

# 50<sup>th</sup> PIHOA Meeting

A Survey of Members and Interested  
Stakeholders

# Project Description

- Market Research & Development was contracted to conduct a qualitative survey that obtained interviews of 31 health professionals selected by PIHOA Membership:
  - Chief Health Officers (5)
  - Associate Members (2)
  - Affiliate Members (7)
  - Funding/Technical Assistance Agencies (17)
- The survey identified key insights to stimulate discussions regarding a regional response to the declaration of an NCD epidemic and the role of PIHOA in facilitating that effort.

# Method

- The interviews were conducted over the phone by an experienced and trained interviewer. Several of the interviews were submitted electronically in written form.
- The oral interviews were far ranging and extensive.
- The interviews were conducted between the 7<sup>th</sup> of March and the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2011

# Addressing NCDs in the Jurisdictions

- The initial set of questions helped identify what the jurisdictions viewed the qualities and characteristics of and effective response to NCDs.
- The near term:
  - Improved community awareness of NCD risk factors and increased community engagement in NCD programs to reduce those factors .
  - Increased collaboration within government departments, health agencies and the broader economy in addressing NCDs community wide.
  - Increased emphasis on the NCD Epidemic as a matter of public policy.
  - Improving process outcomes.

# Addressing NCDs in the Jurisdictions

- The Long Term
  - Generating measurable health effects
  - Establishing measurable community engagement in lifestyle changes
  - Greater and permanent resource allocation to addressing NCDs in all sectors of the community

# Necessary Elements In the Jurisdiction

- Needed Elements For Realizing An Effective Response to NCDs In the Jurisdiction
  - A political will to establish policies and increase collaboration.
  - Involving and engaging the community in addressing the issue
  - Improving Human Resources for Health (HRH)
  - Encouraging participation by multiple sectors

# Necessary Elements Regionally

- **Needed Elements for A Regional Response**
  - Regional collaboration and communication
  - Clear identification of regional vs. jurisdictional issues.
  - Collaboration and coordination with international agencies
  - Creating a focal point for coordination
  - Creating remaining, relevant and creating clear benefits for the people of the region.
  - Maintaining national, regional and international political prominence.

# Progress

- Progress That Is Being Made
  - The declaration of the NCD epidemic
  - The consolidation and coordination of existing NCD programs and objectives
  - Increased community involvement

# Challenges That Remain

- **Continuing Challenges to Addressing NCDs**
  - Declining health conditions
  - Denial of NCDs as a health resource allocation priority
  - Declining jurisdictional funding capacity
  - Challenges with Human Resources for Health
  - Lack of information and the technical capability to gather and analyze information.
  - Inconsistent/non-comparable measures of process outcomes
  - Lack of community engagement

# The Capacity To Address NCDs

- **Within the Jurisdictions:  
Challenged but Optimistic.**
- Challenges that must be, but can be overcome
  - Lack of Attention from Politicians to the issue
  - Lack of Community Engagement
  - Lack of and Declining Funding
  - HRH

# The Capacity to Address NCDs

- Among U.S. and International Agencies: “The capacity remains strong and available.”
- Challenge that must be but can be overcome
  - Funding: Reduced But Available
    - “Its not the availability of funding that challenges the region but its ability to generate meaningful outcomes.”
  - The need for improved regional coordination and collaboration.
  - The need to improve the standards of program management and reporting in the

# The Role Of PIHOA in Developing A Regional Response

- What PIHOA Brings to the Table
  - Proven performance in engaging the jurisdictions
  - The ability to coordinate smaller jurisdictions and international organizations
- What Challenges PIHOA
  - The organization is undermanned and underfunded
  - The organization is a single point in a vast area of engagement

# Developing A Regional Response

- Acting as a focal point for coordination
- Exercising leadership through support.
  - “Those interviewed wish PIHOA to remain as clearly identified acting in service to the jurisdictions and not the other way around.”