



Issue 8 - January 2014

Welcome to qualitymatters!

Happy New Year from the PHQIX team! In this issue of our newsletter, check out information surrounding our January webinar, our newly published quality improvement (QI) initiatives, and more! As always, you can find it all on www.phqix.org.

Feel free to reach out to us via e-mail (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:

- [Expanding Sexually Transmitted Disease No-Reply Text Messaging Services Using Quality Improvement Processes - DOH-Seminole \(in progress\)](#)
- [Reducing Critical Violations in Wicomico County's Food Service Facilities - Wicomico County Health Department \(in progress\)](#)
- [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 \(in progress\)](#)
- [Increasing WIC Fruit and Vegetable Voucher Redemption Rates - Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Services](#)

More new QI initiatives for January will be posted [here](#).

Discussions on Our Community Forum

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

- [PHAB Accredited Health Departments Future Cycle Planning](#)
- [Survey Monkey](#)
- [Performance Management Series virtual training](#)
- [Software for Performance Management](#)

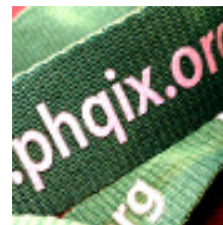
December Drawing Winner

Kate Louther, from Public Health Madison and Dane County (PHMDC) in Wisconsin, is the lucky winner of an iPad mini from last month's PHQIX drawing! Congratulations, Kate, and thanks for being a part of the PHQIX community!

Thanks to PHQIX Evaluation Survey Participants!

The PHQIX Evaluation Survey is now closed, but we would like to thank every one who took the time to participate. We value and appreciate your feedback very much! We would also like to announce the winners of the drawing for the iPad minis:

- James Coyne - Rhode Island Department of Health
- Jessica Paul - Brazos County Health Department, Texas
- Maura Dwyer - Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Susan Logan - on behalf of the Public Health Systems Improvement Unit at the Connecticut Department of Public Health
- Philip Mason - Clackamas County Public Health Division, Oregon



Additionally, we would like to congratulate Anita Muneta from the Navajo Nation Division of Health for winning an iPad mini in a separate drawing for members of our User Group who participated in our evaluation study pilot. Thanks also go out to the other members of the User Group who participated in the pilot process for our evaluation survey and interview!

Upcoming Events

PHQIX Webinar on Thursday, January 30

Implementing Successful QI featuring Connecticut Department of Public Health

We will be holding the second of a 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 Thursday, January 30, 2014, to hear from staff of the Connecticut Department of Public Health about their [initiative](#) to improve their department databases to ensure race, ethnicity, gender and other sociodemographic standards meet federal standards. Register for the webinar [here](#).

Drawings

Until January 31, 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 February. If you start a Community Forum post, you will be entered into the drawing twice!

February Twitter Chat

We'll be hosting a Twitter chat on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. ET. Search #QITogether on Twitter to follow the conversation and contribute your thoughts!



Featured Resources

Future of Public Health Award Recipients to Use QI to Tackle Winnable Battles

Recipients of the 2012 Future of Public Health Award from the Public Health Foundation, the [Connecticut Department of Public Health](#) and [Washtenaw County Public Health](#) in Michigan, received support to implement QI programs designed to achieve measurable outcomes to benefit the future of public health. Read about [how these organizations used](#)

[quality improvement to address two of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's \(CDC's\) Winnable Battles.](#)



Preparing for Accreditation through Evidence-Based Interventions

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and CDC's Community Guide Branch would like to announce the launch of [The Community Guide - Public Health Accreditation Board Crosswalk](#). The Community Guide - PHAB Crosswalk is a tool to help health departments identify evidence-based interventions from The Community Guide whose implementation could help document conformity with PHAB domains, standards, and measures.

As a companion tool, the [NACCHO Model Practices-Community Guide Crosswalk: A Resource for Implementing Effective Public Health Strategies](#), can inform LHDs as they consider ways to address public health concerns with effective strategies. The crosswalk identifies NACCHO Model Practices implemented by LHDs along with related recommendations from The Community Guide to help LHDs enhance their practice-based initiatives with evidence, while simultaneously providing examples of ways LHDs can translate evidence into practice in their jurisdictions.

Journal of Public Health Management and Practice

The 20th anniversary issue of the *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice* was published online recently, and it focuses on accreditation. It is being offered with free access in advance of the print edition on the journal's [Website](#). PHAB coordinated the special issue, with support from CDC.

Read the original press release [here](#).

Helpful QI Videos

Laverne Snow, from Utah Performance Improvement, has shared some amazing instructional videos of QI tools and processes. The content of these videos has been developed in partnership with the Utah Department of Health and the University of Utah. Check out the [Baby Steps](#), [PDSA](#), and [Process Maps](#) videos.

Implementing Successful QI: Missed our last webinar?

Last month, PHQIX hosted a QI webinar titled, "Implementing Successful QI: Lessons Learned from RiverStone Health." Over 30 participants participated from across the United States to hear about RiverStone's QI initiative to improve retention rates among WIC participants in Montana. Click [here](#) to find questions, tools and the recording from the last month's webinar.

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