



Increasing access to laboratory training and education in a rural state

APHL Quality Improvement Forum, 4/18/2018

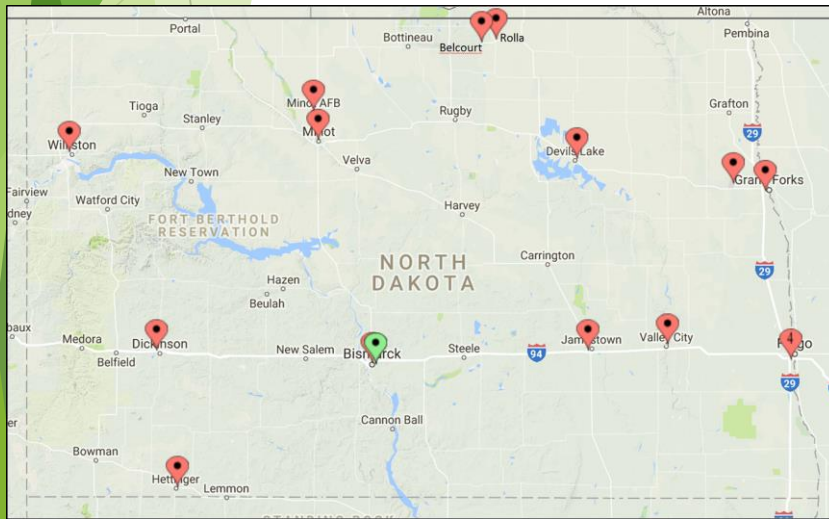
Tracy Hoke, BT Coordinator

ND DoH, Division of Microbiology Laboratory Services

Objectives

- Challenges and Issues
- Planning and buy-in
- Accomplishments
- Lessons Learned
- Future plans

Challenges and Issues Identified



- ▶ North Dakota is a large state geographically, but small population
- ▶ Most sentinel sites are small hospital laboratories
- ▶ Lack of staff to allow time to leave for training
- ▶ Space and budget constraints

Challenges and Issues Identified

In-person workshop:

- ▶ Maximum of 20 students/year
- ▶ Budget
 - ▶ In-person:
 - ▶ Hotel, mileage, per diem: \$3,400
 - ▶ Class materials: \$500
 - ▶ Media & Biochemicals: \$850
 - ▶ PPE: \$50
 - ▶ Staff Prep time: \$1,120 +
 - ▶ **TOTAL = \$5,920.00**

Online workshop:

- ▶ Unlimited enrollment
- ▶ Budget
 - ▶ TRAIN platform: Free
 - ▶ APHL Grant
 - ▶ PACE Credits: \$650/year
 - ▶ **TOTAL = \$650.00**

Planning and Buy-in

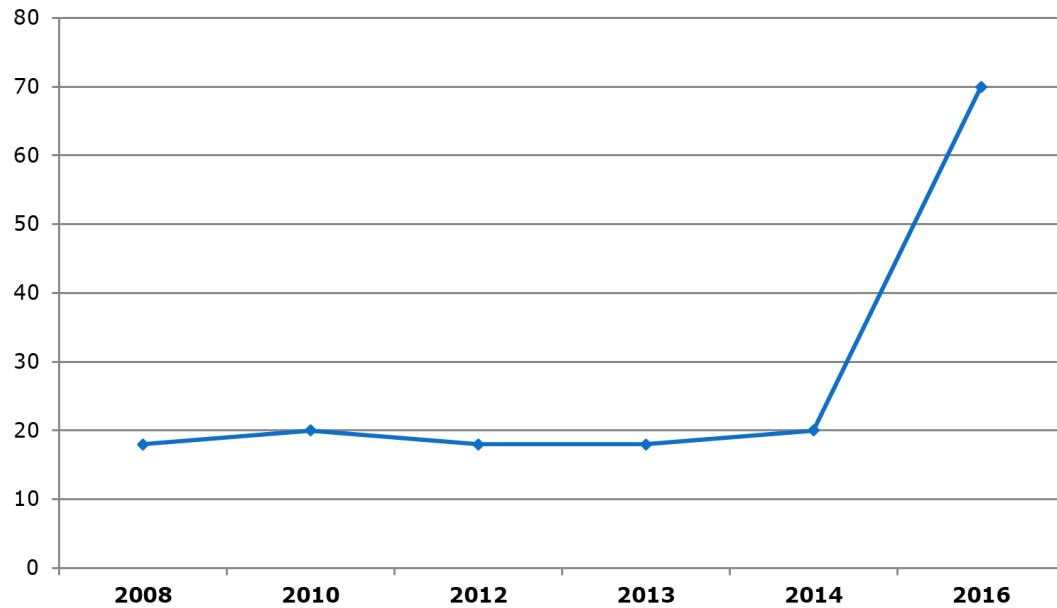
- ▶ Former BT Coordinator retired in 2015
- ▶ Former Microbiology Director resigned in 2015
- ▶ Lab staff down by 3 Microbiologists!!!
- ▶ Time commitment, lots of extra hours for workshop prep
- ▶ Great support from new Director
- ▶ Several staff have taught at MT/MLT programs



