

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) supported the Advanced Practice Centers (APC) from 1999 to 2012. The APC has been a credible source for free public health preparedness products that can be easily implemented by any local health department (LHD), as the products were created *by* LHDs *for* LHDs. Today, there is a legacy of more than 100 APC Products that build capacity, saving health departments time, resources and money by providing proven solutions and world class ideas that are ready for implementation.

CASE STUDY

The Multnomah County Advanced Practice Center based in Portland, OR is part of the Multnomah County Health Department. As an APC, it specializes in developing products that support workforce development related to public health preparedness and emergency response.

EXEMPLARY APC PRODUCT

Point of Dispensing (POD) Leadership Training

<http://apc.naccho.org/products>

Developed in 2012, the *Point of Dispensing (POD) Leadership Training* is a resource from the Multnomah County APC designed to increase the capacity of local health departments to respond to a public health incident. The training is targeted to those who serve in leadership positions within an Incident Command System (ICS) during a mass prophylaxis/point of dispensing (POD) operation. The turnkey and customizable, five-unit training includes an Instructor's Manual, a PowerPoint presentation with embedded videos, activity recommendations for each unit, participant handouts for each unit, and pre- and post- test evaluation forms.

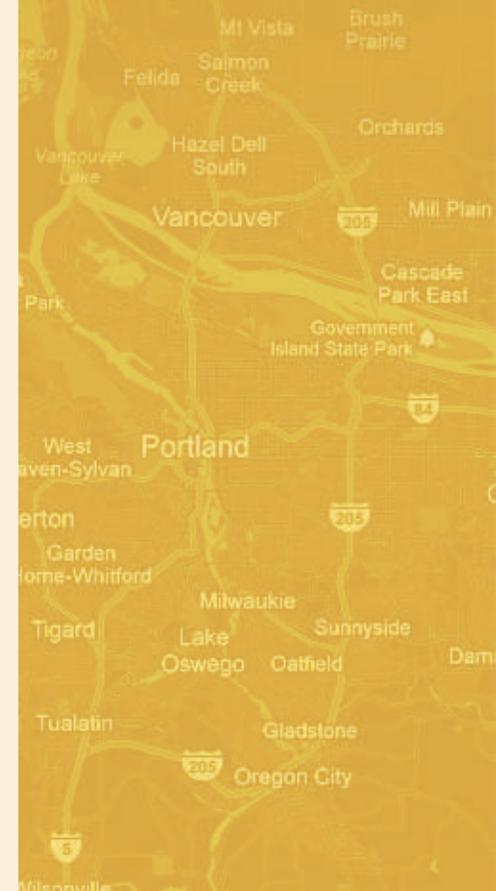
Notable Feature: The activity recommendations are actionable and meaningful. For example, related to mental health concerns, the training proposes real world scenarios where members of the public display heightened mental anxiety, and the participants are required to discuss and plan for successful outcomes.

PHEP Capability Supported by this APC Product:

Capability 8: Medical Countermeasure Dispensing



THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY ADVANCED PRACTICE CENTER



APC PRODUCT IN PRACTICE

In 2012, the **Elkhart County Health Department** in Indiana, which serves an estimated population of 200,000 and has approximately 100 employees, worked with the Multnomah County APC to implement the Point of Dispensing (POD) Leadership Training. Elkhart County's public health nurses had already been through basic POD, National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS) trainings. The Health Department viewed the POD Leadership Training resources as a valuable opportunity to engage their leadership staff in a next-level training. In total, twenty-three nurses participated. Whitney Pierle, Public Health Coordinator for Elkhart County Health Department, led the project and facilitated the training.



PROVIDED A HIGH QUALITY SOLUTION

Ms. Pierle shared, "The *POD Leadership Training* is extremely comprehensive. It offers so much more than just a curriculum. The Instructor's Guide is fantastic and includes discussion questions and side notes – it really is completely turnkey and very thorough. For example, our county has a large Amish population which presents unique considerations, for instance parking. This training even brought forward matters like that for discussion."



EASY TO USE

"The training's PowerPoint tool in particular is very user-friendly. It includes customization notes that are simple to follow, and the slides themselves are easy to tailor," confirmed Ms. Pierle. "The training materials also include straightforward recommendations for interactive activities that are easy to lead and very outcome driven. The *Guess the Position* and *Characteristics of a POD Leader* activities are especially great for generating discussion that is actionable and meaningful."



SAVED RESOURCES

"Using this APC training saved both time and resources - The heavy lifting was already done, and it was well packaged. I focused on the minor tweaks for local customization, but the research, building of the PowerPoint slides, and the development of activities was complete," said Ms. Pierle.



INCLUDED CONSULTATIVE SUPPORT FROM APC STAFF

Ms. Pierle confirmed, "The Multnomah County APC staff were great at helping me with the modifications to meet my county's needs. I appreciated their availability for ongoing consultation."



ACHIEVED RESULTS

"Overall, I am thankful for what this training was able to inspire in our nursing leadership," said Ms. Pierle. "In fact, it motivated our staff. As a result of this training they requested I organize a follow-up exercise that was just shy of a full scale functional event. Between the training and the exercise, we are now set up for alignment with the CDC's PHEP capability #8, and also with our state-level objectives. This was a great benefit."