



**HEARTLAND PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION
AND TRAINING CENTER**
Kansas and Missouri

Summary of the PHTC

The Heartland Public Health Education and Training Center at **Saint Louis University School of Public Health** was established in collaboration with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, University of Kansas School of Medicine - Wichita and the Kansas Public Health WALD Center. The Heartland Center contributes as part of the HRSA national system of Centers through completion of national objectives regarding workforce and resource assessment, competency based program development, incentive and certification development, technology mediated communications and programming, and evaluation and research to determine workforce competence and capacity improvement. The Heartland Public Health Education and Training Center goals include the following:

- Develop integrated, competency-based workforce development programs based on national frameworks and guidelines
- Develop, implement and document methods to evaluate knowledge, skills and competencies at all levels of the workforce
- Collaborate with other Training Centers to meet national standards and share best practices, models and innovative approaches

Impact of the PHTC

- The training and education programs provided by the Heartland PHTC for the Missouri workforce have been guided by the recommendations from the assessment results. For example, the recommendations suggest a particular need for training in the general areas of: communication; policy development; emergency preparedness; and cultural competency. This year, 15 trainings have included instruction on communication and a large statewide conference on cultural competency was held for all local public health agencies in Missouri.
- Trainings are held in numerous sites throughout both Missouri and Kansas in order to reach all public health workers, especially among those in rural areas. Often, the interest has exceeded the capacity of the training.