NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Community Health Centers

Important Content Note:

This technical assistance resource was developed prior to the August 2017 release of the Health Center Compliance Manual by the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC). The BPHC Compliance Manual, issued August 2017, indicates where PINS, PALs and other program guidance are now superseded or subsumed by the BPHC Compliance Manual.

See: https://bphc.hrsa.gov/programrequirements/pdf/healthcentercompliancemanual.pdf

Catalog of Community Health Needs Assessment Tools and Resources

June 2015

Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is the process of identifying and prioritizing community health needs. Conducting a CHNA involves the collection and analysis of community data, with input from community stakeholders as an essential component of this process. A completed CHNA report can inform strategies and plans for addressing the identified community health priorities. Ultimately, the goal of conducting a CHNA is to understand the health needs of a community in order to take appropriate actions to improve the community's health.

A recent upsurge of interest in community-led health improvement has led to a proliferation of toolkits and resources intended to aid in the CHNA process. This movement is driven in part by an Affordable Care Act requirement that non-profit hospital organizations must now conduct CHNAs. Several of the available CHNA guides are targeted toward these non-profit hospital organizations. However, many CHNA tools and resources have also been developed for use by a variety of individuals and organizations including community health centers, community-based organizations, public health departments, practitioners, policymakers, community leaders, residents, and others interested in improving the health of a community. Additionally, many of the concepts, methods, and guidelines within each tool or resource overlap and/or can be applied by a variety of organizations or individuals. With so many materials available, we found it necessary to create a catalog to understand what tools and resources are already available in an attempt to prevent further duplication.

This catalog provides a thorough list of the available tools and resources for conducting a CHNA, including a brief description, a link to the resource, a list of notable features, the target audience, examples of use, and the cost to access the resource. The first section lists the most comprehensive CHNA toolkits that are available, including step-by-step instructions and methods for data collection. The second section includes CHNA frameworks and guidelines that outline important concepts and elements of the CHNA process, but do not have instructions for going through the process. The third section contains data resources that communities can use to find different sets of data at the local level, but these resources lack instructions for fitting these data into a CHNA. The fourth section contains materials that were developed for specific states, some of which can be generalized to other states or communities and some of which cannot. While we have attempted to include all tools available for CHNAs, there are inevitably some we have missed.

Ultimately, we hope this guide will help CHNA leaders choose the tools and resources that best fit their community's needs, characteristics, and goals.

