



*Issue 9 - February 2014*

## Welcome to qualitymatters!

The days are getting longer and love is in the air! The PHQIX team is gearing up for the last webinar of our three-part Implementing Successful QI series, featuring Kane County Health Department and Expert Panel member Dr. Les Beitsch. Also, in this issue of qualitymatters, check out the recap of our January webinar, our new video highlight, in addition to a whole host of newly published quality improvement (QI) initiatives. And as always, we have lots of news, resources, and events to share from our partners! You can find it all on [www.phqix.org](http://www.phqix.org).

Feel free to reach out to us via e-mail ([contact@phqix.org](mailto:contact@phqix.org)) or Twitter ([@PublicHealthQIX](https://twitter.com/PublicHealthQIX)) with your questions or contributions. We'd love to hear from you!

-The PHQIX Team

## News and Updates

### New and Active QI Initiatives

Explore these new QI initiatives:

- **New featured submission:** [Increasing Prenatal Referrals for Home Care Maternal and Child Health Nursing Services in Sullivan County - Sullivan County Public Health Services](#)
- [Increasing WIC Fruit and Vegetable Voucher Redemption Rates - Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Services](#)
- [Using QI to Address a Citywide Need for Improving How Bostonians Affected by Substance Abuse Disorders Seek Treatment and Other Recovery Support Services - Boston Public Health Commission \(in progress\)](#)
- [Reducing Tobacco Use Among Pregnant WIC Clients by Increasing Enrollment in Tobacco Cessation Programs - Central District Health Department](#)
- ["We Influence Change": Applying PDSA to Increase the Reach of WIC within the Maricopa County Department of Public Health - Maricopa County Department of Public Health \(in progress\)](#)
- [Vaccine Inventory Management Rapid Improvement Event - Denver Public Health \(in progress\)](#)
- [Improving Priority Population Participation through Effective Outreach - Michigan Department of Community Health](#)
- [Contract Template Update and Contracting Process - Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Public Health](#)
- [Decreasing Wait Times at a Reproductive Health Clinic - Carroll County General Health District](#)
- [Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 Objective: Improving Birth Outcomes - Kenosha County](#)

### [Division of Health](#)

- [Routine Food Inspection Report Completeness - Kane County Health Department](#)
- [Improving Whatcom County Health Department's WIC Scheduling Efficiencies Using Quality Improvement Techniques - Whatcom County Health Department \(in progress\)](#)

More new QI initiatives for February and March will be posted [here](#).

## Discussions on Our Community Forum

Check out the recent activity on the [community forum!](#)

- [New Performance Management Software to Consider](#)
- [Ways to Make QI Fun](#)
- [Survey Monkey](#)
- [PHAB Accredited Health Departments Future Cycle Planning](#)

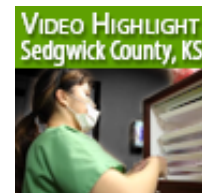
## January Drawing Winner

Heather Weir from Denver Public Health is the lucky winner of an iPad mini from last month's PHQIX drawing! Congratulations, Heather, and thanks for being a part of the PHQIX community!

# Upcoming Events

## New Video Highlight Featuring Sedgwick County Health Department

Check out [our home page](#) to watch our new video highlight featuring Sedgwick County Health Department's QI initiative to improve the quality of the collaborative process related to communication, empowerment, and recruitment of diverse people and organizations.



## QI Innovator Awards Announced

We are proud to announce the first round of [QI Innovator nominations](#). This is an opportunity for public health practitioners to nominate innovative QI practitioners and recognize their hard work in championing a QI effort and culture. Applications will be accepted until March 14, 2014 and can be found under the Community tab on the PHQIX website. The PHQIX team and two members of the Expert Panel will jointly select the nominees. One winner will be announced in mid-March and will receive an iPad mini and a PHQIX sweatshirt. The winner will also be featured on the PHQIX website.



