Learning Collaboratives: Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a Learning Collaborative (LC)?

A Learning Collaborative (LC) is an educational approach of using groups to enhance learning by working together with others. Groups of two or more learners collaborate to solve problems, complete tasks, or learn new concepts about a specific health topic. It is a great opportunity to acquire new strategies and receive tools and resources that support the goals of the group.

2. How is a LC different than a regular webinar series?

Webinars are usually a live web based educational presentation that provide information about a given topic. Attendees tend to submit questions or comment after the presentation is complete. LCs are a great way to gain a more complete understanding of a given topic as a group. In a LC, participants will collaborate as a group in a learning session to understand the concepts being presented to them. They will engage in peer to peer learning by sharing ideas, asking questions, debating, and listening to other viewpoints. Participants may also develop or pilot tools and resources that are shared in a learning session to help them reach their identified goal.

3. What is expected of me?

Each LC will have specific learning objectives to enhance services to your patient population. In order to get the full benefit of the LC, participants are asked to participate and commit to all of the learning sessions for that group.

4. Is there a cost to participate?

All Learning Collaboratives are FREE to participants. We only ask that you attend all of the learning sessions of the LC you decide to join.

5. What if I miss a learning session?

If you miss a learning session, contact your assigned LC facilitator. The facilitator may provide information you missed and/or offer a make-up session for you to be up to date with what was discussed in the group. One of your team members or colleagues from your organization can attend on your behalf as well.
6. How much time will an LC require?

The time dedicated to each learning session will depend on the LC, and the objectives and goals of the participants; however, at a minimum, each learning session is expected to be at least 45 minutes long.

7. When will LCs start?

Each LC facilitator will determine the dates and times of the learning sessions based on the recommendation of its participants. Learning sessions may either begin in the Fall or the Spring, but contact the designated LC facilitator for more specific dates and times for learning sessions.

8. How many LCs can I join?

Staff from health centers, community-based organizations, and other farmworker serving agencies are welcome to participate in as many LCs as their schedule allows. A health center or organization can even designate different staff to attend an LC depending on the health topic that will be discussed. Feel free to sign up to the LC you are interested in by contacting the assigned facilitator for that specific LC.