



## **NEW ENGLAND ALLIANCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

***Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, Vermont  
and New Hampshire***

### **Summary of the PHTC**

The heart of the New England Alliance for Public Health Workforce Development is their partnership between **Boston University School of Public Health, Harvard School of Public Health, Tufts University School of Medicine Graduate Programs in Public Health, University of Massachusetts School of Public Health & Health Sciences, and Yale School of Public Health.** Through this partnership, the New England Alliance is working to:

- Create a culture of learning that promotes public health workforce development in each New England State;
- Develop strong collaborations among the academic partners and state and local public health practitioners who provide public health services to underserved areas and populations; and
- Support statewide academic-practice partnerships in each of the six New England States to assess, prioritize, plan, and employ flexible learning formats, including distance learning, to deliver competency-based training and education to the currently employed public health workforce.

### **Impact of the PHTC**

The education and training provided by the New England Alliance has an impact on a number of levels, including the health departments and the individual learner.

- **Health Departments:** The New England Alliance has convened several meetings with state and local health department leaders and workforce development coalitions from each New England state to encourage greater integration and collaboration of workforce development efforts throughout the region. Since September 11, 2001 there has been much interest in local public health workforce development with little systematic coordination to ensure that available resources address the local core public health workforce training needs. To address this, the Alliance is working with local and regional practice partners to share lessons learned through workforce assessments and promote adoption of workforce learner management systems that will enable more effective cross-state workforce development.
- **Individual Impact:** Numerous courses and training activities have been developed to enhance local health practitioners' (e.g. health officers, sanitarians and public health nurses) skills, competencies and job performance. For example, *Foundations for Local Public Health Practice: Tools Needed to Get the Job Done*, has been developed in direct response to many requests from local public health workers, representatives of professional public health associations, local public health coalitions and health department leadership from several states. This course offers a cross disciplinary perspective and serves as a solid foundation for other more advanced training in several important public health areas. This and other more specific trainings include both face-to-face and web-based components to ensure broad portability throughout the New England region and across the PHTC network.