



Issue #100

## Public Health PBRN Review | 20 February 2012

**PBRN Grantees:** Please circulate relevant information to network members. To request additional information or make suggestions for future items, please contact the Public Health PBRN National Coordinating Center (NCC) at [publichealthpbrn@uky.edu](mailto:publichealthpbrn@uky.edu) or (859) 218-2094. Past issues are available in the [newsletter](#) archive. Our 100<sup>th</sup> issue!

### Notable PBRN Activities

- **National Health Policy Conference Examines Public Health Under Reform:** Discussion at last week's [National Health Policy Conference](#) in Washington DC focused heavily on health reform implementation issues, including several sessions devoted specifically to public health services and systems and their roles in reform. A plenary session on Monday afternoon examined the implications of the Affordable Care Act for public health, and included remarks from Arkansas state health officer and Public Health PBRN National Advisory Committee member Dr. Paul Halverson. Halverson commented that post-reform health departments may look very different from the public health agencies of today, but will likely continue to serve as “gap fillers” in assuring that the health care and public health needs of vulnerable and underserved populations. Halverson noted the need for health departments to assume expanded roles in information production and dissemination to guide the larger health system toward solutions that improve population health and reduce system costs. Other members of the panel included Chicago health commissioner Dr. Bechara Choucair, Texas BlueCross BlueShield official Dr. Eduardo Sanchez, CMS Innovation Center leader. Dr. James Hester, and Trust for America's Health director Dr. Jeff Levi who moderated the session. Of particular note, Dr. Hester stressed the need for health departments to become involved in the delivery system innovations that are being tested with CMS funding, and Dr. Sanchez mentioned the need for more applied PHSSR studies that examine the health and economic value of investments in public health strategies, citing RWJF-funded research studies as examples.

A breakfast meeting on the second day of the conference organized by AcademyHealth's Public Health Systems Research Interest Group focused squarely on PHSSR and its potential to inform policy decisions in the context of health reform. As part of this meeting, Dr. Paul Wallace from the Lewin Group discussed opportunities for realizing greater synergy between the public health and primary care components of the health system by focusing on the shared goal of population health improvement. The PBRN Coordinating Center's Glen Mays profiled various approaches for estimating the value of public health systems and services, and highlighted studies underway within the PBRNs to examine the impact of economic shocks on public health service delivery. Dr. Randy Bovbjerg of the Urban Institute examined key components of the Affordable Care Act that are expected to reshape public health delivery over the next few years, and highlighted the opportunities for research and policy development created by these components. The resulting discussion underscored the fact that the PHSSR community is in the midst of unprecedented opportunity to prove its value in informing policy decision-making concerning the current and potential roles of public health in health system reform.

- **PBRNs Generate a Flurry of Conference Presentation Submissions.** Public Health PBRNs used their emerging research findings to generate a record number of abstracts submitted for upcoming scientific and professional conferences over the past month. Abstracts and panel session proposals were submitted for the Keeneland PHSSR Conference, the AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, the AcademyHealth Public Health Systems Interest Group Meeting, the APHA Annual Meeting, the NACCHO Annual Meeting, and the American Society of Health Economists Annual Meeting. These submissions no doubt will make for a very busy summer and fall schedule of research dissemination and translation opportunities. If your network submitted an abstract based on PBRN research, please make sure to email a copy to the [PBRN Coordinating Center](#) to help us stay up to speed on your research progress.
- **Missouri PBRN Examines the Association between Voluntary Accreditation on QI culture:** At last week's monthly Public Health PBRN Virtual Meeting, Drs. Beverly Triana-Tremain and Katie Stamatakis shared findings from their comparative, mixed-method Quick Strike study of QI culture and practices among local health departments in Missouri that have undergone or refrained from participating in that state's voluntary accreditation program to date. The study's qualitative findings revealed that accredited agencies surpassed their non-accredited counterparts in some important elements of integrating QI into routine practice. However, the study's quantitative findings failed to find statistically significant differences between accredited and non-accredited agencies on available measures of QI implementation. The research calls attention to the need for more sensitive and specific measures of QI practice that can be used to evaluate the impact of accreditation and other system-level innovations. A recording of this presentation will be available on the [Public Health PBRN website](#) soon. Last month's PBRN Research-in-Process session featured two studies from the Washington PBRN – one recently completed study that analyzed local variation in responses to public health emergencies, and another study currently underway that examines the impact of a QI project to expand racial and ethnic diversity in local health department hiring practices. These sessions are also archived on the website.

