

Improving the Health of Your Community: Illinois Project for Local Assessment of Needs (IPLAN)

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What is IPLAN?

- **A community health assessment and planning process--**
 - conducted by local health jurisdictions in Illinois as part of the certification process
 - grounded in the core functions of public health
 - addresses public health practice standards



The IPLAN Process



Community Participation

- **Involvement by representatives of various community interests and groups such as:**
 - Medical Community
 - Mental Health and Social Services Agencies
 - Schools
 - Law Enforcement
 - Voluntary Organizations
 - **Cooperative Extension Service**
 - **Farm Bureau**
 - Business Community
 - Clergy
 - Economic Development Agencies



Community Team:

- **Conducts a community health needs assessment**
- **Identifies priority health problems from the findings of the health needs assessment**
- **Analyzes health risk factors and community resources available to address problems**
- **Establishes measurable health objectives and intervention strategies to correct problems**
- **Submits the plan for adoption by the local board of health**
- **Approved plan submitted to Department of Public Health as part of re-certification requirement**



IPLAN Data System

- Indicators:
 - demographic and socioeconomic characteristics
 - general health and access to care
 - maternal and child health
 - chronic disease
 - infectious disease
 - environmental, occupational, and injury control
 - sentinel events





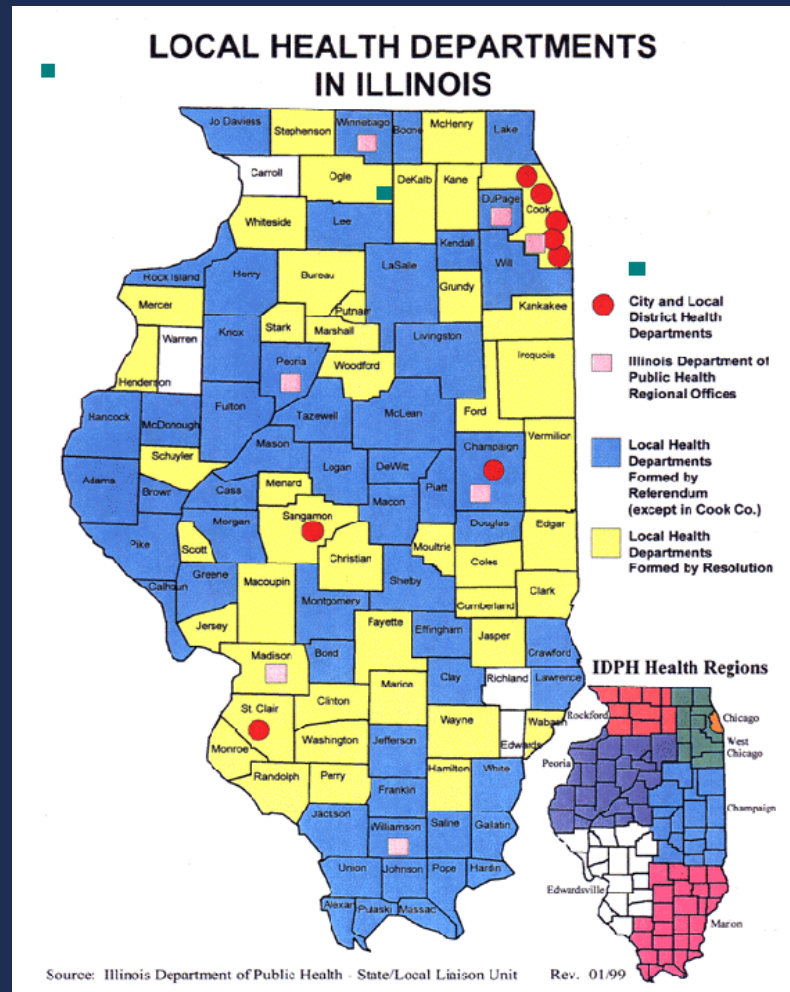
Sharing Health Assessment Results Electronically- **SHARE**

A searchable database, embedded in the IPLAN Data System, to identify and link communities that have selected particular health priorities.

- Health Department Contact Information
- Health Priorities, Rounds 1 and 2
- Outcome Objectives
- Impact Objectives
- Intervention Strategies



Local Health Departments



SHARE - Applications






- **State wide policy:**

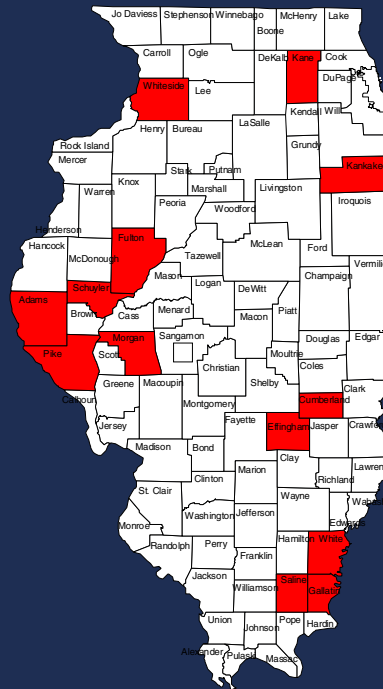
- Bringing together jurisdictions that have identified priorities related to farm safety and/or rural health
- Forming coalitions to address identified problems



