



## **New Federally-funded Center for Public Health Workforce Development**

In September 2014, funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) allowed creation of the **New England Public Health Training Center (NEPHTC)**. The NEPHTC, funded for four years at approximately \$850,000/year, is administratively housed at Boston University School of Public Health (BUSPH), and encompasses all six states in the region. It operates through several Schools and Programs of Public Health, as “Local Performance Sites (LPS).” These include BUSPH, Dartmouth College, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Yale School of Public Health, and the University of New England. Other affiliated universities assisting in the work in their specific states include the University of Vermont and Brown University. The NEPHTC is one of 10 regional Centers and one national coordinating center selected and funded by HRSA to address training needs of state and local public health practitioners nationwide.

The goal of the NEPHTC is to strengthen the technical, scientific, managerial, and leadership competencies of the current and future public health workforce in New England to ensure regional capacity to deliver high quality essential public health services. It will do this by providing training opportunities for current and future practitioners at public health agencies throughout New England, and by providing support for field placement activities by graduate public health students and faculty/student/agency collaborations that will enhance the work performed by local public health agencies.

Across the New England region, the fragmented nature of local public health creates barriers to delivering high quality public health services. In addition, the opportunities and challenges created by the Affordable Care Act will require stronger knowledge and skills, and an ability to adapt to a rapidly changing health care and public health environment. The NEPHTC will build on and enhance work done over the previous 14 years by academic and community partners in the New England Alliance for Public Health Workforce Development, and will focus primarily on developing and delivering high-quality distance-based learning opportunities for governmental public health agencies at both the state and local level, and for community health workers employed across New England.

***NEPHTC: A Member of the Nation’s Network of Public Health Training Centers***