



## COUNCIL ON LINKAGES BETWEEN ACADEMIA AND PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

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### *Public Health Systems Research Work Group Discussion*

#### Background

The mission of the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice (Council) is to improve public health practice and education by fostering, coordinating, and monitoring links between academia and the public health and healthcare community, developing and advancing innovative strategies to build and strengthen public health infrastructure, and creating a process for continuing public health education throughout one's career. One way to help achieve this mission is by advancing the Council's Objective number ten, to promote collaborative research to advance the field of Public Health Systems Research (PHSR) and build the evidence base for public health practice. The Council wishes to accomplish this by:

- 1) Providing leadership and coordination to the process of establishing a comprehensive and coordinated PHSR agenda;
- 2) Periodically assessing the PHSR agenda-setting process to ensure that information gaps continue being identified and research activities continue being coordinated;
- 3) Ensuring the development of Centers of Excellence and PHSR fellowships;
- 4) Establishing and maintaining a PHSR Leadership Forum to help build political support and ensure resources for the advancement of PHSR;
- 5) Seeking to sponsor or co-sponsor, with other academic and practice organizations, an annual PHSR meeting; and
- 6) Documenting and developing models of collaborative research involving the public health academic and practice communities.

Over the course of the last few years, in particular, the Council has been very active in promoting the need for PHSR. Thanks to the hard work of Council members, the organizations they represent and other public health systems partners such as AcademyHealth, a lot has been accomplished including: 1) an annual PHSR Affiliate meeting with partial support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was established as part of AcademyHealth's annual research meeting; 2) three national research agenda efforts in public health systems research, workforce, and rural health; 3) the National PHSR Leadership Forum was convened for a third consecutive year in 2003; and 4) discussions have taken place about the Prevention Research Centers serving as "Centers of Excellence" in PHSR.

#### Purpose of the PHSR Workgroup Discussion

The purpose of this work group session is to: 1) discuss current and potential Council activities to advance PHSR; 2) identify the top three PHSR priorities for Council action over the next 1-2 years; 3) identify key Council member organizations that can be influential in helping the Council secure funding for, and achieve, the identified PHSR priorities; 4) develop strategies for Council members to engage their respective organizational leadership to move these priorities forward; and 5) nominate next steps.

### Deliverables

The overarching goal for this work group is to nominate up to three PHSR priorities for Council action over the course of the next 1-2 years and to identify Council members and organizations necessary to help achieve the desired outcomes.

### Workgroup preparation

Please find enclosed in this section of the notebook the following materials to assist you prepare for the PHSR workgroup discussion:

- National PHSR Leadership Forum Summary
- Determining PHSR Priority Activities (Includes instructions to assign priorities to current and potential Council PHSR activities)