Stepping up to the Future
NH CITIZENS HEALTH INITIATIVE

# "A Pound of Prevention" A foundational paper for redefining the public health debate in New Hampshire

#### American Public Health Association Annual Meeting







Session 5078.0: Politics and Health Promotion are Local

# Background of Citizens Health Initiative







"Pillars" Project

**Public Health Improvement Action Plan Process** 

Governor Lynch agrees to support next steps

UNH and Endowment for Health collaborate on Initiative preparation

September 2005 launch of Citizens Health Initiative

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## Our Conceptual Grounding







# Committee Definition of Health:







# "Health is a state of well-being and the capability to function in the face of changing circumstances"

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**Definition, Institute of Medicine Committee** 

#### "Health is, therefore,







a positive concept emphasizing social and personal resources as well as physical capabilities. Improving health is a shared responsibility of health care providers, public health officials, and a variety of other actors in the community who can contribute to the well-being of individuals and populations"

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**Definition, Institute of Medicine Committee** 

# Improving Health in the Community







"For too long, the personal health care and public health systems have shouldered their respective roles and responsibilities separately from each other...we need to invest in a process that mobilizes expertise and action...if we are to substantially improve community and population health."

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The Institute of Medicine, 1997



#### Community Health

Population (public) Health

Personal (medical) Care







# In the last century life expectancy went up 30 years

# Twenty-five were the result of public health efforts, five from enhanced medical procedures<sup>1</sup>

#### **Goal Statement**







Our long term goal is to create and sustain a public dialogue that will measurably improve the "systems" that finance and provide health care in New Hampshire in order to accomplish two fundamental objectives:

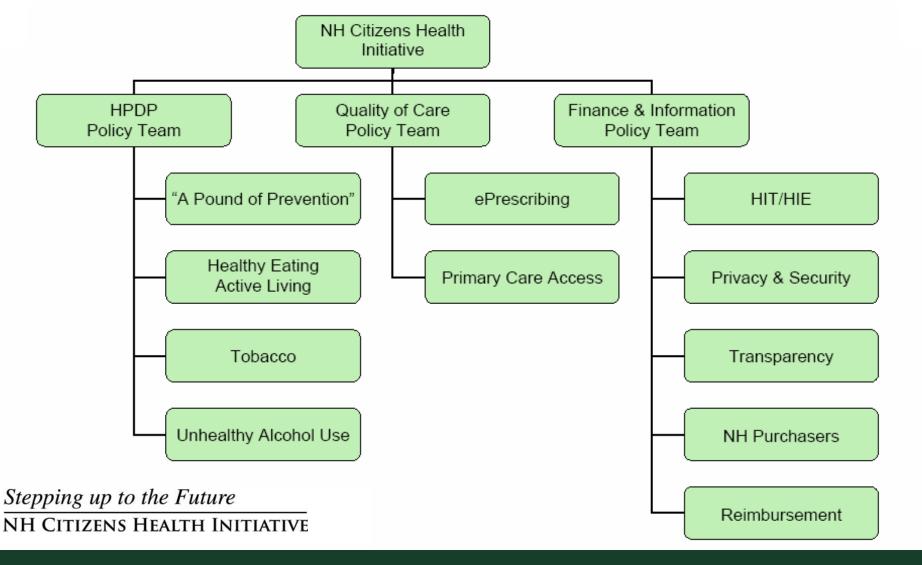
- Assure a healthy population
- Create an effective system of care

### Citizens Health 2007 Initiatives









# Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Policy Team







#### **Team Members:**

 Community organizations (minority health, mental health, injury prevention, home health), hospitals, NH DHHS, Manchester and Nashua Health Departments, legislators, foundations, University of NH

Decision to produce a summary paper and call to action.

 University of NH Masters in Public Health students produced "Digging Down to the Root"

### Messaging included in Pound of Prevention







- NH is relatively healthy state
- Our health varies within the state
- We are living longer
- We have the same leading causes of death and health challenges as the rest of the United States
- We can improve our health significantly by taking on a few of the major underlying causes of death and disease

## The State of NH's Health







#### We are relatively healthy

 New Hampshire was rated in top three nationally by Annie E. Casey Foundation and United Health Foundation for several years.

