



## State and Partner Report 2006

**State:** Missouri

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### **Projects/Issues Addressed This Year:**

#### Introduction to Public Health Nursing CD

A CD-ROM, "Learning with Lily, Introduction to Public Health Nursing", was developed in collaboration with Heartland Center, St. Louis University School of Public Health. This CD introduces the principles of public health nursing. It can be used for nurses new to public health or students. The CD is available free of charge. Just send me an e-mail requesting it.

#### Local Public Health Agencies Accreditation

The Missouri Institute for Community Health is a not-for-profit organization that was created with RWJ Turning Point Funding. This is a voluntary accreditation, nine agencies are currently accredited and several more are working on applications. More information about accreditation is available at <http://www.michweb.org/>

### **Projects/Issues Pending:**

Working on developing principles of public health nursing course targeted for nurses currently working in local agencies. This course will be offered for college credit or CEUs. The course will be facilitated by an instructor and will be offered using a CD format with communication with instructor using e-mail and web-based discussion board.

Working with the University of Missouri-Columbia, Sinclair School of Nursing to implement a grant from the National Library of Medicine. This grant will teach public health nurses in local agencies how to access consumer and professional literature on the internet.

### **Issues and Special Concerns for Public Health Nursing:**

Retirements of experienced nurses continue to increase. We are finding it very difficult to hire nurses at both the state and local level. We have more difficulty at the state level because of low salaries and no raises for at least 5 years.