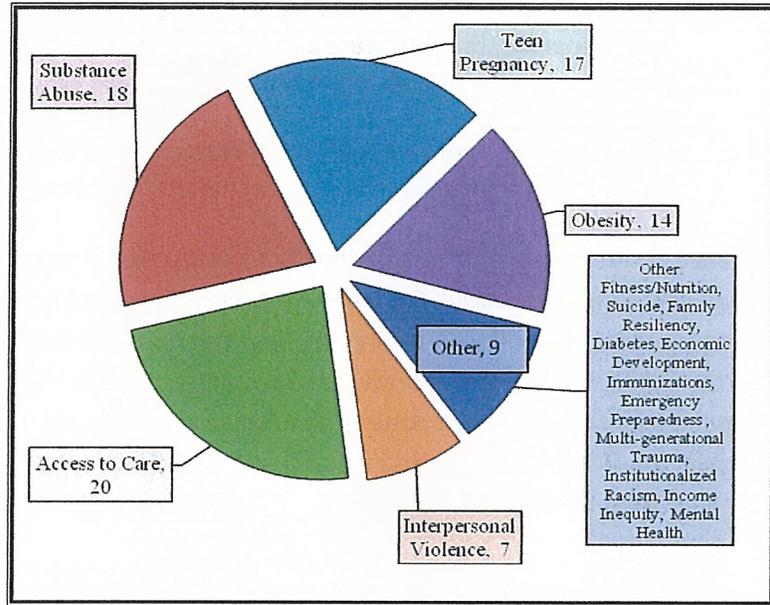


New Mexico's Community Health Councils

For over 20 years, New Mexico's county and tribal health councils have played a key role in the state's public health system. New Mexico is one of a handful of states that do not have county-based public health offices and health boards. New Mexico's county and tribal health councils (currently over 30 active councils) have played a key role in the state's public health system—mobilizing communities, identifying local health needs, and planning and coordinating solutions to address those needs.

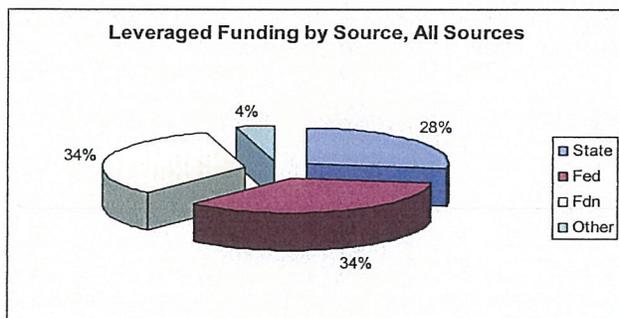
Health councils mobilize communities to address important local health problems, such as youth suicide, teen pregnancy prevention, diabetes and obesity prevention, substance abuse and mental health issues, and access to primary health care.

Health councils have produced detailed assessments of local health needs and resources, using published health data and local information. Community health assessments have been used widely by state and local government and non-profit agencies to secure funding.



Health Council Priority Areas (2010)

Health Councils have developed comprehensive, detailed, long-range plans that have guided the work of health care providers, non-profit organizations, and state, county, and city government agencies.



In 2010, the health councils were able to attract \$3.5 million in additional funding. A 2003 study found that the state's health councils (then known as Maternal & Child Health Councils) received approximately \$8.5 million over a 3-year period from the NM Dept. of Health. **In 2000-2003, Health Councils brought to their communities an additional \$27 million--\$4 for every \$1 provided by DOH in core funding.**

Evaluation: A 3-year evaluation of the health councils by the University of New Mexico found that the councils established new programs, influenced policies, develop coalitions and networks, and accomplished other outcomes leading to improved health in their communities.

(2010 data from NM Health Council Evaluation Project, Summary Evaluation Report, Sept. 16, 2010; 2003 data from Anne Hays Egan & Ron Hale, Community Health Consulting Group, March 2003)

For additional information contact: NM Alliance of Health Councils, (505) 989-7543, ronhale@aol.com

The New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils

The New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils exists to support and strengthen the state's county and tribal health councils. The health councils have provided community-based health planning and coordination in New Mexico since their creation in 1991. In early 2011, the New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils was re-established, with three goals:

- a. Establish a unified voice to strengthen and promote the value and services of community health councils, through state and local education and advocacy;
- b. Assist the health councils in seeking and obtaining funding to support community health improvement;
- c. Build the capacity of all health councils to continue and expand their work, through conferences, training workshops, a newsletter, and web-based information exchange.

Governance of the Alliance is by a *Steering Committee*, consisting of one representative from each health council, with an *Executive Committee* representing six regions (including a tribal representative) and three committees: Policy, Capacity-Building, and Resource Development. The Executive Committee conducts the ongoing business of the Alliance, while the Steering Committee meets once a year in person and quarterly by phone. The Alliance works closely with the New Mexico Health Equity Partnership, the New Mexico Department of Health, and other statewide entities, and serves as a support and communications hub for the state's health councils.

New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| • Bernalillo County | • Lea County | • Santa Fe County |
| • Catron County | • Lincoln County | • Sierra County |
| • Chaves County | • Los Alamos County | • Socorro County |
| • Cibola County | • Luna County | • Taos County |
| • Colfax County | • McKinley County | • Torrance County |
| • Curry County | • Mora County | • Union County |
| • DeBaca County | • Otero County | • Valencia County |
| • Dona Ana County | • Quay County | • Acoma Pueblo |
| • Eddy County | • Rio Arriba County | • Pueblo de Cochiti |
| • Grant County | • Roosevelt County | • San Ildefonso Pueblo |
| • Guadalupe County | • Sandoval County | • Santa Clara Pueblo |
| • Harding County | • San Juan County | • ToHajilee |
| • Hidalgo County | • San Miguel County | |

2012-2013 Co-Chairs: Dick Mason (Sandoval County); Marsha McMurray-Avila (Bernalillo County)

For more information contact:

Ron Hale, Coordinator
New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils
P.O. Box 5851
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
Telephone (505) 989-7543; Cell (505) 695-6181
e-mail: ronhale@aol.com