1. Comprehensive CHNA Toolkits with Step-by-Step Instructions and Methods for Collecting Data

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Association for Community Health Improvement (ACHI): Community Health Assessment Toolkit	A guide for planning, leading and using community health needs assessments to better understand -- and ultimately improve -- the health of communities. It presents a suggested assessment framework from beginning to end in six steps, and provides practical guidance drawn from experienced professionals and a variety of proven tools.	http://www.assesstoolkit.org *Only available to ACHI members	Detailed steps for a typical health assessment process, including but not limited to data collection Step summaries with task checklists, budget and timeline guides, and lists of skills needed for an effective assessment Case examples and resource links that provide practical guidance based on experience at every step	Hospitals and health systems Health coalitions and partnerships "Healthy communities" organizations Community health centers Local health foundations Public health departments	Complete a thorough review of a community's health status and unmet needs Collect valuable information to help target community benefit programs Complete required community health needs assessments and create implementation strategies Create or strengthen partnerships among community organizations with shared accountability for the population's health	ACHI membership required Annual fees: student/ retiree: $55 employer's budget < 5 million: $135 employer's budget > 5 million: $235 Group Rate 2 or more People $ 215.00 Retired(ret) $ 55.00
CDC: Community Health Assessment and Group Evaluation (CHANGE)	A data-collection tool that helps community teams to develop their community action plan. This tool walks community team members through the assessment process and helps define and prioritize possible areas of improvement.	http://www.cdc.gov/healthycommunitiesprogram/tools/change/downloads.htm	Allows community team members to track progress across a five-point scale, so changes can be noted Team members can document the community-level changes as problem areas are identified, health-related policies are implemented, and systems and environmental change strategies are put in place	Any community member interested in making their community a healthy community	Create sustainable, community-based improvements that address the root causes of chronic diseases and related risk factors Can be used annually to assess current policy, systems, and environmental change strategies and offer new priorities for future efforts	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Kaiser Permanente: CHNA Toolkit	A series of three toolkits that make up a systematic CHNA process, involving the community to identify and analyze community health needs and assets.	Part 1: http://www.chna.org/kp/Toolkit/Toolkit%20Part%20One%20FINAL_v.Aug2012.pdf Part 2: http://www.chna.org/kp/Toolkit/Toolkit%20Part%20Two_Final.pdf *Part 3 is not yet available, should be in a few months	Includes guidelines for collecting data, prioritizing health needs, and developing an implementation strategy	Kaiser Permanente Hospitals	Use by Kaiser Permanente Hospitals for conducting their 2013 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)	Free to the public
National Center for Rural Health Works: CHNA Toolkit	A relatively quick, non-intensive process to complete the IRS requirement for rural hospitals. The process is designed to be conducted through three community meetings.	http://ruralhealthworks.org/wp-content/files/2-CHNA-Toolkit-Text-and-All-Appendices-May-2012.pdf	All data sources and materials for implementation are included Additional assistance available from the National Center for Rural Health Works Additional online resources available from www.ruralhealthworks.org	State level professionals: -State offices of rural health -State hospital associations -State cooperative extension agencies -Health departments -Consultants Can also be relatively easily adapted for hospitals to do the assessment themselves	Intended to be very effective and efficient in achieving the legislative requirements, as well as being applied at a minimal cost to the hospital	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Catholic Health Association of the United States: Assessing and Addressing Community Health Needs	A guide to help not-for-profit health care organizations strengthen their assessment and community benefit planning processes.	Draft of book*: http://www.chausa.org/Assessing_and_Addressing_Community_Health_Needs.aspx *Final version of book to be released soon	Step-by-step guidance Indicator selection tool Model CHNA and implementation strategy summaries Offers practical advice on how hospitals can work with community and public health partners	Hospital staff responsible for CHNA and planning community benefit programs Not-for-profit health care organizations Others: -administrators -clinicians -strategic planners -policy makers -consumer advocates -public officials -representatives of community groups	Assess community health needs and develop effective strategies for improving health in communities	Free draft version is currently available; can also order hard copy of draft ($5 for members, $0 for non-members) A new hard copy of book should be available Summer 2015
County Health Rankings & Roadmaps website, including "Assess Needs and Resources" Guidance and Tools PDF	Rankings provide data on the health of nearly every county in the nation. The website also provides a guide to assessing needs and resources to help take stock of a community's needs, resources, strengths, and assets.	Site: http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/ "Assess Needs and Resources" PDF: http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/sites/default/files/actions/Assess%20Needs%20and%20Resources.pdf	Provides data for various indicators at the county level Links to suggested tools and resources	Leaders and advocates from public health and health care, business, education, government, and the community	Leaders can work together to create programs and policies to improve people's health, reduce health care costs, and increase productivity	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
