Plan4Health and the Texas Public Health Association

American Planning Association
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Who I Am

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Texas Public Health Association

- TPHA is a non-profit, state-wide association of public health professionals dedicated to public health in Texas.
- TPHA was organized in 1923 and is an affiliate of the American Public Health Association (APHA)
Texas Public Health Association (con’t)

• **Our Vision**: A safe and healthy Texas.

• **Our Mission**: Improving the health and safety of Texas through leadership, education, training, collaboration, mentoring and advocacy.
But first.....some definitions

• What IS Public Health, Anyway???
  – Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through promotion of healthy lifestyles, research for disease and injury prevention and detection and control of infectious diseases.

  – Overall, public health is concerned with protecting the health of entire populations. These populations can be as small as a local neighborhood, or as big as an entire country or region of the world.
One More....

• The Social Determinants of Health
  – Social determinants of health are conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.
  – Resources that enhance quality of life can have a significant influence on population health outcomes. Examples of these resources include safe and affordable housing, access to education, public safety, availability of healthy foods, local emergency/health services, and environments free of life-threatening toxins.

Source: WHO
TPHA/APA Partnership

• Established in October, 2014.
• Plan4Health Grant: Bringing together Planners and Public Health Professionals together through $$$.
• Round 1 funding went to Travis County. Round 2 funding went to Tarrant County.
Importance of the Planning/Public Health Partnership
Local Public Health System

- Schools
- Doctors
- EMS
- Law Enforcement
- Corrections
- Faith Inst.
- Community Centers
- Labs
- Hospitals
- Employers
- Civic Groups
- Mental Health
- Public Health Dept
- Parks and Rec
- Drug Treatment
- Elected Officials
- Military
- CHCs
- Transit
- Neighborhood Organizations
- City Planners
- Nursing Homes
- Fire
- Transit
- Labs
- Home Health
- CHCs
- Elected Officials
- Military
ACTIVITY!!!!

• In small groups, please discuss the following:
  – How can you as an individual have an impact on the built environment and public health?
  – What partners outside of local government can you work with?
  – What will it take for local decision-makers to take public health into consideration?