defined.
* Build on collaboration between State and local public health.
* Local expertise is recognized and supported within committees.

**Any thing else you’d like to share with other Committees or the CLHO Board?**

As identified in the Healthily Structure report to CLHO members, the committee members wished to recognize the key work of committees continue on in the new structure.

Goals of the New Conference Committee Structure:

1. Align with the Public Health Modernization framework creating areas of work for all foundational programs
2. Strengthen the public health system through creating a venue for collaboration to address gaps and brainstorm implementation strategies for new aspects of foundational public health work
3. Create clarity for the role of Conference committees
4. Create flexibility to quickly and meaningfully address public health issues and work

**Please list your committee members. Do all of these committee members want to continue through the restructuring? (please indicate)**

Muriel DeLavergne-Brown (Crook County)

Angela Gerrard (Malheur County)

Pamela Hutchinson (Marion County)

Claire Smith (Multnomah County)

Erin Jolly (Washington County)

Karen Woods (Wheeler County)

All have voiced a desire to remain active in the new committee structure.