NACCHO's Assessment Protocol for Excellence in Public Health (APEX*PH*) Workbook (1991), CD (Windows 98) and Protocols	A flexible planning tool that guides health officials through assessing and improving the organizational capacity of their departments, and in working with local communities to assess and improve the health status of their residents.	http://www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/APEXPH/index.cfm	A step-by-step workbook Software that provides a user-friendly and efficient means for carrying out the APEX*PH* process A supplement to the workbook, containing suggestions from users, descriptions of resources, case studies, etc. Also provides practical information and guidance in implementing APEX*PH*	Local health officials	Assess the organization and management of the health department Provide a framework for working with community members and other organizations to assess the health status of the community Establish the leadership role of the health department in the community	1-time cost for each of the three components: $0.00 for members $0.00 for non-members
The Community Toolbox (University of Kansas)	A global resource for information on essential skills for building healthy communities. It offers more than 7,000 pages of practical guidance in creating change and improvement.	Site: http://ctb.ku.edu/en/tablecontents/index.aspx CHA Toolkit http://ctb.ku.edu/en/dothework/tools_tk_2.aspx	The toolbox's focus is on specific practical skills, such as conducting a meeting or participatory evaluation The CHA toolbox has an outline with links to tools for assessing community needs and resources	Anyone	Helps support the preparation of a community assessment (or profile) that helps identify critical issues and plan future interventions Examples: http://ctb.ku.edu/en/dothework/tools_tk_summary_page_166.aspx	Free
Robert Graham Center's COPC Curriculum	A curriculum that was developed to inform trainees at educational health centers about the basic tenets of COPC and provide tools for students to understand how to set up and manage COPC implementations in their communities.	http://www.graham-center.org/online/graham/home/tools-resources/copc/copc-resources.html	Slides and note sets Pre-activity and case study modules with sample data Walkthroughs of online geographic information systems (GIS) tools with sample data Resource guides	Trainees at educational health centers	Identify community health problems to address using the COPC model Identify appropriate interventions for selected health problems Set up an evaluation framework for COPC	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
CDC's Local Public Health System Performance Assessment	A partnership effort to improve the practice of public health and the performance of public health systems. The assessment instruments guide local jurisdictions in evaluating their current performance against a set of optimal standards.	http://www.cdc.gov/nphpsp/documents/local/local.bookleta.pdf	Identifies steps to evaluate essential public health services Includes a performance assessment instrument (series of questions)	Local health department Other governmental agencies Other organizations/ entities that contribute to the public health system such as healthcare providers, human service orgs., schools and universities, faith institutions, youth development organizations, economic and philanthropic organizations, and environmental agencies	Help users answer questions such as "What are the activities and capacities of our public health system?" and "How well are we providing the Essential Public Health Services in our jurisdiction?" The dialogue that occurs in answering these questions can help to identify strengths and weaknesses and determine opportunities for improvement	Free
CDC/NACCHO Community Environmental Health Assessment: Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence in Environmental Health (PACE EH)	A community involvement tool that offers a method for engaging communities to identify their health concerns, take action on their environmental health problems, and improve their health and quality of life.	Description: http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/ceha/PACE_EH.htm Guidebook: http://eweb.naccho.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?WebCode=ProdDetailAdd	The methodology takes the user through a series of tasks to engage the public, collect necessary and relevant information related to community environmental health concerns, rank issues, and set local priorities for action	Communities and local health officials facilitating a community-based environmental health assessment	Identifying local environmental health issues Setting action priorities Targeting populations most at risk Addressing identified issues	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
EPA Care Roadmap	A practical tool for communities to identify, prioritize, and address environmental health risks.	http://www.epa.gov/air/care/library/20080620roadmap.pdf	10-step plan to improve community environment and health Outlines a method to develop a comprehensive understanding of local environmental risks and impacts	Community leaders	Learn about local environmental /health risks and impacts Build the community consensus necessary to take effective action Mobilize a community partnership to take action to reduce impacts and risks Build long-term capacity to understand and reduce environmental impacts and risks	Free
Prevention Institute: Toolkit for Health & Resilience in Vulnerable Environments	A tool that helps identify, assess, and prioritize key community health factors that promote health and well-being and, when strong, can help to close the health gap that divides health outcomes between the general population and racial and ethnic minorities. Once a community has selected particular factors, it must take action.	http://thrive.preventioninstitute.org/thrive/factor_tools.php	Interactive, online tool Has the ability to save your entries online if you create a free account Offers suggestions and examples of actions to improve priority issues Links to relevant information Sample resources and community examples	Practitioners Local decision-makers Coalitions Residents	You can use the tool on your own to find more information about reducing disparities and/or to select priority factors and actions You can also use the tool as part of a planning process, such as with a neighborhood group or a community coalition	Free

