



Department of Public Health

Community Health Network Areas (CHNAs) Overview

**Massachusetts Health Care Training Forum
January 2013**

CHNA

- A **Community Health Network** is a local coalition of public, non-profit, and private sectors working together to build healthier communities in Massachusetts through community-based prevention planning and health promotion.

CHNA Initiative

- An initiative of former MDPH Commissioner David Mulligan
- Initially piloted the creation of 3 CHNAs in 1992:
 - Lynn/Salem - Smoking
 - New Bedford - Immunization
 - Springfield-STDs in 15-19 age group
- Implemented statewide in 1994
- 27 CHNAs

CHNA Vision

- Improve health status for all residents of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Organizational Principles

- Committed to continuous improvement of health status
- Focused on tracking area health status indicators and eliminating identified disparities
- Consumer oriented

Organizational Principles

- Inclusive of key stakeholders in health improvement—consumers, local government and business, and providers of community-based health, education, and human services.
- Reflective of the racial, ethnic, and linguistic diversity of the area, and
- A working partnership between DPH, consumers and local service providers.

CHNA Approach

- Review the CHNA vision
- Review the health status indicators for the CHNA
- Identify, analyze and collectively prioritize health problems in the community
- Design strategies and develop an action plan to ameliorate leading health disparity
- Establish a set of measureable outcomes to evaluate progress
- Work together to implement an action plan
- Evaluate outcomes
- Go onto the next problem

CHNA Outcomes

- **Partnership** between DPH, health service providers, consumers
- **Local Ownership** of community health problems and investment in their solution
- **Prevention** and primary care based model of public health services
- **Access to care** is enhanced
- **Increased collaboration** and cooperation among agencies
- **Efficiency and effectiveness** in service delivery
- **Community-based health status data** becomes focus
- **Results** orientation

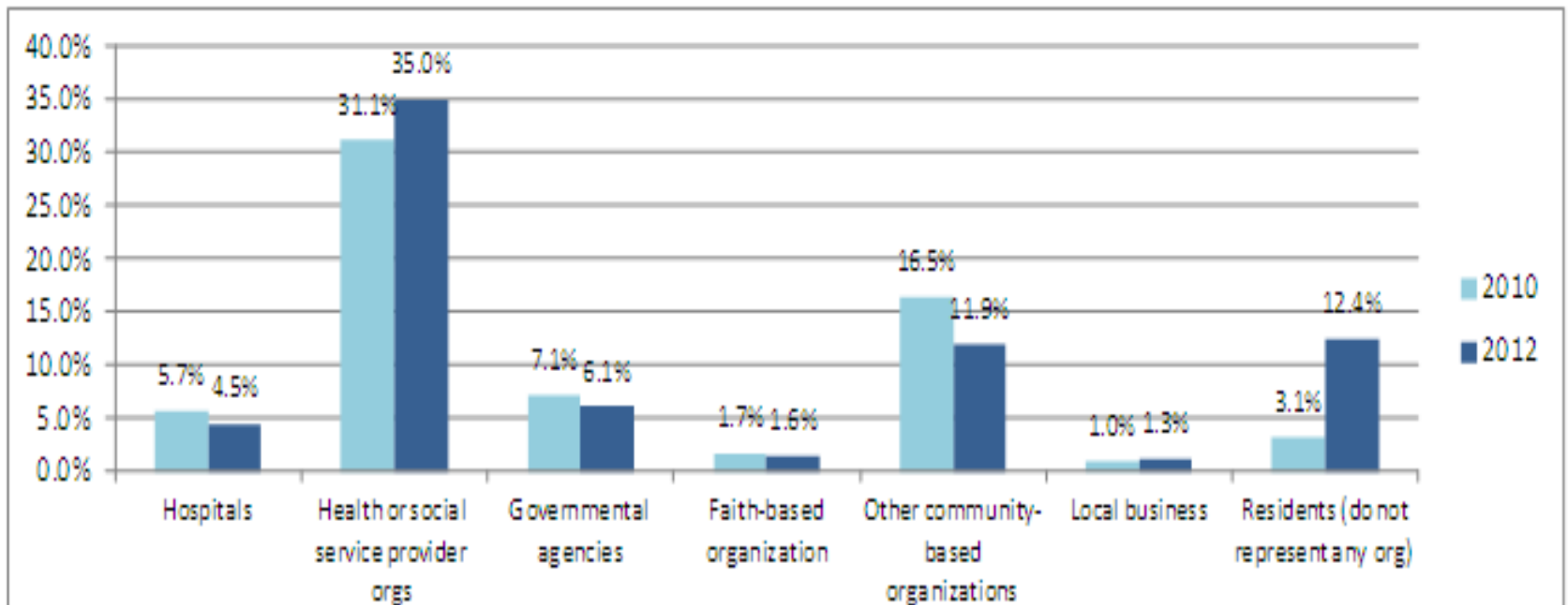
Healthy Community Principles

- A broad definition of health
- A broad definition of community
- Shared vision from community values
- Quality of life for everyone
- Diverse citizen participation and ownership
- Focus on "systems change"
- Build capacity using local assets and resources
- Benchmark and measure progress and outcomes

