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Discussion: 1 Unit 5

Leadership in Public Health

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The crescendo of seemingly intractable threats to our global well- being has prompted a call for more leaders in public health. Indeed, many highly motivated and well intentioned individuals seem poised to respond. But as aspiring public health leaders prepare for action, there is a marked dearth of proven and tested teachings, models and frameworks to guide them. As hard as it may seem to believe, communications centers regularly have staffing problems. The lack of national standards for staffing these centers. Fire and Police departments are rated by several agencies on their ability to respond quickly to emergency situations. Leadership is a process in which an individual influences the progress of group members toward attainment of a goal. Types of leaders vary by method of selection and the roles they are expected to perform. The person who emerges as the leader of a team may not be the one best suited for the role. However, successful leaders must move beyond passion. In regularly tapping the realms of social strategy, political will and interpersonal skill, these individuals must also develop sophisticated, tactical leadership techniques that extend beyond running any single organization.