2. **Loose CHNA Frameworks/Guidelines (Less Comprehensive Resources)**

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Healthy People 2020 MAP-IT	A framework to plan and evaluate public health interventions to achieve Healthy People 2020 objectives.	http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/implement/MapIt.aspx	Each of 5 sections include: -questions to ask and answer -a brief overview -Healthy People 2020 tools -links to related resources	Public health professionals and stakeholders	Mobilize partners, assess community need, create and implement a program plan, and track community progress	Free
NACCHO's "Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP)" Framework	A community-driven strategic planning process for improving community health. An interactive process that can improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and ultimately the performance of local public health systems.	http://www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/mapp/	Information on preparing for and completing the process is organized by phase Links to additional resources such as technical assistance, case studies, related publications, and materials created by experienced MAPP users	Public health leaders	Helps communities apply strategic thinking to prioritize public health issues and identify resources to address them Example: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/compass/Resources/MAPPBrochure/MAPPtrifold.pdf	Free
NACCHO's "Conducting a Community Health Assessment" Guidance	A page within NACCHO's Resource Center for Community Health Assessments/ Improvement Plans that has guidelines and links to other resources for conducting a CHA.	http://www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/CHAIP/cha.cfm	Training presentations and webinar recordings, as well as tools, on how to identify and select indicators and on how to collect, analyze, synthesize, and present data	Anyone	Community health assessment and improvement planning	Free
Public Health Accreditation Board: Standards for Becoming Accredited	Guidelines to participate in/conduct a collaborative, comprehensive community health assessment (Standard 1.1) and engage with the public to identify and address problems (Standard 4.1).	http://www.phaboard.org/wp-content/uploads/PHAB-Standards-and-Measures-Version-1.0.pdf	Identifies different measures to take and explains their purpose and significance	Public health departments	Guidance for public health departments preparing for accreditation	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
ReThink Health model	A realistic, yet simplified, representation of a local health system. It tracks changes in population health, health care delivery, health equity, workforce productivity, and health care costs under a variety of conditions.	http://rippelfoundation.org/docs/RTH-Dynamics-Model-Summary.pdf	A distinctive place-based and wide-angle view A single, testable framework tied to many sources of empirical data and open to sensitivity analysis Simulated scenarios	Planners	Primarily used to support multi-stakeholder planning and strategy design (not to forecast specific outcomes) Examine uncertainties and explore opportunities for change—as well as the stakes of inaction	Free
CDC Principles of Community Engagement (2nd Ed)	Provides both a science base and practical guidance for engaging partners in projects that may affect them.	http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/communityengagement/pdf/PCE_Report_508_FINAL.pdf	Organizing concepts, models, and frameworks including: -Principles of community engagement -Community case examples -Managing organizational support -The increased interest in community-engaged research -Social networking -Evaluation	Public health professionals Health care providers Researchers Community-based leaders and organizations	Learn how to support community engagement Get hands-on, practical information on how to mobilize the members of a community to partner in research initiatives	Free
ASTHO State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) Guidance and Resources	A guide for creating a state health improvement plan.	http://www.astho.org/Display/AssetDisplay.aspx?id=6597	Outlines step for creating a health improvement plan Links to resources with more information	State health planners	Create a SHIP for the CDC National Public Health Improvement Initiative (NPHII), the Public Health Accreditation Board's (PHAB) accreditation, or IRS community benefit requirements	Free
IOM Video: Primary Care + Public Health in the Community	Highlights a recent IOM report on the integration of primary care and public health.	http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2012/...	Discusses how the integration of primary care and public health can enhance the capacity of both sectors	Anyone	Learn and share about the importance of integrating public health and primary care	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
CDC Resources for Implementing a Community Health Needs Assessment Process	Brief overview and list of resources to help in implementing a CHNA.	http://www.cdc.gov/policy/chna/	Background on CHNA Principles to guide CHNA Links to relevant resources	Hospital organizations Governmental public health agencies Stakeholders in community health improvement	Plan and implement a CHNA process	Free
GWU: Principles to Consider for Implementation of a Community Health Needs Assessment Process (June 2013)	Guiding principles to inform the implementation of the Affordable Care Act's community health needs assessment provisions.	http://nnphi.org/CMSuploads/PrinciplesToConsiderForTheImplementationOfACHNAProcess_GWU_20130604.pdf	Identifies 7 key principles to completing CHNA through a collaborative, transparent approach	Not-for-profit hospitals that seek federal tax-exempt status	Guide successful implementation of the CHNA process	Free

