



System Capacity for Adolescent Health: Public Health Improvement Tool

A collaborative project of the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs and the State Adolescent Health Coordinators Network with support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Cross Walking the 10 Essential Public Health Services

Another important foundation of the System Capacity for Adolescent Health: Public Health Improvement Tool are the 10 Essential Public Health Services to Promote Adolescent Health¹, adapted from the *Public MCH Program Functions Framework: Essential Public Health Services to Promote Maternal and Child Health in America*.^{2,3}

While not arranged by essential services, this tool emphasizes the systems necessary to promote adolescent health. In doing so, this tool recognizes the need to emphasize essential services differently for adolescent health than the general public. For quick reference, the table below demonstrates how each Essential Public Health represents a system capacity area in this tool.

Essential Public Health Service	System Capacity Area
1. Monitoring and assessing adolescent health status to identify and address adolescent needs, as well as opportunities for health promotion.	Surveillance & Data Policy & Advocacy Planning & Evaluation
2. Diagnosing and investigating health problems and hazards, as well as related individual, family and community risk and resiliency factors, affecting adolescents.	Surveillance & Data
3. Informing and educating families, youth and the general public about adolescent health and development issues.	Partnerships Technical Assistance
4. Mobilizing community partnerships among policy makers, health care providers, youth, families, the general public and others to identify and address adolescent health issues.	Partnerships Technical Assistance Policy & Advocacy
5. Providing leadership for priority-setting, planning and policy development to support community efforts that promote and maximize the health of adolescents.	Commitment Partnerships Planning & Evaluation Technical Assistance Policy & Advocacy
6. Promoting and enforcing legal requirements that promote and protect the health and safety of youth and ensure public accountability for their well-being.	Policy & Advocacy Planning & Evaluation
7. Linking youth and their families to health and other community services and assuring access to comprehensive, quality systems of preventive, primary and specialty care.	Partnerships Technical Assistance Planning & Evaluation Policy & Advocacy
8. Assuring the capacity and competency of the public health and personal health workforce to effectively address adolescent health, developmental needs and the needs of individuals with disabilities.	Commitment Technical Assistance
9. Evaluating the accessibility, quality and effectiveness of personal and population-based adolescent health services for youth with the full range of typical and special needs.	Planning & Evaluation Surveillance & Data
10. Supporting research, demonstrations and related evaluations that develop new insights and approaches to promoting and addressing adolescent health and development.	Planning & Evaluation Surveillance & Data Partnerships

Endnotes

(1) Growing Absolutely Fantastic Youth Newsletter. (2002). *The public health way*. State Adolescent Health Resource Center/Konopka Institute, University of Minnesota.

(2) Ameratunga, SN, Grason, H, Guyer, B. (1997) The Public MCH Program Functions Framework: the adolescent health perspective. *Adolescent Health Grantees Report*, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Bethesda, MD.

(3) Grason, H, Guyer, B (1995) Public MCH Program Functions Framework: Essential Public Health Services to Promote Maternal and Child Health in America, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Bethesda, MD.