

NCPHA E-Newsletter

June 2019

Newsletter from the NC Public Health Association and the NCPHA Public Awareness Committee

Message from the President

– David Jenkins



One of our strategic goals for the NC Public Health Association is to increase member engagement as we grow our membership. It is our goal that all members find value and benefit from membership. A healthy membership allows us to provide more affordable opportunities as an association.

As a Member of the NC Public Health Association you will enjoy:

- Leadership and educational opportunities within NCPHA committees, sections and council.
- Opportunity to participate in section-specific activities.
- Representation by a registered lobbyist at the N.C. General Assembly.
- Networking and social activities with other public health professionals and advocates.
- A discounted rate for the NCPHA Fall Educational Conference.
- Access to numerous awards and scholarships.
- Opportunity to apply to the Emerging Leaders Program coordinated in conjunction with the NC Medical Society.
- Access to the NCPHA Employment E-List, a members-only weekly e-list of public health job vacancies from across the state.

By now most everyone should have received an annual membership renewal application, whether individual or organizational. I want to encourage active members to renew and non-members to please sign up. For those that receive the organizational application, I challenge you to select six staff that could benefit from membership as an employee development opportunity for the many public health leaders among our ranks.

In closing I want to say thank you for your membership with our association.

Sincerely,

G. David Jenkins, MPA



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Legislative Report



NCPHA's Advocacy Agenda was approved by the Governing Council in late February. To read the entire list of priorities go to: ncpha.memberclicks.net/advocacy.

We are hopeful Medicaid will finally be expanded this legislative year through the "Working Families Act." At this time the bill has not been assigned to a committee, but it may be added to the compromise budget bill and pass in that fashion.

NCPHA Young Professionals Win the America's Tooth Fairy Best Smile Drive Contest!



The Young Professionals Smile Drive at the 2018 FEC in Charlotte was the winner of the America's Tooth Fairy Best Smile Drive Contest. The contest was sponsored by the National Children's Oral Health Foundation who wrote, "Although there were many submissions, the NC Public Health Association did a fantastic job with having various public health agencies across the state collect products prior to your conference. In addition, your pictures you've submitted show great creativity which was a plus! We sincerely appreciate all your efforts in bringing awareness to the importance of children's oral health." Congratulations, Young Professionals!!

Message from the NCPHA Spring Education Conference: *We All Need to Be Marketers*

– Elizabeth Thomas, North Carolina Institute for Public Health



NCPHA Spring Education Conference



You can probably name three (or three dozen!) services your health department provides, but chances are the average member of your community can't. In his keynote to the Spring Education Conference, author Rick Reynolds described common pains experienced by health departments across the country: they are misunderstood, “invisible,” and underfunded. To stay competitive and serve communities, public health staff at all levels need to communicate their value at every opportunity.

Throughout the day, conference attendees learned about common marketing needs and techniques, such as marketing to existing clients, legal issues for public employees using social media platforms, and campaign evaluation. Over lunch, Wake County Commissioner Sig Hutchison and author Jeff Tippet encouraged the audience to embrace social media with interesting, authentic, and engaging messages that keep the audience's needs and priorities in mind.

While marketing may not feel intuitive to everyone in public health, devoting some time and energy to setting up a marketing plan and using common social media platforms can help us educate, serve, and connect with our communities.

2019 Young Professionals in Public Health Conference: Healthy Babies Initiative



Young professionals and students from across the state gathered on May 15 for the first annual Young Professionals in Public Health Conference. The energy in the room was contagious as we kicked off the morning with a North Carolina Public Health Association (NCPHA) healthy babies overview by NCPHA past president, Dr. Suzanne Lea, followed by a dynamic mentorship panel discussion. Mentors and mentees from various backgrounds and agencies shared their experiences and the importance of having a mentor throughout one's public health journey. Attendees learned that being a leader is not easy and a good leader can delegate and admit when they do not have the answer. We must be practice emotional intelligence, understand different personality traits, and strong communication is key to be

successful leaders. Panelist, Cornell Wright's message was key for us to remember in public health, "Don't do things in the spirit of perfection, but in the spirit of excellence."

