Class Discussion

1. How does a municipal Health Department provide public health services?
2. What is the difference between municipal health services and health district services?
3. Do you think that municipal Health Directors should be appointed for terms of office, or like other department managers?
4. When a public health department provides courses for the public, what subject are they likely to focus on?
5. Do you agree with the CDC’s (Center for Disease Control) ten essential public health services?
6. If not, which ones do you think should be changed and why?
7. Can you describe the human services provided by your city or town government?
8. Do you think a local city or town government should provide any additional health or human services?
9. If so, who would pay for them, or how would they be financed?

Class Assignments

1. Prepare a list of the health or human services provided by your city or town government and who provides them. Is anything missing?
2. Look at your city or town’s website. Does it adequately explain its health services?
3. Look at your city or town’s website. Does it adequately explain its human services?
4. Check your municipal budget to see how much money is spent on these services. Have a class discussion on the worth of these services. Is there a need to educate the public about these services that they pay for and receive?

Field Trips-Other Ideas

- Take a field trip to your municipal or regional health department and have them explain all the services they provide.
- Invite a public health official to class to explain the services provided. Ask if there is any other public health or human services that they would like to provide.
- If they would like more services, ask them how they would be financed – user fees and charges or state grants.