Cross-jurisdictional sharing (CJS) is an approach with the potential to enhance the quantity and quality of public health services available at the local level and to improve the use of resources.

There is not a one-size-fits-all approach to CJS. Instead, there is a broad spectrum of sharing arrangements, from informal agreements to the formal creation of new public health entities.

**WHAT IS CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL SHARING?**

It is the deliberate exercise of public authority to enable collaboration across jurisdictional boundaries to deliver essential public health services.

**SPECTRUM OF CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL SHARING ARRANGEMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Informal and Customary Arrangements</th>
<th>Service-Related Arrangements</th>
<th>Shared Functions with Joint Oversight</th>
<th>Regionalization</th>
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<td>“Handshake”</td>
<td>Service provision agreements</td>
<td>Joint projects addressing all jurisdictions involved — ongoing or episodic</td>
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<td>MOU</td>
<td>Mutual Aid Agreements</td>
<td>Shared capacity, e.g., epidemiology covering all jurisdictions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information sharing</td>
<td>Purchase of staff time</td>
<td>Inter-local agreements</td>
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<td>Coordination</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**PUBLIC AUTHORITY**

The power or right of senior government administrators, elected officials or governing body members to enter into CJS relationships

**COLLABORATION**

Working across boundaries and in multi-organizational arrangements to solve problems that cannot be easily solved by single organizations or jurisdictions

**JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES**

The geopolitical dividing lines between respective entities served by the participating public health departments

**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

Refers to the 10 essential public health services as defined by the 1994 Public Health Functions Steering Committee
Examples of issues to consider

Goals and expectations: WHY would you consider CJS?
• What are the goals of the initiative?

Scope of the agreement: WHAT services and capacities would be shared?
• What issues should and should not be considered for the project?
• How would the CJS agreement mitigate current service gaps?

Partners and stakeholders: WHO are the partners that should be involved?
• What is the history of their relationships?
• What are the guiding principles that the CJS effort would have? Do all the partners share these principles?

Examples of issues to consider

Context and history
Governance options
Fiscal and service implications:
Does the plan achieve a balance between increasing efficiency and effectiveness?
Legal sharing agreement: Who will have the authority to make decisions?
Logistical issues
Communications: How will the partners communicate with each other? With external stakeholders?
Change management: What changes will occur as a result of the CJS arrangements? Who will be affected? How will changes be managed?
Timeline
Implementation monitoring and evaluation

Examples of issues to consider

Implementation and management: Are the activities being implemented as planned?
Monitoring and improving: Are the results of the activities satisfactory? What is the level of satisfaction of the stakeholders and groups affected by the initiative? Is the knowledge acquired being shared with the project team and other stakeholders?

“I relied heavily on the roadmap to develop our feasibility study. Thank you.”
— Jane Sundmacher, community health planner at the Health Department of Northwest Michigan

We welcome your feedback. Please contact us at phsharing@khi.org.

Find the complete roadmap online: www.phsharing.org/technical-assistance