



Accreditation Preparations in Kansas

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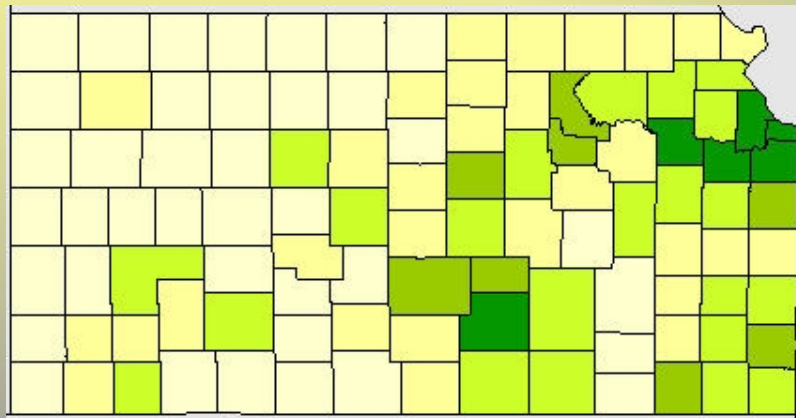
The Challenges Preparing for Accreditation

Rural
State





Rural State Challenge



- Frontier
- Rural
- Densely Settled
- Semi-urban
- Urban

Population Density
105 Counties
2.7 million people



Public Health Structure

- 100 local health departments
- 10 serve populations >50,000
- 64 serve populations <10,000



Rural State Challenge

Economy of scale



The Challenges Preparing for Accreditation

Home
Rule
State

Rural
State
Economy
Of Scale





Home Rule State Challenge

- **Self Government by Localities**
 - government more responsive
 - allows for flexible and innovative approaches to local problems
 - relieves state legislatures of parochial issues
 - 46 states allow municipal home rule
 - 37 states allow some form of county home rule
- **Kansas Home Rule**
 - **Strong component of political climate**
 - **Poor/unpopular experience with recent state-led consolidation of other services**



