

Yufei Long

M.P.H. Candidate, Health Policy Track

yufei.long@vanderbilt.edu

Practicum Site: Tennessee Department of Health, Office of Strategic Initiatives

Practicum Site Supervisor: Chelsei Granderson, M.S.P.H.

Developing Toolkits for Community Health Assessment of Country Health Councils.



Introduction: Tennessee department of Health's Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) has the purpose of supporting and align strategy development and execution across TDH. In the Community and Collaboration Impact (CCI) team, the focus is providing proactive support to Tennessee's 95 County Health Councils with the goal of building a collaborative workforce to integrate local and state efforts and facilitating long term plan for Health Councils capacity building.

Methods: Specific projects include:

- Support data analysis and visualization: Retrieve County level stratified data on Williamson County and Mid-Cumberland region leading death causes, use the data to create data visualization using tableau and excel; Organize and analysis health council qualitative feedback and quantitative data retrieved from electronic surveys.
- Facilitate Health Councils project planning: Build program monitoring, logic model, implementation toolkits as well as report templates that are integrated in County Health Assessments and Improvement Action Plans resources; Attend/facilitate Health Council cohort calls hosted by CCI team to improve cross council collaboration

Results: Identified the most common health priorities within the 95 counties: youth/adult obesity, mental health/substance use disorder, and tobacco use. Produced a summary report of leading death causes in Williamson County by 4 categories: cancer, diabetes, heart disease, unintentional diseases. Provided resources and facilitated the new cycle of Community Health Assessments and improvement process of Health Councils.

Conclusions: With the ultimate goal to foster sustainable improvement in population health, OSI's look to increase effective communication and continuous engagement across community partners that aligns common goal is essential to propel project planning, implementation, and evaluation while providing a variety of tools a clear framework to all stakeholders.