NCVHS Subcommittee on Population Health

Community Data Readiness:
Interviews, Observations, Next Steps

I think of community data readiness as the ability to effectively, efficiently and systematically access, combine, analyze and apply insights gleaned from community data to solve problems and increase value for the community.
—Kenyon Crowley

10 Key Informant Interviews- May 7 – 30, 2014
(listed in order interviewed)

Jen Lewis, Health Action Program Manager, Sonoma Cty Dept of Health Services

Susan Queen, ASPE

Maureen Henry, consultant, NCHVS data stewardship project

Jim Walker, Siemens Medical Solutions, Inc.

Lynn Blewett, Univ. of MN, State Health Access Data Assistance Center

Chris Fulcher, Univ. of Missouri, Community Commons

Pat Remington, Univ. of WI, County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

Paul Tang, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, ONC Policy Committee

Len Nichols, George Mason Univ. Center for Health Policy Research & Ethics

Kenyon Crowley, Univ. of MD Center for Health Information & Decision Systems

Topics Covered

- Operational definition of CDR, including specific skill/competency areas
- Attributes that make communities good data users
- When and how to use experts
- Role of community-based participatory research
- Case examples and model programs; Rountable invitee suggestions
- Existing and needed tools and resources
- NCVHS niche and approach to advising HHS
- Synergies with NCVHS data stewardship project

Some Knowledge/Skill Areas in Data Readiness (question 2)

•What secondary data are available on key local issues

How to:
•assess validity and reliability
•use data from multiple sources
•look at the interaction of health determinants and health outcomes
•choose and interpret measures/indicators, use them to monitor change
•collect data to increase knowledge
•use qualitative data to augment quantitative data
•use local data in ways that protect people's privacy
•address concerns about stigma
•build trust in the community

Interview Themes & Observations
(3 Areas + Roundtable)

(1) Framing the topic

- Terminology
  - o Readiness AKA activation, competencies, skills/skill sets, literacy, maturity
  - o What communicates and frames the topic most effectively?
- Differentiate user types
  - o Models of categories exist (Community Commons, SHADAC, et al.)
  - o Which users should NCVHS target?
- Range of information functions involved
  - o Where should NCVHS focus?

Interview Themes & Observations
(3 Areas + Roundtable)

(2) Current environment

- Many communities already can do quite a lot.
- Community health needs assessment is a major focus, though incomplete w/o goals.
- Collective Impact is a spreading process model.
- State HDs and some county HDs can be important resources and models.

**Interview Themes & Observations
(3 Areas + Roundtable)**

(3) Resources, assistance & NCVHS niche
- Resources & TA for communities exist, but hard to find w/o program/funding links
  - Exceptions: Community Commons, County Health Rankings & Roadmaps
- Goal-setting is key. Cognitive work analysis might help.
- Our informants agree on the potential usefulness of:
  - A tool for assessing competencies in specific data-related areas
  - Tools, resources, and/or pointers to existing resources
- How can NCVHS help data providers match resources to readiness types/stages/levels?
  - Keep it simple
  - Don't expect communities to do it all themselves
  - Help them figure out precisely what they need and where to find it
- **Possible resources (=NCVHS products or recommendations?)**
  - Resource directory
  - Simple pointers
  - A learning community
  - Online tools
  - Profiles of success
  - Regional Extension Center network adapted for this purpose?
- *Test a self-assessment tool in a Community Commons group space or blog?*

Informant Suggestions for Roundtable Invitees and/or Notable Community Projects

- **Bechara Choucair, M.D**., Commissioner of the Chicago DPH (P. Remington)
- **Tom Barrett,** Mayor, Milwaukee, WI (inf. mortality initiative) (P. Remington)
- **Kay Felix,** HRSA (S. Queen)
- Sonoma County, CA (several projects)(J. Lewis)
- Buffalo, NY (and others) (L. Blewett)
- Projects assoc w/ CMS State Innovation Models (L. Blewett)
- **San Diego PH Director** (& 3-4-50 initiative) (L. Nichols)
- Rochester, NY hypertens Initiative (L. Nichols)
- Grand Junction B4Babies initiative (L. Nichols)
- Fairfax VA (L. Nichols)
- Chicago (food safety prediction app using community data portal) (K. Crowley)
- Further examples to come (from Community Commons coaches)

Questions for Exploration Today

1. NCVHS role, niche, project scope: How can/should NCVHS contribute?
- Which part of the spectrum of information functions?
- Which type(s) of communities?
- Which customer(s) (data users/community actors)?
- Are there major trends and initiatives we should focus on?

Questions for Exploration Today (continued)

2. Fall Roundtable objectives: What should the Fall Roundtable accomplish?

- Road-test and refine an operational definition of community data readiness
- Workshop a community data competencies and capacities self-assessment tool
- Develop data readiness resources for communities
  - o Identify available resources and TA
  - o Identify major needs and gaps
  - o Conceptualize tools & resources to fill gaps
- Generate recommendations for HHS
- Refine NCVHS Framework tools (data continuum & methods framework)

Roundtable Planning

- Date (week of October 6?) and length (2 days?)
- Framing, title
- Possible topics could include:
  - Facilitating CHNA (and Collective Impact?)
  - Advising federal agencies on community-oriented resources
  - Shaping NCVHS products and recommendations
  - How to make the information cycle flow freely and effectively

Categories of Invitees

- All interviewees
- Community leaders suggested by interviewees
- Other community representatives
- Federal agency staff
- State representative
- Intermediary and resource organizations
- Foundations

Possible co-sponsors

o Community Commons
o County Health Rankings &
   Roadmaps
o RWJF
o Federal agencies/programs
o NQF
o ?

Next Steps

Rough Example of a Possible Resource
for Communities
(EXCERPT)

If your community needs help with the data/information dimensions of…	This might be helpful [examples of models, tools, TA, coaching, learning community, etc.]:
Health needs assessment	CDC CHN(A)/I initiative & resources; Community Commons tools; dashboards
Data analysis	
Prioritization & goal-setting	
Identifying information needs	Checklist
Assessing community skill assets and needs	Checklist, self-assessment tool
Finding relevant secondary data	HDI, R&R, Community Commons, etc.
Shared measurement	Collective Impact tools?
Primary data collection (qual. &/or quant.)	Expert help needed? (see CIMH toolkit p. 113)
[etc.]	

National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics