

Promoting and Sustaining Local Health Department Capacity to Implement HIA through Peer Mentorship

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NACCHO infrastructure

- Represents 2800 local health departments
- 35 active workgroups and committees
- Communications and network infrastructure
- Policy statements guide federal advocacy and strengthens local action
- Ability to identify and diffuse new and promising public health policies and practices
- NACCHO can do that for HIA

NACCHO diffuses new policies and practices by...

- Legitimizing LHD practices
- Promoting practices through its communications infrastructure
- Providing training, technical and other support to LHDs implementing practice
- Supporting peer-to-peer learning
 - Communities of practice
 - Peer mentorship

Sustained HIA capacity means

- Program Level: Ability to complete an HIA
 - Maintain staff trained in HIA or skill set
 - Ability to tap those with HIA experience
 - Standing coalition and strong relationships
 - Planning department
 - Community stakeholders
- Systems Level: Conducting HIA as routine practice consistent with strategic plan
 - Policy surveillance (screening)
 - Strategic use of HIA

NACCHO HIA Peer Mentorship Program

- Objective: Help LHDs complete an HIA and help diffuse HIA as a sustained practice
- Matched LHD conducting HIA with seasoned LHD-based practitioner
 - Monthly Peer learning calls
 - Mentor site visits
 - Technical assistance and training
 - 6-month program, no direct \$\$ funding
- Two cohorts: supported by CDC/NCEH and Pew Health Impact Project, respectively

NACCHO HIA Mentorship Program

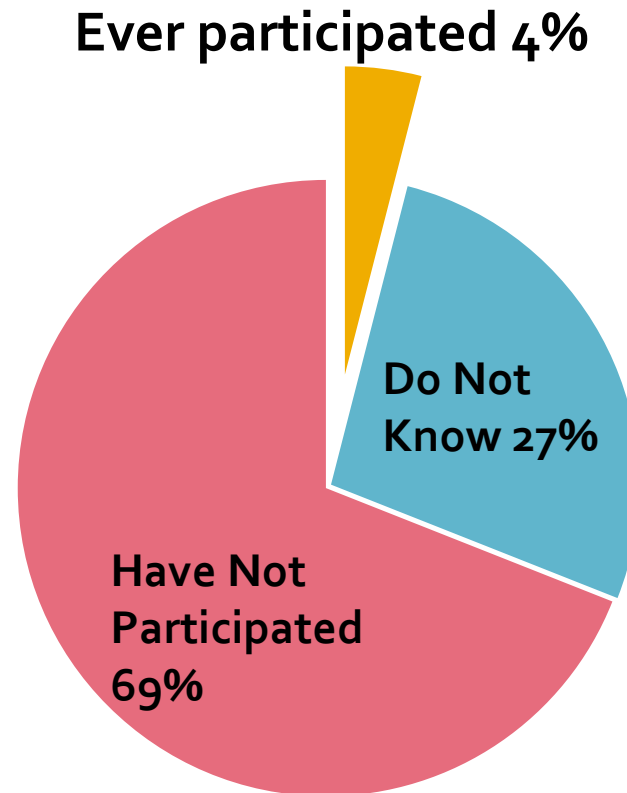
Community	HIA Target	Start Stage	End Stage
Cohort 1			
Cincinnati, OH	Interstate-75 revitalization plan	Screening	Recommendations/ Reporting
Knox County, TN	Community gardens placement policy	Pre-Screening	Reporting
Madison County, NY	Madison County Coordinated Transportation Plan	Screening	Reporting
San Antonio, TX	Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan	Screening	Scoping
Cohort 2			
Spokane, WA	Division Street Gateway Transportation Plan	Screening	NA
Independence, MO	Bike lane placement and signage policy	Pre-Screening	NA
Billings, MT (Riverstone Health)	South Billings Master Plan	Screening	NA
Cuyahoga County, OH	Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative planning project	Screening	NA

Evaluation: Preliminary Findings

- Demand exists for LHD-based peer mentorship
- Mentorship program has promise
 - HIA novices in LHDs are quick learners
 - Mentorship program supports HIA completion
 - Peer-to-peer relationships continue
- Challenges maintaining staff
 - HIA staff turnover in both cohorts
 - 40,000 job losses since 2008*
 - 57% reduced or eliminated a program in 2011*
- Commitment for sustained practice varies