Demographics of the Membership

	Total # Members
2010	3067
2012	4657
Δ	51.8%

Demographics of the Membership are Representative of:



Determination of Need (DoN)

- DPH reviews applications from health care facilities planning capital expenditures and substantial change in services (DoN)
- Public Health Council approves or disapproves the expenditures and/or new services

Determination of Need (DoN)

- Many approved projects require the applicant to contribute funds to Community Health Initiatives (Factor 9 of application)
- Some CHNAs receive Community Health Initiatives funding

Determination of Need

Community Health Initiatives

Guidelines

■ **Priorities**

- Eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities and their social determinants.
- Promote wellness in home, workplace, school, and community.
- Prevent and manage chronic disease.

Determination of Need

Community Health Initiatives Guidelines

■ **Planning Process**

- Systematic community health planning to guide decision making
- Diverse, representative stakeholders
- Consensus-based decision making over available funds

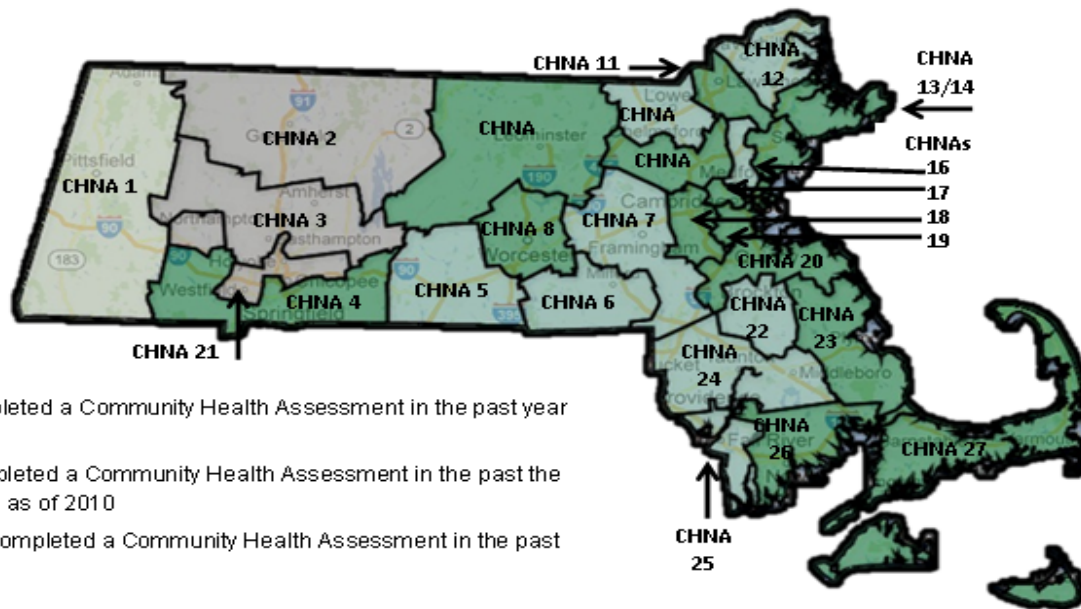
Determination of Need

Community Health Initiatives Guidelines

■ Allocation of funds

- CHNAs or other community coalitions
- Operating support for CHNAs or other coalitions
- Health planning grants to local organizations
- Project implementation grants
- Mini-grants
- Non-profits named in DoN for specific projects
- Other approved projects

Community Health Assessments



- CHNA has completed a Community Health Assessment in the past year as of 2012
- CHNA had completed a Community Health Assessment in the past the past three years as of 2010
- CHNA has not completed a Community Health Assessment in the past five years
- Inactive CHNAs