Throughout the day, breakout sessions covered topics including father engagement and infant mortality, moving from public health 1.0 to 3.0, techniques for self-care and the importance of taking the time to practice self-care, and the progress to date and need to advocate for tobacco-free moms and babies. During lunch, NCPHA Young Professional and conference planning committee member, Michaela Penix provided a powerful keynote about how we, as public health young professionals, are "The Ultimate Superheros for Babies." We can make a difference in the future of the next generation and we must work together with our superhero capes in hand to do so. The day closed out with a competitive and fun game of public health team trivia.

Excitement filled the NC Medical Society during the conference. Lessons were learned, relationships were built, and opportunities and ideas for the future of public health and the young professionals were endless. We hope to make this an annual event, as attendees already wanted to save the date for next year. Special thank you to Shahnee Haire, Young Professional Event Planning Chair, the conference planning committee members Mackenzie Brown, Heather Cooke, Caitlin Dooley, Leah Mayo, and Michaela Penix for making our first conference a great success! Thank you to Kim Dittmann, Lynette Tolson, and all NCPHA members for your support and assistance.



NCPHA Major Awards Nominations!

Now's the time to nominate your co-worker, community partner, or health department for one of the NCPHA Major Awards! Nominations are also being taken for the Ann Wolfe Mini-Grants of \$8,000 each and the All-Star Awards. **All are due by Friday, July 5.**

Go here for more information and the nomination forms: ncpha.memberclicks.net/awards-grants-and-scholarships.

Reynolds Achievement Award:

The Reynolds Achievement Award is bestowed upon the individual member of NCPHA who has made the greatest contribution to public health in North Carolina during the past year. Winner is awarded \$500. Sponsored by the NC Medical Society.

Rankin Legacy Award:

The Watson S. Rankin Award is given to a NCPHA member in recognition of outstanding contributions to public health in North Carolina over the member's lifetime. Winner is awarded \$1000.

Distinguished Service Award:

This award is given to a NCPHA member for their service to NCPHA. Nominated by the NCPHA Executive Committee. Winner is awarded \$250.

Partners in Public Health Award:

This award was established in 1998 to recognize other organizations and professions outside public health departments who have made significant contributions to public health in North Carolina over the past year. Winner is awarded an organizational membership to NCPHA.

Dr. Sarah Taylor Morrow Health Departments of the Year:

This award is given to health departments for outstanding programs and efforts. Awarded to two health departments based on the population size in the county. Health department must be an organizational member of NCPHA. Winners are awarded \$1000.

The following pages have the nomination submissions for both Jackson County Health Department and Gaston County Health and Human Services. These health departments do some amazing work and we hope you will find this information beneficial to you and your health department/agency.

The Dr. Ann F. Wolfe Endowment Mini-Grants:

The Dr. Ann F. Wolfe Endowment was established in October of 2003 through the estate of the late Dr. Ann Wolfe. The endowment was established as a component fund of the North Carolina Community Foundation. The purpose of the fund, as stated in the establishing agreement, is to combat infant mortality and enhance child health. This purpose is to be accomplished through mini-grants to local health departments to aid their work in these endeavors.

All-Star Awards:

Each public health agency is being asked to look through their ranks and identify that special, spirited someone that epitomizes "Public Health." All professions and positions are open for nomination to the All-Stars Team! All you have to do is complete a brief nomination form and submit it by the July 5, 2019 deadline. Winners will be awarded \$25 plus All Star award sponsored by Advanced Imaging.