### Related Developments in Research and Practice

- **Short Term Medical Spending Needs Prompt a Cut to the Prevention and Public Health Fund:** Late last week Congressional leaders announced a conference [agreement](#) that will cut \$5 billion from the \$15 billion in federal funding originally allocated for the Prevention and Public Health Fund created by the Affordable Care Act. The agreement was part of a plan to finance the “doc fix” that halts – at least for 10 months – a scheduled 27% cut to Medicare physician payments.
- **A Virtual Town Hall with the Nation's New Translational Research Leadership:** Join the leadership team of the newly created National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) at the NIH at a virtual town hall meeting to be held **Feb. 27, 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Eastern.** Moderated by *FasterCures* Executive Director Margaret Anderson, this Web event -- *NCATS: What It Is and What It Isn't* -- will address the Center's priorities and program areas, including its efforts to reduce, remove or bypass translational pipeline bottlenecks. This **free** Webinar is part of *FasterCures' Webinar* series designed to spotlight innovative approaches to disease research. [Register now; space is limited.](#) Once registered, you can [submit your questions in advance](#) for consideration.

- **PCORI Research Agenda Input:** *The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)* issued for public comment the first draft National Priorities for Research and Research Agenda. More information and the Research Agenda is [here](#). Deadline for input: 11:59 p.m. EST on March 15<sup>th</sup>:
- **A New Academic-Practice Linkage in Los Angeles:** The School of Public Health at the University of California-Los Angeles announced a new \$50 million gift to advance the school's research, teaching and service mission in public health. The source of the gift was a surprise to many – the director of the Los Angeles County Public Health Department, Dr. Jonathan Fielding, and his wife. In recognition of the gift, the largest in the school's history, the school will be renamed the UCLA Jonathan and Karin Fielding School of Public Health.

### Activities on the Horizon

- **Public Health PBRN Leader to be Featured in NIH Webinar on Systems Science:** Tuesday, February 21, 2:00 - 3:00 PM EST. According to NIH, this webinar will address: “(1) why traditional research methods are insufficient to address the complexity of biological, behavioral, economic and social factors impacting public health; (2) how systems science can be applied to study health promotion issues; (3) how systems science methodologies are currently being used in chronic disease and other major public health problems; and (4) what types of manuscripts may be submitted for a supplement on systems science of SOPHE's journal *Health Education & Behavior*, to be published with support of the following components of the at the National Institutes of Health (NIH): the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Institute on Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the Fogarty International Center (FIC).” ***Of special note, this webinar will feature the work of Dr. Bill Livingood, a leader in both the Florida and Georgia Public Health PBRNs.*** To register for this webinar, visit <https://sophe.webex.com/sophe/onstage/g.php?t=a&d=969303475> Registration password: Winter2012
- **Public Health PBRN Monthly Virtual Meeting for March.** The Public Health PBRN Monthly Virtual Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 15 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. EST. As part of the PBRN Research-in-Progress section, representatives from the Georgia Affiliate Public Health PBRN will present emerging findings from their research on multi-jurisdictional strategies for local public health delivery and quality improvement. Please [email](#) us any items you would like to be placed on the meeting agenda.
- **Public Health PBRN Quarterly Skill-Building Webinar March 23 to Focus on Sustainability.** A Public Health PBRN Quarterly Skill-Building Webinar will be held on Friday, March 23 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. EST, entitled “The Forward-Looking Network: Strategies for PBRN Sustainability.” The webinar will focus on strategies for ensuring the sustainability of your PBRN, including ways of tapping new funding sources, maintaining practitioner engagement and enthusiasm, and attracting the right mix of researchers to advance your network's research portfolio. More details on how to register will be forthcoming. Please [email](#) us your ideas on topics for future skill-building webinars.