CHNA 1: Community Health Network of Berkshire County

CHNA 2: Upper Valley Health Web

CHNA 3: Partnership for Health in Hampshire County

CHNA 4: Community Health Connection

CHNA 5: South County Connects

CHNA 6: Community Partners for Health

CHNA 7: Community Health Coalition of Metrowest

CHNA 8: Common Pathways

CHNA 9: Community Health Network of North Central Massachusetts

CHNA 10: Greater Lowell Community Health Network

CHNA 11: Greater Lawrence Community Health Network/Mayor's Health Task Force

CHNA 12: Greater Haverhill Community Health Network

CHNA 13/14: North Shore Community Health Network/The Network

CHNA 15: Northwest Suburban Health Alliance

CHNA 16: North Suburban Health Alliance

CHNA 17: Greater Cambridge/Somerville Community Health Network

CHNA 18: West Suburban Health Network

CHNA 19: Boston Alliance for Community Health

CHNA 20: Blue Hills Community Health Alliance

CHNA 21: Community Health Network of Chicopee-Holyoke-Ludlow-Westfield

CHNA 22: Greater Brockton Community Health Network

CHNA 23: South Shore Community Health Network

CHNA 24: Greater Attleboro-Taunton Health Education

CHNA 25: Partners for Healthier Communities

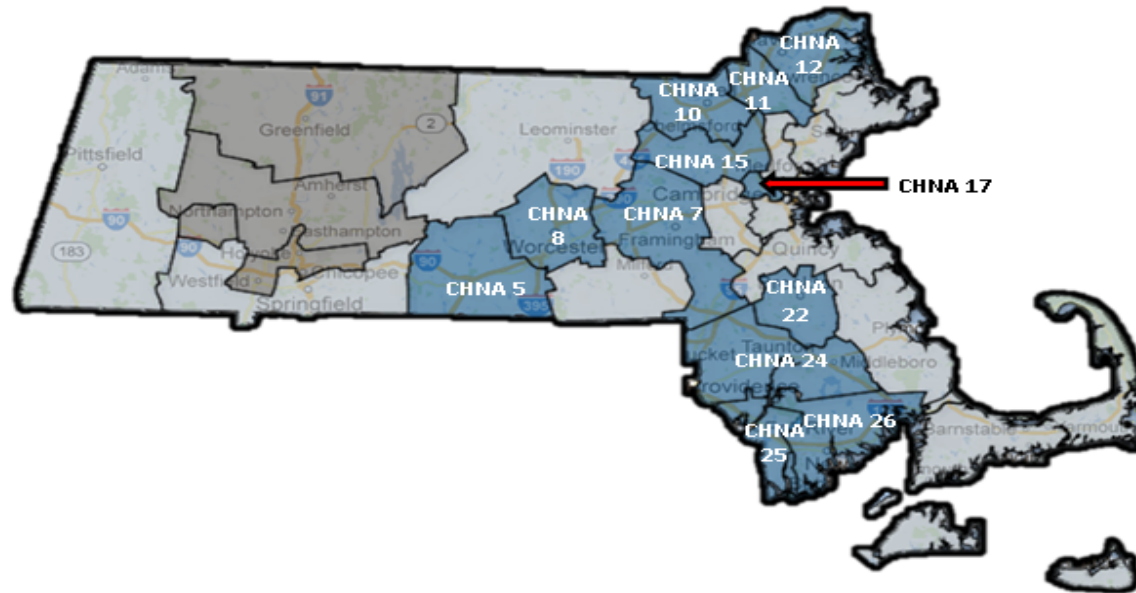
CHNA 26: Greater New Bedford Allies for Health and Wellness

CHNA 27: Cape Cod and Islands Health Network

Community Health Assessments

- What's the Community Health Assessment?
- Who's conducting these assessments?
- Why?
- Who can access these completed reports?

Issue map



■ CHNAs that have identified any one (or more) of the following priority areas: Nutrition/Physical Activity, Overweight and Obesity

- CHNA 5: South County Connects
- CHNA 7: Community Health Coalition of Metrowest
- CHNA 8: Common Pathways
- CHNA 10: Greater Lowell Community Health Network
- CHNA 11: Greater Lawrence Community Health Network/
Mayor's Health Task Force
- CHNA 12: Greater Haverhill Community Health Network

- CHNA 15: Northwest Suburban Health Alliance
- CHNA 17: Greater Cambridge /Somerville Community Health Network
- CHNA 22: Greater Brockton Community Health Network
- CHNA 24: Greater Attleboro-Taunton Health Education
- CHNA 25: Partners for Healthier Communities
- CHNA 26: Greater New Bedford Allies for Health and Wellness

■ CHNAs that have not identified any of the issues above as priority areas

■ Inactive CHNAs

Note: The data reflected in this map were collected by the Office of Healthy Communities at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in 2012. The 2012 survey asked CHNAs to respond to an open-ended question asking them to identify their priority health topic areas. CHNAs may be working on more than one priority area listed on this map, and may have identified additional priority areas not featured on this map.

Contact Us

Cathy O'Connor, Director, Office of Healthy Communities
(617) 624-5455 | cathy.o'connor@state.ma.us

Paul Muzhuthett, Northeast Regional Director
(978) 851-7261 x4011 | paul.muzhuthett@state.ma.us

Linda Shepherd, Metro Boston Regional Director
(781) 774-6744 | linda.shepherd@state.ma.us

Ron O'Connor, Southeast Regional Director
(508) 984-0615 | ron.oconnor@state.ma.us

Central Regional Director – (508) 792-7880

Western Regional Director – (413) 586-7525

Website: [www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/
admin/healthy-communities/chna/](http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/admin/healthy-communities/chna/)