3. Data Sources (With Little to No CHNA Process Guidance)

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
HealthLandscape	Online mapping platform containing a variety of health related datasets.	www.Healthlandscape.org	Indicators showing populations at risk, health outcomes, and the distribution of health interventions Custom maps and tables Can upload your own data	Healthcare providers Payers Policymakers Community planners Researchers	Assess the health status of a community	Free account with limited ability to upload your own data
UDS Mapper	A publically available, online mapping tool driven primarily by data within the Uniform Data System (UDS). It is built from ZIP Code level Health Center Program Grantee reporting data found within the UDS that are paired with other sources of population data.	http://www.udsmapper.org/	Create data reports for selected ZIP Code Tabulations Areas See where patients of individual Health Center Program grantees reside Compare UDS data to population demographic and health data on the same map	Community health centers Health center networks PCAs/PCOs HRSA Project Officers Others	The data visualization allows a user to better understand where federally funded health centers currently serve, where gaps in the safety net might exist, and which neighborhoods or regions might hold the highest priorities for health center expansion	Free
PolicyMap	Online mapping platform containing a variety of policy related datasets.	www.policymap.com	Offers over 15,000 indicators related to demographics, real estate, city crime rates, health, schools, housing affordability, employment, energy, and public investments Custom demographic maps, tables, reports and an analysis tool Can upload your own data	Anyone-- from universities and financial institutions to foundations and businesses	Community scanning	Free account with limited functionality Pay for a subscription to access more data/ functionality from $200/month

