

Colorado

Maternal and Child Health Program Guidelines



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

Prevention Services Division
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246

Colorado Maternal Child Health Program Guidelines

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	3
PART I: MCH BACKGROUND	6
A. Maternal and Child Health	6
1. MCH Funding	6
2. Colorado MCH	7
B. MCH Accountability and Performance	8
1. 18 National Performance Measures	9
2. Six MCH Outcome Measures	10
3. Colorado MCH State Priorities and Measures	10
PART II: COLORADO'S MCH PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION, AND REPORTING PROCESS	12
A. Overview	12
1. Evidenced-Based Public Health Approach	12
2. Timeline of the MCH Planning, Implementation, and Reporting Process	15
3. MCH Consultation Model	16
B. Assessment	17
1. Conceptual Overview and Expectations	17
2. MCH County Data	18
3. MCH Agency Planning Meetings	19
4. MCH Prioritization Tool & Helpful Resources	19
C. Plan Development	20
1. Conceptual Overview and Expectations	20
2. Action Plan	21
3. HCP Planning Forms	22
4. MCH Planning Budget and Narrative Form	22
5. Core Services Planning Estimate (on the MCH Planning Budget Form)	24
6. FY 16 Review and Feedback of Budgets and Planning Forms	24
D. Plan Implementation	25
1. Conceptual Overview and Expectations	25
2. Overall Communication	25
3. Invoicing Procedures	26
4. Action Plan Revision and Adding/Deleting Process	26
5. Budget Revision Process	27
6. Progress Checks	28
7. Contract Management Ratings	29
8. Subcontracting Procedures	31
E. Reporting Steps	32
1. MCH Action Plan Annual Report	32
2. HCP Annual Reports	33
3. MCH Core Services Annual Report	33
4. Review and Feedback of Reports	33

APPENDICES	34
MCH Essential Public Health Services	34
Step-by-Step Guide	35
Core Public Health Services Provided by MCH Agencies	37
Population-Based and Infrastructure-Building Approaches to Maternal and Child Health	38
HCP Care Coordination Planning Form	Error! Bookmark not defined.
CSHCN Population by County	45

Overview and Purpose of Guidelines

Welcome to the Colorado Maternal Child Health (MCH) Guidelines. These Guidelines serve as a one-stop source of information for Colorado's local public health agency (LPHA) MCH Program and are organized into two parts:

- [Part I: MCH Background](#)

Part I provides background information about Maternal and Child Health and the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant (Title V) including anticipated federal and state funding levels, and national and state performance measures.

- [Part II: Colorado's MCH Local Planning, Implementation, Evaluation, and Reporting Processes](#)

Part II serves as a guide to Local Public Health Agencies (LPHAs) for participating in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) MCH Program planning, implementation, evaluation and reporting processes. **These Guidelines delineate the requirements and expectations of LPHAs' MCH scope of work in relationship to their MCH contracts with CDPHE.** LPHAs are therefore responsible for implementing all MCH program components as outlined in these Guidelines, per their MCH contract with the CDPHE.

The MCH Guidelines are posted online at www.mchcolorado.org. Per contract specification, any revision to these guidelines will be communicated in a timely manner to LPHA partners and will also be updated online. The hyperlinks in the MCH Guidelines link to companion documents (such as forms, instructions, and guides) posted on the MCH website.

Each MCH contract incorporates the Health Care Program for Children with Special Health Care Needs (HCP) services to be provided by the LPHA. All LPHAs are required to provide Health Care Program for Children with Special Health Care Needs (HCP) Care Coordination services. Additional provisions are provided in MCH contracts for LPHAs that also provide HCP Specialty Clinic services. LPHAs are responsible for adhering to the HCP policies and guidelines specific to the HCP services their agency provides. The Policy & Guidelines document for HCP Care Coordination and HCP Specialty Clinics is posted on the HCP web site at www.hcpcolorado.org in the HCP partner and provider resources section.

PART I: MCH BACKGROUND

A. Maternal and Child Health

Maternal and Child Health (MCH) is "the professional and academic field that focuses on the determinants, mechanisms and systems that promote and maintain the health, safety, well-being and appropriate development of children and their families in communities and societies in order to enhance the future health and welfare of society and subsequent generations" (Alexander, 2004).

1. MCH Funding

Enacted in 1935 as a part of the Social Security Act, the Title V Maternal and Child Health Program is the Nation's oldest Federal-State partnership. For over 75 years, the Federal Title V Maternal and Child Health program has provided a foundation for ensuring the health of the Nation's mothers, women, children and youth, including children and youth with special health care needs, and their families. Title V converted to a Block Grant Program in 1981.

Specifically, the Title V Maternal and Child Health program seeks to:

1. Assure access to quality care, especially for those with low-incomes or limited availability of care;
2. Reduce infant mortality;
3. Provide and ensure access to comprehensive prenatal and postnatal care to women (especially low-income and at risk pregnant women);
4. Increase the number of children receiving health assessments and follow-up diagnostic and treatment services;
5. Provide and ensure access to preventive and child care services as well as rehabilitative services for certain children;
6. Implement family-centered, community-based, systems of coordinated care for children with special healthcare needs; and
7. Provide toll-free hotlines and assistance in applying for services to pregnant women with infants and children who are eligible for Title XIX (Medicaid).

State funding levels are determined by a funding formula based on the calculation of MCH population x poverty of the MCH population. In order to receive the award, states must provide a 4:3 match using non-federal funds.

In Colorado, state general funds that have been designated in statute to support children and youth with special health care needs are one source of match for the MCH block grant. These general funds are allocated to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Health Care Program for Children with Special Needs (HCP). As outlined above, children and youth with special needs are an important target population for the MCH block grant. Leveraging these state general funds with the MCH block grant allocation affords Colorado the ability to maximize support to improve health outcomes for the population of children and youth with special health care needs.

Overall, approximately 40% of these funds are used to support state-level MCH services and activities, while approximately 60% of the funds are allocated to local partners to provide MCH services and activities.

2. Colorado MCH

The CDPHE MCH Program's vision is healthy people, healthy families, and thriving communities. The mission of the program is to optimize the health and well-being of the MCH population through primary prevention and early intervention public health strategies. The MCH population is defined as women of reproductive age (15 - 44), children and youth (0-21), and children and youth with special health care needs (0-21).

The state MCH and HCP programs partner with local public health agencies and other state and community partners to achieve the mission. MCH and HCP state and local partnerships are critical to our collective success in effectively serving Colorado's MCH population. These guidelines support and delineate the contractual aspects of the MCH/HCP state and local public health partnership.

As part of Title V Block Grant requirements, Colorado completes an in-depth, state-level needs assessment every five years to identify priority areas among the MCH population that need to be addressed by MCH state and local partners. A state-level needs assessment was conducted in 2010, identifying nine new state priorities with accompanying state performance measures. Another needs assessment was completed in 2014, which identified seven priorities for implementation from 2016-2020.

The state MCH program aims to demonstrate a measurable impact on these priorities and state performance measures through a coordinated state and local effort designed to:

- promote a coordinated approach between state and local MCH efforts
- provide support and capacity-building among state MCH staff
- provide oversight and accountability to MCH work at the state and local levels

State MCH Implementation Teams (MITs) are formed for each MCH priority and are charged with developing, implementing and evaluating evidence-based strategies to impact their priority area. MITs systematically apply Brownson's Evidenced-Based Public Health framework to inform the development of state logic models and action plans, and local level logic models and action plan templates that contain strategies focused on impacting the priority issues. For more information on Brownson's Evidence-Based Public Health framework:

<http://www.astho.org/t/pb/landing.aspx?Pageid=6567&LangType=1033>

The local action plan templates, developed by the MITs, provide guidance for LPHAs on goals, objectives, and key activities to address selected priorities. Local agencies staff work with their MCH Generalist Consultant to customize these action plans throughout the planning processes.

In order to assure that outcomes result from state and local efforts funded with the federal MCH block grant and state general funds, alignment between state and local efforts is critical. Therefore, local public health agencies, particularly those participating in the planning process, will be required to focus a percentage of their efforts and budgets on the MCH priorities and accompanying action plans.

In Colorado, the dollars used to support LPHA MCH contracts is a combination of funding from the federal block grant and state general funds. The amount allocated to each LPHA is dictated by a funding formula based on the number of women, children, and adolescents living in a county and the number of women, children and adolescents living in poverty (at or below the 150% poverty level) in that same county. The population x poverty funding formula calculation is applied to all 55 local public health agencies and aligns with the funding formula used by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau to calculate Colorado's MCH block grant award.

Agencies receiving more than \$50,000 annually participate in the MCH planning, implementation and reporting process supported by an MCH Generalist Consultant. To assist agencies in the planning process, the state provides comprehensive support and technical assistance in public health planning, implementation and evaluation processes.

B. MCH Accountability and Performance

MCH public health professionals are accountable to the public and to policymakers to assure that public dollars are spent in alignment with identified priorities and in a way that effectively impacts priority areas. MCH programs can effectively impact priority areas by implementing the core functions of public health: continually assessing needs, assuring that services are provided to the MCH population, and developing policies consistent with needs. State and local MCH can also effectively impact priority areas by implementing the 10 Essential Services of Public Health ([Appendix A](#)) and positively impacting the MCH state and national performance measures.

The [Maternal and Child Health Bureau](#) (MCHB) uses performance measurement and other program evaluation to assess progress in attaining goals and addressing priorities. Evaluation and performance measurement is critical to MCH policy and program development, program management, and funding. A number of tools and measures have been developed to assess national, state, and local performance.