Award Nomination Deadline:

July 5, 2019



Jackson County Health Department – Winner of the Inaugural Dr. Sarah Morrow Small County Health Department of the Year Award

Jackson County is a Tier 1, rural county located in the heart of Western North Carolina, surrounded by the Great Smoky Mountains and the Blue Ridge Parkway. Jackson County consists of 494 square miles of mountains, rolling hills, and fertile valleys. Elevations in the community range from 2,000 to over 6,000 feet. Because of this pleasant climate and scenic beauty, Jackson County attracts not only many tourists but also many retirees to the area. Jackson County is home to four main towns (Sylva, Dillsboro, Webster, and Forest Hills), many residential areas (Cullowhee, Cashiers, and Tuckasegee), and the Qualla Boundary—a tribal reservation for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Notable geographic features of Jackson County include Richland Balsam (the county's tallest peak at 6410 feet), Whitewater Falls (411 feet), and Panther town in Cashiers, which has been described as the "Yosemite of the East." Additionally, the picturesque Tuckasegee River flows 40 miles through the county. There are many lakes and streams, ideal for water activities such as rafting, kayaking, and fishing. Jackson County is considered centrally located to surrounding metropolitan areas, many of which are out-of-state. It is 150 miles from Atlanta, GA; 111 miles from Knoxville, TN; and 196 miles from Columbia, SC. Ironically, Jackson County is 292 miles from Raleigh, NC—its own state capital. This distance from the capital lends to a feeling of isolation from state lawmakers and inaccessibility to state resources at times. Adding to the feeling of isolation and inaccessibility, Jackson County has mountainous terrain, rough roads, and can experience harsh winters.

The Jackson County Department of Public Health (JCDPH) is a fully accredited agency, serving Jackson and surrounding counties since 1943. JCDPH has 55 full time and 5 part time employees, comprised of the following categories: administrators, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, medical assistants, medical laboratory technicians/-ologists, office processing assistants, registered environmental health specialists, animal control officers, and health educators. The agency is organized into four major service divisions—Clinical, Nutrition, Environmental Health, and Health Education. Clinical services include adult, child, and teen health; women's health and family planning; maternal health; BCCCP/WISEWOMAN, communicable disease; sexual health; bridge counseling; a full-service laboratory; and employee health. Nutrition services include WIC, breastfeeding support, diabetes education, and medical

nutrition therapy. Environmental health services include animal control, inspection services, onsite waste water protection, and complaint investigation. Health education services include Active Routes to School, teen pregnancy prevention, diabetes education, CC4C, Smart Start, and Healthy Carolinians of Jackson County.

The 2015 Community Health Assessment (CHA) indicated that healthy eating/physical activity, injury and substance abuse prevention, and chronic disease are the health priorities in Jackson County. The average self-reported prevalence of adults with diabetes in our community is 10.7%, greater than that of our region and state. Further, 10.0% of adults self-report being diagnosed with borderline or pre-diabetes, a condition that will lead to diabetes if lifestyle changes are not adopted. To address this health priority, JCDPH began teaching the Diabetes Prevention Lifestyle Program (DPP), an evidence-based lifestyle change program for prevention type 2 diabetes. The year-long program helps participants make real lifestyle changes such as eating healthier, including physical activity into their daily lives, and improving problem-solving and coping skills. Participants in this program meet with a trained Lifestyle Coach and a small group of people who are also devoted to making a lasting change. Sessions are held weekly for 6 months and then monthly for 6 months. This program, proven as evidence based through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), can help people with prediabetes and/or those at risk for type 2 diabetes make achievable and realistic lifestyle changes and cut their risk of developing type 2 diabetes by 58%.