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Community Commons CHNA Website	A free web-based platform designed to assist organizations seeking to better understand the needs and assets of their communities, and to collaborate to make measurable improvements in community health and well-being.	http://assessment.communitycommons.org/CHNA/About.aspx	Orientation and resources for conducting community health needs assessments The ability to see your selected area's demographics and performance on a core set of community indicators linked to evidence-informed interventions Answers to inquiries are available in multiple forms, including narrative, graphic, and mapping format, building a more complete and easy to interpret set of findings to share with others	Hospitals (esp. critical access and other smaller facilities) Local/State Public Health Agencies Community Members/Community-Based Organizations Community Health Centers Funders Financial institutions	The tools and resources on this site support a rigorous assessment of the determinants of health and current health status of communities, the identification of resources that exist in communities, and the fostering of public dialogue and collective action at scale	Free
Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care	The project documents glaring variations in how medical resources are distributed and used in the United States. It uses Medicare data to provide information and analysis about national, regional, and local markets, as well as hospitals and their affiliated physicians.	http://www.dartmouthatlas.org/	Data by region, hospital, or topic includes: Medicare Enrollees, Hospital Capacity, Physician Workforce, Medicare Spending, Hospital Discharges, End-Of-Life Care Interactive tools to allow visitors to view specific regions, perform their own comparisons and analyses, and create reports Access to all Atlas reports and publications on website	Policymakers The media Health care analysts Others	Users can improve their understanding of the efficiency and effectiveness of our health care system. This valuable data forms the foundation for many of the ongoing efforts to improve health and health systems across America	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Dignity Health's Community Need Index	Identifies the severity of health disparity for every ZIP Code in the United States and demonstrates the link between community need, access to care, and preventable hospitalizations.	http://www. dignityhealth .org/Who_We _Are/Comm unity_Health /STGSS04450 8	Uses income, culture/ language, education, insurance, and housing data to create Community Health Index scores by ZIP Code	Public health advocates Care providers	Pinpoint neighborhoods with significant barriers to health care access Communities can become quickly focused on the areas where resources can be most effective	Index data are free. To purchase additional data, email: Thomson.CNI -info@ thomsonreut ers.com
Community Indicators Consortium: Database of Case Studies	A database of case studies using indictors for planning and decision-making for community quality of life.	http://www. communityin dicators.net/ projects	Information about and links to community indicator projects around the world	Individuals and organizations working to improve the use of indicators	Find examples that may work well in your community	Free
Healthy Communities Institute (HCI): CHNA System	A web-based information system that provides the data, tools and best practices to help hospitals meet Healthcare Reform and IRS 990 requirements for CHNA. The system provides a dashboard of indicators that drive community health needs assessments. It is designed to give stakeholders access to high-quality community health assessment data, improved health indicator tracking, best practice sharing and community development tools that function together to improve the community's health and environmental sustainability.	http://new.h ealthycomm unitiesinstitu te.com/hci- chna-system/	A web-based platform Customizable Contains key health and quality of life data Embeddable within a hospital or health system's existing website Contains a large database of promising practices that inform evidence-based community benefit programs Is continuously updated	Non-profits Hospitals Academic institutions Financial institutions Public health departments Environmental groups Transportation/ law enforcement agencies Grant managers Health insurers	Prioritize opportunities and track progress against national and locally identified targets Community partners can highlight their good work, collaborate more efficiently, and easily keep the community informed and involved in key local public health initiatives Example: http://www.stmaryhealt hcare.org/body.cfm?id=5 56706	Pricing varies depending on type of system, granularity of data, and supplemental features

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)	Data from a national survey on health-related risk behaviors, chronic health conditions, and use of preventive services.	http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/	Data available by State and Selected County/City Categories of age by: gender, detailed race and ethnicity groups, education levels, marital status, regions within states, gender by race and ethnicity, phone source, renter/owner status	Researchers (data is not interactive)	Obtain data	Free
Health Indicators Warehouse	Data from a variety of sources on health behaviors, health care, outcomes, risk factors, disease, injury and violence, maternal and child health, mental health and substance abuse, occupational health, oral health environment, population, prevention, public health, social determinants of health, and women's health.	http://healthindicators.gov/	Search indicators by topic, geography, or initiative Data available at State and County levels	Anyone comfortable with data	Obtain data	Free
CDC Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System	Data from a national school-based survey priority health-risk behaviors and the prevalence of obesity and asthma among youth and young adults.	http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/yrbs/index.htm	Can use interactive tool to filter and sort on the basis of race/ethnicity, sex, grade, or site, create customized tables and graphs, and perform statistical tests by site and health topic Data available by state, territory, or selected location	Anyone comfortable with data	Obtain data	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
CDC National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network	Health, exposure, and hazard information and data from a variety of sources.	http://ephtracking.cdc.gov/showHome.action	Interactive tool allows you to find data by content, geography and time, and age/gender/race/ethnicity Data available at national, state, and city levels	Anyone comfortable with data	Obtain data	Free
The Children's Health Fund: Health Transportation Shortage Index	An indexing system that uses data from national and regional surveys to score the ability to obtain transportation for child health care needs at the local level. Using the indexing system, the user will obtain a score for their area.	http://www.childrenshealthfund.org/sites/default/files/Health-Transportation-Shortage-Index-HTSI.pdf	Factors are: 1) population as a proxy for rural area and for travel distance; 2) poverty as a proxy for automobile ownership; 3) public transportation availability; and 4) health care provider workforce availability Points are assigned for each factor based on area characteristics and are added together. Higher scores indicate greater risk for transportation barriers to child health care access	Health planners	Assessment of the most important factors associated with transportation barriers to child health care access to identify areas of the country where transportation shortages are likely to impact child health care access	Free

