



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FAQS ABOUT THE ROADMAP

What is Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing (CJS)?

CJS is the deliberate exercise of public authority to enable collaboration across political boundaries. Collaboration allows communities to solve problems that cannot be solved — or easily solved — by single organizations or jurisdictions.

Why would public health officials and policymakers consider CJS?

CJS can improve efficiencies and effectiveness. It can enable groups of public health departments to offer additional public health services that were out of reach before collaboration. CJS also can enhance readiness to meet accreditation performance measures and standards. In some instances the unit cost of a service can be lowered for participating jurisdictions and the level of service needed by each participating jurisdiction can be more closely tailored.

What is the Center for Sharing Public Health Services?

The Center for Sharing Public Health Services serves as a national resource on CJS, building the evidence and producing and disseminating tools, information and other resources, including methods

and models, to assist public health agencies and policymakers as they consider and adopt CJS approaches. The Center is managed by the Kansas Health Institute with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

What is the Center's Roadmap?

The [Roadmap to Develop Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Initiatives](#) is a guide for public health officials and policymakers who are considering or adopting CJS arrangements.

How was the Roadmap developed?

The Center works closely with 16 demonstration sites in 14 states involving 75 health departments and 122 governmental jurisdictions encompassing a diverse spectrum of CJS initiatives, from small-scale sharing projects to full health department consolidations. The Center provides technical assistance and a forum that allows these communities to share lessons learned with each other and the Center. In return, the demonstration sites act as a learning laboratory by providing real world experiences that the Center collects, analyzes and shares with public health officials and policymakers across the nation. Those experiences, along with other research and expert opinions, provide the knowledge and

insight that is the foundation of the *Roadmap*.

What are the benefits of using the Roadmap?

Undertaking CJS efforts can be complicated and time-consuming and, if not done carefully, may even produce undesirable results. Change, which is at the core of every CJS effort, can be difficult. The *Roadmap* combines lessons learned from the demonstration sites and frames them in such a way that other jurisdictions that are considering or adopting CJS can benefit from them. By following the *Roadmap*, public health officials and policymakers can focus their efforts on important issues and can avoid potential roadblocks. They can concentrate on their objectives instead of on developing a process. And the *Roadmap* helps ensure the necessary initial planning and exploration have been addressed before moving to implementation and operational steps.

Who should I tell about the Roadmap?

Public health officials and policymakers that are considering and adopting CJS approaches are the main users of the *Roadmap*. It can be shared directly with them or shared with the organizations and associations that work with them.

How does the *Roadmap* serve as a guide?

The *Roadmap* describes three phases to guide jurisdictions through the CJS process:

- Explore
- Prepare and Plan
- Implement and Improve

Each phase contains a set of areas to explore. Resources and tools are electronically linked to each area. Areas are further broken down into issues to consider, which are phrased as questions.

While the progression of phases should take place in the order presented, the areas and issues within each phase do not necessarily have to follow the same order as listed on the *Roadmap*.

If it becomes apparent during the process that some key areas or issues from an earlier phase were overlooked, it is important to go back to that phase and resolve them before moving forward.

Where do I find the *Roadmap* and how do I use it?

The *Roadmap* is on our website, www.phsharing.org/roadmap.

Once there, look for the *Roadmap Index* and select the link that best suits your needs. Links include:

- [Overview and Guidebook](#) — This path¹ leads to a quick overview that can be expanded to more in-depth information about each phase,

area and issue. It contains links to resources and tools along the way. By following this path, you will get the latest evidence available on CJS.

- [Summary Table](#) — This path² leads to a printable summary table where all phases, areas and issues are listed. It also contains links to tools and resources for each area. In addition to providing a quick reference guide, it can also be used to assess your current CJS effort. By asking yourself the list of questions on the summary table, you can determine if areas from earlier phases were skipped or need additional work.
- [Where should I start?](#) — Like all journeys, your CJS effort must start where you are. Each project is unique, so the place to start will be different for each initiative. To help you determine where you are currently in a CJS effort, the Center has developed a self-assessment of progress along the *CJS Roadmap*. Select this link³ to take the self-assessment.
- [Additional Documents](#) — This section⁴ contains links to printable documents that explain the *Roadmap* and how to use it.

What is the difference between the Center's Tools and Resources?

Resources contain primarily information. They may be the result of original work of the Center or they may have been produced by other experts. The Center has a large, searchable resource library that is

broken out by topic of interest. The Center is constantly adding resources to this library, which is possibly the most comprehensive library of CJS resources on the web. While the resources in the library primarily focus on public health CJS there are also resources addressing public sector CJS more broadly. Some of the resources from this library are connected to different areas of the *Roadmap*, so that users wanting more information about specific areas of the *Roadmap* can find it easily.

Tools assist CJS efforts and often involve some level of interaction with the user. They can take many forms, and some are the product of the work of the 16 demonstration sites. Examples include surveys to assess gaps in existing services, communications tools, self-assessments of readiness for CJS projects, and sample agreements that can be used by public health officials and policymakers to draft agreements specific to their effort.

What if I have additional questions?

Please email additional questions to phsharing@khi.org.

Endnotes:

1. www.phsharing.org/roadmap
2. www.phsharing.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/RoadmapTableVI.2.pdf
3. www.phsharing.org/assessment_tools/progress-along-roadmap/
4. www.phsharing.org/roadmap-documents/

CENTER FOR SHARING PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

The Center for Sharing Public Health Services helps communities learn how to work across jurisdictional boundaries to deliver essential public health services. The Center serves as a national resource on cross-jurisdictional sharing (CJS), building the evidence and producing and disseminating tools, methods and models to assist public health agencies and policymakers as they consider and adopt CJS approaches. The Center is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and is managed by the Kansas Health Institute. Copyright© Center for Sharing Public Health Services, 2014. Materials may be reprinted with written permission.

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