Currently, the MCH Program has 18 National Performance Measures, 6 Outcome Measures, and 10 State Performance Measures. Federal MCH Program staff, states, and other grantees jointly developed these consensus measures. In addition to the national performance measures, states develop and report annually on state priority needs and associated state performance measures. Collectively, these measures reflect a focus on the MCH target populations of women of childbearing age, children and youth, and children and youth with special health care needs.

Alignment between state and local efforts is critical to maximize the impact on outcomes for the MCH population. To this end, local public health agencies are expected to focus a percentage of their efforts/budgets on the MCH priorities and action plans. Agencies are required to focus at least 30% of total MCH contract funds on MCH-priority action plans, including the medical home priority. Agencies are also required to implement the HCP model of care coordination and complete data entry in the CYSHCN Data System (CDS). LPHAs will determine the specific amounts of funding to allocate to HCP Care Coordination, the MCH priorities, and “other” MCH work in order to meet these requirements. In addition to MCH contract funding, designated LPHA specialty clinic sites will receive additional funding through the MCH contract to specifically support HCP Specialty Clinics.

1. 18 National Performance Measures

The data source appears in parentheses following measurement.

1. The percent of screen positive newborns who received timely follow up to definitive diagnosis and clinical management for condition(s) mandated by their state-sponsored newborn screening programs. (CDPHE Newborn Screening Laboratory)
2. The percent of children with special health care needs (CSHCN) age 0 to 18 whose families partner in decision-making at all levels and are satisfied with the services they receive. (CSHCN Survey)
3. The percent of children with special health care needs age 0 to 18 who receive coordinated, ongoing, comprehensive care within a medical home. (CSHCN Survey)
4. The percent of children with special health care needs age 0 to 18 whose families have adequate private and/or public insurance to pay for the services they need. (CSHCN Survey)
5. The percent of children with special health care needs age 0 to 18 whose families report community-based service systems are organized so they can use them easily. (CSHCN Survey)
6. The percentage of youth with special health care needs who received the services necessary to make transitions to all aspects of adult life, including adult health care, work, and independence. (CSHCN Survey)
7. Percent of 19 to 35 month olds who have received full schedule of age appropriate immunizations against Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Polio, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Haemophilus Influenza, and Hepatitis B. (National Immunization Survey)
8. The rate of birth (per 1,000) for teenagers aged 15 through 17 years. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Birth Certificates)
9. Percent of third grade children who have received protective sealants on at least one permanent molar tooth. (Colorado Basic Screening Survey)
10. The rate of deaths to children aged 14 years and younger caused by motor vehicle crashes per 100,000 children. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Death Certificates)
11. The percent of mothers who breastfeed their infants at 6 months of age. (National Immunization Survey)

12. Percent of newborns who have been screened for hearing before hospital discharge. (National Hearing Screening Program)
13. Percent of children without health insurance. (Colorado Child Health Survey)
14. Percent of children, ages 2 to 5 years, receiving WIC services that have a Body Mass Index (BMI) at or above the 85th percentile. (WIC data)
15. Percent of women who smoke in the last three months of pregnancy. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Death Certificates)
16. The rate (per 100,000) of suicide deaths among youths 15-19. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Death Certificates)
17. Percent of very low birth weight infants delivered at facilities for high-risk deliveries and neonates. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Birth Certificates)
18. Percent of infants born to pregnant women receiving prenatal care beginning in the first trimester. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Birth Certificates)

2. Six MCH Outcome Measures

1. The infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Death Certificates)
2. The ratio of the black infant mortality rate to the white infant mortality rate. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Death Certificates)
3. The neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Death Certificates)
4. The postneonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Death Certificates)
5. The perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Death Certificates)
6. The child death rate per 100,000 children aged 1 through 14. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Death Certificates)

3. Colorado MCH State Priorities and Measures

In addition to the national performance measures, states identify their own state-specific measures. State-specific measures align with the state priorities and reflect local concerns that arise from a state needs assessment, required every five years. The following performance measures were derived from a needs assessment process that occurred in 2010 resulting in nine new MCH state priorities.

Colorado's Nine State Priorities (2011-2015)

The following nine issues have been identified as priorities for the Maternal and Child Health Block grant for the following target populations: early childhood (birth-8 years), including children with special health care needs; children and youth (9-21 years), including children and youth with special health care needs; and women of reproductive age (15-44 years).

- Promote preconception health among women and men of reproductive age with a focus on intended pregnancy and healthy weight.
- Promote screening, referral and support for perinatal depression.

- Improve developmental and social emotional screening and referral rates for all children ages birth to 5.
- Prevent obesity among all children ages birth to 5.
- Prevent development of dental caries in all children ages birth to 5.
- Reduce barriers to a medical home approach by facilitating collaboration between systems and families.
- Promote sexual health among all youth ages 15-19.
- Improve motor vehicle safety among all youth ages 15-19.
- Build a system of coordinated and integrated services, opportunities and supports for all youth ages 9-24.

Colorado's 10 State Performance Measures (2011-2015) - The data source appears in parentheses following measure.

1. Percentage of sexually active women and men ages 18-44 using an effective method of birth control to prevent pregnancy. (Colorado Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System-BRFSS)
2. Percentage of live births to mothers who were overweight or obese based on BMI before pregnancy. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Birth Certificates)
3. Percent of mothers reporting that a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker talked with them about what to do if they felt depressed during pregnancy or after delivery. (Colorado Pregnancy Risk Assessment and Monitoring System- PRAMS)
4. Percent of parents asked by a health care provider to fill out a questionnaire about development, communication, or social behavior of their child ages 1 through 5. (Colorado Child Health Survey)
5. Percentage of Early Intervention Colorado referrals coming from targeted screening sources. (Early Intervention Colorado)
6. Percentage of live births where mothers gained an appropriate amount of weight during pregnancy according to pre-pregnancy BMI. (Colorado Vital Statistics- Birth Certificates)
7. Percent of parents reporting that their child (age 1 through 5) first went to the dentist by 12 months of age. (Colorado Child Health Survey)
8. Percentage of sexually active high school students using an effective method of birth control to prevent pregnancy. (Colorado Youth Risk Behavioral Survey-YRBS)
9. Motor vehicle death rate for teens ages 15-19 yrs old. (Colorado Vital Statistics - Death Certificates)
10. The percentage of group members that invest the right amount of time in the collaborative effort to build a youth system of services & supports. (Wilder Collaborative Factor Inventory)

PART II: COLORADO'S MCH PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION, AND REPORTING PROCESS

A. Overview

1. Evidenced-Based Public Health Approach

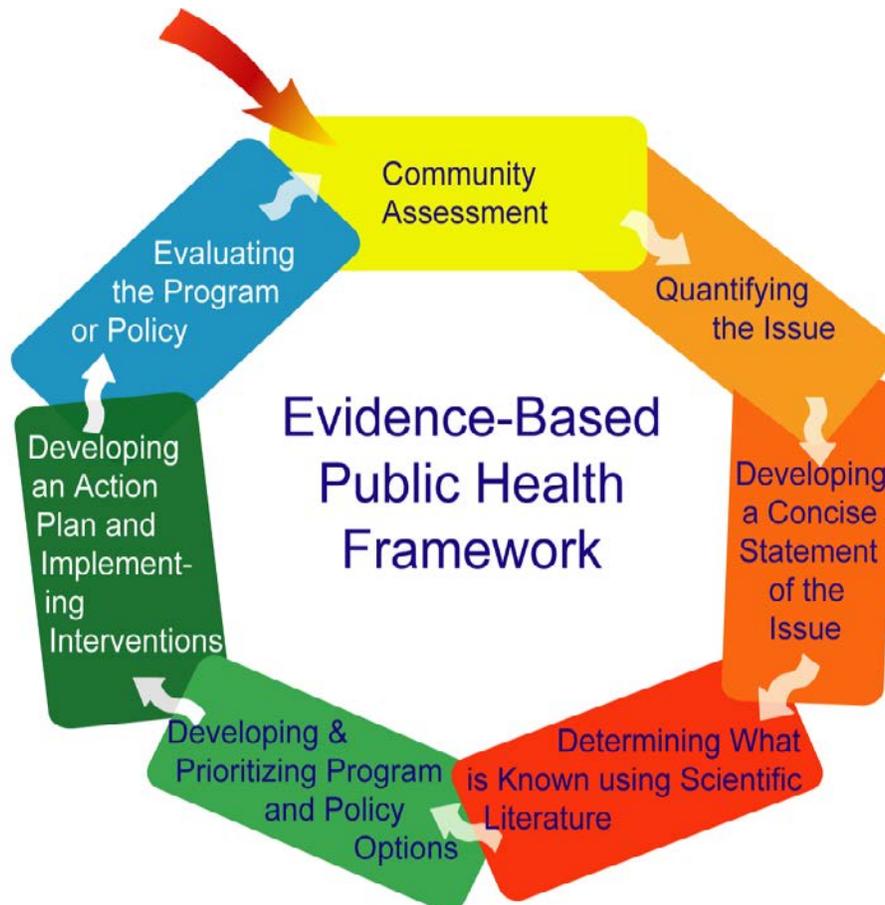
The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment partners with LPHAs to achieve the mission of Colorado MCH to optimize the health of women, children, and adolescents, including children and youth with special health care needs in Colorado. It is expected that both state and LPHA professionals positively impact MCH national and state performance measures by applying the public health approach to their work.

Whereas the core functions of public health (assessment, assurance, and policy development) and the 10 Essential Services of Public Health outline the functions and duties of public health professionals and programs, Brownson's Evidence Based Public Health (EBPH) framework describes the relationship between the core functions and the ten essential services. In other words, EBPH is a guide that helps public health professionals to determine the most effective application of the essential functions. For example, it is important to identify and understand what the issue is in one's community before selecting which intervention is appropriate to address the issue. Additionally, EBPH directs public health professionals to systematically use data and information systems in order to develop, implement, and evaluate effective programs and policies.