Accomplishments

- ▶ The ‘inaugural’ ND online workshop-2016:
 - ▶ Free version of adobe
 - ▶ Borrowed headsets for recording
 - ▶ Links were sent out via email
 - ▶ Assessments performed in Survey Monkey
 - ▶ Manual tracking of participants and completion
 - ▶ Emailed certificates

Accomplishments



—◆— No. Participants per Year

Accomplishments

▶ Participant Perspectives

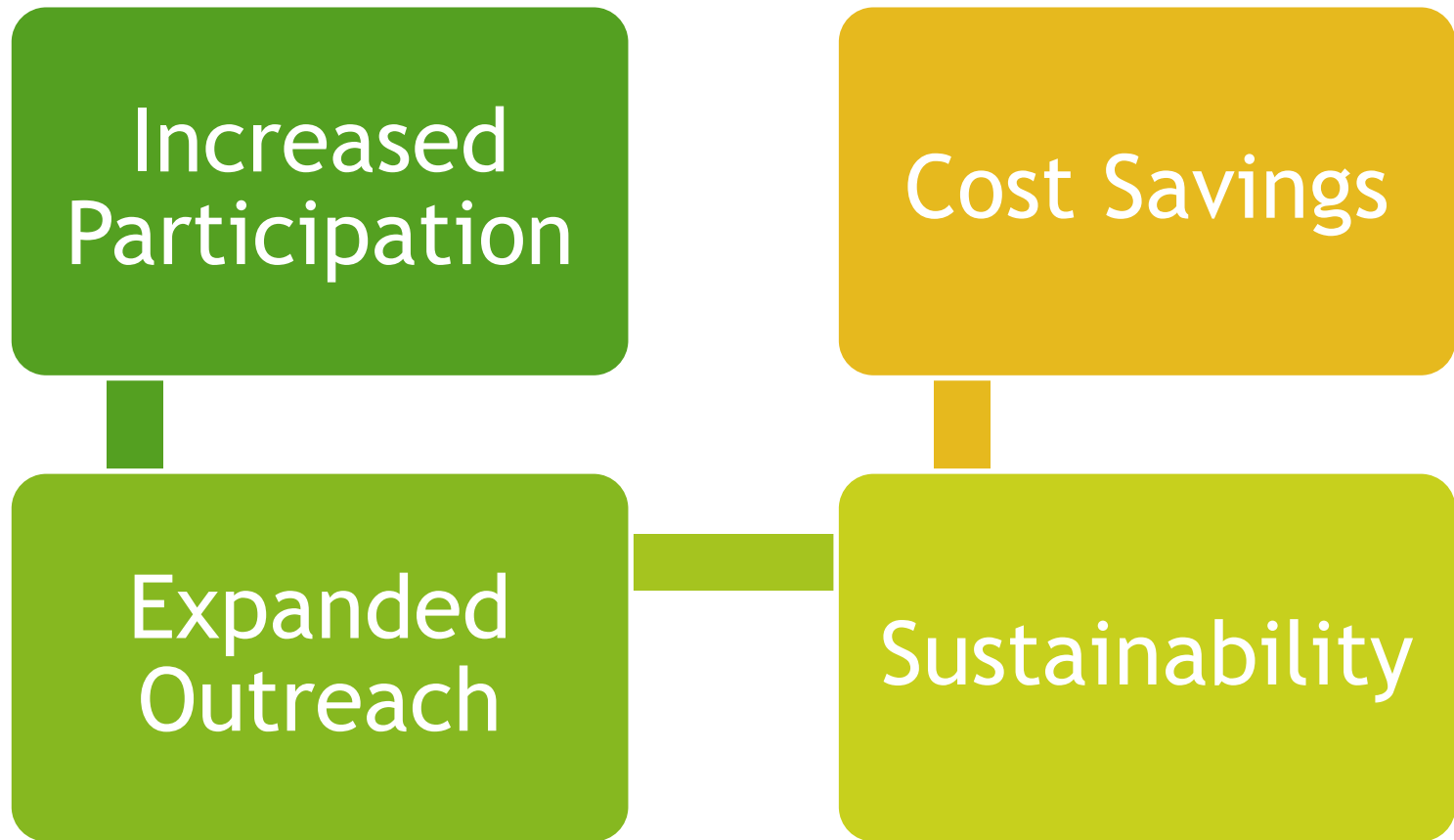
- ▶ 78% of participants prefer an online workshop
- ▶ 94% of participants would participate in another online workshop
- ▶ 61% said the topics were relevant to their job

- ▶ Why did you participate?
 - ▶ 50% said the topics were relevant
 - ▶ 39% said to receive CEUs
 - ▶ 11% said because it was free

Accomplishments

- ▶ “I'm really happy that this workshop has been offered through the ND DOH!”
- ▶ “What a great way to gain more useful info and add needed CEUs.”
- ▶ “I am so glad the workshop is free or I would not have participated.”
- ▶ “I really liked them and enjoyed the format.”
- ▶ “I thought you did a great job in this course! Thanks!”