While implementing this program, JCDPH worked towards achieving Full Recognition from the CDC. Full Recognition indicates that the agency has effectively delivered a quality, evidence-based program that meets all the standards for CDC recognition. These standards include 1) implementing the program using the approved curriculum, 2) implementing the program for a full year with the appropriate intensity, 3) achieving an attendance rate of 60%, 4) documenting body weight during at least 80% of sessions, 5) documenting physical activity during at least 60% of sessions, and 6) participants must lose an average of 5% of their starting body weight (as a unit). *(Continue on following page)*



Continued... Jackson County Health Department – Winner of the Inaugural Dr. Sarah Morrow Small County Health Department of the Year Award

(Continued) From 2015 to 2017, JCDPH implemented DPP with three separate cohorts, reaching 32 participants. Based on classes taught, attendance, and data submitted to the CDC, JCDPH awarded Full Recognition from the CDC in January 2018. Our agency is the second agency and the first health department in North Carolina to achieve this recognition.

JCDPH continues to implement the Diabetes Prevention Lifestyle Program, reaching community members in an innovative way that is making a difference in our community's health. The dedication and persistence of the Lifestyle Coaches, support staff, and others involved at our agency make this program successful. We look forward to continuing this important, difficult work for staff at our agency excel at "...working hard at work worth doing."

Gaston County Department of Health & Human Services – Winner of the Inaugural Dr. Sarah Morrow Large County Health Department of the Year Award

In 2013, the Gaston County Department of Health & Human Services (GCDHHS) was formed through the consolidation of the Gaston County Health Department and the Gaston County Department of Social Services. These original organizations have been long-standing leaders in our community and since the 1920's, the health department has addressed community health needs by protecting Gaston County from disease, promoting wellness, and preventing premature illness, death, and disability. It would be hard to find an individual in Gaston County that has not benefitted from our services, either directly or in service to a friend or family member. GCDHHS strives to carry out essential public health services, but also looks for opportunities for innovative and collaborative programs to extend our work beyond the provision of mandatory services. The following are just a few of the most recent examples of such programs.

Innovative Programs and Projects

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiatives/Teen Wellness Center

- Statewide leader in teen pregnancy prevention by improving access to contraception and clinical services – especially Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives (LARCs) – and through comprehensive sexual health education programming.
- In 2012, added a state-of-the-art Teen Wellness Center (TWC) which provides comprehensive health care to thousands of local youth, averaging close to 4,000 appointments annually. Our TWC has become a model for delivering teen-friendly reproductive health services across the state and region.
- Provided thousands of local youth and parents with scientifically proven, evidence-based programs like Teen

Outreach Program, Making Proud Choices, Parents Matter!, and many others.

- Gaston County has reduced its teen pregnancy rate by over 60% since 2007.

Healthy Wells Program (CDC Grant)

- Currently in process of collecting/updating and digitizing latitude-longitude information of our local wells to create a Geographic Information System (GIS) database of 12,000+ well records with information on wells that have been installed, repaired, and abandoned since 1989 as well as groundwater contamination.
- Will increase citizen access of important well water records and improve groundwater safety.

Substance Treatment and Rehabilitation (STAR) Program

- Launched in February 2016 to provide drug treatment and supportive counseling to pregnant women who self-report or test positive for benzodiazepines, buprenorphine, cocaine, methadone, or opioids.
- Program goal is to increase the number of mothers who deliver abstinent or are enrolled in medication assisted treatment (MAT) programs, which will reduce the incidence of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS). STAR has seen exceptionally positive outcomes within its first two years, including a reduction in incidence of NAS among newborns.
- Patients are also benefitting from social support systems and better connected to local resources after delivery.
- Other counties in NC are in the process of replicating STAR within their communities.



Continued... Gaston County Department of Health & Human Services – Winner of the Inaugural Dr. Sarah Morrow Large County Health Department of the Year Award

Nurse Family Partnership (NFP)

- NFP ensures low-income women have resources and support to provide their babies with the best possible start to life by improving the health of mothers and helping end cycles of poverty that impact many families.
- Through NFP, over 175 individuals have been served in Gaston County.