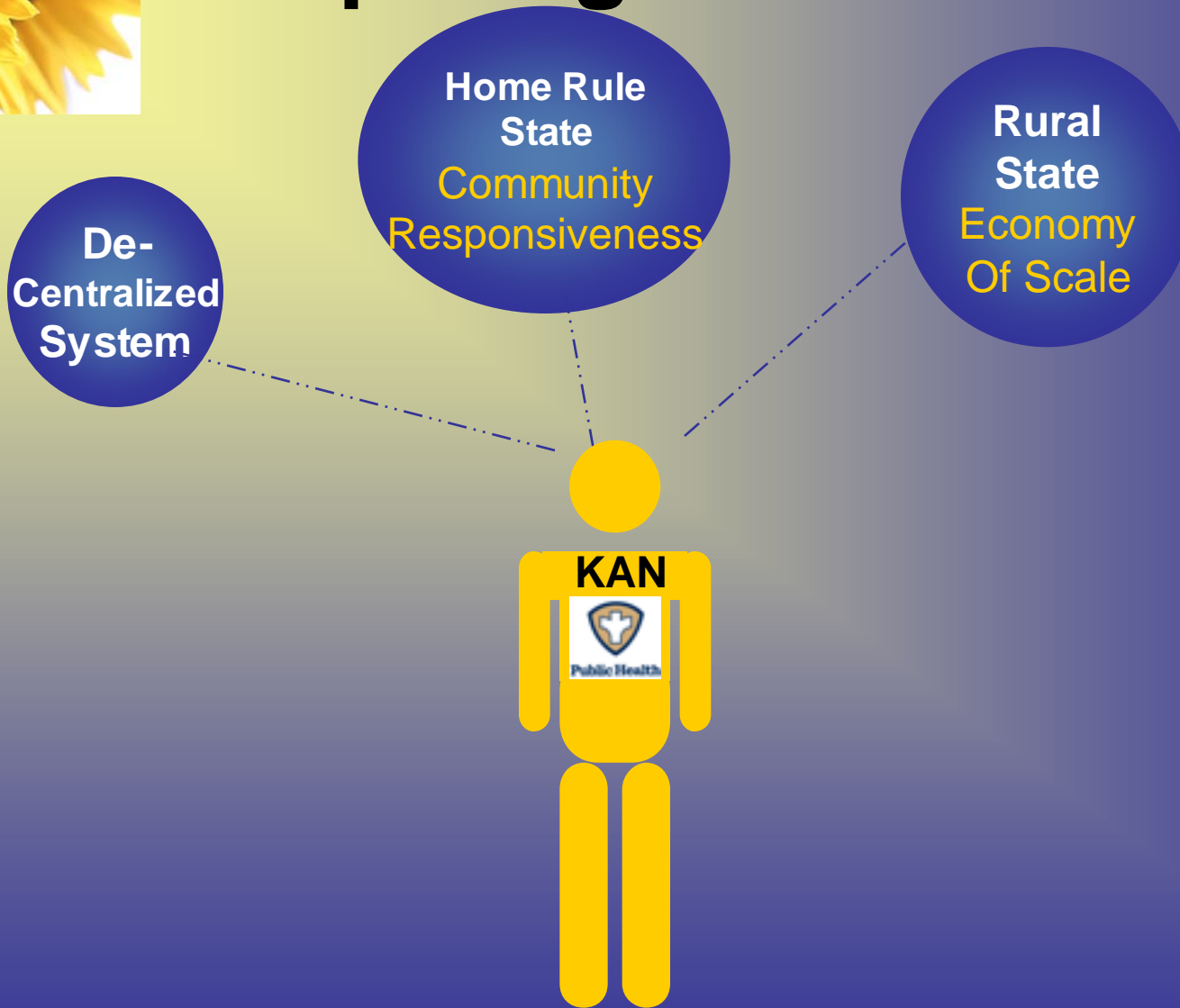
Home Rule State Challenge

**Maintaining
Community Connection
& Responsiveness**



The Challenges

Preparing for Accreditation

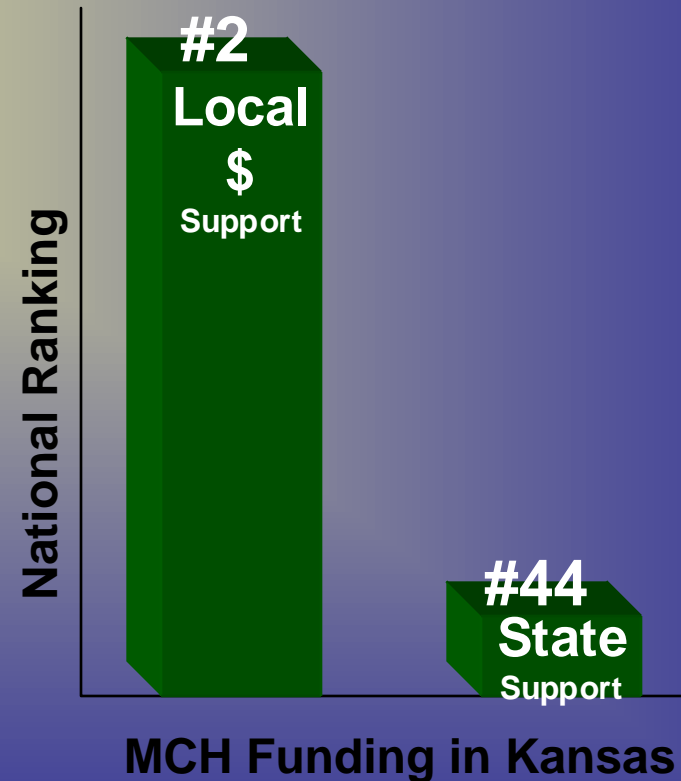




Decentralized State Challenge

Decentralized Public Health Services

- 32 states have decentralized system
- Local determination enhances local financial support





Decentralized State Challenge

Maintaining Local Support
Strengthening State Support



Finding Balance



**Economy
Of Scale in
Meeting Standards**



**Community Access
Local Determination
Local Support**





Finding Balance

Economy
Of Scale in
Meeting Standards



Functional Regionalization



↑
Community Access
Local Determination
Local Support



Finding Balance Functional Regionalization

**Group of local health departments
working together to ensure
all residents of Kansas
are provided basic
public health services**





Functional Regionalization in a Home Rule State

- **Bottom Up Regionalization**
 - **Rules of engagement**
 - Pick your partners
 - At least 3 contiguous counties
 - Governance structure-each member dept. represented
 - Formal signed inter-local agreements
- **Specific FUNCTIONS are targeted for addressing through regional approach while other services remain a function of the member departments**
- **Voluntary**
- **Established within preparedness program with financial incentive from local portion of funds**



Strategies for Building Functional Regionalization

NACCHO Regionalization Project

Robert Wood Johnson

Quality Improvement Initiative
MLC-2

Expanding Regional Performance Management System

Preparation for Accreditation

Expansion Beyond Preparedness

Standardized Protocols Processes

Increase Use of Technology

Alignment of IT Systems w/ Local Business Practices

Preparedness

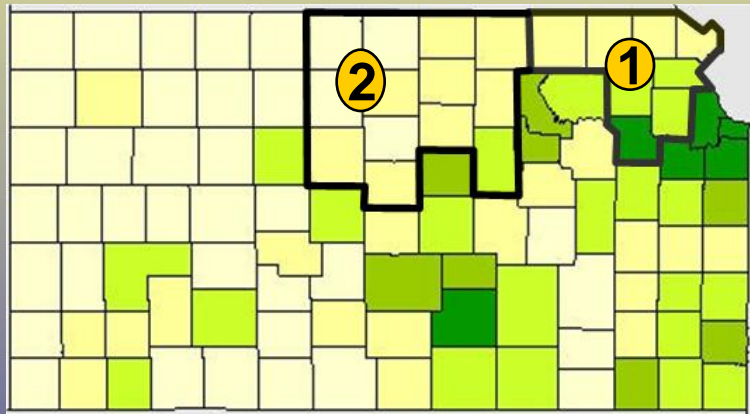
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Mitigation of Size & Distance Challenges



