

Public Health Nutrition Tasks

The MCH community is challenged to strengthen the nutritional status of women, children, youth and their families, including children with special health care needs. ASTPHND's MCH Nutrition Council encourages state personnel to review the public health nutrition task checklist below, identify what tasks they are currently addressing and consider how they can strengthen their program by incorporating the unaddressed tasks.



TASK	NOT MET	PARTIALLY MET	MET
Provide leadership and advocate for meeting the nutrition needs of the MCH populations			
Use a Life Course Health Development perspective to emphasize principles for optimal nutrition and wellness at the individual, population and policy levels			
Assure or plan interventions for individuals or groups that have special health needs or conditions			
Develop and manage systems of clinical nutrition care for MCH populations such as women with gestational diabetes			
Provide evidence-based guidelines, training, oversight and services related to case management, care coordination, and nutrition counseling for high-risk clients			
Provide evidence-based training and technical assistance, professional guidance, and training for nutrition or other staff and students when appropriate			
Share effective and promising public health nutrition practices with partners and collaborate to implement these practices			
Communicate and interpret evidence-based nutrition information to the public using effective techniques and current methods; ensure consistency and accuracy in nutrition messages across interdisciplinary teams			
Assess the nutrition needs of the state; plan, direct and evaluate nutrition interventions or programs, either as freestanding programs or as a component of more comprehensive public health initiatives			
Engage in program and systems development associated with nutrition issues and others such as emergency preparedness			
Develop health promotion and wellness strategies at the individual, community and policy levels			
Establish, support, participate, and/or oversee state advisory groups on topics such as food security, child health or obesity prevention			
Initiate quality improvement of nutrition interventions			
Develop and use nutrition surveillance systems; assure the inclusion of nutrition and food data in epidemiologic studies; and participate in the interpretation of results and development of recommendations			
Integrate nutrition components, as appropriate, within emerging areas of MCH practice			