The EBPH framework involves seven steps that allow professionals to continually:

- assess the community;
- quantify the issue;
- develop a concise statement of the issue;
- determine what is known through scientific literature;
- develop/identify and prioritize program and policy options;
- develop an action plan and implement interventions; and
- evaluate the program or policy.

The following diagram depicts the EBPH framework:



Given the importance of the public health approach to the work of both state and local MCH, the LPHA MCH planning process is aligned with the EBPH framework. The following assessment and plan development sections of the guidelines describe some basic concepts in each step of the EBPH framework in addition to those steps related to the MCH planning, implementation and evaluation process.

The seven steps of the EBPH framework and the related MCH steps are as follows:

Steps of the Evidence-Based Public Health Framework	Definition of EBPH Framework Step	Steps of the MCH Planning Process
Community Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define the health issue according to the needs and assets of the population or community of interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review qualitative and quantitative data Examine data about health status and risk factors in the local community Conduct assets and gaps analysis Identify key problems/issues
Quantify the issue(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure behavior and, identify risk factors and disease frequency in a defined population and time frame 	<p>Specific to identified issue(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and interpret county-level data (trend analyses, other county-level data) Review public health surveillance data and existing reports Review qualitative data (from community members & other stakeholders) Conduct research (literature reviews, more in-depth data analysis) <u>to determine what factors are causing the issue, who is most impacted by the issue, and to what extent</u>
Develop a concise statement of the issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build support for the issue with an organization, policy makers, or a funding agency. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health condition or risk factor considered Population affected Size and scope of the problem Prevention opportunities Potential stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of background section on action plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include information from previous steps Review MCH Priorities and CDPHE's Winnable Battles for potential areas of overlap
Determine what is known through the scientific literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine what strategies work to address the issue(s) identified in the previous steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> objective, systematic search and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify evidence-based approaches to address causes of issues among population through a literature review Focus of the literature search:

Steps of the Evidence-Based Public Health Framework	Definition of EBPH Framework Step	Steps of the MCH Planning Process
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ summarization of previous research ○ Classify or rate the level of evidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policy ○ Systems-building ○ Population-based services aimed at prevention or early identification
Develop/identify and prioritize program and policy options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rank the identified strategies in order of their measured importance ● Develop prioritization criteria and tool. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ plausibility ○ feasibility ○ impact ○ evidence-based ○ population-based ○ infrastructure level ○ MCH role ○ local role ○ political will ○ culturally appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prioritize issues for MCH plan - use MCH Prioritization Tool
Develop an action plan and implement interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To guide the work and decisions about what to do next ● To hold team members accountable for tasks and timelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete the MCH Action Plan template ● Implement MCH Action Plan
Evaluate the program or policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To demonstrate effectiveness ● For continuous program improvement ● To garner support from stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop evaluation plan sections of MCH Action Plan ● Implement evaluation methods throughout the year; Complete evaluation sections during annual reporting to assess effectiveness of interventions/programs
REPEAT!		

2. Timeline of the MCH Planning, Implementation, and Reporting Process

The MCH planning, implementation, and reporting process revolves around a 2-year implementation cycle. The MCH LPHA action plans include longer term goals and two-year objectives, strategies, and activities. The overall steps and timelines related to this contract period are outlined in the Step-by-Step Guide in [Appendix B](#).

3. MCH Consultation Model

Significant consultation and technical assistance is available from state MCH staff to support each agency throughout the MCH Planning, Implementation and Reporting process. The goal of the MCH Consultation model is to provide quality consultation to LPHAs, resulting in improved planning, programming, and MCH outcomes.

Each agency is assigned an **MCH Generalist Consultant** who works collaboratively throughout the contract year with LPHA staff to complete the MCH planning, implementation and reporting processes. This includes broad planning activities, assistance in completing required forms, and guidance on meeting other contract requirements. Generalists may also provide or coordinate training and technical assistance on topics of interest to local MCH staff, including skill-building sessions necessary for completing work outlined in the MCH contract. The MCH Generalist Consultant will offer expertise on the following:

- Navigation of MCH processes and how to link to resources at CDPHE
- MCH program areas, state priorities and related programs
- Current public health science and practice
- Data sources and interpretation
- Planning and evaluation
- Systems building and policy development

The **MCH Implementation Team Leads (MITs) or Program Specialists** are subject matter experts who are also available through CDPHE to provide resources, technical assistance, and training on specific MCH priority areas. There will continue to be an ongoing relationship between the MITs and LPHAs as the MCH priorities are implemented and evaluated. The MITs will be providing learning and networking opportunities for those agencies working on common MCH priorities and action plans.

The MCH Generalist Consultants work closely with the MITs from across the nine MCH Priorities. Please see the table below which further delineates these roles.

MCH Generalist Consultant	MCH Implementation Team Leads / Program Specialist
Primary contact for agency planning meetings.	Assists when priority issues are identified, assists in developing local MCH plan on identified issue(s).
Primary point of contact at CDPHE for MCH contract. Liaison between local staff and program specialists.	Specialized consultation specific to MCH priorities
Coordinates general MCH training programs	Coordinates learning circles and/or training specific to MCH priorities
Guides agencies through MCH Planning and Reporting processes	Provides guidance and feedback on specific program plans and reports.

MCH Generalist Consultant	MCH Implementation Team Leads / Program Specialist
Participates in local action plan development to offer support for local partners	Leads MCH action plan development and implementation, and serves as content expert for issue.
Assists local agency to identify data and technical assistance needs.	EPE staff works in a Program Specialist role with Generalist and local partners, providing expertise on data analysis and evaluation.
Supports local staff during implementation of plan and provides assistance for any needed revisions.	
Reviews invoices, monitors progress of plan implementation, and assigns contract management rating.	

B. Assessment

1. Conceptual Overview and Expectations

The assessment phase of the MCH planning process is aligned with the first three steps of the EBPH framework: conduct a community assessment, quantify the issue, and develop a concise statement of the issue. LPHAs will define the MCH problem or issues in their community by reviewing and interpreting MCH county-level data in addition to other available county-level data that relates to MCH issues. LPHAs will also identify community resources and activities that currently address each MCH issue.

As a result of the activities involved with Colorado’s Health Assessment and Planning System (CHAPS), LPHAs may determine the most pressing MCH issues in their community and prioritize such issues in their MCH plan. CHAPS provides a standard mechanism for assisting local public health agencies and CDPHE in meeting assessment and planning requirements of the Public Health Act of 2008 (C.R.S. 25-1-501 et seq.). CHAPS also assists agencies interested in preparing for voluntary accreditation by the national Public Health Accreditation Board, since many of its processes meet national standards. The components of the EBPH framework (assessing, prioritizing, planning and evaluating) are described in CHAPS as “phases,” and includes engaging stakeholders in nearly every step. The CHAPS phases are as follows: plan the process; engage stakeholders; assess community health; assess system capacity; prioritize issues; create a local health plan; implement, monitor, and communicate the plan; and inform the statewide plan.

Once the priority issues are identified, it is important to understand the causes of these issues. Public health professionals can explore and research the causes of each issue by conducting a literature review or looking more in-depth at the county-level MCH data. It is important to understand if there are social determinants affecting the issue (economic, social, environmental, or political) or whether there are behavioral or genetic issues affecting the issue. Also, one should aim to

understand which populations in the community are experiencing the issue most often or most severely. Once causal factors are identified, LPHAs can begin to consider and select the most appropriate strategy or intervention to address the issue and the causal factors.

Each step of the MCH assessment process along with tools and resources helpful to this process are described below.

2. MCH County Data

(Trend Analyses, Colorado Health Indicators website, Colorado Health Information Dataset)

- Trend Analyses - MCH county trend analyses are generated approximately every three years for LPHAs developing their MCH Plans. The trend analyses reports include a one-page table illustrating the county or region's proximity or distance from the HP2020 goal.
- The [Colorado Health Indicators](http://www.chd.dphe.state.co.us/HealthIndicators) website provides county, regional and state level data on a variety of health, environmental and social topics. The dataset was created as part of the Colorado Health Assessment and Planning System (CHAPS) which is a standard process created to help local public health agencies meet assessment and planning requirements. The data are specifically designed to be useful for anyone who needs Colorado health data for a community health assessment or for other research purposes. The web address is www.chd.dphe.state.co.us/HealthIndicators.

The data are organized based on the Health Equity Model, which takes into account a wide range of societal factors to provide a comprehensive perspective on community health. This model groups the social determinants of health into four categories: life course perspective, determinants of health, health factors and population health outcomes.

The website contains over 200 data points and includes several technical and supportive features. An interpretation guide to help make sense of the data includes questions to consider when analyzing data, a list of related indicators, and links to additional resources. Also, each data point has an accompanying document that provides details such as definitions, calculations, data source limitations, and much more. Additionally there are export features that allow users to download data as well as images of charts with confidence intervals.

- Colorado Health Information Dataset: www.chd.dphe.state.co.us/cohid
- HCP Annual Data Report: www.hpcolorado.org under the data and reports section of the HCP partner and provider resources page.

This report consists of the following data sets related to the CYSHCN population in Colorado and nationally:

- ✓ CSHCN Data Sets
- ✓ HCP Supplemental Data
- ✓ Estimating Percent of Population of CSHCN
- ✓ CSHCN Outcome Measures
- ✓ Medicaid and CHP+ Enrolled Children by County
- ✓ CSHCN Estimates by County

- ▶ A review of these data, along with any relevant local data, is required as an initial step in the MCH Planning Process.

