



## The Multi-State Learning Collaborative: Lead States in Public Health Quality Improvement

The **Multi-State Learning Collaborative: Lead States in Public Health Quality Improvement (MLC)** brought state and local health departments together with other stakeholders—including public health institutes, health care providers, and universities—to improve public health services by implementing quality improvement (QI) practices. The MLC was managed by NNPHI and supported by the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) (RWJF). During the MLC's six years, QI teams in each of the 16 participant states prepared for [public health accreditation](#) and applied QI practices to achieve [specific and measurable goals](#), such as increasing immunization rates or increasing the number of adults exercising in a community. The MLC helped foster learning, comradeship, and momentum for accreditation; promote a new focus on infrastructure in public health departments; and grow the movement toward a culture of QI. When the MLC came to a close in April 2011, there were countless legacies, including the galvanization and preparation of health departments across the country for national accreditation.

NNPHI, the MLC participants, and the field of public health practitioners will continue to build upon the improved knowledge, practice, partnerships, and policy that resulted from the MLC.

*To learn more about NNPHI's Accreditation and Performance Improvement initiatives, contact Whitney Magendie, Program Coordinator, at [wmagendie@nnphi.org](mailto:wmagendie@nnphi.org).*