NACCHO Regionalization Project

2 Regional Pilots



① Northeast Corner Region

8 County health departments
260,000 population
Urban presence- Topeka
4,700 square miles
54 people per square mile

② North Central Region

13 County health departments
89,000 population
No urban presence
10,300 square miles
9 people per square mile

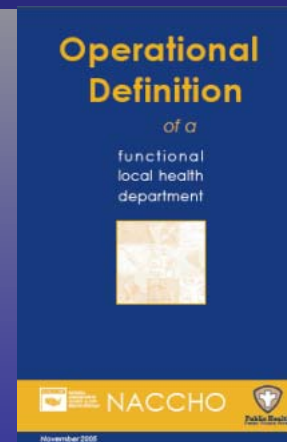


NACCHO Regionalization Project

PHASE I

- Regional Application of Operational Definition of a Functioning Local Health Department
- Individual Health Department Assessments
- Regional Analysis of Assessment Results
- Technical Assistance with Assessment Consultant

Group of local health departments working together to ensure all residents of Kansas are provided basic public health services



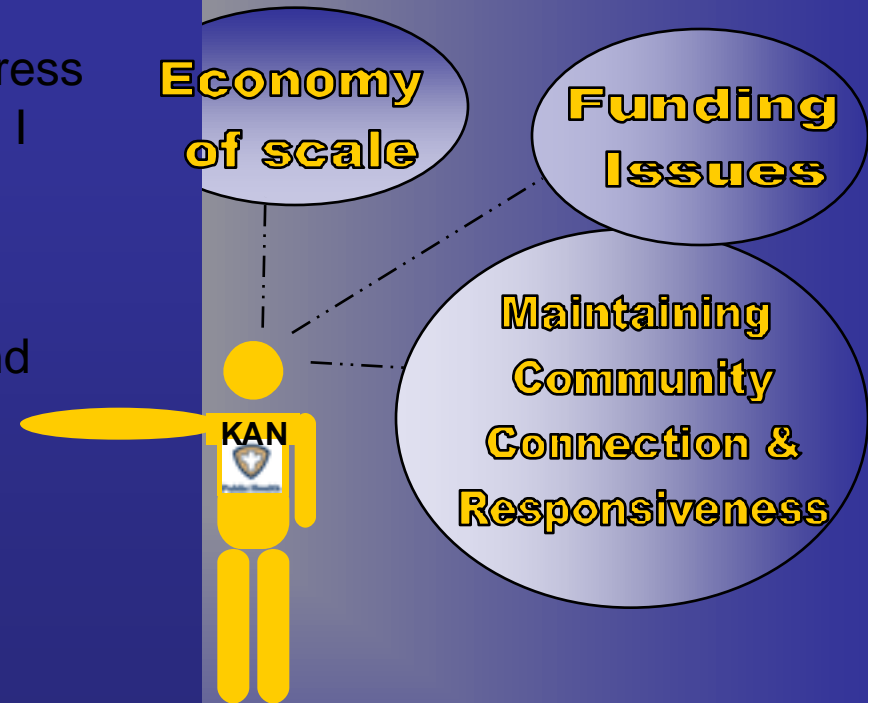


NACCHO Regionalization Project

BALANCING CHALLENGES

PHASE II

- Regional Selection of Capacity Gap to Address Based on Assessments Compiled in Phase I
- Planning to Address Gap
- Engage Kansas Association of Counties and Local County Commissioners
- Technical Assistance
 - Planning Consultant
 - Legal Consultant
 - Economic Consultant
 - Communications Consultant

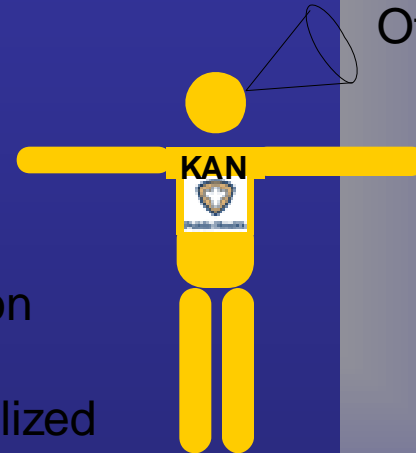




NACCHO Regionalization Project

PHASE III EVALUATION

- Develop Case Studies
- Share Lessons Learned
- Create Awareness and Support for Functional Regionalization
- Position a rural state with a decentralized public health system for accreditation



Target

Audiences

- Public Health Community
- Other Kansas PH Regions
- Kansas Policy Makers
- Kansas Communities



Accreditation Approaches

- 1. Full Functionality within a Local Health Department**
- 2. Consolidation of Departments to Achieve Full Functionality**
- 3. Functional Regionalization-**
Group of Local Health Departments
Working Collaboratively
to Achieve Full Functionality that is
Economically Sustainable
Politically Viable