3. MCH Agency Planning Meetings

During the spring before the submission of a local agency's MCH plan, state and local MCH staff plan, facilitate and participate in planning meetings. The overall purpose of the planning meetings is to build relationships among state and local health public agency program staff; to enhance communication, program planning and evaluation efforts; and to determine the need for resources and technical assistance during the MCH planning process. The LPHA will work in collaboration with the MCH Generalist Consultant and the appropriate MIT leads during this planning process.

The agency planning meetings occur in April and/or May and take place either in person or via phone. The focus of the meetings is on assessment, including data review and interpretation, MCH issue prioritization, plan development, and review of goals, objectives, activities, and evaluation methodology as well as the budget and budget narrative.

The MCH Generalist Consultant works closely with LPHAs to coordinate these meetings.

- ▶ Participation of appropriate staff in the MCH agency planning meetings is required during the assessment and plan development process.

4. MCH Prioritization Tool & Helpful Resources

The MCH Prioritization Tool is meant to assist LPHAs in prioritizing the performance measures that will be addressed in their MCH plan. The reverse side of the tool presents additional resources for use in a prioritization process. The tool may be found on the MCH website (www.mchcolorado.org).

- ▶ Completion of the MCH Prioritization Tool is optional, but recommended.

Strengths and Gaps Analysis

- ▶ Consider strengths and gaps in local community.

In reviewing the previous MCH county data set(s), the trend analysis, and any relevant local data, LPHAs should consider the dedicated funding, political will, and current activities taking place within their community in relationship to each MCH indicator/issue. The purpose of considering these factors is to identify the strengths and gaps in the services or impact on MCH issues in their county and/or community. This strengths and gaps analysis is critical to informing the prioritization process for the LPHA's MCH plan.

C. Plan Development

1. Conceptual Overview and Expectations

The plan development phase of the MCH planning process addresses several steps of the EBPH framework including: conduct literature review, prioritize and select a strategy, develop an action plan, and implement and evaluate the program. It is during the plan development process that LPHAs select evidence-based approaches to address the causes identified in the assessment phase and develop evaluation plans to assess the effectiveness of interventions/programs that include goal, objective, and process evaluation measures. During the plan development phase, LPHAs are also charged with developing program budgets and narratives that are aligned with the proposed scope of work and that are clear, descriptive and detailed.

It is expected that local public health agency plans will:

- **Address the MCH priorities:** Local plans are required to focus at least 30% of total MCH contract expenditures on MCH-priority action plans, including the medical home priority. All LPHAs must implement the medical home action plan.
- **Implement the HCP Care Coordination model** and complete data entry in the CDS data system. LPHAs will determine how much funding they will allocate to HCP Care Coordination.

Follow all relevant HCP policies and guidelines available in the HCP partner and provider resources section at www.hcpcolorado.org.

- **Address the other state and national performance measures** to the extent that these fit with community need. The following are parameters for the non-MCH priority work:
 - LPHAs must focus a majority of their effort and funding for each action plan on population-based and infrastructure-building strategies from the MCH pyramid. See [Appendices C and D](#) for definitions and examples of the different levels of the MCH pyramid and for specific population-based and infrastructure-building approaches. Enabling services are allowable if they are evidence-based and enhance the population-based and infrastructure-level work in the action plan.

Enabling services should not comprise a majority of the effort described in the action plan.

- LPHAs must use evidence-based strategies / programs to address issue in the community. A strategy or program is considered evidence-based if:
 - it is based on a sound theoretical approach such as health behavior change theory or peer-reviewed literature;
 - and/or if there is research or program evaluation data that supports the effectiveness of the approach.
- LPHAs should ensure that the strategies are culturally sensitive.
- LPHAs should ensure that a clear local public health role exists that aligns with the MCH vision, mission, and scope of work.
- LPHAs should consider aligning efforts with the [CDPHE Winnable Battles](#). The CDPHE Winnable Battles may be found on the [home page of CDPHE's website](#).
- Include work with public and private community partners to plan for the development and maintenance of resources that assure access to services for vulnerable women, children, and adolescents, such as those who are low-income, uninsured, underinsured, or who live in rural or underserved areas or who are from ethnic or cultural minority communities and may experience language or cultural barriers to services;
- Refer families participating in any and all LPHA programs, such as Women, Infants and Children (WIC); Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT/Healthy Communities); Immunization Clinics; Family Planning; HCP; etc., to appropriate enabling and direct care service programs in the community. All pregnant women in need of resources for prenatal medical care shall be provided with information about programs such as Prenatal Plus, Nurse-Family Partnership, WIC, etc., as needed.

Each step of the MCH plan development process, along with helpful tools and resources, is described below.

2. Action Plan

The MCH action plan is the LPHA's MCH scope of work for the funding period and includes the LPHA's goals, needs statements, target populations, objectives, activities and evaluation plans. LPHAs enter this information into the MCH action plan template and then email the plans to: cdphe.psmchreports@state.co.us or to their Generalist Consultant.

Goal statements included in local action plans may cover a longer term period and objectives and activities may span a 2-year period. Action plans should always be submitted in black font.

One action plan must be on file for each local MCH program area:

- One medical home action plan (required of all agencies receiving over \$50,000 per fiscal year)
- “X” number MCH priority-related action plans (if applicable)
- “X” number “other” MCH action plans

For action plan examples, see the MCH-priority action plans prepared by the MCH Implementation Teams (MITs). The action plans can be found online at on www.mchcolorado.org under the Priorities and Action Plans section.

3. HCP Planning Forms

HCP Care Coordination and HCP Specialty Clinics (when applicable) will be included in the statement of work in the LPHA’s MCH contract.

While agencies are not required to submit an MCH action plan for any HCP services, agencies are required to submit the **Care Coordination planning form** and the **Specialty Clinic planning form** when applicable. The planning forms can be found on the MCH website at www.mchcolorado.org and should be submitted along with the relevant the budget form.

- ▶ Draft HCP planning forms and associated budgets are due via email to your MCH Generalist Consultant and HCP Consultant by **June 1**.
- ▶ Final HCP planning forms and associated budgets are due via email to email to your MCH Generalist Consultant and HCP Consultant by **July 13**.

4. MCH Planning Budget and Narrative Form

As in years past, the MCH planning budget form continues to be based on population groups. The budget form gathers specific data on the projected cost of services provided to the CYSHCN population, as well as to capture program planning information such as MCH core services estimates, HCP Care Coordination estimates, and agencies’ choice whether to receive CRCSN notifications.

CDPHE’s MCH Program must continue to track costs based on population groups for block grant reporting per federal requirements. It is also critically important that the state HCP Program understand the costs of HCP Care Coordination and Specialty Clinics, given the standardization of quality service delivery, and to assure we are providing the most efficient and cost-effective services to the children and families whom we serve.

Program and fiscal staff in the Prevention Services Division (PSD) at CDPHE are committed to supporting contractors/grantees in fully utilizing their contract/grant awards to implement their scope of work. The PSD grantee monitoring process has been updated and the changes have been integrated into current PSD contractor/grantee monitoring processes to assure that each contractor is able to optimally utilize the maximum amount of their award.

In this updated process, program and fiscal staff will systematically review contractor/grantee spending data throughout the contract period. If a contractor/grantee is significantly under-spent or overspent at the time of review, program staff will notify contractor/grantee to discuss circumstances surrounding spending status as well as a plan of action to remedy the situation.

A final assessment will be conducted by PSD program and fiscal staff at the end of each contract period. If a contractor/grantee is under-spent by 10% or \$15,000, whichever is less, subsequent awards may be reduced.

If a contractor/grantee anticipates or identifies a risk of un-spent funds during their contract period, they should contact the PSD program staff to request an adjustment to the budget and/or award amount so that the funds may be redistributed and utilized in the most optimal way. This will also avoid future impacts on award amounts.

The LPHA Planning Budget form should directly reflect the personnel and resources needed to complete the action plans for each population group. This form is a combined budget and narrative form. For each population group or program, LPHAs will enter their budget and narrative information on one Excel document. Visit the MCH website at www.mchcolorado.org to access the sample budget, instructions, and budget template.

Agencies will include all child/adolescent and women of reproductive age efforts on the respective population group budgets (child/adolescent or women of reproductive age). Agencies are required to provide separate budgets for those services related to the CYSHCN population, specifically HCP Care Coordination, medical home action plans, and HCP Specialty Clinics. Please note that ABCD/Early Childhood Screening action plans go on the child/adolescent budget.

For example, Sanger County Public Health agency may choose to work on the following five areas:

- Medical home using the ABCD model,
- Early childhood obesity prevention,
- Adolescent suicide prevention,
- Pregnancy-related depression
- HCP Care Coordination (No action plan, included in statement of work)

Sanger County will have 3 budgets respective to the population group.

1. The child/adolescent budget will include all personnel and resources allocated to:

- Medical home & ABCD integration
 - Early childhood obesity prevention
 - Adolescent suicide prevention
2. The women of reproductive age budget will include all personnel and resources allocated to:
 - Pregnancy-related depression
 3. The children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) budget will include all personnel and resources allocated to:
 - HCP Care Coordination
- ▶ Draft planning budgets are due via email in Excel format to your MCH Generalist Consultant by **June 1**.
- ▶ Final planning budgets are due in Excel format via email to your MCH Generalist Consultant by **July 13**.

5. Core Services Planning Estimate (on the MCH Planning Budget Form)

The bottom section of the MCH Planning Budget form includes the MCH Core Services Planning Estimate information. The MCH Core Services Planning Estimate is used for block grant reporting purposes.

For each budget, review the objectives and key activities included in the corresponding MCH action plan(s). Estimate the percentage of total budget funds focused on the different levels of the MCH pyramid.

- Direct Services
- Enabling Services
- Population-based Approaches
- Infrastructure Building Approaches

Please see [Appendix D](#) for more information on the MCH Pyramid and the definitions of each level of service.

