Topics for Today:

- **Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH)**
  - Background
  - RI Statewide Population Health Plan

- RIDOH Academic Institute
  - Mission & Vision
  - Public Health Education & Research
  - Workforce & Career Development
  - Research Integrity & Accreditation
Higher spending doesn’t lead to better health

We spend a lot more on healthcare, but our life expectancy is worse.
We don’t invest enough in social services

For every $1 spent on healthcare, most countries spend $2 on public health and social services. The US only spends 55 cents.
RIDOH OVERARCHING GOAL
Positively Demonstrate for Rhode Islanders the Purpose and Importance of Public Health

RI Population Health Plan
LEADING PRIORITIES

Address Socioeconomic and Environmental Determinants of Health in Rhode Island

Eliminate Disparities of Health in Rhode Island and Promote Health Equity

Ensure Access to Quality Health Services for Rhode Islanders, Including Our Vulnerable Populations

CROSS-CUTTING STRATEGIES
RIDOH Academic Institute: Strengthen the integration of scholarly activities with public health
RIDOH Health Equity Institute: Promote collective action to achieve the full potential of all RIers
THREE LEADING PRIORITIES

Address the Social and Environmental Determinants of Health in Rhode Island
Eliminate the Disparities of Health in Rhode Island and Promote Health Equity
Ensure Access to Quality Health Services for Rhode Islanders, Including Our Vulnerable Populations

FIVE STRATEGIES

1. Promote healthy living for all through all stages of life
2. Ensure access to safe food, water, and healthy environments in all communities
3. Promote a comprehensive health system that a person can navigate, access, and afford
4. Prevent, investigate, control, and eliminate health hazards and emergent threats
5. Analyze and communicate data to improve the public's health

23 POPULATION HEALTH GOALS

1. Reduce obesity in children, teens, and adults
2. Reduce chronic illnesses, such as diabetes, heart disease, asthma, and cancer
3. Promote the health of mothers and their children
4. Promote senior health to support independent living
5. Promote behavioral health and wellness among all Rhode Islanders*
6. Support Rhode Islanders in ongoing recovery and rehabilitation for all aspects of health*
7. Increase access to safe, affordable, healthy food
8. Increase compliance with health standards in recreational and drinking water supplies
9. Reduce environmental toxic substances, such as tobacco and lead
10. Improve the availability of affordable, healthy housing and safe living conditions*
11. Improve access to care including physical health, oral health, and behavioral health systems
12. Improve healthcare licensing and complaints investigations
13. Expand models of care delivery and healthcare payment focused on improved outcomes*
14. Build a well-trained, culturally-competent, and diverse health system workforce to meet Rhode Island’s needs*
15. Increase patients’ and caregivers’ engagement within care systems*
16. Reduce communicable diseases, such as HIV and Hepatitis C
17. Reduce substance use disorders
18. Improve emergency response and prevention in communities
19. Minimize exposure to traumatic experiences, such as bullying, violence, and neglect*
20. Encourage Health Information Technology adoption among RI healthcare providers as a means for data collection and quality improvement
21. Enhance and develop public health data systems to support public health surveillance and action
22. Develop and implement standards for data collection to improve data reliability and usability
23. Improve health literacy among Rhode Island residents*

*These goals have been proposed through the State Innovation Model and are under review.
Topics for Today

• RIDOH
  ◦ Background
  ◦ RI Statewide Population Health Plan

❖ RIDOH Academic Institute
  ◦ Mission & Vision
  ◦ Public Health Education & Research
  ◦ Workforce & Career Development
  ◦ Research Integrity & Accreditation
Vision:
Achieve excellence in public health policy & practice through academic collaborations & a multidisciplinary approach to public health in Rhode Island.

Mission:
Strengthen the integration of scholarly activities within public health policy & practice by instilling a culture of learning to support RIDOH’s Leading Priorities.
What is Public Health Department Accreditation?

- A voluntary national accreditation program to improve & protect the public’s health by advancing the quality & performance of public health departments
- Requires measurement of RIDOH performance against nationally recognized, practice-focused, evidence-based standards
- RIDOH sought national accreditation because of the desire to improve service, value & accountability to stakeholders
- Designated through the Public Health Accreditation Board since 2015
RIDOH Academic Institute
RIDOH is an Academic Health Department

What is an Academic Health Department?

