A Collaborative School Of Public Health
For Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Region

November, 2005

- Important public health problems face Coloradans – emerging infectious diseases, bioterrorism, costly injuries, escalating health-care costs, among others
- No school of public health exists in region (see map).
- Citizen and academic committee recommended creation of a collaborative, accredited school of public health for Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Region, 2002
- School creation permits coordination and expansion of public health training and research needed to meet pressing public health challenges

- Substantial existing resources developed in Colorado over past 20 years provide foundation for school (see box)
- 60+ faculty, administrators, and public health leaders from CU, CSU, UNC, and CDPHE involved in planning
- Strategic plan developed to draw on strengths of each institution
- Plan consistent with accreditation criteria: substantial expertise required in core areas of biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental/occupational health, behavioral/community health, and health services administration and policy
- Potential future expansion: informatics, genomics, communication, cultural competence, community-based participatory research, global health, policy and law, public health ethics, among others
- Development phase needed for curriculum, fundraising, marketing, and collaborative administrative agreements
- Administrative structure represents all partner institutions with direct communication to senior leadership and governing boards
- Consolidated UCDHSC serves as lead institution; CSU and UNC are equal academic partners
- Masters of Public Health (MPH), offered at each university, with specialized concentrations; joint degrees
- Center for Public Health Practice expands training for existing workforce, links students and faculty with practitioners
- Designed to benefit working professionals
- Research and teaching synergies will augment other programs at partner institutions
- Collaboration can expand to include other regional universities, community colleges, and public health agencies to meet needs of the greater Rocky Mountain region
- Colorado School of Public Health will attract substantial new funding for research and training, based on experience of other newly-developed schools
- School will be more than the sum of existing programs; will fill current void in public health education, research, and leadership for Rocky Mountain Region

Summary of existing resources
UCDHSC, CSU, UNC
- 9 core educational programs
- 19 related educational programs
- 71 primary faculty
- 75 secondary and affiliated faculty
- 150+ community volunteer faculty
- 300 courses
- 250 students currently enrolled
- $70 million research funding

Major features
- MPH at each partner
- MS, PhD in Biostatistics; Epidemiology; Health and Behavioral Sciences
- Center for Public Health Practice
- Certificate programs
- Distance and continuing education
- Future joint degrees (with MD, RN, DVM, JD, MBA, etc.)
- Collaborative research centers
- Projected enrollment: 425 students in year two

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