6. FY 16 Review and Feedback of Budgets and Planning Forms

After the draft budgets are submitted, the state MCH and HCP teams, including fiscal and contracting staff, will review and provide feedback. The MCH Generalist Consultants are responsible for summarizing the feedback and sharing it with the LPHA in a timely manner.

Below is an outline of the budget review process:

1. By June 1, LPHA sends budget drafts to MCH Generalist Consultant.

2. MCH Generalist Consultant, MCH Unit Manager, MCH Implementation Team lead, and/or HCP Unit staff review and provide related comments.
3. MCH Fiscal Officer reviews and provides feedback on the budgets.
4. MCH Generalist Consultant emails and/or calls LPHA with a summary of the feedback.
5. By July 13, the LPHA revises the budget, as needed, and sends the final documents to their MCH Generalist Consultant.
6. MCH Generalist Consultant and MCH Fiscal Officer review final budgets
7. By Sept. 1, CDPHE MCH program emails final budget approval to LPHA.

D. Plan Implementation

1. Conceptual Overview and Expectations

The plan implementation phase of the MCH planning process involves the implementation of strategies, activities, and the related budget, as well as the ongoing evaluation of the strategies/activities. LPHAs will implement their MCH action plans by implementing the activities in the plan and invoicing for the costs incurred that are included in the Plan Budget. Throughout the year, LPHAs also collect and analyze evaluation data regarding their programs and activities; interpret findings; and apply evaluation findings to program improvement efforts. Applying evaluation findings for the purposes of program improvement may result in modifications to the original plan, objectives, and activities.

2. Overall Communication

As described in the MCH contract, both state and local staff members have a responsibility to communicate regarding their MCH contract and action plan, budget and budget narrative. State MCH Unit and HCP Unit staff members are responsible for communicating in a timely fashion about revisions in the MCH Guidelines, HCP Policy and Guidelines, administrative procedures, and overall program expectations or information. The MCH Generalist Consultants are responsible for providing communication around resources, such as professional development, best practices, and emerging trends.

The LPHA is required to notify their MCH Generalist Consultant within **15 business days** of any significant changes to their contract or MCH action plan, budget or budget narrative. For example, the LPHA should email or call their MCH Generalist Consultant if one of the following events occurs:

- changes in staffing, including vacancies,
- possible changes in action plan activities,

- agency changes or developments that may impact activities and/or action plans funded by the MCH contract, or
- community developments that may impact activities and/or action plans funded by the MCH contract.

3. Invoicing Procedures

Local health agencies invoice CDPHE monthly for services rendered. The MCH Generalist Consultants and the MCH Fiscal Officer review each invoice for its accuracy and alignment with the approved planning budgets. LPHAs will be contacted by CDPHE staff in the event of discrepancies or questions and given a specified amount of time to correct the invoice. LPHAs will not be paid until the invoice is approved by the CDPHE.

Invoices must be submitted by email (cdphe.psmchreports@state.co.us) or fax (303-753-9249). Invoices should be signed and include the expenditure details.

Agencies have **45** days after the end of the month in which services are rendered to submit their invoice. For example, invoices for services rendered in the month of October should be submitted by December 15. The LPHA's final invoice is due by **November 13**. The CDPHE Reimbursement Invoice Form is available at www.mchcolorado.org.

4. Action Plan Revision and Adding/Deleting Process

During the fiscal year, LPHAs may revise their MCH action plans to reflect changes or adjustments in goals, objectives, activities, timelines or staff with approval from their MCH Generalist Consultant. If an agency would like to add or delete an action plan during the fiscal year, the contract must be amended to reflect this change. The LPHA will also need to revise budgets appropriately (see budget revision process below). The contract amendment process takes an estimated 6-8 weeks.

The process for revising the MCH action plans is as follows:

- a. Revising an action plan includes updating objectives, activities, or timelines.
- b. The LPHA emails a request to their MCH Generalist Consultant describing the proposed revisions and the justification or rationale for the proposed revisions.
- c. The MCH Generalist Consultant responds via email either in support of the request or with follow-up questions.
- d. Once the MCH Generalist Consultant communicates support of the request, the LPHA revises the action plan.
- e. The LPHA submits the revised plan by updating their action plan and emailing their MCH Generalist Consultant with the submission.

The process for adding or deleting an MCH action plan is as follows:

- a. The LPHA emails a request to their MCH Generalist Consultant describing the proposed revisions and the justification or rationale for the proposed revisions.
- b. The MCH Generalist Consultant responds via email either in support of the request or with follow-up questions.
- c. Once the MCH Generalist Consultant communicates support of the request, the LPHA adds or deletes the action plan.
- d. In this case, the contract does need to be amended; the MCH Generalist Consultant will coordinate the necessary steps in this process with the LPHA and the CDPHE contracts office.
- e. The MCH Generalist Consultant provides final approval for the plan revisions and if applicable, the contract amendment is executed.
- f. At this point, the revised plan replaces the original plan. As a result, the LPHA and MCH Generalist Consultant will reference the revised version of the MCH action plan for all MCH work, including invoicing and reporting for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- g. **Deadline to add or delete an action plan: May 31.** It will take 6 to 8 weeks for the new plan to become effective. Agencies cannot bill for a new plan or budget until the contract amendment is final.

5. Budget Revision Process

There is no longer a Budget Update process. LPHAs should continue to notify their MCH Generalist Consultant via email of any changes in staffing, including vacancies and new hires within 15 business days.

Budget Revision Criteria

LPHAs are required to notify their MCH Generalist Consultant and submit a revised budget if:

- There are new items to add to a closed budget category on the current planning budget, such as opening the contractual or travel category that previously did not have any items listed;
- There is a cumulative transfer of funds from one budget category to another greater than 25% of the total direct cost of the entire budget for the contract or \$250,000, whichever is less.
- There is a cumulative transfer of funds from one budget to another greater than 25% of the total direct cost of the entire budget (example: care coordination to child/adolescent) for the contract or \$250,000, whichever is less.

Budget Revision Process

If either of the two criteria above is met, then the LPHA shall request and receive prior written approval from the MCH Generalist Consultant and MCH Fiscal Officer by completing and submitting a **Budget Revision Request Form** before the transfer can be made. There are two Budget Revisions Request Forms on the MCH website; there is one form for moving funds within the same budget and another form for moving funds between budgets.

The process that LPHAs should use for revising their MCH Plan Budgets and Budget Narratives are as follows:

- a. The LPHA will email a completed Budget Revision Request Form to the MCH Generalist Consultant requesting proposed budget revisions and the justification or rationale for the proposed revisions. The Budget Revision Request Form must reflect the entire original MCH Plan Budget in addition to the corresponding revisions. This form will serve as the revised MCH Plan Budget and re-sets the budget.

The Budget Revision Request Form is available on the MCH web site at www.mchcolorado.org.

- b. The MCH Fiscal Officer will respond via email either in support of the request or with follow-up questions. A signed copy of the approved budget revision will be e-mailed to the LPHA.
- c. At this point, the Budget Revision Request Form, along with the original budget narrative will serve as the new MCH Plan Budget and Budget Narrative. As a result, the LPHA and MCH Generalist Consultant will reference this form for all MCH work, including invoicing and reporting for the remainder of the fiscal year.

All budget revisions need to be submitted by **June 30**.

6. Progress Checks

MCH Generalist Consultants conduct three progress check-in meetings with the Contractor (LPHA) during the contract period in order to monitor the LPHA's progress on the Action Plans as well as to provide technical assistance and support during plan implementation. During the progress check-in, the LPHA and MCH Generalist Consultant use a standardized set of questions to discuss progress and/or challenges of planning, implementing or evaluating the MCH action plans and to review any relevant work products developed as part of the plan, such as team charters, reports, community road maps, etc. The standardized questions are available at the MCH web site www.mchcolorado.org. It is recommended that the LPHA review the questions prior to the check-in meeting to adequately prepare for the meeting. The LPHA and MCH Generalist Consultant will strategize, if necessary,

on how to modify the Action Plan and/or budget to address any challenges. The LPHA and MCH Generalist Consultant will work collaboratively to celebrate successes and generate solutions. Any administrative or contractual issues will also be addressed during the check-in meeting. The MCH Generalist may also consult with the MCH Implementation Team leads and the HCP Unit staff during the check-in period for specific programmatic guidance.

The MCH Generalist Consultant is responsible for scheduling the check-in with the LPHA. The format (via phone or in person) of the check-in is at the discretion of the MCH Generalist Consultant and will be communicated to LPHAs in advance. The MCH Generalist Consultant will send a follow-up summary of the check-in meeting and will highlight any issues that require follow-up. Three progress check-in meetings or phone calls will take place during the fiscal year. An end of fiscal year meeting will take place in October/November. Another check-in will occur in January and a check-in that includes discussions regarding the following year's plans will take place in the spring.

7. Contract Management Ratings

Colorado Revised Statutes §§ 24-102-205, 24-102-206, 24-103.5-101, and 24-105-102 require the State to develop and implement a statewide Contract Management System (CMS). The system is intended to improve government transparency as it pertains to contracts as well as increase the accountability of state contractors and state program managers alike.

A CMS rating will be assigned to each CDPHE contractor in **February, June, and November** and at the end of the five-year contract cycle. The rating will reflect contractor performance. For MCH contracts with LPHAs, the MCH Generalist Consultant is responsible for assessing contractor performance and assigning the CMS rating. The MCH Generalist Consultant will assess contract performance using the criteria referenced below, that are based on the requirements of the agency's MCH contract and the Colorado MCH Program. The MCH Generalist Consultant will gather this information by conducting progress check-ins, monitoring action plans, reviewing budgets and invoices, reviewing annual and final reports, and observing day-to-day professional interactions. Additionally, the state HCP staff will assess contractor performance for HCP Care Coordination and HCP Specialty Clinics and will provide feedback to the MCH Generalist Consultant to inform the LPHA's CMS rating.