- **Public Health PBRN Grantee Meeting at the Keeneland Conference April 16-17.** Planning is well underway for the annual grantee meeting to be held April 16-17 in Lexington KY in conjunction with the Keeneland PHSSR Conference. A separate email containing logistics, travel and registration information along with a draft agenda has been sent to the key contacts in each network. Contact the PBRN National Coordinating Center with any general questions or ideas you may have regarding the meeting.

## Research Dissemination Opportunities

- **National Network of Public Health Institutes:** Abstracts are still being accepted for the [National Network of Public Health Institutes Annual Conference](#), through March 1, 2012. The meeting will be held May 21-23, 2012 in New Orleans, Louisiana. According to the Network, “this year's theme, Leveraging Public Health Institutes for Systems Change, will explore opportunities on the horizon and currently underway, for public health systems partners to utilize the broad range of capacities of the nation's public health institutes to be a catalyst for systems change.”
- **Call for Papers on Systems Science Applications in Health Promotion and Public Health.** The journal *Health Education & Behavior* (HE&B), in collaboration with the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) at the National Institutes of Health, intends to publish a special issue of the journal devoted to the topic of systems science. This issue will showcase the application of various systems science methodologies to health promotion and public health research questions. Particular methodologies of interest include, but are not limited to: system dynamics modeling, agent - based modeling, network analysis, microsimulation, operations research, and various engineering approaches. The submission deadline is March 1, 2012. More information is [here](#).
- **Special Journal Issue on PHSSR Advances:** An upcoming issue of the *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice* will be dedicated to advances in PHSSR, with a special focus on approaches for translating findings to policy and practice audiences. The issue, tentatively titled, “The Science of Public Health Practice: Advances in PHSSR” is being guest-edited by the PBRN Coordinating Center’s Glen Mays and the National Coordinating Center for PHSSR’s Doug Scutchfield. Invited manuscripts are due on March 1 2012, with a final publication date of November 2012 to be released in conjunction with next year’s APHA Annual Meeting. Research manuscripts already have been invited from PBRN authors who have expressed an interest in this opportunity, but if you would like to discuss an idea or require assistance in developing your manuscript please contact the [PBRN Coordinating Center](#).
- **The Public Health RE•ACT Podcast:** As more PBRN research projects are bearing fruit, the Public Health PBRN Program is developing a new vehicle for rapidly disseminating key findings and practice implications from this research to key audiences, tentatively called the ***Public Health Research-to-Action (RE•ACT) Podcast***. Through this vehicle, the program will produce a series of fast and timely podcast interviews with PBRN networks as they are completing research projects, focusing squarely on the implications of the research for public health practice and policy decisions. NAC member and Arkansas secretary of health Dr. Paul Halverson has agreed to host this series of approximately 3-minute conversations with PBRN leaders about their research projects. Dr. Halverson will serve as an interviewer and provocateur

for these sessions, driven by a few targeted questions asked by a sitting state health official. With Dr. Halverson leading the conversation, we can be sure that these sessions will emphasize brevity, clarity, and relevance to real-world public health practice and policy, particularly at state and local levels. We will disseminate the podcasts through a variety of channels, including the PBRN website, the PHSSR Youtube channel, and partnerships with key public health professional organizations. *We are soliciting and scheduling topics for REACT Podcasts now – please let us know as soon as you have emerging findings from your network’s research that are ready for dissemination. Contact the [Coordinating Center](#) with your ideas about this opportunity.*