Access to Healthy Food Initiatives

- After identifying several areas of the county that were food deserts, GCDHHS has initiated several programs to try and address the lack of access to healthy food.
- In 2013, GCDHHS brought a farmer's market to one of its historically low-income communities, increasing residents' access to fresh local produce. In 2015, they added markets to both the public health and social services offices.
- DHHS collaborated with the Gastonia Farmer's Markets to accept Food Stamps so low-income families can use SNAP benefits to buy healthy food for their families.
- Staff have embarked on a corner store redesign initiative and worked with several corner stores to sell healthier items and to place healthier items at the front of the store.

Baby Box

- Through a local launch of the Baby Box program, GCDHHS partnered with our local hospital system to ensure that every family has access to and education about safe sleeping environments in an effort to reduce our infant mortality rate.
- To date, 190 boxes have been given out through GCDHHS and the local hospital.

Engaging Young Men in Clinical Services to Prevent Premature Fatherhood (EYM) project

- GCDHHS was selected to serve as a pilot for the CDC's EYM project, developing strategies to improve access to reproductive health services for young men.
- Over the last year of the project, GCDHHS has helped create a training and toolkit on how to deliver key messages to young men about reproductive health and refer them to services.

Gaston County Jail Reproductive Health Program

- GCDHHS recently began providing reproductive health education and counseling sessions in the women's jail

and then offering LARC methods of contraception to interested women.

- The program launched in April and already 67 women have been through the program.

Community Collaboration and Partnerships

GCDHHS knows that when we work together, we achieve great things; therefore we work closely with non-profits, elected leaders, faith-based organizations, community coalitions, and others to share ideas and combine talents. These are a few examples of partnerships that have been initiated by GCDHHS or have excelled due to strong leadership from our staff.

Gaston Controlled Substances Coalition

- Gaston County's opioid taskforce is chaired by GCDHHS's Medical Director and nearly a dozen staff members contribute time to its workgroups and initiatives.
- The work of this coalition has led to significant changes in prescriber practices and community awareness around the opioid epidemic; they are being used as a model across the state for other county coalitions.

Tobacco Free Gaston

- Created in 2016 to establish a strong community coalition that would work together to bring effective policies and programs to Gaston County and reduce the local impacts of tobacco use.
- Most recent success is that two of Gaston County's municipalities have adopted the most comprehensive tobacco policies in the state.

Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Co-location

- GCDHHS and our local FQHC, Gaston Family Health Services (GFHS), are seen as a model of success in our state.
- GCDHHS helped establish GFHS in the early 90's and both organizations have stayed co-located in several locations sharing limited resources, minimizing duplication, and ensuring access to both public health and preventive health services at one location.
- DHHS partners with GFHS in multiple programs and coalitions; we work together to protect the health of Gaston citizens.



Continued... Gaston County Department of Health & Human Services – Winner of the Inaugural Dr. Sarah Morrow Large County Health Department of the Year Award

Gaston Together Healthcare Commission

- GCDHHS is one of four core partners of local HealthCare Commission; GCDHHS director currently chairs the commission.
- Impacted thousands of citizens through collaborative work around obesity and workplace wellness programming.

Early Literacy Collaborative/Literacy Builds Health

- Literacy Builds Health initiative secured 46,000 new books for low-income children in 2013.
- Founded the Early Literacy Collaborative, a collaboration of literacy-promoting organizations, schools, and daycares – that is developing programs to build literacy skills in preschool children, as literacy is critical to lifelong health.

Awards (past 5 years)

2013 – Local Health Department of the Year, NACCHO

2014 – Teen Wellness Program, NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Child Health Recognition Award

2015 – Gaston Together Leadership Award

2015 – Teen Wellness Center, Centralina Council of Governments' Region of Excellence Award

2016 – Healthy Wells Program, Norton Group Award

2017 – Health Director of the Year, North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors

2017 – NC Doctor of the Year Finalist (GCDHHS' Medical Director)

2017 – STAR Program, NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Child Health Recognition Award

Boards and Committees

Chair, Gaston Together Healthcare Commission (GCDHHS Director)

Chair, NC Public Health Accreditation Board (GCDHHS Director)