• A teaching health department that establishes formal affiliations between academic institutions & a public health organization

• Designed to enhance public health education, research, & service through facilitated collaboration between academic institutions & public health departments

• Designated through the Public Health Foundation, Council on Linkages Between Public Health & Academia since 2015
RIDOH Academic Institute
Working Organizational Chart

Advisors
- Stephen Morris, Esq
  Chief Strategic Advisor
- Ernest Julian, PhD
  IRB Chair & Chief Science Advisor
- Michael Byrns, PhD
  Chief Scholarly Development Advisor

RIDOH Academic Institute
Laurie Leonard, MS
Director

Public Health
Public Health Education and Research
Laurie Leonard, Lead

- Collaborative Academic Partnerships
- Public Health Scholar Program
  Jennifer Ricci, BS, Program Manager
- Public Health Education Exchange
  Rachael Sardinha, BS, Program Manager
  James Coyne, MS, TRAIN Administrator

Public Health Workforce and Career Development
Steven Boudreau, Lead

- Workforce Development
- Career Development
- Leadership Development

Public Health Research Integrity and Accreditation
Laurie Leonard, Lead

- Institutional Review Board
  Ernest Julian, PhD, IRB Chair
  Louis Marchetti, PhD, IRB Vice Chair
- Public Health Department Accreditation
  Cheryl LeClair, MSW, PHAB Coordinator
- Quality Improvement & Lean

Workgroups and Committees
- RIDOH Academic Institute Steering Committee
- Public Health Scholar Workgroup
- Public Health Academic Working Group*
- Interagency Overdose Research Group*
- Early Childhood Health Research Group*
- Community Health Worker Collaboration Group

- RIDOH Academic Institute Steering Committee
- Workforce and Career Development Workgroup
- Strengths Coaches
- Employee Appreciation Event Planning Workgroup
- Diversity Affinity Group
- Field Staff Development and Safety Workgroup

- RIDOH Academic Institute Steering Committee
  RIDOH Institutional Review Board
  Quality Improvement Workgroup

9/26/2019
### Integration of public health practice & academic research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collaborative Academic Partnerships</th>
<th>RIDOH Public Health Scholar Program</th>
<th>Public Health Education Exchange</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partnerships between RIDOH &amp; academic faculty address research questions based on RIDOH’s public health policy &amp; practice</td>
<td>Collaborative Public Health Research drives learning experiences &amp; research conducted by RIDOH Public Health Scholars</td>
<td>Partnerships between RIDOH, academic institutions and medical providers inform an online repository of continuing education opportunities</td>
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</table>
Collaborative Academic Partnerships

RIDOH Public Health Scholar Program

Public Health Education Exchange

Formalized Partnerships w/ Academic Institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Future</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brown University School of Public Health</td>
<td>Bryant University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community College of Rhode Island</td>
<td>Rhode Island School of Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Wales University</td>
<td>Salve Regina University</td>
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<tr>
<td>New England Institute of Technology</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Providence College</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhode Island College</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger Williams University</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Rhode Island</td>
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RIDOH as an Active Research Partner

RIDOH staff and Academic faculty identify shared research interests and funding opportunities to conduct collaborative research that benefits public health.
## Statewide Research Focus Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achievement of RI’s 3rd Grade Reading Goal</th>
<th>Opioid Overdose Prevention &amp; Treatment</th>
<th>Community Health Workers</th>
<th>Lyme Prophylaxis Pilot Research</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RIDOH Academic Institute, RI Department of Health</td>
<td>Brown University</td>
<td>Rhode Island College</td>
<td>University of Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cranston Police Dept.</td>
<td>Community Health Worker Association</td>
<td>Community Pharmacists</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown University: Hassenfeld Birth Cohort Study &amp; RI Innovation Policy Lab</td>
<td>Brown University</td>
<td>Rhode Island College</td>
<td>University of Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvard University: Gov. Performance Lab</td>
<td>RI Dept. of Administration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Rhode Island: DataSpark</td>
<td>RI Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities &amp; Hospitals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RI Dept. of Corrections</td>
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<tr>
<td>RI Governor’s Office</td>
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Public Health Academic Working Group (PHAWG)

- **RIDOH Academic Institute role**
  - Convene PHAWG & Co-Chair with Brown University School of Public Health
- **Purpose**
  - Develop & showcase collaborative public health research between academia & public health
  - Topics focus on addressing public health concerns
- **Membership goal**
  - Representation from RIDOH and from each academic institution

**Statewide Research Focus Areas**

- **RIDOH Academic Institute role**
  - Facilitator for collaborative state-academic partnerships related to major statewide research
- **Purpose**
  - Facilitation improves statewide collaboration, identification & utilization of increased resources, & enhances outcomes
RIDOH programs develop projects to address identified public health needs or gaps

RIDOH Scholars assist or lead projects under the guidance of RIDOH staff

RIDOH programs and Academic Faculty identify shared research interests and opportunities to develop collaborative research projects

RIDOH Scholars assist or lead projects under the guidance of both their academic faculty and RIDOH staff
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collaborative Academic Partnerships</th>
<th>RIDOH Public Health Scholar Program</th>
<th>Public Health Education Exchange</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Observational Scholar</strong></td>
<td><strong>Junior Scholar</strong></td>
<td><strong>Senior Scholar</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level of Education</strong></td>
<td>High School or Undergraduate students</td>
<td>Undergraduate students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Engagement with Faculty</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Maybe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples of Scholarly Products</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>1. poster presentation at RIDOH or community meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum Time Commitment</strong></td>
<td>1-3 RIDOH visits</td>
<td>20+ hours</td>
</tr>
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### RIDOH Public Health Scholar Opportunities

#### Public Health 101 Series
Learn about RIDOH’s diverse public health programs and comprehensive work toward achieving RIDOH’s leading priorities.

