

Forces of Change Assessment Worksheet

Questions to consider:

- *What has occurred recently that may affect our local PH system or community?*
- *What may occur in the future? Are there any trends occurring that may have an impact?*
- *What forces are occurring locally? Regionally? Nationally? Globally?*
- *What characteristics of our county or even our state may pose an opportunity or threat?*
- *What may occur or has occurred that may pose a barrier to achieving the shared vision?*
- *Did discussion during other assessments or meetings surface any potential threats or opportunities?*

Trends - Patterns over time, such as migration in and out of a community or a growing disillusionment with government.

Factors - Discrete elements, such as a community's large ethnic population, an urban setting, or a jurisdiction's proximity to a major waterway.

Events - One-time occurrences, such as hospital closure, a natural disaster, or the passage of new legislation.

Kankakee County's Top Forces of Change (highlighted in orange)

1. ***Economic Development of Kankakee (6)***
2. ***Healthcare Reform (6)***
3. ***Growing Aging Population (5)***
4. ***Growing Hispanic Population (5)***
5. ***Loss of Homes (4)***
6. ***Focus on Healthy Lifestyles (4)***

Forces of Change (Trend, Events, Factors)	Threats Posed to the LPHS or Community	Opportunities Created to the LPHS or Community	SCORE	Questions/More Info Needed
Social				
<i>Growing Aging Population</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceeding available resources Increase in uninsured/Medicare population 	Develop/Strengthen existing resources	5	
<i>Increase in STDs/Teen Births/Out of Wedlock Births – Decrease in Family System</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strain on health delivery system Lessening of individual's/community's potential Increase in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase education Increase family support programs 	2	
<i>Growing Hispanic Population</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demand for diverse staff: language/cultural competency (esp. Mental Health) Exceeding available resources Increase in uninsured/undocumented populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide cultural competent health education Job recruitment for bilingual staff (workforce development) – nurses and other medical professionals 	5	
<i>Loss of homes (economic stress)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in Mental Health needs Increased stress due to individuals holding multiple minimum wage jobs Loss of family nucleus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community college as opportunity to retrain workforce 	4	
<i>Focus on Health Lifestyles</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competition for resources (\$) Lack of reimbursement/focus on preventive care Challenge: individuals' willingness to devote time to change (turns off some; imposition) 		4	

Economic				
Unemployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No health insurance Increase ER use Health risk Strain on system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Push for education Workforce development 	2	
Federal and State program cuts and Payment delay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Childcare assistance cut Mental health assistance cut Heating assistance cut Decrease healthcare assistance cut 	Diversify and strengthen existing resources	3	
Underemployment/Lack of benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor access – no insurance coverage Delay in care Skip “preventive” care 	Create new models and new access opportunities		
Increasing out of pocket/overall costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delays No coverage/care 	Create new models and new access opportunities		
Decreased funding	“Reactive” opposed to “Proactive”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More efficient networks Shared services/collaboration 	1	
Economic Development of Kankakee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> low % of college grads higher economic hardship high unemployment 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared services Collaboration Economic development Young/Hispanic population to retool skill development 	6	
Political				
How/Where does Healthcare Rank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where does healthcare rank in legislators’ priorities? Low Rank = Low Emphasis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby Educate Legislature 		
Healthcare Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention/Proactive Services Fewer Providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptation to new system Public sector more active More system opportunities 	6	
Gridlock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased Costs Uncertainty/Anxiety Unable to plan Not addressing healthcare needs 			