National Association of County and City Health Officials Board (GCDHHS Director)

Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force (GCDHHS Director)

OB Champion, Community Care of NC Pregnancy Medical Home Program since 2011 (GCDHHS Medical Director)

Chair, Gaston Controlled Substances Coalition (GCDHHS Medical Director)

UNCC School of Public Health Advisory Board (Public Health Division Director)

Gaston County School Health Advisory Council (Public Health Division Director)

Regional Chair, NC Association of Local Health Directors (Public Health Division Director)



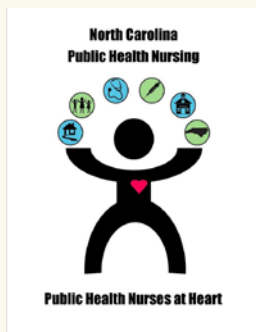
NCPHA Member SPOTLIGHT



May is National Nursing Month – The Nursing Section is celebrating one of their stellar members – Carol Lynn Rose!

Carol Lynn Rose, MSN, RN, PHNA-BC, NC Division of Public Health Nurse Consultant in the Communicable Disease Branch's Technical Assistance & Training Program, has served as Secretary of the Nursing Section since 2017. Yet Carol Lynn was making positive impact on NC public health and public health nursing (PHN) practice long before she started volunteering her time with NCPHA.

In 2014, when working at Beaufort County Health Department, Carol Lynn wrote and received grants totaling \$24,000 from a local hospital to implement urine NAAT STD testing for males who otherwise would not have been tested for chlamydia. This was a successful evidence-based project that decreased STD transmission rates and it continues to be funded in the health department. For this work, Carol Lynn received the North Carolina Division of Public Health Communicable Disease Branch Spirit Award in 2015.



Not only resourceful, Carol Lynn is also creative. In 2015, Carol Lynn designed the NC Public Health Nursing logo. Carol Lynn shared that NC PHNs experience constant variability in their practice and for that she thinks of PHNs as superheroes. When creating the logo, Carol Lynn gave the representation of the PHN a superhero stance, with feet wide apart and well-grounded, and strong arms that are juggling several balls. The juggling balls represent all that PHNs do, including work in the community and home visiting, assessment skills, work with immunization and prevention (including treatment for STDs), school nursing, and the outreach PHNs do to support, promote, and protect the health of our state. Carol Lynn shared that the most important piece is figure's big red heart, as Public Health Nurses care about their jobs, their coworkers, their clients, and their communities. That heart is what keeps PHNs motivated and allows them to

inspire others! The logo was adopted statewide and has provided a sense of connectedness, unity, identity, and sense of pride for NC PHNs as a professional group. The logo is also used as the profile pictures on the @NCPHNursing [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.



Vanessa Greene, RN, Carol Lynn's current supervisor writes: "I have worked with Carol Lynn Rose in public health since 2009 and she exemplifies public health in everything she does, both professionally and personally. I have been both her colleague and supervisor, and she never ceases to amaze me! Carol Lynn is intelligent, diligent, thoughtful, accessible, thorough, insightful, and honest. She encourages her colleagues, patients, and anyone who comes in contact with her to continue to improve; whether it is her encouragement to a patient to continue their education or to a colleague when they are having a bad day, Carol Lynn has been a bright spot in all the lives she comes in contact with and is what every public health nurse should aspire to be: compassionate, caring, smart, innovative, forward-thinking, pragmatic, and empathetic."

The Women's and Children's Health Section



Photo by Agung Pandit Wiguna from Pexels

June is Men's Health Month and includes Father's Day! The Women's and Children's Health Section in NCPHA wants to share information about an important ongoing focus on the importance of strengthening the role of father involvement in families. The NC Perinatal Health Strategic Plan has a whole section on this area at: whb.ncpublichealth.com/phsp/strong.htm#point5. This Perinatal Strategic Plan recommends that we, "promote preventative health education for boys, adolescents and men, to include mental health and substance use, and the impact it has on childbearing and parenting by incorporating education into school, faith-based community and other community programs." This challenges us to do smart work, not new work as part of women's and children's health.