4. State/Population Specific Tools (Most, But Not All, Can Be Applied to Communities in Other States)

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
North Carolina Division of Public Health: Community Health Assessment Resources (2011)	A health assessment process where county residents take the lead role in forming partnerships, gathering health-related data, determining priority health issues, identifying resources, and planning community health programs. The entire process is intended to be a four-year cycle which continually repeats itself, with Year 1 devoted to doing an 8-phase community health assessment.	http://public health.nc.gov /lhd/cha/res ources.htm	Includes questions for the CHA Team, Resources and Budget Worksheets Guidelines for conducting a community health opinion survey Guidelines for conducting key informant interviews Asset mapping guidelines Sample questions for interviewing service providers and individuals Guidelines and recommended sources for collecting secondary data	Local public health departments Other community agencies	Is used to identify priority health issues and to plan interventions to build healthier communities	Free
Illinois Department of Public Health: IPLAN (Illinois Project for Local Assessment of Needs)	A community health assessment and planning model designed to identify health problems and propose solutions through a comprehensive and ongoing process.	http://app.id ph.state.il.us /Resources.a sp?menu=3	It is grounded in the core functions of public health and addresses the public health practice standards Includes training documents and audio recordings Links to tools provided by other organizations	The community directs the decision-making under the guidance and leadership of the local health department (LHD)	Results in a five-year community health plan, created at the local level, that addresses a minimum of three health priorities, with time-referenced, measurable impact and outcome objectives with appropriate intervention strategies Successful completion of the IPLAN process fulfills one of the certification requirements for local health departments	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Arkansas Assessment Initiative: Hometown Health Improvement CHA Reference Toolkit	A cooperative, CDC-funded effort that joins people and organizations in the search of the best possible information concerning community health assessments. The toolkit walks through the steps taken by the Arkansas Assessment Initiative to assess the health of Arkansas counties.	http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/hometownHealth/HHI/Documents/conf/2012/CHNAToolkit.pdf	Systematic collection, assembly, analysis, and dissemination of information about the health of a community 90 day timeline Uses the Healthy People 2020 MAP-IT Framework Combines Census demographic data and information from BRFSS and the Youth Risk Factor Survey to produce a useful data set for each county	86 community coalitions across Arkansas work together to identify and address community health concerns	Inform decision-making, the prioritization of health concerns, and support the development, implementation, and evaluation of community health improvement plans	Free
Washington State Department of Health: CHAT (Community Health Assessment Tool)	A repository containing a variety of data collections gathered and maintained by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) in separate, uncoordinated databases. These data are standardized and collected into the CHAT data repository which can be queried and the output structured along a very wide set of defined parameters, and subjected to statistical analysis to identify and track meaningful relationships and trends.	http://www.doh.wa.gov/PublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/PublicHealthSystemResourcesandServices/CommunityHealthAssessmentandImprovement/CHAT.aspx	Secure web-based access Data can be retrieved and represented in a variety of forms: Statistical tables which can be exported for analysis in Excel or other spreadsheet and database programs, charts and graphs, and maps showing geographic distributions The ability for users to define and store query definitions for repetitive use over time Periodic data releases and corrections maintain the currency of data and its continuity with prior period information	Local Health Jurisdictions Other healthcare professionals in DOH	Periodic assessments Enlarging the opportunities for accessing and under-standing these data	Contact Buffi LaDue: buffi.ladue@doh.wa.gov