## The State of NH's Health, cont.







#### But our health varies within the state<sup>2</sup>

- Percent of low birth weight babies ranges from 4.5% to 7.7%
- Teen birth rate per 1,000 ranges from 16.5 to 28.7
- Unintentional injury death ranges from 20.8 to 50.6 per 100,000
- Invasive cancer death rate ranges from range from 194.9 to 216.1 per 100,000
- Median household income ranges from \$37,965 to \$62,738

**Table 3: Snapshot of Regional Variation Using Public Health Network** 

| Tuble of bluephilot of Regional variation esting tublic fleaten receivers |          |               |          |            |            |
|---|----------|---------------|----------|------------|------------|
|   | NH       | Berlin/Gorham | Cheshire | Manchester | Greater    |
|   |          | Community     | Public   | Health     | Portsmouth |
|   |          | Health and    | Health   | Department | Public     |
|   |          | Safety        | Network  |            | Health     |
|   |          | Partnership   |          |            | Network    |
| Low birth weight  | 6.3%     | 7.7%          | 4.5%     | 6.9%       | 5.3%       |
| babies (<2500   |          |               |          |            |            |
| grams) (2002-   |          |               |          |            |            |
| 2003)   |          |               |          |            |            |
| Teen Birth rate per   | 18.9     | 28.7          | 16.6     | 24.8       | 16.5       |
| 1,000 females, age  |          |               |          |            |            |
| 15-19 (2002-2003)   |          |               |          |            |            |
| Unintentional   | 28.9     | 50.6          | 21.8     | 21.4       | 20.8       |
| injury death rate   |          |               |          |            |            |
| per 100,000, age-   |          |               |          |            |            |
| adjusted (2000-   |          |               |          |            |            |
| 2001)   |          |               |          |            |            |
| Invasive cancer   | 200.9    | 209.9         | 216.1    | 194.9      | 201.0      |
| death rates per   |          |               |          |            |            |
| 100,000, age-   |          |               |          |            |            |
| adjusted (2002-   |          |               |          |            |            |
| 2003)   |          |               |          |            |            |
| Median household  | \$49,467 | \$37,965      | \$45,817 | \$62,755   | \$62,738   |
| income (2000)   |          |               |          |            |            |

Table 3 notes: List of town included in each network and citations for all data included in Table 3 are located in the reference section.

# New Hampshire's Health Challenges



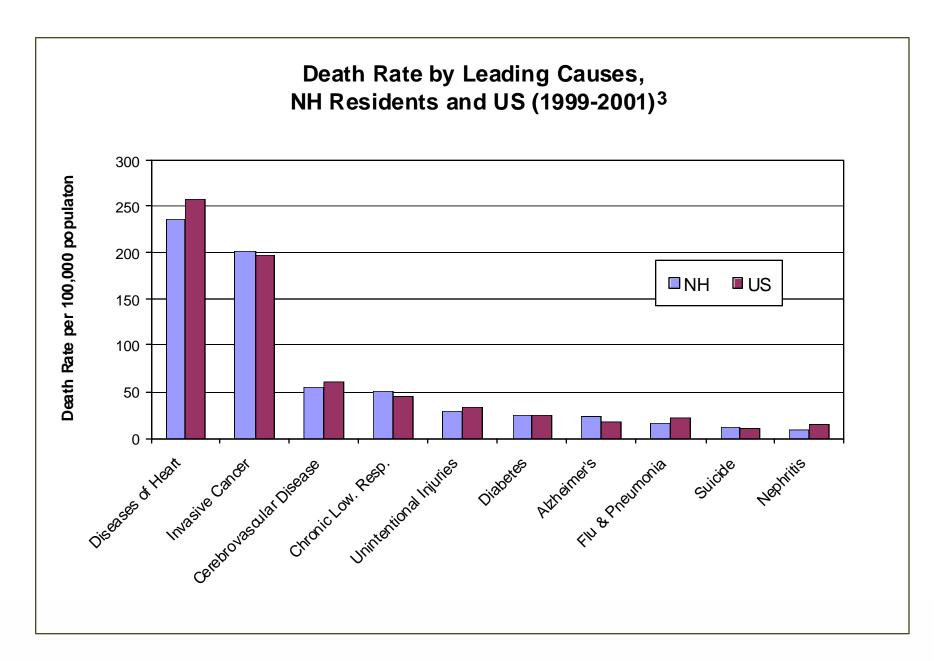




In NH, our leading causes of death are the same as the nation's<sup>3</sup>

- heart disease
- invasive cancer
- cerebrovascular disease
- chronic lower respiratory disease\*
- unintentional injuries
- diabetes

\*chronic lower respiratory disease included most of the same causes of death as the group chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, used as leading cause of death group prior to 1999.



