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No. 180, 2003

Nyonator, Frank K., J. Koku Awoonor-Williams, **James F. Phillips**, **Tanya C. Jones**, and **Robert A. Miller**. "The Ghana community-based health planning and services initiative: Fostering evidence-based organizational change and development in a resource-constrained setting," *Policy Research Division Working Paper* no. 180. New York: Population Council. ([PDF](#))

Abstract

Research projects demonstrating ways to improve health services often fail to have an impact on what national health programs actually do. An approach to evidence-based policy development has been launched in Ghana that bridges the gap between research and program implementation. The Community-based Health Planning and Services (CHPS) initiative employs strategies tested in the successful Navrongo experiment to guide national health reforms that mobilize volunteers, resources, and cultural institutions to support community-based primary health care. Over the 1999 to 2002 period, 100 out of the 110 districts in Ghana adopted a CHPS initiative. This paper reviews features of the initiative that explain its success and constrain future progress.


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