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Florida MAPP Field Guide	The Florida MAPP Field Guide is a compendium of resources for community health assessment and improvement planning. It is a comprehensive, yet practical, implementation guide.	http://www.doh.state.fl.us/compass/Resources/FieldGuide/contentsFguide.htm	Access to data via the Florida Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS) Web-based training for skills enhancement Reference materials for CHA including field guides and web-based templates and tools Marketing and public information materials for raising awareness of the benefits and impact of assessment Performance benchmarks and quality improvement standards for county health departments Quantitative and qualitative evaluation reports on processes and outcomes	Florida county health departments and the communities they serve	Community health assessment and improvement planning	Free
Connecticut Hospital Association: Guidelines for Conducting a Community Health Needs Assessment	A model template that provides a standardized method for data collection/reporting on benchmark indicators. Tools and resources were selected and developed in collaboration by hospitals, health departments, and health centers in Connecticut.	http://www.chathamhealth.org/CommunityWellness/pdf/supportingdocuments/GuidelinesforConductingCHNA.pdf	Utilizes the ACHI framework from its Community Assessment Toolkit, which includes six steps for completing a CHNA	Community health centers Local health departments Hospitals	Conduct a CHNA Develop strategies for implementing a community health improvement plan	Free

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Michigan Hospital Association: Community Health Needs Assessment Handbook	A detailed, yet concise, guide to completing a successful CHNA and implementation strategy, communicating results with the community, and meeting IRS and ACA requirements.	http://www.mha.org/mha/public_site/chna.htm	Links to many resources to help complete processes such as conducting surveys and data analysis	Hospital and health systems staff who are responsible for conducting their organization's CHNA

May also be valuable to direct individuals or organizations who are part of a CHNA advisory/ workgroup team or committee | Conducting a CHNA and developing an implementation strategy that meets the IRS requirements and also drives community health improvement | Free |
| New York State Department of Health: 10 Steps in Community Health Assessment Development Process | 10 steps in community health assessment development that have been identified from assessment planning models and frameworks. | http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/10steps.htm | Action checklist and planning tools for each step | Anyone | Community health assessment and improvement planning | Free |
| South Dakota Department of Health: Community Health Profile and Assessment Toolkit | A document offering guidelines and resources as part of an effort to create healthy environments for South Dakotans, using health promotion and prevention ideas and population-based interventions. | http://healthysd.gov/Communities/PDF/AssessmentToolkit.pdf | Highlights the County Health Rankings data and resources

Includes steps for coalition and capacity building, as well as evaluation and project sustainability

Defines policy, systems, and environmental changes and offers examples for community use | Individuals

Groups such as community leaders, planners, and coalitions | Create awareness and design systems in communities to improve the health and lifestyles of its residents

Determine levels of health and Mobilize community action that supports healthy people and healthy communities | Free |

Tool Name	Description	Access	Features to note	Target audience	Examples of use	Cost
Healthy Kansas Communities: Assessment and Planning Tool (2006)	An assessment for determining whether a community's policies, programs, regulations, and development practices promote a healthy living environment.	http://www.kdheks.gov/bhp/download/toolKit/HKCTool/Healthy_Kansas_Communities_Assessment_Tool.pdf	Includes a series of questions to answer regarding walking/biking, physical activity, and public transportation in the community	Community planners and leaders	Identify the strengths and assets already present within the community, as well as those areas where improvement is needed

Bring together community leaders and planners in a collaborative effort to improve not only the physical health of the community, but communication and interaction as well | Free |
| National Center for Farmworker Health: Farmworker Community Needs Assessment | A webpage that discusses what a CHNA is, why it is important for Migrant Health Centers, and offers some resources for completing the assessment. | http://www.ncfh.org/?pid=233 | Points to Remember

Determining what information is needed

Sample of Policy and Procedure

Sample Needs Assessment Survey Tool in Spanish or English | Migrant Health Centers | Determine: Size and demographics of the farmworker population; Percentage of farm-workers accessing health care services; Type of health services accessed by farm-workers; Unmet health care needs of the population | Free |
| Missouri | An interactive planning system designed for use by public health practitioners and community stakeholders to improve the health of a community. | http://health.mo.gov/data/CHIR/index.html | Uses a data driven, evidence-based public health process to guide decision-making, priority setting and intervention planning | Missouri health professionals | Create partnerships, do an assessment, gage readiness to intervene, measure capacity, intervene, evaluate, and maintain momentum | Free |