## Resources in Research and Practice

### WEBINARS

- **Skill-Building Opportunities for PBRNs:** A new set of on-demand methods webinars are making available free of charge to PBRNs for a limited time only – through February 2012. The following webinars are now available from AcademyHealth – contact the [Coordinating Center](#) for information on how to access these sessions free of charge as a PBRN participant:
  1. **Analysis of Social Networks (parts 2 and 3).** These sessions, from a three-part webinar series taught by Dr. Robert A Hanneman from the University of California, Riverside, will address ways in which the network perspective can inform common types of health services research. Practical guidance on the common statistical software for analyzing networks will be covered, in addition to advanced concepts that are useful for developing strategies to implement change in networks.
  2. **Give Your Research a Voice: Social Media Dissemination and Knowledge.** Participants will learn how researchers can use social media to communicate their research to stakeholders—primarily policymakers and media. Austin Frakt, researcher and founder of The Incidental Economist blog, discusses the potential of blogging for dissemination and knowledge transfer. Participants will gain insight into the influence of health policy blogging, along with the pros and cons of using it as a dissemination strategy. Lou Rossiter, professor at The College of William & Mary, provides the policymaker perspective on the challenges of finding the information in a timely manner. He will share his insight on the role of social media and offer advice on how researchers can stand out in the crowd.
  3. **Innovations in Health Surveys.** Panelists from the Innovations in Health Services section at the 2011 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting (ARM) highlight their innovative methods in regard to survey research. As modern technology provides new challenges and opportunities to research subjects and access data, the panelists speak on issues such as probability sampling, mixed methods, and research to impact practice in a health care setting. Panelists include Jordon Peugh, Knowledge Networks; Trent Buskirk, St. Louis University School of Public Health; Charles DiSogra, Knowledge Networks; and Sara Singer of the Harvard School of Public Health.

➤ **NIH Resources on Systems Science.** NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research continues to amass a treasure trove of resources for researchers seeking to understand and use systems science approaches in their work. Among these resources are:

1. Annual Institute on Systems Science and Health (ISSH). There is a call for applications each fall (mid-December) and a weeklong spring/summer course each year. To view ISSH materials from prior years, please click [here](#). The 2012 application site is not accepting applications just yet.
2. The archives for the wildly popular 2007 Symposia Series on System Science and Health sponsored by the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other components of NIH is available. Resources include: Systems Methodologies for Solving Real-World Problems: Applications in Public Health <http://videocast.nih.gov/launch.asp?13712>; Network Analysis: Using Connections and Structures to Understand and Change Health Behaviors, <http://videocast.nih.gov/launch.asp?13878> ; Agent Based Modeling: Population Health from the Bottom Up, <http://videocast.nih.gov/launch.asp?13931> ; System Dynamics Modeling: Population Flows, Feedback Loops and Health, <http://videocast.nih.gov/launch.asp?14005>
3. The BSSR Lecture Series, including “Harnessing Systems Science Methodologies To Inform Public Policy: System Dynamics Modeling For Obesity Policy In The Envision Network” <http://videocast.nih.gov/launch.asp?16756>

And don't forget the wonderful NIH funding opportunities available to support health research that uses system science methodologies. See the PBRN funding opportunities list archive below.

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ **Applications Accepted for NIH Training Institute on Dissemination and Implementation Research.** NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research offers a free 5-day training institute to provide participants with a thorough grounding in conducting dissemination and implementation research in health. Faculty and guest lecturers will consist of leading experts (practitioners and teachers) in theory, implementation and evaluation approaches to D&I, creating partnerships and multi-level transdisciplinary research teams, research design, methods and analyses appropriate for D&I investigations and conducting research at different and multiple levels of intervention (e.g., clinical, community, policy). More information and application instructions are [here](#).

## REPORTS, BRIEFS AND PUBLICATIONS

➤ **Opportunities in Austerity.** An editorial appearing earlier this month in the [New England Journal of Medicine](#) outlines new roles that public health agencies could undertake in collaboration with colleagues in medicine and health care systems to reduce costs and improve population health under health reform.