Lessons Learned



Lessons Learned

- ▶ Research
- ▶ Teamwork
- ▶ Don't have to reinvent the wheel!





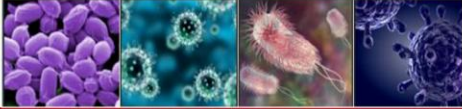
Future Plans

- ▶ 1. Maintain “core” courses
- ▶ 2. Involve more of our team
- ▶ 3. Obtain suggestions from others

Future Plans

► <http://www.ndhealth.gov/microlab/Courses/>

North Dakota nd.gov Official Portal for North Dakota State Government  Search

Medical Services Disease Control Microbiology Lab

- Microbiology
- Medical Testing ▾
- Water Testing ▾
- Biothreat
- Biosafety
- Nonhuman Testing
- Lab Supply Request
- Packaging & Shipping
- Archived Memos
- Courier Schedule
- Contact Us

TRAIN

1. Setting up a [TRAIN account](#)
2. Other TRAIN tutorials include the TRAIN Homepage, Managing your Account, and SEARCH. TRAIN tutorials are available [here](#)
3. Link to [TRAIN login](#)
4. You will be able to search for the courses, or you may use the following links:
 - Biosafety: So Much More than PPE! <https://www.train.org/main/course/1071550/>
 - CST and Public Health Partnerships <https://www.train.org/main/course/1071558/>
 - Environmental Sample collection and submission <https://www.train.org/main/course/1071556/>
 - Incident Command and Response <https://www.train.org/main/course/1071557/>
 - Emerging Diseases and Implementation of Emergency Use Authorizations <https://www.train.org/main/course/1071551/>
 - Trends and Issues in Public Health Laboratory Testing <https://www.train.org/main/course/1071562/>
 - Bacillus anthracis <https://www.train.org/main/course/1071543/>
 - Francisella and Brucella <https://www.train.org/main/course/1071555/>
 - Yersinia pestis and Burkholderia species <https://www.train.org/main/course/1071559/>
 - Smallpox and Toxins <https://www.train.org/main/course/1071563/>

PACE Credits are available through 12/31/2018. To obtain PACE credits, you must complete the assessment and the course evaluation. Certificates will be automatically generated upon completion.

FEEDBACK

Please give us feedback about your experience with the North Dakota Department of Health

Future Plans

- ▶ <http://www.ndhealth.gov/microlab/Courses/>

Program Goals

- **Basic knowledge and understanding of the Incident Command System (ICS), & Unified Command.**
- **Learn how to coordinate with response partners from all levels of government and the private sector.**



Future Plans

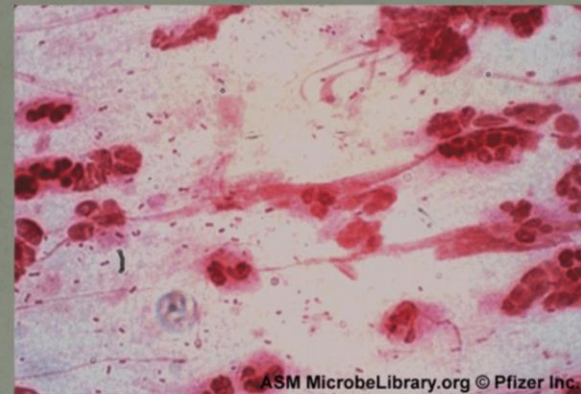
► <http://www.ndhealth.gov/microlab/Courses/>

CST Activities and Responses: More than just white powders

- Samoa Tsunami
- New Hampshire Anthrax
- Hurricanes Katrina and Ike
- Republican and Democratic National Conventions
- Nevada Ricin Incident
- Connecticut Anthrax
- Presidential Funerals
- Space Shuttle Columbia
- Operation Jump Start
- Major sporting events
- Vigilant Guard
- DHS/CJCS Exercises
- Boston Marathon Bombing



What do you see under the scope



- ASM MicrobeLibrary.org © Pfizer Inc.
- A. Gram negative rods
 - B. Gram positive rods
 - C. Gram negative coccobacilli
 - D. Gram positive cocci