#### NH's Health Challenges, cont.

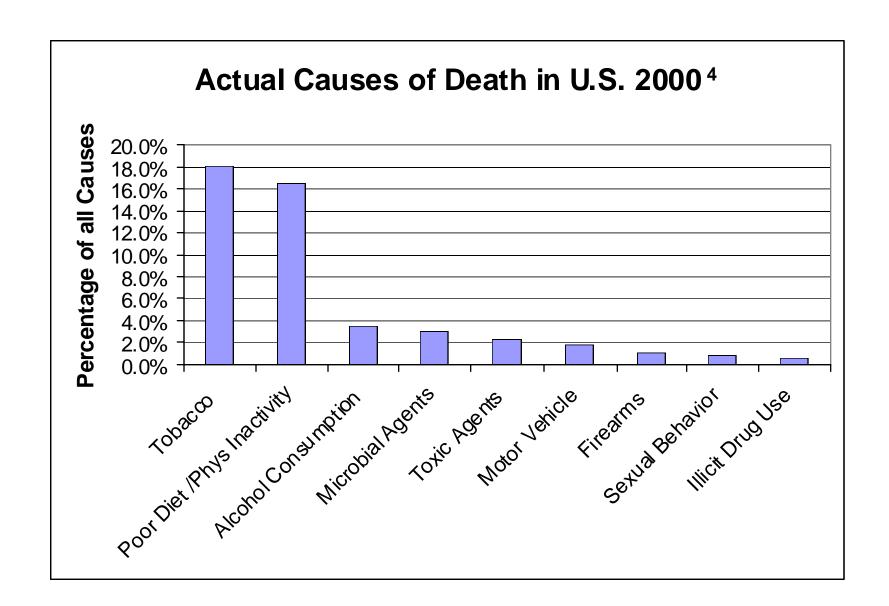






The leading underlying causes of death in New Hampshire are also similar to the rest of the U.S.<sup>4</sup>

- Tobacco use
- Poor diet and physical inactivity
- Alcohol consumption
- Infectious diseases



#### Tobacco







#### The NH Numbers

20% of NH adults reported being current smokers (2005).5

20% of NH high school students reported using cigarettes one or more days in the last thirty days (2005).6

Approximately 14% of NH mothers reported tobacco use during pregnancy (2003).<sup>7</sup>

#### The Cost to NH

An estimated \$608 million in health care costs and \$405 million in lost worker productivity.8

\$115 million of NH health care costs associated with smoking are shouldered by NH Medicaid.<sup>9</sup>

#### **Nutrition**







#### The NH Numbers

59.9% of NH residents are overweight or obese (2005).<sup>10</sup>

11.4% of children in NH were overweight in 2005.<sup>11</sup>

#### The Cost to NH

From 1998 to 2000, direct medical costs related to obesity were estimated at \$302 million. 12

\$235 per person was spent on medical-costs related to obesity in 2003.<sup>13</sup>

#### **Physical Activity**







#### The NH Numbers

44% of NH adults did not participate in at least moderate physical activity as defined by the CDC/ACSM.<sup>14</sup>

High school students enrolled in physical activity classes dropped from about 50% in 1991 to 40% in 1999.<sup>15</sup>

#### The Cost

Nationwide, physical activity is associated with direct medical costs estimated at \$77.6 billion dollars in 2000.<sup>16</sup>

According to the CDC, the nation would save \$5.6 billion if 10% more adults walked on a regular basis. 16

#### **Alcohol**







#### The NH Numbers

14.7% of adults reported having five or more drinks on one occasion compared to 14.4% nationally (2005).<sup>17</sup>

44.0% of high school students reported current alcohol use (2005).<sup>18</sup>

At least 85% of inmates have a history of alcohol or drug use (2002).<sup>19</sup>