The authors identify some compelling ideas that are perhaps ripe for testing using federal dollars currently available for delivery system innovation projects.

- **Missed Opportunities in Public Health Law.** A recent editorial in The [Lancet](#) asks, “so why is it that the public health community... places negligible emphasis on collection, analysis, and making greater use of the world's public health laws?” The authors point out that opportunities for research and evidence-based practice abound at the intersection of law and public health.
- **Article Examines Accreditation Beta Test and National Launch:** A new paper available early online from [AJPH](#) profiles the beta testing experience and national launch of the PHAB national voluntary accreditation program for state and local public health agencies. The paper concludes that the launch has significant potential for driving continuous quality improvement across the nation’s governmental public health infrastructure.
- **Systematic Review of Collaboration and Network Research:** Another new paper available early online from [AJPH](#) provides a systematic review of the literature on collaboration and network analysis in the public affairs literature, and examines the implications for research and practice in public health. The paper identifies a number of concepts and methods that are ripe for translation and application in public health settings, and elucidates three findings from the public affairs literature that need to be explored more fully in public health: “network structure affects governance, management strategies exist for administrators, and collaboration can be linked to outcomes.”

## CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

- **Public Health Preparedness Summit.** [PHP Summit](#) in Anaheim, February 21-24, 2012
- **NIH Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health.** March 19-20, Bethesda, MD. More information [here](#).
- **Inaugural National Health Impact Assessment Meeting.** Washington, DC April 3-4, 2012. More information [here](#).
- **Annual Public Health PBRN Grantee Meeting.** Lexington, KY April 16-17, 2012. In conjunction with the Keeneland Conference.
- **Annual Public Health PBRN National Advisory Committee Meeting.** Lexington, KY April 17, 2012. In conjunction with the Keeneland Conference.
- Keeneland Conference on PHSSR. Lexington, KY, **April 17-19, 2012. Keeneland Conference**
- [National Network of Public Health Institutes Annual Conference.](#) The meeting will be held May 21-23, 2012 in New Orleans, Louisiana
- **4<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the American Society of Health Economists.** June 10-13, 2012. Hosted by the University of Minnesota. More information [here](#).

- **AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting.** Orlando FL on June 24-26. [More](#) information.
- **NACCHO Annual Meeting.** Los Angeles, CA July 11-13, 2012. [More](#) information.
- **APHA Annual Meeting.** San Francisco, October 27-31, 2012. [More](#) information.

## Funding Opportunities and Announcements

The NCC maintains a [list of funding opportunities](#) of interest to its networks. Grant opportunities with recurring deadlines are tracked and updated.

### NEW LISTINGS

- **Funding for Natural Experiments in Public Health Services & Systems.** The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation recently announced the availability of funds to support research on natural experiments in public health through the call for [Public Health Services and Systems Research: Building Evidence for Decision-Making](#). Application Deadline: March 27, 2012 3:00 PM EDT. See the call for proposals for information on the applicant webinar and letters of intent to apply.
- **Funding for Public Health Law Research.** The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation recently announced the availability of funds to support research on law and public health through the call for [Public Health Law Research: Making the Case for Laws That Improve Health](#). Application Deadline: **April 4, 2012** 3:00 PM EDT. See the call for proposals for information on the applicant webinar and letters of intent to apply.
- **PBRN Quick Strike Research Projects:** The Public Health PBRN Coordinating Center will solicit, select, and coordinate the implementation of up to four Quick Strike Research Fund (QSRF) research projects to be carried out by primary and affiliate members of the Public Health PBRN Program during the 2011-2012 program year. Projects must address time-sensitive research questions based on emerging information needs in public health practice and policy; must have a high probability of leading to subsequent, larger-scale studies; and must be feasible for completion with a limited budget of up to \$25,000 in total costs and within 3-6 months. These projects will be funded through a subcontract to each awardee to expedite initiation of the research. Grantees will be expected to disseminate practice-relevant findings rapidly through the new rapid-release publication *Frontiers in Public Health Services and Systems Research* and other vehicles, and will be expected translate findings into practice improvements through the development of webinars, training sessions, and decision tools for use by practitioners and policy analysts.

Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis until all awards have been given or until a final deadline of August 31 2012 has been reached. PBRN networks should submit a brief proposal of no more than four single-paged pages (one-inch margins, 11 point Arial font) by emailing their proposal as an attachment in PDF format to [publichealthPBRN@uky.edu](mailto:publichealthPBRN@uky.edu) with "QSRF Proposal" indicated in the subject line. The proposal must include: (A) a description of the rationale and specific aims for the proposed project; (B) a summary of the research design, data and analytic methods to be used; (C) a description of the practice settings involved in the research and how they will be engaged in the design, implementation, and translation of the research; and (D) a brief summary of the roles and qualifications of key personnel.

Proposals will be reviewed by Coordinating Center staff and members of the Public Health PBRN National Advisory Committee (NAC) using the following selection criteria: (1) the importance of the topic in terms of its ability to inform public health practice and/or policy; (2) time-sensitivity of the research opportunity; (3) feasibility of the project given budget and time constraints and expertise of network; (4) strength of mechanisms for engaging practice settings in the study and its translation; and (5) potential for the study to lead to subsequent, larger-scale funded research. Additionally, for PBRN networks that have received prior QSRF awards, reviewers will consider the past performance of the network in publishing and disseminating results from prior QSRF projects and in pursuing subsequent larger-scale studies. Based on the proposal reviews, successful applicants will be asked to submit a project budget and additional materials required for award processing.

## OTHER LISTINGS

- **NSF Solicits Interdisciplinary Research Across Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences:** The NSF released a “dear colleague” letter this month encouraging research proposals that pursue solutions to important social problems using approaches that cut across the social, behavioral and economic sciences. The announcement states, “innovative partnerships and research collaborations that allow diverse individuals to work together in synergistic ways are especially encouraged. We also encourage projects that *include beginning researchers* as team members and, when appropriate, develop international partnerships. Finally, applicants are encouraged to consider the cross-cutting Research Coordination Networks solicitation (11-531), which supports *networking activities*, not research per se, so that *groups of investigators can communicate and coordinate their research, training and educational activities across disciplinary, organizational, geographic and international boundaries*. Proposals that come through the RCN solicitation are also eligible for supplemental funding through SMA.” More information [here](#).
- **National Institute for Nursing Research to fund studies of “Mobile Health” applications.** The purpose of this initiative issued by the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) and the Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) is to stimulate research utilizing Mobile Health (mHealth) tools aimed at the improvement of effective patient–provider communication, adherence to treatment, self-management and prevention of chronic diseases in underserved populations. With the rapid expansion of cellular networks and substantial advancements in Smartphone technologies, mHealth tools may facilitate more timely and effective patient-provider communication through education communication around goal setting, treatment reminders, feedback on patient progress and may improve health outcomes. *Public health agencies in some areas are becoming involved in the development and deployment of these technologies for prevention, active surveillance, and disease control.* This announcement encourages the development, testing and comparative effective analysis of interventions utilizing mHealth technologies in underserved populations. More information [here](#).
- **New NSF Program on Smart Health and Wellbeing:** This new funding opportunity “seeks to address fundamental technical and scientific issues that would support much needed transformation of healthcare from reactive and hospital-centered to preventive, proactive, evidence-based, person-centered and focused on wellbeing rather than disease. The issues to be addressed include, but are not limited to, sensor technology, networking, information and machine learning technology, modeling cognitive processes, system and process modeling, and social and economic issues.” Full Proposal Deadline(s):

February 06, 2012 Type I: Exploratory Projects (EXP) February 21, 2012 Type II: Integrative Projects (INT Full announcement [here](#)).