SHARE - Applications

Local Public Health Jurisdictions With Access- Related Priorities

-  Lack of Health Insurance a Priority
-  Lack of Health Insurance a Factor Related to a Health Status Priority
-  Lack of Health Insurance a Priority *and* a Factor Related to a Health Status Priority



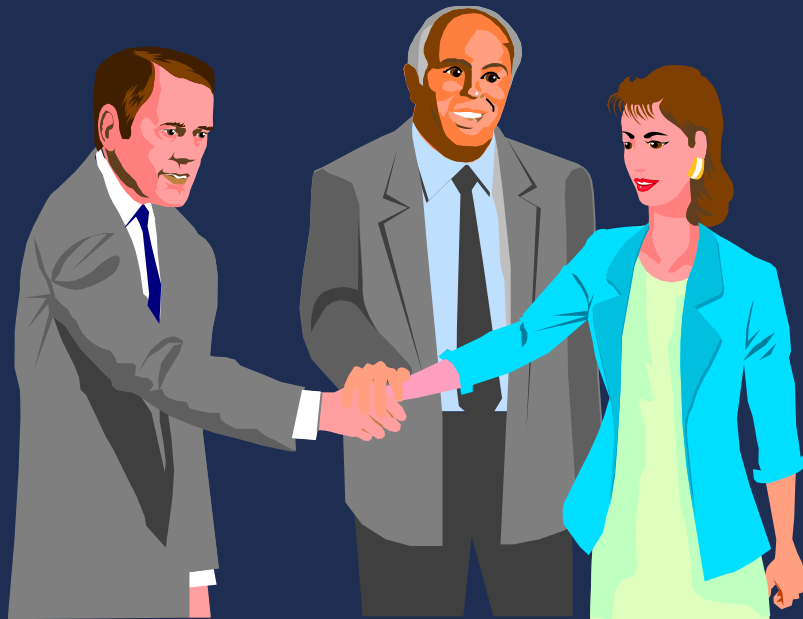
Source: IDPH, Division of Health Policy, IPLAN Round 2, 2000

● Statewide policy:

- Identifying jurisdictions with similar concerns, e.g., adolescent health, tobacco-related illness
- Identifying local participants for focus group research on uninsuredness (HRSA grant)



SHARE - Applications



- **Local connections:**

- Enhancing capacity by linking jurisdictions with similar issues to share successes and lessons learned

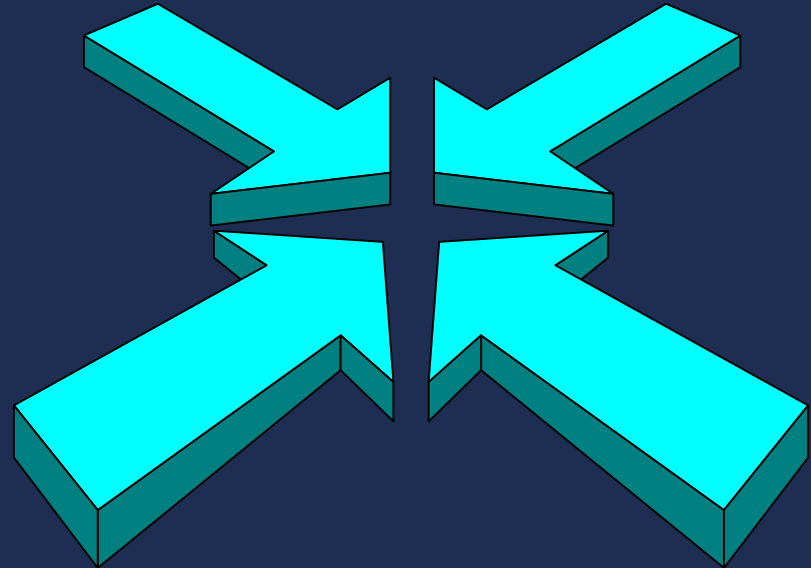
- **Technical assistance:**

- Identifying local jurisdictions with similar priorities in order to link with state program experts



SHARE - Potential Impacts

- Improved statewide health assessment, with a foundation in local priorities
- Stronger message to policymakers regarding local priorities and statewide patterns
- Improved technical assistance and evolution towards best practices





**What is the most powerful tool
in shaping public policy?**

YOU



IPLAN/SHARE Web Site

- <http://app.idph.state.il.us/>
- For more information call:
- Illinois Department of Public Health
Division of Health Policy
217-782-6235

