



## #HealthierMO

Transforming the Future of Public Health in Missouri

### Top Challenges for Missouri's Public Health System

In September 2014 early steps to build the #HealthierMO initiative began with data collection from 360 Missouri stakeholders through online surveys, key informant interviews, stakeholder system mapping, and priority issues identification. Data showed the Missouri public health system:

- lacks a systematic, coordinated approach to the structure, form, scope, and funding of the public health system,
- has great variance in how local public health agencies in Missouri are governed, financed, and supported by the community, and
- continues to face funding cuts, threatening the future of public health in Missouri.

In addition to these fundamental issues, stakeholders have identified other public health challenges.

- Limited access to care / capacity
- Lack of coordinated collaboration
- Inefficient communication
- Lack of timely, relevant, local data
- Lack of sustainable funding streams
- Lack of clear, recognizable leadership
- Barriers to meeting quality assurance, accreditation, and/or performance standards
- Disjointed voice on policy development, legislation, and advocacy
- Gap in workforce development, career laddering, and succession planning

What do you think? Are these the major challenges Missouri's public health system faces? What other challenges would you add to the list? Click [here](#) to share your thoughts.

The #HealthierMO initiative seeks to ensure the conditions in which everyone can be healthy, by transforming the public health system in Missouri and offering every Missouri resident the opportunity for a healthier life. To learn more about the initiative, or to share your public health impact story, visit [HealthierMO.org](http://HealthierMO.org) or Facebook [@HealthierMO](#).

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The Missouri Public Health Association is leading the #HealthierMO initiative in partnership with Support KC. Funding for the first phase of this multi-year initiative was provided by the Missouri Foundation for Health and the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City. To learn more, visit [www.HealthierMO.org](http://www.HealthierMO.org).