

Boston's Faith-Based Public Health Initiative

A partnership between Faith-Based Leaders and the Boston Public Health Commission

Background

During the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic, high disease rates were noted among racial/ethnic minorities in Boston. To enhance vaccination of vulnerable groups, BPHC developed and implemented a training series on influenza and vaccine administration for faith-based leaders. Recognizing this effort was successful, the Faith-Based Public Health Initiative was developed to help address other public health inequities through collaboration between faith-based leaders and public health professionals.

Mission

Our mission is to develop and strengthen community partnerships through collaboration with Boston's faith-based leaders. Through this partnership, we can create the changes necessary to promote health equities among Boston residents.

Objectives

Provide resources and technical assistance to faith-based organizations to host health fairs, flu clinics, health screenings and other wellness events

Conduct trainings to mobilize faith-based leaders to address the health needs of their congregation and the community

Increase collaboration between BPHC, community organizations, and faith-based leaders in addressing health inequities

**Building a Healthy
Boston
Together.**

Accomplishments

Faith-Based Obesity Awareness Mini-Grant

Faith-Based Clinician Flu Trainings & Clinics

Boston Faith-Based Leaders Newsletter

Faith-Based Website
www.bphc.org/faithbasedleaders

New Outreach Request Process for BPHC assistance with faith-based health fairs

What's next?

Health Fair/Wellness Center toolkit launch in Winter 2012

Partnership with the Chronic Disease division at BPHC to offer nutrition and diabetes trainings and workshops

Continue to promote BPHC activities, faith-based events, and other collaborative opportunities