Father's Day highlights the importance of men as partners in the lives of women and children. There is an interesting quote that relates to some of this which says, "the most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother." Pregnant women with involved partners have been found to be more likely to receive early and more regular prenatal care and to reduce cigarette smoking and use of alcohol. Partner involvement can also reduce the risk for perinatal depression and maternal stress. It is ideal for men to go beyond just fathering children, but be men involved as dads in the lives of children. Children who grow up with dads are better able to control their emotions, have healthier relationships, feel safer and more confident, are less likely to use and misuse alcohol or drugs, do better in school, are less likely to be poor and are more likely to stay out of trouble. The National Fatherhood Initiative is a great resource of information about the impact of fathers and their absence: fatherhood.org/father-absence-statistic. Please also check out the American Academy of Pediatrics clinical report at: aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/pages/American-Academy-of-Pediatrics-Involved-Dads-Help-Kids-Grow.aspx.

The presence of fathers can change our culture. Reproductive life planning and breastfeeding efforts which include fathers help support access, use, and improved maternal and infant outcomes. Paid parental leave can help mothers and fathers to be able to be present for their infants. Fathers can help us improve our society's ability to care for and raise supported and nurtured families. Stay tuned for some messages and events in June that the WCH Section will be sharing. And remember to think of who you can partner with in your community to support fathers such as businesses, county commissioners, YMCAs, Parks and Recreation, and even DSS.

Please remember our WCH Section Scholarship in Memory of Dr. Ann Wolfe. This scholarship is for individuals working in a child health, family planning, maternal health, or BCCCP Program of a public health department, university, or organization with a public health mission in NC. This scholarship is available for individuals pursuing advanced professional training in public health (can include an educational conference), certification, or an undergraduate or graduate degree with application towards public health practice in order to advance the individual's competence in his or her public health position in serving women and children. [Click here for the Women's and Children's Health Section Scholarship Application](#). **The deadline to apply is July 5, 2019.**

Finally, stay tuned for more information about WCH sessions coming up at the NCPHA Fall Education Conference. We are still finalizing speakers but hope to have sessions on immunizations, early childhood, immigration, and hopefully a youth panel about reproductive health. We are interested in partnering with other sections and plan to work with the Nursing Section to have a legislative and legal update at the conference.

Nursing Section

– Susan Haynes Little, DNP, RN, PHNA-BC, CPH, CPHQ, CPM



Susan Haynes Little

Happy Spring from the Nursing Section! This spring newsletter brings an opportunity to recognize North Carolina's Public Health Nurses, confirmations of exciting presenters for the Fall Educational Conference, and updates of the @NCPHNursing social media communities.

The *100 Distinguished Public Health Nurses in NC Award* nomination window has been extended to June 30th! Why? Due to the advocacy efforts of multiple public health nurse champions who recognize that public health nurses work in a variety of roles and settings, the Awards Committee has created a new category: Other. Nominees in the Other category include public health nurses practicing in non-traditional settings/roles (ex. PHN contracted by a health department, school of nursing, or school of public health; PHN employed by a community/non-profit organization; school nurses not employed by a local health department; etc.). If you know of a special public health nurse that exemplifies leadership and does not work in a traditional government public health nursing role, please consider recognizing them with this prestigious award. *Hint: Public health nurses serving as public health agency directors fit nicely into this category!*

