WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CAPSTONE PROJECTS

CORE ACTIVITIES		PROJECT OUTPUT	PROJECT OUTCOMES/IMPACT	LONG-TERM OUTCOMES/IMPACT
Policy capstone projects		Organization of "Health Day at the Capital" – health fair, rally, reception	• Attendance by all state senators • 100% increase in exhibitor attendance from previous year	Increased legislative awareness and media attention for PH topics
		Analysis of state's aid to local funding process	• Financial examination of aid-to-local system and distribution • Recommendations for uniform performance measuremt instrument	Improved financial allocations, policy development, ability to reach Healthy Kansas 2010 goals
		Cost-benefit analysis of current healthcare systems and providers	• Recommendations for multiple sector funding of universal coverage • Emphasis on prevention	Implications for stabilized healthcare costs, increased health insurance coverage
		Development of groundwater safety training for PH workers	• Analysis of need for training on health effects of groundwater issues • Practice-based training for public health workers developed and piloted	Training for health workers, MPH students, city/county officials; improved collaboration b/w public and environmental health
		Analysis of current and historical mental health institutional systems	• Effective features identified • Holistic model for effective inpatient treatment developed	Improved outcomes for mental health inpatients, cost-effective treatment
		Creation and implementation of KDHE epidemiology workforce development plan	• Surveys conducted of staff morale needs and customer service needs • Increased staff training developed; scholarly dissemination of results	Improved customer service and knowledge of state epi section; phone triage to address needs more quickly
Assessment capstone projects		Development of online community health improvement coursework for KS PH certificate program	• Online course content collected from other programs; Kansas-specific data, readings, exercises added • Courses posted and student feedback collected	Online training increases rural access to PH Certificate program. Training supports competency-based accreditation efforts
		Assessment of public health workforce characteristics	• Development of occupation-stratified questions for state-level survey • Survey distributed, results analyzed, LHD occupation profile developed	Improved resource allocation; implementation of improved training for LHD workers
		Evaluation of informatics training for LHD workers	• Training and skills assessment successfully piloted in 10 counties • Training/evaluation for 74 counties	Significant improvement in informatics skill, worker ability to operate software and communicate remotely
		Environmental health workforce recruitment survey	• Natl review of current environmental health (EH) recruitment materials • Survey of city and state level EH workforce on EH career marketing	Recommendations gathered for creating county/state EH recruitment materials; production of recruitment DVD is in planning stages
		Evaluation of case management turnover and mitigation methods	• Statewide survey of community mental health center (CMHC) staff and other direct care providers • Factors mitigating turnover identified, including wages, communication	County level wages increased for case management staff; listening series implemented. Reduced turnover leads to cost savings for CMHCs
		LHD core and preparedness competency training needs evaluation	• Survey piloted and refined for LHDs stratified by occupation • BT coordinators, LHD administrators trained to administer evaluation	Development of statewide plan for effective education and training; public health infrastructure strengthened
		Implementation of LHD customer service improvement plan	• Usability analysis of facility and identification of problem areas • Increased signage and rearrangement of high-traffic areas	Improved handicap accessibility and visibility of public health client services
Assurance capstone projects		Development of marketing messages for Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)	• Multi-state survey of 28 AAAs • Review of archival needs assessment data • Senior focus groups conducted	Needs-based AAA marketing message developed; to be shared statewide, nationally