- **NIH Systems Science and Health Research.** Proposals are being solicited from multiple NIH institutes for R01 behavioral and social science research projects, both basic and applied, that use methods of systems science (e.g. network analysis, agent-based modeling, etc) to understand complex processes that affect human health. Includes an interest in studies that elucidate the relationships between health service delivery processes and health outcomes across the entire system of care, multi-level effects of health promotion and disease prevention interventions, and mechanisms underlying health disparities. Details available in the [FOA](#) and standard application dates for R01s apply.
- [NIH: Translational Research for the Prevention and Control of Diabetes and Obesity](#) Expiration Date: March 2, 2012
- [NIH: Building System Capacity for Implementing Evidence-Based Practices in Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention](#) Expiration Date: May 7, 2012
- [NIH: Community-Based Partnerships for Childhood Obesity Prevention and Control: Research Inform Policy](#) Expiration date: May 8, 2012
- [NIH: Social Network Analysis and Health \(R01\)](#) Closing Date: May 11, 2012
- [NIH: Climate Change and Health: Assessing and Modeling Population Vulnerability to Climate Change \(R21\)](#) Closing Date: May 24, 2012
- [NIH: Improving Diet and Physical Activity Assessment \(R01\)](#) Expiration Date: July 6, 2012
- [NIH: Obesity Policy Research: Evaluation and Measures \(R21\)](#) Closing Date: January 7, 2013
- [NIH: Interventions for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Native American Populations \(R01\)](#) Closing Date: May 15, 2014

### **Grants Administration Corner**

- **Remember to Route All Questions on Grant Budgeting, Reporting, and Administration to the PBRN Coordinating Center:** The PBRN National Coordinating Center is your one-stop source for information and assistance on the administrative aspects of your Public Health PBRN grants, including budgeting, expenditures, subcontracts, and reporting. Please make sure that you send your network's questions to the Coordinating Center (email [publichealthPBRN@uky.edu](mailto:publichealthPBRN@uky.edu) or telephone **(859) 218-2094**) to ensure the fastest response. All requests for no-cost extensions, budget modifications, and other changes regarding your network's Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Public Health PBRN grants must be submitted to and reviewed by the PBRN National Coordinating Center before they can be considered by the Foundation.
- **Remember to Route all PBRN Grant Reports and Products to the Coordinating Center and the Foundation:** Your network's narrative and financial reports should be submitted

electronically to the PBRN National Coordinating Center and to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation following the Foundation's reporting guidelines. All products from your network should be submitted electronically as well, as soon as they are completed. Remember to follow these reporting guidelines:

RWJF guidelines for annual and final narrative reports & bibliography:

[http://www.rwjf.org/files/publications/RWJF\\_GranteeReportingInstructions.pdf](http://www.rwjf.org/files/publications/RWJF_GranteeReportingInstructions.pdf)

RWJF guidelines for financial reports:

[http://www.rwjf.org/files/publications/RWJF\\_FinancialGuidelinesReporting.pdf](http://www.rwjf.org/files/publications/RWJF_FinancialGuidelinesReporting.pdf)

RWJF guidelines for electronic submission of grant products and reports

[www.rwjf.org/files/publications/RWJF\\_ElectronicSubmissions.pdf](http://www.rwjf.org/files/publications/RWJF_ElectronicSubmissions.pdf)

### **Key Dates for Public Health PBRNs**

<b>Mar 15, 2012</b>	Monthly Public Health PBRN Virtual Meeting   1:00-2:30PM EST
<b>Mar 23, 2012</b>	Quarterly Public Health PBRN Webinar: Strategies for Growth and Sustainability   1:00-2:30PM EST
<b>Apr 16-17, 2012</b>	Public Health PBRN Grantee Meeting and National Advisory Committee Meeting at the Keeneland Conference. Lexington, KY
<b>Apr 17-19, 2012</b>	Keeneland Conference on Public Health Services and Systems Research. Lexington, KY

