

Title: Community Participation	Policy Number: 3.1
Approved By: Joe Holliday MD, MPH	Program Area: Family Planning
Effective Date: 1988	Revised Date: 7/09

Purpose statement of policy:

To provide for participation in the development, implementation, and evaluation of services provided in Title X Family Planning Clinics in North Carolina through community education and project promotion.

Definitions:

Defined within the community participation policies the following areas must be addressed:

- Title X projects must provide an opportunity for participation in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the agency’s written plan of services by persons broadly representative of all significant elements of the population to be served and by persons in the community knowledgeable about the community’s needs for family planning services.
- Boards and advisory committees for family planning services must be comprised 1) by persons broadly representative of all significant elements of the population to be served and 2) by persons in the community knowledgeable about the community’s needs for family planning services.
- The I&E (informational and educational) committee may serve the community participation function if it meets the above requirements, or a separate group may be identified.
- The Community Participation Committee must meet annually or more often as appropriate.
- Each Title X Family Planning Project must provide community education programs and should be based on the needs of the community and should contain an implementation and evaluation strategy.
- Community education should serve to enhance community understanding of the objectives of the Title X project, make known the availability of services to potential clients, and encourage continued participation by persons to whom family planning may be beneficial.
- Title X Family Planning Projects must establish and implement planned activities whereby their services are made known to the community
- The Community Participation Committee should review a range of strategies and assess the availability of existing resources and materials.
- Promotion activities should be reviewed annually and be responsive to the changing needs of the community.

Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the local health department and its designated personnel to develop, implement, and evaluate the Community Participation Committee's activities directed to improve the services provided by the Title X Family Planning Clinics.

Policy:

The local health department will insure that written policies are in place that address the above required areas in the definition section for community participation through a Community Participation Committee which provides oversight for community education and project promotion within the community.

Legal Authority:

This policy is based on Title X regulations (January, 2001) Section 6.9 concerning community participation, education and project promotion as well as program requirements found in the Family Planning Agreement Addendum.

References:

Title X Guidelines can be accessed at:

https://www.grantsolutions.gov/gs/servlet/document.DownloadPdfPublicServlet?document_id=7157

Example policies may be obtained from the Women's Health Regional Nurse Consultants