Survive and Thrive: Roadmap for New Local Health Officials

Learning • Networking • Coaching

Join the path to successful leadership in local public health.

The Program

Survive and Thrive is a training opportunity designed to enhance the skills of new local health officials (LHOs) at local health departments (LHDs) and provide them with the information, insights, and resources needed to lead their heath departments.

The program allows new and aspiring LHOs to engage with seasoned colleagues, learn new skills, and apply hands-on experience to the challenges and opportunities presented by this unique leadership role.

Survive and Thrive Fellows discover practical tools and tactics to help them engage elected officials and community partners; learn how to use strategic planning and incorporate human, financial, and information resources; and bolster their ability to resolve challenges unique to their roles at an LHD.

The National Association of County and City Health Officials has led three Survive and Thrive cohorts.

The Benefits

In 12 months, Fellows build on past experiences, learn from experts and leading public health practitioners, and become part of an integrated group of new and aspiring LHOs. Survive and Thrive enables Fellows to do the following:

- Network with experienced LHOs and peers;
- · Learn critical success strategies;
- Share experiences of successes and challenges;
- Discover resources that help solve problems;
- Master the habits of effective LHOs; and
- Engage with Survive and Thrive alumni from all over the country.

The Details

Participation in the program includes a 12-month commitment to active participation in program activities



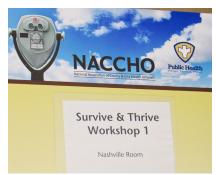
and assignments such as in-person workshops, distance learning, required readings, engagement with Coaches and peers, and contributions to peer learning teams. Seven core curriculum modules and four elective modules are tailored to the needs and priorities of each Survive and Thrive cohort.

The core curriculum includes the following topics:

- Leadership and management challenges for new LHOs;
- · Public health systems and core functions;
- · Leading and managing change;
- Creating alliances and partnerships;
- LHD organizational learning and management;
- Self-management for leaders; and
- · Public health law.

Survive and Thrive Fellows commit to approximately 100 hours over a one-year period that includes the following activities:

- Self-assessments;
- In-person attendance at two workshops;
- Preparation and participation in distance modules (e.g., webcasts and webinars);
- Monthly conference calls with Coaches and peers;
- · Site visit to shadow a Coach or other LHO; and
- Completing and implementing an individual development plan.









Scenes from an anything-but-typical Survive and Thrive workshop

The Roles

New Local Health Officials

New LHOs must have been in their position for two years or less.

Aspiring Local Health Officials

For the first time, Survive and Thrive includes aspiring LHOs—LHD staff who are being groomed for an LHO position in the near future. These aspiring LHOs have leadership positions within the LHD and are often second in command to the administrator of the LHD.

Coaches

The seasoned LHOs selected to serve as Coaches are passionate about mentoring new LHOs and are leaders in today's public health arena. Coaches commit to approximately 80 hours over a one-year period that includes attending in-person workshops and shadowing visits, leading regular team conference call discussions, and reviewing course content, 360-degree performance reports, and individual development plans.

Survive and Thrive is Networking

Peer networking and support are much lauded benefits to Survive and Thrive Fellows and Coaches. Teams made up of one Coach and up to five Fellows are matched at the beginning of the program year. Four regional centers support up to six Coaches and 30 Fellows throughout the year. The in-person events support face-to-face networking for all Coaches and Fellows. Participants share valuable resources and success stories on the Survive and Thrive social networking website available to current and previous cohorts.

Learn More

Discover more information about Survive and Thrive at www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/surviveandthrive/.

Acknowledgments: NACCHO developed the Survive and Thrive program with the support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the de Beaumont Foundation.





The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice for local health departments.

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