<i>Involvement of End-Users</i>	Less control over politicians	Clearer view/resources		
<i>Cost of medication</i>	Pharma profits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability • Need 		
Technological				
<i>Adoption of EMR/HIE</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidentiality and misuse of data • System costs • Potential to drive out some providers (unable to pay for new system/does not want to adapt to new system/learning curve) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better data – improved small area data regarding chronic disease • Access to medical records and health information • Seamless coordination of care 		
<i>Internet (World Wide Web)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to inaccurate information • Avoid ‘real’ care by substituting internet • Self diagnosis/treatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More access to information for patients/clients • LPHS proactive w/ eResources • Intra web/Social Media • Telehealth/psychology/therapy • Reliable education materials provided by health providers/institutions/local health department 		
<i>Social Media</i>				
<i>No access to Internet</i>	Unable to get important information and stay connected	Brainstorm other means in which to communicate w/ populations (radio, cell phone, television, newspaper, etc)		
<i>New Diagnostic/Medication/Treatment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More cost • More confusion – need for experts to prescribe/diagnose 	Better care/outcomes		
<i>Processing Information w/in Health Environment (Fast/Quick)</i>	Threatening/Avoidance by certain populations	Efficiency	1	
<i>Less Human Interaction</i>	Decrease in Jobs	More engagement/education for patient population		
<i>Decrease Language Barriers (Translation/Interpreter Programs)</i>	Decrease jobs/skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide cost savings • Patient satisfaction 		

<i>Widespread use of cell phones/social media</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of home/land phone lines • Not all individuals (elderly) have cell phones • Some organizations/institutions blocked from using social media 	Adapt to use of text/other modes of communication		
Environmental				
<i>Housing Conditions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asbestos/Paint/Bugs/Mold • Increased Illness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Opportunities • Screenings 	1	
<i>Nuclear Facility</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danger • Panic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness • Planning 		
<i>Waste Disposal Site</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water • Worry • Image 	Standards		
<i>Severe Winters and Summers (Cold/Heat)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Death • Illness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charitable projects • Community collaboration 		
<i>Green Initiatives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of understanding of how they might be positive • Fear of impact – cost prohibitive, lifestyle changes, job/skill changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve environment/energy • High recognition/promotion of those that take on green initiatives 		
<i>Catastrophic Events</i>	Population shift – increase in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • death/injury • homeless • rebuilding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early warning system • Emergency Planning • Family Shelter System • Community coming together 	1	
Scientific				
<i>High University presence (county –low average of college grads)</i>	Lack of affordability to attend – just because it's there doesn't mean everyone can go	Workforce development		

Lack of local research opportunities	Risk of not being able to address certain health needs (social/biological)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships with universities (local/Chicago) Workforce development – recruitment of Epidemiology staff and Research fellows 	1	
Decreased Immunization (misinformation/myths)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High level of outbreaks (ie. Measles) International exposure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased education Accessibility to receive vaccinations 		
Legal				
Healthcare Liability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease in \$ for the system Decrease in providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumer perceptions Better care 		
Anticompetitive Laws	Prevent collaboration			
Law Enforcement approach to social issues	Limits engagement Avoiding intervention	Training opportunities		
Immigration Issues	Avoid contact with law enforcement staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education of workforce Engagement of population 		
Challenges to local tax policies (reduce tax revenue)	Budget problems = reduced services	Grassroots advocacy		
Ethical				
Community	Lack of responsiveness of local government – how can local government help advancement of community?	Involvement		
Government Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over-regulation Under-regulation 	Increase political activism	1	
Large Corporations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase profits Decrease jobs Decrease benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entrepreneurships Education Local Partnerships 		
Health Care Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have's and Have Not's Equity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Clinics More community involvement from medical professionals/organizations 		
Health Disparities				
End of life issues/Patient Autonomy	Economic Influences	Address Palliative Care/Hospice		

<i>Resource Allocation</i>			2	
Other				
<i>Obesity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health risk • Unable to socialize 	Development of health education/programs for younger children	1	
<i>Engage Youth/Hispanic Populations</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce development • Community development to keep skilled individuals in Kankakee County (ie. Panera Bread) • Need a business-friendly community with opportunities for work • Embrace opportunities to be the “New Naperville” (ie. Riverwalk area) • Promote positive community characteristics (ie. schools, Bourbonnais) 	2	