

Local Acts

Highlighting Innovation in Public Health

Background



Public Health Reports is a 130-year-old journal devoted to public health. It is distributed widely in the public health community. *Public Health Reports* publishes articles on research, practice, and viewpoint essays. Beginning in 2007, *Public Health Reports* in collaboration with NACCHO began publishing “Local Acts,” a peer-reviewed column featuring innovation in local public health.

Local Acts

This column name was chosen to reflect the importance of acting locally in the promotion of public health.

The goal of the column is to showcase the unique ways that local health departments protect their population and the environment.

Local health officials are encouraged to submit manuscripts covering such topics as creative marketing campaigns; targeted legal action under local health codes; unusual agreements with the private sector; and productive collaborations with other local government entities, such as schools. Health departments are encouraged to submit manuscripts on any initiative, program, resource, administrative practice, or tool that demonstrates exemplary and replicable qualities in response to a local public health need.

Specific Requirements

Manuscripts should be 1,000 to 2,000 words in length. Each should contain the following:

- A one-paragraph summary **abstract**;
- An **introduction** that outlines the problem and what spurred the health department to take action;
- An **initiative summary** that concisely explains what was done;
- A presentation of **outcome and evaluation**; and
- A **discussion** of lessons learned and next steps.



Submission Process

Manuscripts should be submitted to:

Public Health Reports
Attn: Local Acts
7774 Heatherglen Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45255

Or send by e-mail to Laurence Reed, Acting Editor of *Public Health Reports*, at manuscripts@publichealthreports.org.

Notification of receipt will be sent via e-mail. Please specify “Local Acts” in the submission.

Prospective authors should e-mail Lorna Thorpe, PhD, Contributing Editor for “Local Acts,” to ask if a particular topic would be encouraged for submission. Her e-mail is lthorpe@health.nyc.gov.

The manuscript will undergo an external peer review process if approved by the editorial board of *Public Health Reports*. Local health officers interested in serving on the peer review committee should contact Dr. Thorpe.