The MCH Generalist Consultant will communicate the rating to the LPHA via email. The LPHA and MCH Generalist Consultant have the opportunity to address and resolve any issues that may result in a Below Standard rating. The rating can be changed once the resolution is implemented. The CMS ratings of contracts totaling \$100,000 or more over the life of the contract will be made public at the end of the life of the contract per state statute. The "life" of the MCH contracts with LPHAs is five years.

Criteria have been identified below by state MCH staff in an effort to provide some further explanation and guidance to the LPHAs as it relates to the CMS ratings for MCH contracts.

The following areas and factors will be considered when assigning a CMS contract performance rating. The criteria are not in any particular order and are not weighted in any particular way. The categories will be assessed using a three-point scale with Above Standard, Standard, or Below Standard. *It is anticipated the majority of LPHAs will receive Standard ratings on all criteria.* LPHAs will receive below standard or above standard ratings as a result of unique circumstances. Examples of these circumstances are identified below.

A **Standard** rating implies that the LPHA adequately addressed the applicable CMS criteria (quality, timeliness, price/budget, and business relations) for the rating period and met all of the MCH contract and scope of work requirements.

Situations or examples that may produce a Standard rating for an MCH contract include:

- Implements all components of the MCH Action Plan by the end of the fiscal year.
- Consistently responds in a timely manner to communication or requests for information by your MCH Generalist Consultant.
- Submits accurate invoices in a timely manner.
- Invoices are for the line items that are included in approved planning budget and related to the MCH activities.

An **Above Standard** rating implies that the LPHA excelled in addressing the applicable CMS criteria (quality, timeliness, price/budget, and business relations) for the rating period and in meeting all MCH contract and scope of work requirements.

An example that may produce an Above Standard rating for an MCH contract is:

- Achieving outcomes greater than projected or anticipated such as a marked improvement in performance measures or long-term outcomes, as demonstrated by research and evaluation data.

A **Below Standard** rating implies that the LPHA did not adequately address the applicable CMS criteria (quality, timeliness, price/budget, and business relations) for the rating period and did not meet the MCH contract and scope of work requirements.

Situations or examples that may produce a Below Standard rating for an MCH contract include:

- Not implementing a component of the MCH action plan by the end of the fiscal year.

- Being chronically unresponsive to communication or requests for information by your MCH Generalist Consultant, HCP Consultant, or MIT Content Specialist.
- Failure to invoice.
- Consistently invoicing for line items that are not included in planning budget and are not related to MCH activities.

The categories rated in the CMS include quality, timeliness, price/budget, business relations, and requirements in the scope of work. For MCH contracts, the categories are defined as follows.

- a. **Quality** - LPHAs use a public health approach when developing their MCH action plans; maintain fidelity to their MCH action plan (implementing the plan as it was approved); adhere to relevant HCP policies and guidelines; complete invoices so that they accurately reflect the budget and work being implemented; complete invoices and reports with accuracy and complete information; and develop budgets and budget narratives with accuracy and complete information.
- b. **Timeliness** - Completes work/project in a timely fashion and in accordance with identified deadlines, such as invoicing, communication, and action plan and report submission. Action plan activities are implemented on schedule for the fiscal year.
- c. **Price / Budget** - Costs on LPHA invoices match line items in budgets; provides accurate back-up documentation or cost ledger with invoice submissions to support expenditures; or if necessary, the LPHA modifies the budget to reflect change in costs. LPHA partners manage their budgets responsibly.
- d. **Business Relations** - LPHA partners are professional, responsible, proactive, and reliable in their interaction with the state MCH, HCP and fiscal staff.
- e. **Requirements in Scope of Work** - The LPHA is responsible for meeting all of the contract and scope of work requirements such as implementing the MCH action plan and budget, implementing HCP services (HCP Care Coordination, HCP Specialty Clinics, and/or CRCSN Notification Follow Up) as specified in the scope of work, developing future plans, completing and submitting annual reports, and following all other MCH administrative procedures (invoicing, budget revision requests, communication of changes in plan, subcontracting, etc).

8. Subcontracting Procedures

If an LPHA chooses to contract with an outside entity to complete part of their MCH work, LPHAs need to create and maintain a formal, written agreement (MOU and scope of work) with the subcontractor that can be produced upon request by CDPHE. The MOU and scope of work should outline the following:

- a. Date of agreement.

- b. Name and contact information of the subcontractor.
- c. Roles and responsibilities of contracting agency and subcontracting entity.
- d. Deliverables.
- e. Timeframe for deliverables.
- f. Price for deliverables (For staff costs, include hourly rate if applicable).

CDPHE has the right to monitor the LPHA and its subcontractors. The LPHA is ultimately responsible for all the work completed by the subcontractors.

E. Reporting Steps

1. MCH Action Plan Annual Report

- ▶ The MCH Action Plan Annual Report is due approximately one month after the close of the contract year which ends on September 30. All MCH Annual Report documents are due by **October 31**. The completed MCH Annual Report documents should be submitted via e-mail to: cdphe.psmchreports@state.co.us

The MCH Action Plan Annual Report instructions, core services and HCP report forms will be sent to all LPHA's via e-mail by Sept. 10. The forms will also be available on the MCH web site at www.mchcolorado.org

MCH Local Action Plan reporting:

Update the following sections of the MCH priority local action plans:

- Evaluation of Objective - provide a brief narrative on the progress of the objective, including successes and challenges. Discuss how the strategy contributed to moving the objective forward. Include assessment of "as measured by" indicators that correspond to "criteria for success" in this section.
- Activity Monitoring Plan Completion - comment if the activity was met or unmet.

Update the following sections of the "other" MCH action plans:

- Evaluation of Measure - provide the actual measure of progress for the measure/indicator previously selected
- Evaluation of Objective - provide a brief narrative on the progress of the objective, including successes and challenges. Discuss how the strategy contributed to moving the objective forward.
- Activity Monitoring Plan Completion - comment if the activity was met or unmet.

2. HCP Annual Reports

- ▶ The HCP Annual Reports are due by **October 31**. Submit completed HCP Annual Report forms to: cdphe.psmchreports@state.co.us

3. MCH Core Services Annual Report

The MCH Core Services Annual Report must also be submitted at year-end with actual (versus estimate) data. This data will be used for Block Grant reporting purposes.

For each budget, review the objectives and activities included in the corresponding MCH action plan(s), report on the percentage of total budget funds focused on the different levels of the MCH pyramid.

- Direct Services
- Enabling Services
- Public Health Services and Systems

Please see [Appendix D](#) for more information on the MCH Pyramid and the definitions of each level of service.

The MCH Core Services Annual Report is due by **October 31**. Submit via email to: cdphe.psmchreports@state.co.us.

4. Review and Feedback of Reports

State MCH Generalist Consultants will review LPHA annual reports and communicate approval of reports or follow-up with any clarification questions or issues.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

MCH Essential Public Health Services¹

Since 1988, the public health field has built consensus around the core public health functions (assessment, policy development, and assurance) and the corresponding set of ten essential public health services. These now serve as the blueprint for local and state public health agency operations. In the maternal and child health field, a corresponding discipline-specific tool was developed, the Ten Essential Public Health Services to Promote Maternal and Child Health in America. www.jhsph.edu/wchpc/publications/mchfxstapps.pdf

Ten Essential Public Health Services to Promote Maternal and Child Health in America

1.

Assess and monitor maternal and child health status to identify and address problems.

2.

Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards affecting women, children, and youth.

3.

Inform and educate the public and families about maternal and child health issues.

4.

Mobilize community partnerships between policymakers, health care providers, families, the general public, and others to identify and solve maternal and child health problems.

5.

Provide leadership for priority-setting, planning, and policy development to support community efforts to assure the health of women, children, youth and their families.

6.

Promote and enforce legal requirements that protect the health and safety of women, children, and youth, and ensure public accountability for their well-being.

7.

Link women, children, and youth to health and other community and family services, and assure access to comprehensive, quality systems of care.

8.

Assure the capacity and competency of the public health and personal health work force to effectively address maternal and child health needs.

9.

Evaluate the effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal health and population-based maternal and child health services.

10.

Support research and demonstrations to gain new insights and innovative solutions to maternal and child health-related problems.