The Fall Educational Conference has many exciting speakers and we want to highlight three! First, The Nursing Section is partnering with the Public Health Leaders Section to host the National Board of Public Health Examiners. NBPHE will be presenting on Wed. afternoon about the Certification in Public Health. The CPH distinguishes you from your peers by showing employers that you can meet and maintain a national standard in public health. Since many folks attending the FEC will be eligible for sitting for the certification exam, we imagine it will be a very popular session. Thank you, David Howard, Public Health Leaders Section Chair, for your enthusiasm and support andCarolynn Hemric, Nursing Section Education Vice-Chair, for making this session happen. Secondly, we have confirmed our FEC Keynote Speaker! We are excited to announce that Dr. Lisa Campbell, public health nurse, nationally recognized leader in public and population

health, and former health director is excited to visit NC and talk about issues vital to the success of public health across the nation. Themes of upstream interventions, multi-sector collaboration, and the intersection of public and population health will thread throughout her presentation. Finally, Chief Henry P. Stawinski III of the Prince George's County Police Department will be the Wood Lecturer. In a highly engaging and off-the-cuff manner, Chief Stawinski will describe the successful alternative approach they used to address drivers of crime, similar to what we need to address to improve health — housing, poverty, education, transportation, etc. This conference is going to be chock-full of exciting presenters, beginning to end!

Finally, I invite you to visit the @NCPHNursing social media community pages. NC PHNs (and our supporters and champions) have two sites where they can follow, engage, and receive regular updates about issues impacting public health in North Carolina and nationally. Please visit twitter.com/ncphnursing and facebook.com/ncphnursing and like/follow us! It is a dynamic and engaged community (and we will even post that job advertisement for you – just send the link!).

The Nursing Section is working hard to support events like the above to help celebrate the 100 Years of the Office of Public Health Nursing in NC. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Susan Little, Nursing Section Chair, 919-740-1737, excellentnursesusan@gmail.com

“Dr. Lisa Campbell is a professor at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing. Her teaching focuses on population health, epidemiology, and health policy. She has been a RN for 34 years and has served in many nursing leadership roles, most recently as the director of the Victoria County Health Department, Victoria, Texas. Dr. Campbell's contributions to public health research and practice are too numerous to go into during this brief announcement. But please plan on joining us this September to celebrate the 100th year anniversary of the Office of Public Health Nursing. Many of the sessions will focus on promoting health equity in our interventions while we're 'takin it to the streets.' The Doobie Brothers aren't the only ones that can claim our public health walk of fame.”

– Phyllis Mangum Rocco, MPH, BSN, RN

Epidemiology/Statistics/Lab Section News

Hope everyone has had a great year so far. The ESL section has been planning for the 2019 Fall Educational Conference. We are looking forward to a great group of presenters. Plan to come spend the day with us on Thursday.

Our tentative agenda is as follows:

- 8:30 - 10:00 Epic Hits in Epidemiology
- 10:15 - 11:15 STD's in North Carolina: Opportunities of the Moment
- 11:20 - 12:00 Business Meeting
- 1:45 - 3:00 City-County Bureau of Identification of Raleigh CCBI Overview

Please plan to attend our Business meeting and see what is happening with our section. We look forward to seeing old and new faces. If you are not a member of our section we would love to have you join and be a part of our diverse group.

MCO Lunch and Learns

NCPHA held a series of five MCO Lunch and Learns in May. More than 200 members tuned in and took advantage of these opportunities to learn more about the designated MCOs for North Carolina. Sample questions included:

- If a LHD practice is participating in CCPN, can we expect United to send an amendment for the LHD programs through them?
- How will your insurance handle Confidential Patients that do not wish to receive an EOB?
- Will there be prior authorizations needed for mother and baby visits?
- If we use a contracted provider that is not directly contracted with you themselves, will you still pay for the services rendered in the Health Department?

A survey was sent to all participants and the results have been very positive. NCPHA is exploring continuing these Lunch and Learns in mid-summer and would welcome your input for future topics. Just email them to Kim Dittmann at kdittmann@ncpha.org.

If you wish to view any of the recordings from the series, go here: ncpha.memberclicks.net/mco-lunch-and-learns (you will be required to login prior to accessing the webpage.)

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Graphic Designer: Zannie Gunn, TypeColorShapes.com

