Harnett and Craven Counties Granted Re-Accreditation Status

Two North Carolina local health departments were awarded the status of re-accreditation at the Accreditation Board meeting held in Raleigh on April 9th, 2009. The two local health departments—Harnett and Craven—were accredited by the Board after hearing the reports from their site visits held in February and March, 2009. The process of accreditation is designed to ensure that local health departments are capable of providing all of the essential public health services for its citizens. NC now has a total of 44 accredited health departments. Congratulations to Harnett and Craven!

On April 30th, the Accreditation program conducted a training on the Re-Accreditation process. The training originally was to include both process and requirement (documentation) guidance, based on the Board adoption of re-accreditation requirements at the April 9 meeting.

At that meeting the Board postponed adoption of the requirements to ensure that all partners have every opportunity to provide input into those requirements. On May 18th, NCLHDA will conduct a vetting session to allow for comment on the requirements. The comments collected that day will compiled, along with any other comments received, and shared during the May 20th Accreditation Liaison Committee Conference Call. The Board will accept comments until May 31st.

In addition to the vetting session, there are two other ways that you can offer comment on the requirements. You can send in written comments on a form you can download from this page. You can also submit comments through our ‘Submit a Question’ link on the home page. Comments can be anonymous and you can comment on as many or as few activities as you wish. For more information on the May 18th Vetting Session go to http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/reaccredreq.htm.

Two New Accreditation Board Members

We are very pleased to announce that Noah Woods, Chairman, Robeson County Board of Commissioners, and Rosemary Summers, Health Director, Orange County Health Department, have agreed to serve on the Accreditation Board!
SAVE-THE-DATE:
Upcoming Webinars for Local Health Departments

Electronic Documentation Training:
Interested in learning more about how to setup and provide your accreditation documentation electronically? A training will be held on June 23rd, 2009 from 1:30-3:30pm via web conference. The training will be led by experienced local health department staff who have used this approach for their own accreditation site visit. For more information go to http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/training.htm.

Vetting of Proposed Re-Accreditation Requirements Webinar:
On May 18th, NCLHDA will conduct a vetting session to allow for comment on the requirements. The comments collected that day will be compiled, along with any other comments received, and shared during the May 20th Accreditation Liaison Committee Conference Call. The Board will accept comments until May 31st. For more information go to http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/reaccredreq.htm.

NC Local Health Department Accreditation Annual Training - Web Conference (originally presented March 24, 2009)
This training is for those local health departments planning to undergo the Accreditation process in FY 2010 and FY 2011. The purpose of this training is to provide a broad overview of the Accreditation process. What you will NOT get out of this training is detail information about what documentation or evidence will help you meet each Activity within the Health Department Self-Assessment Instrument. But hopefully, you will gain some insight into what the process entails, who is involved, and what resources are available. View the archived program.

Framework for the Re-Accreditation Process – Web Conference (originally presented April 30, 2009) During the next fiscal year (09-10), the first local health departments accredited under the activities, as set in administrative code, will be up for re-accreditation. There are elements of the process that will change as outlined in the Framework for Re-Accreditation approved last year by the Accreditation Board. This training explains the changes and expectations for departments going through re-accreditation. This training does not include discussion for the changes to documentation as the final requirements are still being reviewed. The Board tentatively plans to approve the requirements in July. To view the archived training go to http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/phab_vetting.htm.
Forty-four health departments have now been accredited! Taking a look at the map below, you will see that ALL health departments are now either accredited or have been scheduled to participate in the process. This map also shows the schedule for Re-Accreditation.