## PHQIX Webinar on Tuesday, February 25

### ***Implementing Successful QI, featuring Kane County Health Department***

We will be holding the last of our series of three webinars featuring successful PHQIX QI initiative submitters and a member of the Expert Panel.

Join us at 12 p.m. ET on Tuesday, February 25, to hear from staff of the Kane County Health Department about their [initiative](#) to standardize a process for filling out routine food inspection forms. [Register for the webinar here.](#)

## Drawings

Until February 28, 2014, comment on a Community Forum post or on a QI submission to be entered into a drawing to win an iPad mini. Winners will be announced the first week of March. If you start a Community Forum post, you will be entered into the drawing twice!

## Archived January Twitter Chat

We hosted a wonderful chat with our partners, the National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI), Central Michigan District Health Department, and the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) about new QI events, trends, and innovation. Missed it? [See the archived story here.](#)



# Featured Resources

## NACCHO Accreditation Webinar Rescheduled

The webinar titled Working in Teams: Accreditation Preparation Tips from Those Who Know was originally scheduled for Thursday, February 13, but has been rescheduled because of inclement weather. The rescheduled program will be on Monday, February 24 at 2 p.m. ET. Please visit [here](#) to register or to find more information. The webinar will be recorded.

## NACCHO Announces Accreditation Support Initiative Awardees

NACCHO is pleased to announce the selection of 29 local health departments (LHDs) for the 2013-2014 Accreditation Support Initiative (ASI), which will run through May 2014. Totalling nearly \$600,000, the awards will support these LHDs in addressing their various needs in preparing and applying for accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board.



Now in its third iteration, the ASI is made possible by funding and support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Office for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support. A total of 147 applications were received for this year's ASI. The selected LHDs represent 19 different states and a wide range of population sizes, jurisdiction types, and accreditation readiness needs. Read more [here](#).

## Public Health Improvement Training

April 24-25, 2014

The Public Health Improvement Training (PHIT): Advancing Performance in Agencies, Systems, and Communities offers hands-on workshops that build participants' knowledge, skills, and confidence in public health improvement. Topics include QI, performance management, national voluntary accreditation, health assessment, and improvement planning. Stay tuned as PHIT registration launches in February 2014!

## Open Forum for Public Health QI

June 12-13, 2014

The Open Forum is a unique opportunity to learn from leaders in the field of QI for public health and network with your peers. The upcoming Open Forum will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, at the InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza, June 12-13, 2014. Stay tuned for more information.

## Kaizen Event Technique Used for Rapid QI

NNPHI, in partnership with Continual Impact with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson

Foundation, selected 10 health departments to participate in the Kaizen Event Program part of the Community of Practice for Public Health Improvement (COPPHI). The program provides training, coaching, and materials to co-lead a rapid QI project using the Kaizen technique. Learn more [here](#).



## Performance Management and Cultural Transformation Using Plan, Do, Study, Act

How can organizations choose or adapt a performance management model to fit their specific cultures and needs? A white paper from the Public Health Foundation Quality Experts [explores the performance management methods and models such as PDCA](#) that organizations can use to drive improvements and translate strategy into action.



## The Online Guide to Evidence-Based Prevention

The Health Policy Institute of Ohio recently released a guide that provides policymakers, funders and prevention planners with a common understanding of evidence-based practice and tools to identify effective strategies to prevent Ohio's high-priority health problems. Focusing on user-friendly and credible sources, this guide is designed to help planners navigate the many online sources of evidence about community-based prevention that have emerged in recent years. Learn more [here](#).

## Implementing Successful QI: Missed Our Last Webinar?

Last month, PHQIX hosted a QI webinar titled Implementing Successful QI: Lessons Learned from the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH). More than 120 participants participated from across the United States to hear about CT DPH's QI initiative to better collect and report on sociodemographic characteristics in its databases to align with federal Office of Management and Budget-15 standards. Click [here](#) to find questions, tools, and the recording from the webinar.

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