



State and Partner Report 2006*

State: Arizona
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Projects/Issues Addressed This Year:

Since 2003, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), in cooperation with Knowledge Capital Alliance and the W. P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University, has offered the Accelerated Leadership Academy (ALA) to ADHS staff and other public health partners. Per the ALA, it is “a customized leadership development program designed to assist public health organizations to clarify, communicate and execute their vision, mission, goals and strategic initiatives.”

By the end of 2004, three cohorts (~200) had completed the ALA. The fourth cohort (80) began the course in May 2005. As part of Cohort 4, registered nurse members of the Arizona County Directors of Nursing Association (ACDONA) were invited to participate. The ADHS Preparedness and Response Bureau underwrote the cost and requested that the group’s ALA project be a Mass Vaccination Clinic Plan template that could be adapted by all county health department preparedness and response programs for use in their individual counties.

Registered nurses from 11 of the 15 Arizona county health departments participated; four counties were unable to attend due to staff and time constraints. The nurses (15) who participated manage or directly provide immunization services in their counties. They each have extensive knowledge and expertise in providing immunization services in different environments, serving small to very large numbers of individuals in a variety of locations.

A “gap analysis” was developed to identify what should be included in a mass vaccination clinic plan and evaluate the completeness of each county’s preparedness and response plans. Eleven criteria were identified as requirements for a quality, efficient, safe vaccination clinic process for staff and the public. The criteria included 8 nursing essentials and 3 preparedness and response contract deliverables. The Mass Vaccination Plan was distributed to the county health department preparedness and response program managers and to the Health Officers at their monthly meeting in March, 2006, where it was unanimously approved as the universal plan to be used by all counties. ACDONA will review the plan periodically (approximately every 6-12 months) and update as needed. Any changes will be posted on SIREN (Secure Integrated Response Electronic Notification), a web based secure information system accessible to state and county health department staff.

The Mass Vaccination Plan was an overwhelmingly successful project due to the individuals who developed it – public health nurses.



Projects/Issues Pending:

Issues and Special Concerns for Public Health Nursing:

Continued depletion of public health nurses primarily due to retirement. Informal canvassing of the three state colleges of nursing indicate declining enrollment in community health nursing leading to a lack of nurses to fill vacant positions at the state and county levels.

*Reports must be sent electronically to Justina Novak (justina.novak@doh.wa.gov) by April 15, 2006 in order to be included in packets. If your form is not received by then, you need to bring 50 copies of your report to the meeting.