¹Grason, H.A., and Guyer, B. *Public MCH Program Functions Framework: Essential Public Health Services to Promote Maternal and Child Health in America*. Baltimore, MD: Child and Adolescent Health Policy Center, The Johns Hopkins University, December 1995. www.jhsph.edu/wchpc/publications/mchfxstapps.pdf

Appendix B

Step-by-Step Guide

MCH Planning, Implementation, & Reporting Process

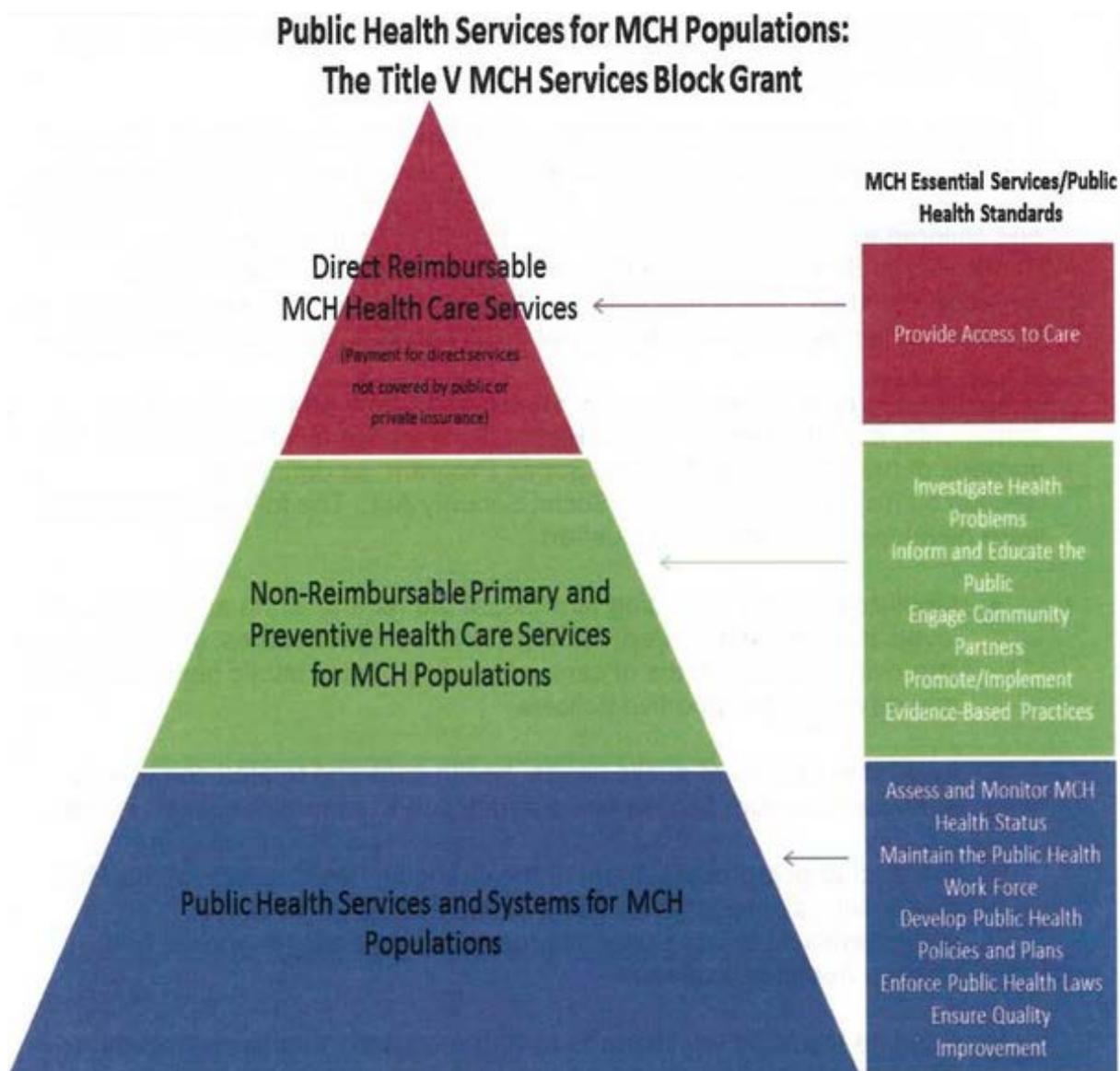
TIMELINE	LOCAL ACTION ITEM
Monthly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit invoices for MCH services rendered to cdphe.psmchreports@state.co.us See MCH web site under at www.mchcolorado.org for invoice form. Agencies have <u>45 days</u> after the end of the month in which services are rendered to submit their invoice.
October 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin implementation of Year 2 MCH action plans and budget.
October 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit Annual Report for FY15 via email to cdphe.psmchreports@state.co.us . Reporting instructions are included in the MCH Guidelines and relevant forms are located on the MCH web site at www.mchcolorado.org.
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LPHA staff participates in progress check-in with MCH Generalist Consultant Receive third contract performance rating via email from MCH Generalist Consultant
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LPHA staff participates in progress check-in with MCH Generalist Consultant.
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive contract performance rating via email from MCH Generalist Consultant.
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in a required webinar outlining the MCH Guidelines and planning process.
March/April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LPHAs meet with MCH Generalist Consultant for planning meetings regarding assessment, prioritization, plan development, and review for MCH plan. LPHA staff participates in progress check-in with MCH Generalist Consultant. May take place in-person or via phone.
March/April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with MCH Implementation Team leads for technical assistance on MCH Priorities.
April/May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LPHA staff participates in planning meetings and progress check-in with MCH Generalist Consultant.
April/May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LPHAs develop updated budgets and HCP planning forms.

TIMELINE	LOCAL ACTION ITEM
May 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline to add or delete an entire action plan
June 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit DRAFT budgets and HCP planning forms via email to MCH Generalist Consultant.
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive second contract performance rating via email from MCH Generalist Consultant.
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize budget/narrative forms. See MCH Guidelines and the MCH website www.mchcolorado.org for instructions.
June 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline to submit budget revisions for the current contract year.
July 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final planning budget/narrative forms and HCP planning forms are due via email to Generalist Consultants.
Sept. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive notification of budget approval via email.

Appendix C

Core Public Health Services Provided by MCH Agencies

MCH federal, state, and other professionals developed the MCH Pyramid to provide a conceptual framework of the variety of MCH services provided through the MCH Block Grant. The pyramid includes three tiers of services for MCH populations. The model illustrates the uniqueness of the MCH Block Grant, which is the only federal program that provides services at all levels of the pyramid. These services are direct health care services (gap filling), enabling services, public health services and systems. Public health programs are encouraged to provide more of the community-based services associated with the lowest-level of the pyramid and to engage in the direct care services only as a provider of last resort.



Appendix D

Population-Based and Infrastructure- Building Approaches to Maternal and Child Health

Over the past 10 years, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Maternal and Child Health (MCH) program has increased its focus on public health services and system approaches in order to maximize health outcomes for women, children, youth, and children and youth with special health care needs (CYSCHN). Focusing on public health services and system approaches will enhance Colorado's efforts to impact the MCH national performance measures (NPMs) and state performance measures (SPMs) for which the state MCH program is accountable for as part of the Title V MCH Block Grant requirements. This document is designed to serve as a resource to local public health agencies (LPHAs) receiving Title V funds to define the different levels of the pyramid and to highlight efforts used by LPHAs in Colorado to successfully transition their MCH efforts to population health.

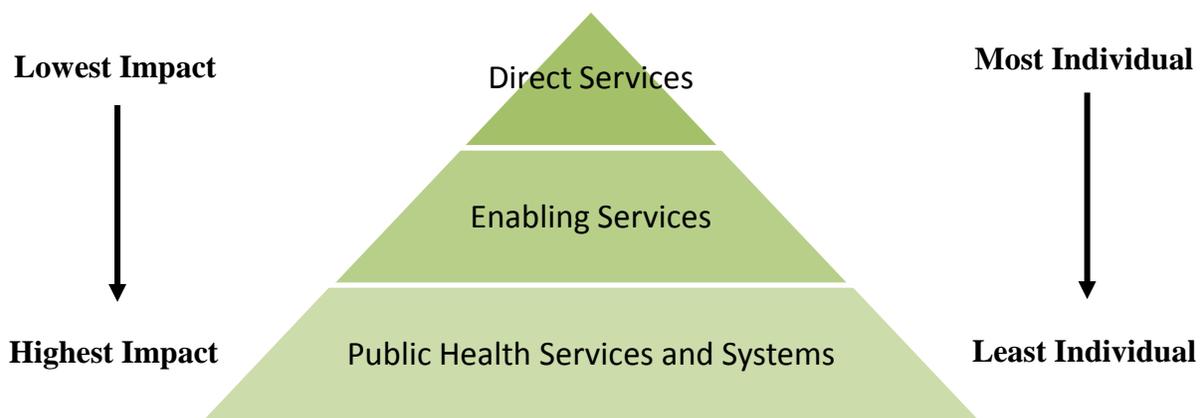
Why are we focusing on public health services and systems approaches?

Public health is the science and practice of protecting and improving the health of a community as a whole. The MCH pyramid provides a tool for public health planning, with the bottom level representing approaches that impact the largest number of people while requiring the least amount of individual staff effort.

What do these service levels really mean?

The MCH Pyramid

MCH professionals at the federal, state and local level developed the pyramid to represent the three different approaches which can be employed to improve and impact MCH. The pyramid can be used to guide which programs and strategies will be selected and quantify how funds will be utilized and how program efforts will be evaluated. The shape of the pyramid and placement of the different levels represent how programmatic and fiscal efforts should be focused at the national, state or local level in order to achieve the greatest impact on the MCH population at-large. The majority of efforts should focus on the bottom level of the pyramid: public health services and systems. Acknowledging that a variety of strategies may need to be employed at multiple levels in order to achieve an impact, enabling and direct services can be considered complementary to public health services and systems.



Pyramid Level Definitions

Direct Services

Direct services are preventive, primary or specialty clinical services where funds are used to reimburse or fund providers- similar to paying a medical billing claim.

Examples:

- *A LPHA nurse provides immunizations to a young child.*
- *An HCP Specialty Clinic neurology exam is provided to a 12-year-old boy with a traumatic brain injury.*

Enabling Services - For groups of individuals who share defining characteristics

Enabling services improve access to direct health care services for individual clients. This not only includes increasing the quantity of health-related services received, but also the quality of these services.

Examples:

- Translation: *A native Spanish speaker offers translation services to patients and parents at an HCP cardiology clinic.*
- Individual health education: *A health educator at a LPHA provides one-on-one education about nutrition, smoking cessation and the importance of prenatal care to pregnant women.*
- Care Coordination: *The state Health Care Program for Children with Special Needs (HCP) Care Coordination program facilitates access to and coordination of medical and social support services for CSHCN across different providers and organizations through a medical home team approach. Care Coordination focuses on supporting a family's participation in health care decisions, communication with health care providers and coordinating health and community services.*

Public Health Services and Systems

Public Health Services and Systems are activities and infrastructure to carry out the core public health functions. These include population-based services, which are

services provided to an entire population, or a defined subset of a population, and infrastructure-building services which provide support for the development and maintenance of comprehensive health services systems, including standards/guidelines, training, data, planning and evaluation.

