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Jan 2015



ACCREDITATION NEWS FOR EMPLOYEES AND STAKEHOLDERS

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## Want to learn more about Accreditation?

### *PHABulous!*

#### What is accreditation?

For many months, you might have heard the topic of “accreditation” discussed or you might have noticed the messages that pop up on your computer screen when you log on to your computer in the morning. As of this writing, we are now in the process of becoming an accredited public health agency. You might ask . . . what does that mean . . . exactly.

In public health, accreditation is the measurement of a health department’s performance against nationally recognized,

practice-focused and evidence-based standards. The process is a way for us to look at how we work and to identify areas where we can improve how we provide services in the community.

**Where are we right now in the process?** We successfully submitted our Statement of Intent (SOI) to pursue accreditation to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) on January 21, 2015.

The next steps in the process include submitting an application, Community Health Assessment (CHA), a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and an agency Strategic Plan (SP) –

### Quality Improvement Survey:

The *Quality Improvement Survey* results are available [on the health district intranet](#).

Moving forward the survey results will be the driving force behind QIT projects as well as overall knowledge of the Plan Do Study Act (PDSA).



PDSA is a term that you will be hearing throughout the accreditation process. PDSA, or Plan-Do-Study-Act, is an interactive, four-stage problem-solving model used for improving a process or carrying out change.



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## Q I CORNER

The goal of the **Quality Improvement & Training** team is to train all staff on the basic techniques of quality improvement and performance management. The team's nine members represent different health district programs; Community Health's Jim Osti chairs the subcommittee and Administration's Montana Garcia is the co-chair.

In six months, the team has accomplished the following projects:

- Implemented a district-wide Quality Improvement Survey to all staff.
- Completed its first Quality Improvement project using the new health district QI methods.
- Started two additional new QI projects.
- Is evaluating our readiness to submit documentation to PHAB - a step in the process of earning accreditation.

*Accreditation (continued from page 1)*

these are the first three pieces of information that we must provide to PHAB.

We have a 40-person Accreditation Team (A-Team) in place that includes staff from all over the health district. That team has been broken down into six sub-committees: CHA, CHIP, SP, Quality Improvement & Training (QIT), Communication (CM) and Documents Standards & Measures (DSM).

Our A-Team has been busy! So far, we have accomplished the following:

- ✓ **Completed PHAB readiness checklist.**
- ✓ **Hired Accreditation Coordinator.**
- ✓ **Formed A-Team.**
- ✓ **Formed CHA steering committee.**
- ✓ **Created accreditation bubble for bi-weekly notifications.**
- ✓ **Designed logo - "Welcome to PHABulous Southern Nevada."**
- ✓ **Submitted SOI January 21, 2015.**

In the coming months, members of the A-Team will be reaching out to you for your input or expertise on particular topics.

### *Your Accreditation Team at work*



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## Submitting the Statement of Intent



*Dr. Iser and Demetria Patton discuss the submission process.*



*Dr. Iser pushes the "submit" button and the Southern Nevada Health District embarks on its mission for accreditation.*



*Dr. Iser thanks everyone for their hard work as the health district takes this historic step.*

