

Education & Training Advisory Committee (EDTRAC)

State Health Plan, *Healthiest Wisconsin 2010* System (infrastructure) Priority 4: Sufficient, Competent Workforce

Establish an education and practice forum composed of representatives from Wisconsin's institutions of higher education, technical colleges, and the Division of Public Health, among others.

- EdTRAC will provide oversight for the work of the EdTRAC committee facilitated through the Area Health Education Center as a coordinating partner organization.
- The Wisconsin Division of Public Health Education and Training Advisory Committee (EdTRAC) through a coalition of Education, Public Health and Health Professionals has been formed to address the following two principal objectives:
 - (1) to contribute to the State Health Plan system priority objective to “create an Education and Practice Forum to assure a competent public health workforce through a collaborative information and education network for workforce preparation, support of current practice, and continuing education”, and
 - (2) to systematically approach the multidisciplinary training and education needs of our public health system partners relative to emergency readiness.

State Health Plan, *Definition of Public Health*

Public health is defined as a system, a social enterprise, whose focus is on the population as a whole. The public health system seeks to extend the benefits of current knowledge in ways that will have maximum impact on the health status of the entire population (Turnock, 2001) in several key areas (Public Health Functions Committee, 1994):

1. Prevent injury, illness and the spread of disease.
2. Create a healthful environment and protect against environmental hazards.
3. Promote and engage healthy behaviors and promote mental health.
4. Respond to disasters and assist communities in recovery.
5. Promote accessible, high quality health services.