#### The Cost to NH

The cost of underage drinking in NH, including medical, work lost, and pain and suffering, is \$180 million, or \$1,379 per year for each youth in the state (2005).<sup>20</sup>

# What do we learn from studying the causes of disease?





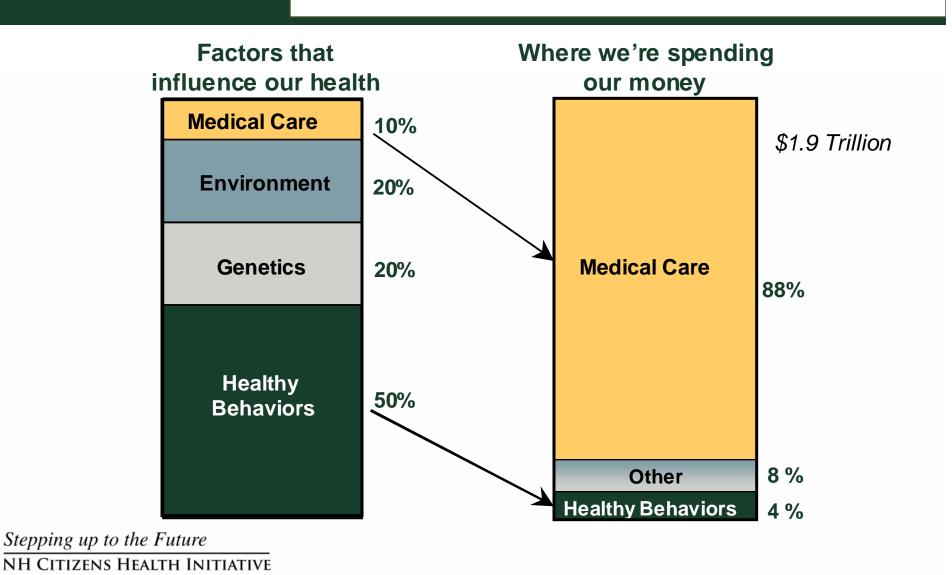


#### We need to encourage healthy behaviors

In New Hampshire, and nationwide, we have a case of misaligned resources. For example, New Hampshire has not allocated any of the funds received from tobacco tax revenues or the tobacco settlement to prevention programs.

#### Healthy Behaviors

#### A Case of Misaligned Resources<sup>21</sup>



#### **Call to Action**







- Pay attention to the data.
- Understand that prevention is everyone's responsibility.
- Take action now.

#### Pound of Prevention Implications







Simplified Message

Pointed to sub-state variation

Aligned the state in moving forward on leading causes of mortality, morbidity and cost drivers:

- Tobacco
- Alcohol
- Physical Activity & Nutrition

### Leveraging Funding for Prevention







Endowment for Health \$150,000

Other NH Foundations \$360,000 State (2 years) per year- \$250,000 National Governors Association \$15,000 CDC (5 years) per year- \$250,000 Institute Core grant (2 years) per year- \$270,000

\$1,145,000

#### **Affecting Policy**







Developed presentation for general and professional audiences, including legislators

Collaborating with Public Health Improvement Action Plan

New Hampshire Public Health Association alignment of policy priority areas

Action steps for Finance Policy Team
(Reimbursement and NH Purchasers groups)
Integration with CDC Assessment Initiative Grant

### Other Citizen Health Initiative Resources







#### www.nhhealthinfo.org

This website highlights valuable key resources for employers about healthcare costs and quality, and what employers can do to protect and improve the health of employees.

# Transparency www.nhhealthinfo.org











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#### Welcome

Within the last two years, New Hampshire has seen an increase in the number of web-based resources related to the cost and quality of healthcare in New Hampshire. The <u>Citizens Health Initiative</u> has reviewed and selected several key resources that may be valuable for employers that are struggling with decisions about health insurance benefits (e.g. rising cost of premiums).

#### Solution

This website will highlight the value of each of the selected resources in terms of their ability to answer some of New Hampshire employers' burning questions about healthcare costs and quality, and what employers can do to protect and improve the health of employees.





#### Follow our work







#### www.steppingupnh.org

Contact:
TheInitiative@JSI.com

603-573-3373

#### References







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