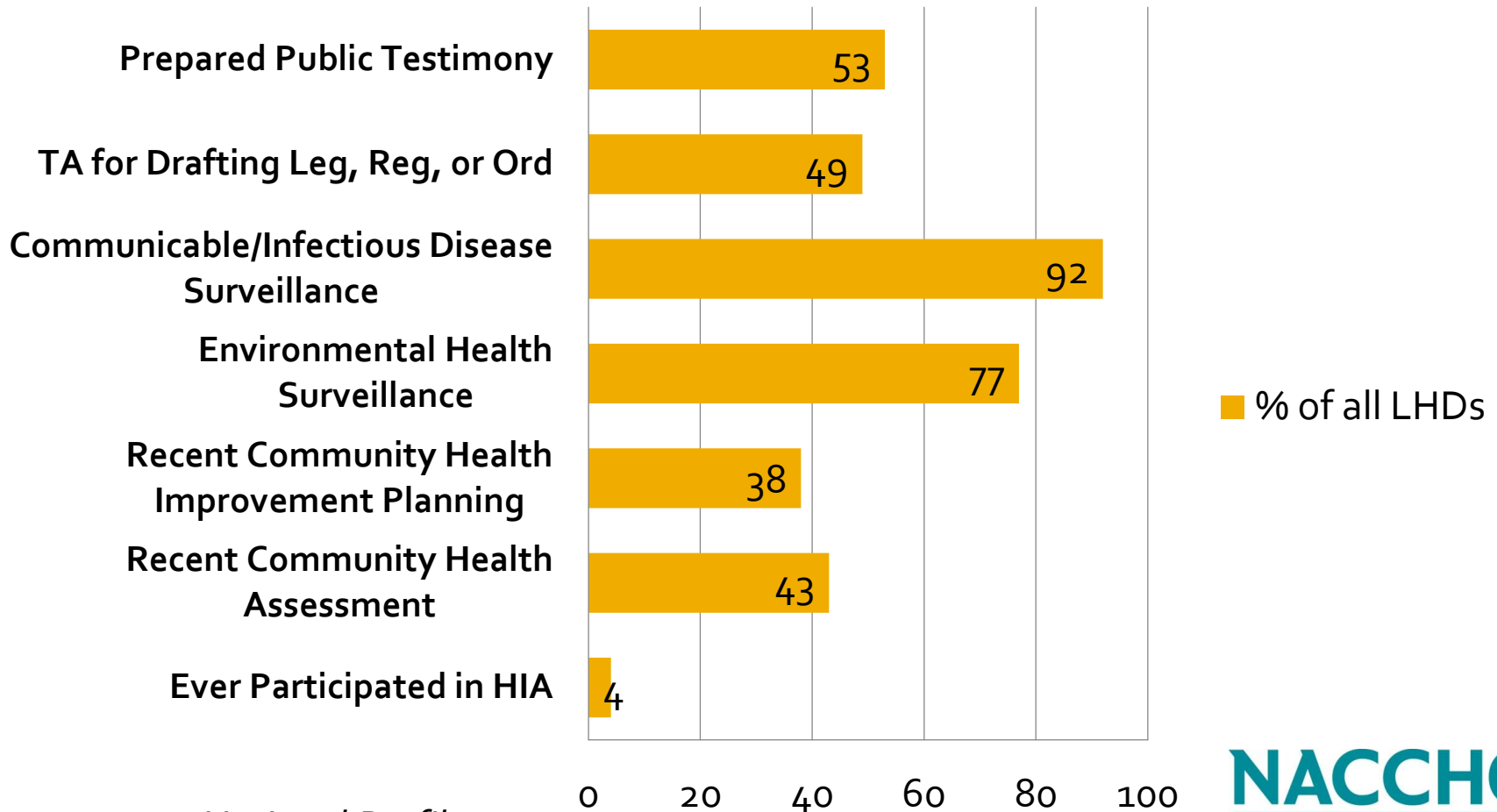
*Source: *LHD Job Losses and Program Cuts: Findings from January 2012 Survey*

HIA is generally a rare LHD practice



Source: 2010 National Profile of Local Health Departments

Other practices are more routine but use same skill set



Source: 2010 National Profile of Local Health Departments

Larger LHDs are ahead of the curve

	All LHDs	<50,000	50,000-499,999	500,000+
None	95%	98%	92%	74%
1	4%	2%	6%	13%
2-4	1%	0%	1%	13%
5-10	0%	0%	1%	0%

Conclusion: Build HIA capacity as part of larger strategic objectives

- LHDs will adopt HIA as a sustained practice when HIA is a part of:
 - A strategic plan to address the determinants of health
 - A movement to build healthier communities or address health equity
 - Health in All Policies
- Improve effectiveness of HIA Mentorship program by targeting LHDs
 - With strong LHO leadership to address determinants of health
 - Completing a community health assessment of seeking accreditation
 - Completing a funded community health initiative