NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: FIRST PHASE REPORT ON STDS FOR THE NATIONAL COALITION OF STD DIRECTORS

Shoshanna Sofaer, Dr.P.H.

NAPA Fellow, STD Panel Member

**NAM STD Study Committee Meeting** 

September 9, 2019

- Genesis of the First NAPA Report
- ► NAPA Study Panel Members/Team Members
- Challenges to STD Control and Prevention
- Actions for Consideration to Move the Field Forward
- ➤ Status of the Second NAPA Report2

#### **OVERVIEW**

- What is the National Academy of Public Administration?
- Our role in conducting studies
- ▶ The request from the National Coalition of STD Directors
- ▶ Time Frame
- Methods

## FIRST NAPA REPORT

#### NAPA Fellows:

- Georges Benjamin, M.D., Chair
- Kenneth Kizer, M.D.
- Gregg Pane
- William Gimson
- Shoshanna Sofaer, Dr.P.H.

#### NAPA Study Team

- Brenna Isman, Director of Academy Studies
- Cynthia Heckmann, Project Director & NAPA Fellow
- ▶ Laurie Ekstrand, Senior Adviser, Phase One Report
- Richard Pezzella, Research Associate

## WHO PARTICIPATED?

- :Fragmented nature of the health care landscape in general
  - Numerous intergovernmental and nongovernmental stakeholders who influence STD prevention and control and who therefore must (but do not always) collaborate
  - The good news and the bad news: Medicaid expansion
- > STDs themselves:
  - > They intersect with each other, with HIV and other infectious diseases
  - Drug resistance issues are emerging (gonorhhea)
  - They occur in a nation both obsessed and uncomfortable with open discussion of sex and sexuality
- Characteristics of those affected by and at risk for STDs
  - People with few resources and little power: adolescents and young people; MSM; newborns; poor people; people of color; people in states that have not expanded Medicaid (e.g. many Southern states)

## CHALLENGES TO STD PREVENTION & CONTROL

- Infrastructure limitations and wide variations:
  - Testing; reporting; treating; identifying additional individuals at risk;
- Limits on our ability to learn what has and will happen:
  - Data problems; paucity of studies of what does and does not work, especially in prevention; inherent methods challenges, especially in estimating costs of treating and not treating
- ► INADEQUATE, INDEED DECLINING FUNDING

# CHALLENGES TO STD PREVENTION & CONTROL

- Identify and Empower a National Champion
- The Need to Change the Narrative to Achieve Public Recognition of the Importance of STDs
- The Need to Remove Artificial Barriers Across Multiple Problems that often Intersect
  - ► HIV, HPV, Opioid Crisis, etc.

### **ACTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

#### More and better data, research and evaluation

- Accurate epidemiological estimates cannot be generated without improvements in uniform data specifications, data submission and data integration
- We need to generate and rigorously test new ideas for prevention and control

#### A personal note:

The US has managed to address a sexually transmitted disease, HIV, even hepatitis, in an organized and reasonably well-funded way. What will it take for this to happen for STDs, given the wide range of points of view about sexuality, sexual and gender preferences, and reproductive health?

### **ACTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

#### NCSD asked NAPA to carry out a second study

- This is underway with same panel and a slightly different study team
- Focus has been on exploring what is happening on the ground at the state and local level
- We are also working with a team of graduate students at GWU to to describe funding streams in detail
- ➤ The report will be done by the end of 2019
- We encourage you to build on it in your work!

## THE SECOND NAPA REPORT