REGIONALIZATION/COLLABORATION CAPSTONE PROJECTS

CORE ACTIVITIES		PROJECT OUTPUT	PROJECT OUTCOMES/IMPACT	LONG-TERM OUTCOMES/IMPACT
Policy capstone projects		Development of new TB care statutes through KDHE-SRS collaboration	• New procedures for centralized and streamlined enrollment of new TB cases • On-site training and care planning for local health departments (LHDs)	More effective and less expensive care for TB patients; savings to state of $100K per patient annually; declining rates of TB infection
		Launch of multi-agency legislative collaboration for public health advocacy	• In-state surveys of health needs information • Out-of-state surveys of health alliances • Analysis of results for strategic planning and awareness campaigns	Multi-agency alliance created for legislative health advocacy; formal procedures developed for supporting health-related legislation
		LHD partnership to develop and promote public health message to public and policymakers	• LHDs across state surveyed regarding best message formats for public • State-level presentations for practitioners on public health messages • Agency-adaptable educational materials developed	Development of consistent central message for public health providers to communicate with public and policymakers
Assessment capstone projects		Analysis of public health structural characteristics for capacity improvement	• Identification of structural characteristics that create barriers for capacity development: decentralized, fragmented, hierarchical • Strategies to combat barriers	Capacity increased through development of applied projects to combat barriers: performance management, preparedness
		Focus groups on impact of regionalization for preparedness conducted with LHDs across state	• Responses collected from all 15 BT regions on success factors and barriers • Factors identified related to sustainability of preparedness regions	Improved likelihood of regional sustainability; application beyond preparedness efforts. Published in Journal of Public Health Management and Practice
		Integrating mental health, public health, and primary care for women with depression	• 14 focus groups conducted with representatives from each field • Info collected on successes, barriers, benefits, needs for collaboration • Recommendations for improving integration and education of providers	Development of collaborative relationships for care providers; barriers eliminated for inter-agency treatment of depression in women
		Integration of mental health, public health, and primary care for Hispanic mental health services	• Cultural competency training across public health/mental health agencies • County referral network established • Hispanic community focus groups to identify best educational materials/events	Development of culturally competent activities to reduce stigma; increased Hispanic use of mental health services.
		Evaluation of public health-mental health collaborative to increase Hispanic access to care	• Review and analysis of 2.5 years of county public health and mental health agency intake data • Correlation with Hispanic mental health outreach activities by both agencies	Effective interventions identified for increasing Hispanic access to mental health care; improved integration of public health and mental health services
		Development of amateur radio system for emergency hospital communication	• Development of preparedness collaborative between SW KS health agencies • Secured grant funding for equipment to put radio system in 18 hospitals	Emergency communications secured in underserved quadrant of state; collaborative continues for training radio operators
Assurance capstone projects		Establishment of regional billing support and training groups for LHD clerks	• Six support groups (covering entire state) established to provide reimbursement training and peer recommendations • Interagency billing advisory team established to coordinate group training	Participating LHDs increase reimbursement revenue by 50-75%, allowing increased health services. Published in Public Health Nursing journal