Examples:

- School district-wide health education programs: *A LPHA works with the local school district superintendent to provide middle and high school students and their parents with comprehensive and evidence-based sex education.*
- Promotion of the Graduated Drivers License (GDL) laws: *A LPHA works with the local police department to disseminate messaging among police officers through a variety of communication channels to improve awareness and enforcement of Colorado's Graduated Drivers Licensing laws among adolescents in the community.*
- Support of the Colorado Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding program: *CDPHE engages high level hospital leaders and critical change champions from each hospital to form a maternity care collaborative, and facilitate necessary support for quality improvement initiatives in-hospital.*
- Community health assessments: *When completing their most recent community health assessment, one LPHA convened a stakeholder group that reviewed the data for the assessment and is working together to determine what health areas should be the focus of community-wide efforts.*
- Program planning and evaluation: *In-depth interviews are being conducted by staff from one LPHA to evaluate an early childhood program model that has been disseminated to a number of counties across Colorado.*
- Coalition leadership and collaboration: *Another LPHA expanded and convened a regional passenger safety taskforce within a county that has a significant number of teen crashes. They oversaw the development of a plan to improve teen motor vehicle safety and then transitioned the leadership responsibilities to local county stakeholders to implement the plan.*
- Policy development: *A LPHA works with the local school board to create policy around healthy eating in schools, including providing healthier options to the schools' vending machines.*

MCH Pyramid Considerations

The different levels of the pyramid are dynamic, and many services and programs fall into more than one category or may even change levels over time. For example, immunizations are addressed at all levels of the pyramid. Examples at each level include:

- Direct services: *A nurse administers immunization shots to individual infants*
- Enabling services: *A hospital offers infant care classes for parents that cover the importance of immunizations*
- Public Health Services and Systems: *Medical providers enter immunization data into the state immunization registry so that rates can be tracked and used to plan and evaluate immunization-related programs*

Essential Public Health Services

MCH is not alone in following a public health framework of core services. More specifically, the MCH pyramid aligns closely with the Ten Essential Public Health Services. The Essential Services were developed in 1994 by the Core Public Health Functions Steering Committee which included representatives from U.S. Public Health Service agencies and other public health organizations. The Essential Services provide a working definition of public health and a guiding framework for the responsibilities of local public health systems. The Essential Services and the MCH Pyramid are different ways of categorizing the same core public health functions. The concepts expressed in each Essential Service correspond to a level or levels of the pyramid (see Table 1). Every Essential Service aligns with an infrastructure-building approach to some extent, while only one Essential Service corresponds to direct services.

Table 1. The Essential Public Health Services and corresponding service levels from the MCH Pyramid

Essential Public Health Services	Service Level		
	Direct	Enabling	Public Health Services and Systems
1. Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems			X
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community			X
3. Inform, educate and empower people about health issues		X	X
4. Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems			X
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts			X
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety			X
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable	X	X	X
8. Assure competent public and personal health care workforce			X
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and populations-based health services			X
10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems			X

The LPHA Transition to Public Health Services and Systems Approaches

“You are not abandoning the problem; you are just taking a new and different approach.”

In the fall of 2011, CDPHE staff completed in-depth qualitative interviews with staff from six LPHAs who successfully implemented public health services and systems approaches. The interviews included a discussion of strategies/factors that influenced the LPHAs’ transitions. The major themes that emerged from this discussion are described below, along with quotes from the interview participants.

Strategies and Factors Influencing LPHAs Transition

1. Leadership

“Sometimes what is needed is for someone to take an idea and run with it.”

When a staff member at a LPHA champions the transition, it can help the process move faster and more smoothly. This staff member should embrace the concept and be willing to advocate for taking a new approach to doing work. Gaining the support of a senior level leader at an agency can be particularly helpful. LPHA interview participants listed many ways that agency leadership can assist with transitions including:

- Educate other staff members and community members about the importance of public health services and systems approaches
- Institute policies that support the new approaches, such as changing staff requirements in order to hire employees with education or specific experience in public health
- Enforce new rules or expectations about how funding can be spent
- Find additional funding when necessary

2. Education and professional development for staff

A common barrier to transitioning services included motivating employees who did not understand or support the changes. As mentioned above, this barrier was overcome through education and policy change.

Providing staff with education on public health and the MCH Pyramid can greatly increase the overall support for community-based approaches. In one case where funding for more traditional staff development was not available, a new LPHA director started a book club for all staff. Book club discussions provided participants with a background and basic knowledge on public health.

“We can make a bigger difference overall by reaching a whole population rather than a finite number of clients. [State] MCH staff did an awesome job helping us understand this. At first it sounded ‘dumb,’ and we thought ‘that is not what families want.’ But we found there were lots of things to do that would have a big impact.”

Other education-related strategies identified by LPHA staff included:

- Learn more about successful transitions from other LPHAs in Colorado and around the United States
- Help staff find and connect with public health mentors
- Use their MCH generalist as a resource
- Institute policies that newly hired staff have certain public health and/or health education credentials and/or encourage existing staff to gain these credentials

3. Relationships and Collaboration

Forming and maintaining strong partnerships, both within an agency and with other community organizations, maximize what a LPHA can achieve.

“There is a culture of collaboration in this county with very few exceptions. People working here...believe in collaboration.”

The more aware LPHAs are of what other organizations in the community are doing, the better they are able to determine who should provide specific services. Coordinating service provision with local organizations can reduce duplication, allowing resources to be directed elsewhere. Relationships with other community organizations also help determine who is best positioned to assume LPHAs’ direct or enabling services.

Some lessons learned about forming and/or strengthening relationships:

- Learn to listen and understand where other people are coming from
- Avoid being too demanding with requests in the beginning
- Develop clear ideas and goals before making a presentation
- Agree on key parts of an initiative or issue, but not necessarily on everything
- Convene everyone together in order to create and/or strengthen comprehensive partnerships across the entire system. Minimize meeting with organizations one-on-one

“I’ve learned to never assume anything. Never assume that a partnership that was broken in the past cannot work again in the future. It is a second chance to start working together again.”

LPHA staff also reported that gaining the trust of key community organizations and leaders was important if they wanted to gain the support of a community overall.

4. Community support

In addition to gaining support and building relationships with other local organizations, LPHAs found it important to have the support of the larger local community. Depending on the program, community support can include buy in from key local leaders and members of the general public (e.g., parents of children receiving sex education at local public schools). The same tips listed above for forming and/or strengthening relationships with other organizations can also be applied to gaining support from the community at large. LPHAs emphasized the importance of flexibility and adaptability when working with the community.

Local MCH Funding Guidance on Public Health Services and System Approaches

Over the past several years, the MCH Program at CDPHE has requested that LPHAs who participate in the MCH planning process utilize MCH funds to focus on the bottom level of the pyramid. Now that the transition down the pyramid has begun, it is important to clarify this guidance.

The MCH Pyramid illustrates that, in order to achieve the greatest impact on the MCH population with limited funding, the majority of efforts and funds should focus on the bottom level of the MCH Pyramid: public health services and system approaches. The state MCH Program also supports enabling services that are evidence-based and that are implemented in

coordination with or as a complement to evidence-based population-based and infrastructure-building approaches. A greater proportion of funds and staff time should be focused on the public health services and system approaches, however, not at the enabling level.

For example, a LPHA might implement the infrastructure-building strategy of convening a teen driving coalition at the local level to assess and influence local policy. Teaching teens and parents about Colorado's new graduated driver's licensing (GDL) laws is a complementary, evidence-based strategy that is focused on the enabling level but supports the public health services and system approach to addressing teen motor vehicle crashes. A majority of the LPHA's resources supports the coalition work with fewer resources focused on teaching teens and parents about GDL laws.

LPHAs work with their MCH Generalist Consultant or Office of Planning and Partnerships (OPP) Nurse Consultant to determine how their MCH efforts can best align with the local MCH funding guidance described above. These consultants can also connect interested LPHAs with other LPHAs further along in their transitions. Staff from these more experienced LPHAs can share their stories and provide additional strategies to help ensure successful transitions to public health services and system approaches.

Appendix E

CSHCN Population by County

Colorado uses the broad definition of Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) as defined by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) as “children who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally.” Using this broad MCH definition, 17.1 percent of children in Colorado ages 0-17 have a special health care need based on results from the 2007 National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH).

In Colorado, there are an estimated 209,000 children ages 0-17 with a special health care need. This number (209,000) is only an estimate and is not an exact count of children with special health care needs in the state. County population data for children ages 0-17 multiplied by 17.1 percent equals the estimated number of children 0-17 who have special health care needs in your county. For example: 30,000 x .171 = 5,130. Estimates are less precise in counties with small populations.

When you apply the 17.1 percent to children in your county, ages 0-17, please remember the result is only an estimate based on survey data collected in 2007. It does not represent the exact number of children in your community/county.

Updated data for children/youth ages 0-17 will be available upon completion of the 2011 NSCH. Data for youth ages 18-21 with special health care needs are not available from the NSCH or the Colorado Child Health Survey (CHS).

Colorado Child Health Survey, 2010-2011 - Children ages 1-14	
Percent CSHCN by County	
County	Estimated CSHCN 1-14
Adams	22,697
Arapahoe	26,953
Boulder	4,598
Denver	17,738
Douglas	11,319
Elbert	925
El Paso	27,368
Jefferson	15,560
Larimer	7,057
Mesa	4,091
Pueblo	13,524
Weld	6,836