

Training and Technical Assistance Resource List Glossary

Affordable Care Act

The law makes preventive care—including family planning and related services—more accessible and affordable for many Americans.

Communications

Creating social change by changing people's attitudes, external structures, and/or modify or eliminate certain behaviors.

Community-Clinical Linkages

Ensures the communities support and clinics refer patients to programs that improve management of chronic conditions. Ensures that those at high risk have access to quality community resources to best manage chronic disease

Cultural Competency

Set of congruent behaviors, attitudes, and policies that come together in a system, agency or among professionals that enables effective work in cross cultural situations

Epidemiology/Surveillance

The ability to gather, analyze, and disseminate data and information and conduct evaluation to inform, prioritize, deliver, and monitor programs and population health.

Evaluation

The systematic investigation of the merit, worth or significance of an object (Scriven, 1999), hence assigning “value” to a program’s efforts means addressing those three inter-related domains: merit (or quality); worth (or value, i.e., cost-effectiveness); significance (or importance)

Health Equity & Social Justice

Health Equity: Achieving the highest level of health for all people.

Social Justice: A process, not an outcome, which (1) seeks fair (re)distribution of resources, opportunities, and responsibilities; (2) challenges the roots of oppression and injustice; (3) empowers all people to exercise self-determination and realize their full potential; (4) and builds social solidarity and community capacity for collaborative action.

Health Care Systems Change/Interventions

Interventions to improve the effective delivery and use of clinical and other preventive services to prevent, detect, and manage disease.

Health Informatics, Health Information Exchange, Health Information Technology

Health Informatics: The systematic application of information, computer science, and technology to public health practice and learning (Yasnoff et al., 2000). Its scope includes the conceptualization, design, development, deployment, refinement, maintenance, and evaluation of communication, surveillance, and information systems relevant to public health.

Policy/Systems & Environmental Change

Approaches that promote health and make improvements to social and physical environments that make healthy behaviors easier and more convenient

Workforce Development

Workforce Development in Public Health: An attempt to improve health outcomes (i.e., healthier people) by enhancing the training, skills, and performance of public health workers