

### **PHVCN Purpose**

The PHVCN provides a tool for communication between the Department of Health, local health jurisdictions (LHJs) and tribal public health.

### **About the PHVCN**

The PHVCN project provided networked video equipment to qualifying local health jurisdictions and tribes in Washington. The video network allows participants to easily meet face-to-face without the cost of travel. As of March 2011, 36 sites across the state have video conference units through the project. A grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for H1N1 pandemic influenza response provided the funding for this project.

### **Features of the PHVCN**

- Self-Service Dialing – Any partner site can establish a video conference connection.
- Phone Ports – Phone participants can join a video call.
- Document Viewing – The People and Content feature can be used to show presentations.
- Point to Point or Multipoint – Single or multiple video conference capable sites can be connected.
- Hardware Support – Sites that received their equipment as part of the project get three years of hardware support, maintenance, and training through June 2013 from Solutionz, Inc.
- Bridge Support – Department of Health technical staff assist with video conference meeting rooms and the video conference bridge.

### **Priority Use of the PHVCN**

Because the PHVCN is supported by emergency preparedness and response funding to improve communications between state, tribal, and local health partners during emergencies, the following priorities are established:

1. Public health emergency response.
2. Public health work that involves local public health staff (LHJs and/or tribal public health).
3. Other county or tribal business.

PHVCN bridge resources will be scheduled on a first-come first-serve basis. This includes audio ports for phone participants and increased meeting room sizes for video conferences with more than 5 sites.

### **Responsibilities of Participating Sites**

All sites that receive equipment as part of the PHVCN project agree to:

- Maintain the equipment and keep it in good working order.
- Identify an on-site PHVCN contact person and assure that our agency has the current contact information for that person.
- Reserve their own equipment and conference room resources for scheduled events they wish to participate in.
- Share the equipment with other governmental public health agencies that do not have equipment.

### **Department of Health Use of the PHVCN**

Department of Health staff are not to obligate LHJ or tribal health resources. Agency use of the PHVCN is reserved for events that involve local public health staff (LHJs and/or tribal public health) and fit the priority uses described above.