



## *Community Health Center and Primary Care Association Learning Teams*

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The Health Center and Primary Care Association (PCA) Learning Teams are a professional development community designed to effectively address on-the-job challenges and opportunities through peer-to-peer learning. This network helps PCA and Health Center staffs get oriented to their work, clarify approaches, build skills, and troubleshoot difficult issues through sharing best practices with other team members around the country.

Learning Team participants are able to connect, discuss, and share through monthly conference calls, face-to-face meetings, on-line postings, and the formal and informal relationships that develop between members of the Learning Team communities.

### *Participants*

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Membership ranges from 25 to 80 participants per Learning Team. Organizations are welcome to have more than one participant on a team, and also to participate on multiple teams. Only staff of state/regional Primary Care Associations may participate in PCA teams, and only staff of section 330-funded Health Centers are eligible to participate in Health Center teams.

There are seven PCA teams: CEO/Executive, Community Development for CHCs, Health Center Operations, Partnerships and Communications, Patient Centered Medical Home and HIT, Quality Improvement, and Workforce Development.

There are two Health Center Teams: Newly Funded Community Health Center Executives and New CEOs of Community Health Centers.

### *Partnerships*

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The Learning Teams are supported by a contract with Integrated Work Strategies (IWS) to maintain the range of support and facilitation activities. In addition, many other organizations contribute to the Learning Teams as subject matter experts, including HRSA Bureau of Primary Health Care National Cooperative Agreement partners, and experts from academia, nonprofit organizations, and others in fields relevant to the range of topics explored by the Learning Teams.

### *Key Successes*

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Participants report:

- *Learning teams have historically and consistently assisted me in helping community health centers with performance.*
- *Of all the meetings/conferences that I attend, it is these learning team meetings that I value the most. The camaraderie and sharing is phenomenal.*
- *I am very happy that we have the Learning Teams. It makes me feel connected, that I am part of a bigger picture, a bigger movement, and it helps me learn ideas of what I could be doing!*
- *The value of the collective wealth of knowledge held by learning team participants and their willingness to share with others is unprecedented and remarkable in my personal experience.*
- *The Peer Dialogue group has allowed me to accelerate the implementation of many new programs and improvements because I was able to learn from the experience of others and avoid mistakes by doing things right at the outset.*