*Academic Year frequency:* weekly; *Summer frequency:* bi-weekly

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#### RIDOH Public Health Scholar Poster Symposium
RIDOH Public Health Scholars develop and present posters based on their RIDOH projects. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place are awarded by Director of Health Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott.

*Frequency:* August, December and April

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#### RIDOH Public Health Scholar Journal Club
Critically discuss a scientific paper or public health report in an informal, active learning setting.

*Frequency:* 3-5 per semester

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#### RIDOH Public Health Scholar Poster Development Sessions
Learn about the RIDOH poster template and format, information to include, award criteria, general guidance, and Q&A

*Frequency:* 3 per semester

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#### RIDOH Public Health Scholar Social Event
Get to know your fellow RIDOH Scholars, their supervisors and academic faculty.

*Frequency:* once per semester
Expanding the Power of Continuing Education

**Purpose**
- Increase accessibility to continuing education (CE) opportunities and career pathways information for current and future health professionals.
- Engage and support higher education and Accountable Entity (AE) partners, and others by developing a “clearinghouse” of content-specific trainings for health professional education & continuing learning.
- Develop one-stop online presence to direct people to for-credit, not-for-credit or CE that is delivered in the classroom, workplace or online.
- Describe career and career pathway options across state and link to RI academic institutions’ webpages
- Utilize Public Health Foundation’s TRAIN learning management system for CE opportunities; include CE developed by academic institutions, RIDOH, other state agencies, community partners, etc.

**Target populations**
- Current Health Professionals
- Health Professions Students
- Rhode Islanders interested in health professions
# Three Leading Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workforce Development</th>
<th>Career Development</th>
<th>Leadership Development</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing the workforce that delivers public health services at RIDOH</td>
<td>Engaging and retaining current employees</td>
<td>Expanding the capacity of individuals to perform in leadership roles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• **Workforce and Career Development Role**
  - Assist the Department in identifying public health workforce trends, gaps, and required knowledge, skills, and abilities.

• **Purpose**
  - Ensure a workforce that is trained and skilled in a broad set of public health competencies.
• **Workforce and Career Development Role**
  ◦ Provide resources in support of career planning activities.

• **Purpose**
  ◦ Expand the capacity of individuals to planning a career.
• **Workforce and Career Development Role**
  ◦ Provide access to resources and activities that improve the skills, abilities, and confidence of RIDOH leaders.

• **Purpose**
  ◦ Facilitate execution of the Department’s strategic priorities.
Three Leading Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutional Review Board</th>
<th>RIDOH Accreditation</th>
<th>Quality Improvement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ensure the privacy of the individuals is not violated when research involves data about people</td>
<td>Measure RIDOH’s performance against nationally recognized, practice-focused, evidence-based standards</td>
<td>Improve RIDOH efficiencies through use of continuous quality improvement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• **RIDOH Academic Institute role**
  ○ Convene the RIDOH Institutional Review Board (IRB) to review all proposals for research involving RIDOH data

• **Purpose**
  ○ Assure protection of the rights, welfare, and wellbeing of human subjects involved in research
• **RIDOH Academic Institute role**  
  • Collaborate with RIDOH division, centers and programs to achieve accreditation objectives through measurement of RIDOH performance against nationally recognized, practice-focused, evidence-based standards

• **Purpose of Public Health Department Accreditation**  
  • The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) is a voluntary national accreditation program for public health departments  
  • To improve & protect the public’s health by advancing the quality & performance of public health departments

• **RIDOH History**  
  • RIDOH sought national accreditation to document improved service, value & accountability for stakeholders  
  • RIDOH has been accredited since 2015 with re-accreditation in 2020
• **RIDOH Academic Institute role**
  ◦ Support the culture of quality improvement across RIDOH through identification of QI technical assistance for RIDOH programs

• **Purpose**
  ◦ To improve the quality of public health policies, programs, processes or infrastructure, based on performance standards, measurements, and acceptable QI practices in public health settings.
Thank you!

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Laurie.Leonard@health.ri.gov
http://www.health.ri.gov/programs/ridohacademicinstitute/
www.health.ri.gov/scholars