

# Denominational and Religious Health System Approaches to Congregational and Community Health



- United Church of Christ
  - 1906
  - German Evangelical Deaconess Hospital
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
  - 1897
  - Norwegian Lutheran Deaconess Home and Hospital
- Merger in 1995
  - Leading integrated health system nationally

# Congregational Partnering

- Congregations founded institutions
- Parish Nursing
- Community Health Departments
- Local sites
- Congregational Health Partnerships

# Congregational Health Partnerships

## Program Activities

- Training
- Consultation
- Networking
- Resource Linking
- Relationship Building
  - denominational, community, partners

# Program Activities

- Publications
- Resource Library
- Health Assessments
- Site Projects and Grants
  - Senior Ministry
  - Mental Illness
  - Site Coordinators
  - Just Eating

# Evaluation Efforts

- Journey Mapping
- Community Memorial/UIC Consultation
- Journaling
- Monthly reports
- Data sheets
- Health Assessment data

# Successes

- Strong and growing network of congregations
- Programs designed around congregations
- Development of models beyond parish nursing

# Challenges

- Congregations
  - Congregational life
  - Moving outward
  - Pastoral engagement
- System
  - Local coordination and follow-up
  - System communication
- Evaluation
- Blessing of potential



# Learnings

- Relationships over time
- Strong technical assistance and guidance
- Grounding in faith
- Building on what exists
- Accountability
- Money isn't everything
- Partner with others
- Keep learning