NIOSH Miner Health Program Strategic Agenda

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Disclaimer: The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.
Leading up to today

- 2017: Individual partner meetings
- 2018: Engagement & Strategic Planning
- 2019: National Academy of Sciences Conversation
- 2020: Workshop for Miner Health
- 2021: Some things happened, Miner Health Partnership Kickoff, Miner Health Strategic Agenda goes live
The Miner Health Program Strategic Agenda 2020-2030

- Describes origin and direction of planned activities related to improving worker well-being for the entire mining population

- Program **Goals** and **Activities** express:
  - Desired changes in work-related illness, injuries, or fatalities
  - Actions organizations and individuals can take using NIOSH research findings or products to contribute to stated strategic goals
  - Ways to move research findings into practice

https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/researchprogram/strategicplan/MHProgram_StrategicAgenda2020-2030.html
## Informing the Agenda

### NIOSH
- Respiratory Health Division
- Total Worker Health
- Health Effects Laboratory Division
- Pittsburgh Mining Research Division
- Spokane Mining Research Division
- Office of the NIOSH Director
- Office of Mine Safety & Health Research

### External
- Labor
- Trade organizations
- Industry
- Academia
- Government
- Independent consultants
- Legal
- MSHRAC

### Ongoing
- More engagement opportunities ...
Core Functions

1. Research
2. Evaluation
3. Community Engagement
Goals & Activities

Work collaboratively with mining stakeholders to address issues affecting the well-being of miners by building trust, enlisting new resources and partners, and improving communication to promote the exchange of ideas and best practices.

- Develop **partnerships** and collaborations with community stakeholders
- Build strategic expertise in health communications
- Improve internal coordination with NIOSH programs and researchers regarding research relevant to miner health
Goals & Activities

Build capacity to prospectively evaluate and communicate the efficacy and effectiveness of Miner Health Program activities, interventions, and outputs.

- Build the Miner Health Program’s capacity to evaluate its efforts
  - Personnel and competencies
- Develop a systematic approach to assess if MHP activities are being carried out as planned and are accessible and acceptable to our key stakeholders
- Develop, assess and characterize the effectiveness of the MHP
  - Establish methods to measure the adoption of research products and recommendations and to determine the type and magnitude of changes
Intermediate Goal 1

To better understand the health experience of miners and investigate factors that influence worker well-being

- Establish a framework to systematically measure and compare outcomes, conditions and exposures over time and to other occupational groups
  - Ongoing and in perpetuity
- Conduct studies on conditions that affect readiness-for-work
  - Heat exposure, fatigue, mental health, substance use/misuse, MSDs, etc.
- Complete studies to better understand patterns of aerosols exposures
  - Silica, coal dust, diesel particulate matter
  - Across mine sectors and among active and retired mine workers
- Complete studies to understand organizational commitment to safety, health, and well-being, and the impact on worker health
  - e.g., Risk assessment and implementation strategies
Research

Intermediate Goal 2

To evaluate new and emerging health hazards and sentinel events (cases)

Examples

• Opioid epidemic
• Global and other large-scale events
• Pandemics
  • Maintain healthy business operations
  • Reduce transmission among employees and the public
  • Maintain a healthy work environment

https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/
Miner Health Program
Mission, Vision, Values

• Mission: a statement of purpose
  identify, develop, and promote health and safety solutions that maximize miner protection, minimize harmful exposures, and prevent disease

• Vision: a vivid image of the future we seek to create
  improved well-being for the entire mining population

• Values: the guiding concepts, beliefs, or principles
  service, honesty, evidence, communication, and utility
Values defined

Service
The work and research conducted is a public service directed at benefiting the health and well-being of miners and is not motivated by self-interest or promotion.

Honesty
Our research is open, transparent and collaborative, so as to assure trust and credibility.

Evidence-based
The judgement and decisions we make are informed and based on evidence, reason and an understanding of uncertainty.

Communication
We engage and listen to all thoughts before clearly articulating direction, findings or feedback.

Utility
The products of the Program are of high quality, have direct application, and can be measured for usefulness, satisfaction, or benefit.