

NCPHA e-newsletter

E-Letter from the NC Public Health Association and the NCPHA Public Awareness Committee

AUGUST 2013

President's Column

Welcome to you all!

Just last month the association held its first Public Health Leadership Summit at the Biotech Center in RTP. The highly successful summit was led by Jeffrey Levi, Executive Director for the Trust for America's Health and Bobby Pestronk, Executive Director of NACCHO, both of whom gave valuable insight towards advocating our message to groups who may not be as familiar with what we do in public health. Both were very complimentary of North Carolina Public Health, and both agreed that many interventions and strategies in North Carolina were held as national models for others to follow. Their challenge to us was to continue our work and the progress made in this every changing climate. You should be proud of your accomplishments!

As we pass the halfway mark of summer, we end our association year with our biggest event. This year's Fall Educational Conference, *Embrace the Future, Renew Public Health* contains the timeliest sessions for public health interventions in recent memory. And, in an effort to embrace the future, we are happy to announce that we have converted to MemberClicks for our website management and database. As part of this conversion, we are able to offer online registrations for the conference plus many other attributes that I believe you will find beneficial.

And last, I encourage all sections to get out there and promote the annual 5K run/1mile walk. As an incentive to you, the governing board voted to award a free annual membership, as well as one free conference registration, to the section with the most participation. The competition is on!

I know this year's conference will give us effective strategies to continue the great work we do in an ever changing climate. I look forward to seeing you all in the beautiful city of Asheville.

Safe travels.

Phillip Tarte, President NCPHA

2013 Fall Educational Conference

Embrace the Future, Renew Public Health

September 18-20, 2013

Asheville, NC



NCPHA Nursing Section

The NCPHA Nursing Section invites all nurses to embrace the future of Public Health Nursing at the Annual Fall Educational Conference. The Executive Committee is excited to offer the following program on Thursday, September 19, 2013 starting at 8:30 a.m. In partnership with the Women's and Children's Section, the Nursing Section will sponsor a legislative update from Chris Hoke, Chief, Office of Regulatory and Legal Affairs, NC Division of Public Health. Dr. Joy Reed will follow him at 10:15 a.m. with an update on Public Health Nursing issues. Following lunch and the business meeting, Dr. Cheryl Kovar

and Denise Perry will present "Navigating the 340B Drug Program in the Family Planning Clinic." The luncheon and business meeting will run from 11:30 a.m.-1:00p.m. The cost of the luncheon is \$22 per person and includes nursing contact hours for the afternoon session.

Please send Brenda Dunn, no later than September 6th, a check for the luncheon made out to NCPHA Nursing Section.

If you can attend one day only, you would pay the One Day Conference Registration fee and the luncheon fee. Hope to see you in Asheville!

Payment mailing Address:

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Public Health Leadership Section

Public Health has always functioned in a state of change. That condition of change seems to be even more prevalent currently than ever before in my Public Health career. There is now a need to look at all resources available in our communities to continue to provide essential Public Health services.

We know that change is inevitable and will always be part of the landscape. We also know that we need highly skilled Public Health Leaders in our organizations. These leaders need to be equipped with the best skill sets and tools available for their success.

There is a critical need for leadership development in the Public Health workforce. There are several entities within our state that are working hard to ensure the Public Health workforce development of the future. NCPHA must be one of those recognized entities.

The Public Health Leadership Section has been focusing on discussions of how NCPHA can be one of the major educational tools for developing the Public Health workforce of the future. One session in the upcoming Fall Educational Conference in Asheville will be dedicated to that discussion. I hope all

of you will join us on Thursday afternoon September 19th in that discussion.

The Public Health Leadership Section has collaborated with the Environmental Health Section and the Practice-Based Research Section to develop interesting educational sessions for you. I hope if you have a chance to attend NCPHA in Asheville in September you will plan your day around these educational opportunities.

Michael Rhodes
Chairman
Public Health Leadership Section

Dental Health Section

The NCPHA's Dental Health Section has worked hard this year to bring more awareness to dental public health professionals and staff regarding the benefits of active involvement in the Dental Section. We hope our efforts will result in an increase in participation in the wonderful program that our Vice President, Debbye Krueger has organized for the Annual Conference on September 19th. This is a special invitation for all dental professionals and students to attend. This conference is an excellent way to network, form new relationships, and earn necessary CE credits.

This year our program includes "Oral Cancer and the Misunderstanding of Oral HPV in Dentistry" by Debra Z. Sabatini, RDH, BS, BA and presented by Rhoda P. Kublickis, RDH, MHSc will be "The Many Faces of Xylitol."

If you have not registered for the conference, please go to the NCPHA website for the registration form and hotel information. The flyer for the Dental Health Section should be coming out soon. We will have lunch as part of our meeting so we need you to contact Debbye Krueger at debbye.krueger@dhhs.nc.gov to RSVP by September 3rd.

In addition, I want to remind members please to make nominations for our awards. You can contact Colleen Ratchford (ccr2thfairy519@gmail.com) for additional information.

We are encouraged by the support we had this year for the Oral Health Section, but we still have much to do for the future of public dental health. I hope to see everyone at the conference, and I am especially pleased to let you know that you can look forward to hearing an exciting announcement that will be made concerning next year's Fall Educational Conference!

Gaston County named Local Health Department of the Year

The National Association for City and County Health Officials (NACCHO) has named the Gaston County Health Department one of three 2013 Local Health Departments of the Year.

NACCHO's LHD of the Year Award recognizes and honors outstanding accomplishments of local health departments across the country for their innovation, creativity and impact on their community. Gaston County was one of 24 applicants and was chosen as the winner for the medium categories (for communities of 50,000 to 499,999 residents). Each of the three finalists in the small (less than 50,000 residents), medium, and large (500,000 or more residents) category showed creativity, innovation, sufficient evidence of outcomes and impact on the community, and collaboration with partners, community and key stakeholders.

"This award validates and confirms what I've suspected for years – that Gaston County Health Department staff are the best of the best, and that we're pushing the envelope to provide the highest possible level of service to the people of Gaston County," said Gaston County Health Director Chris Dobbins.

The award recognized health departments that had used technology or data to improve public health. Gaston has steadily increased its use of health status data to determine which areas of the county were suffering from health disparities like teen pregnancy or lack of access to health care. These methods have been a driving force behind major changes for the department, from the building of the Highland Health Center and Teen Wellness Centers to the increase of teen pregnancy prevention programming.

"We were looking for the best, most efficient way to solve the problem, but it's always nice to hear that someone else thinks it's innovative," said Dobbins. "If anything, this fuels our fire for embracing new ideas if it might mean improving the public's health."

This award puts the Gaston County Health Depart-



From left to right: Bobby Pestronk, Carol M. Moehrle, Chris Dobbins, Allyson Cochran, Terry Allan.

ment into special company—a select group of health departments that exemplify a forward thinking, proactive attitude toward protecting and promoting the health of communities across the nation.

The Gaston County Health Department is leading the charge to build a healthier Gaston County. For more information, visit www.gastonpublichealth.org.

NACCHO represents the nation's 2,800 local governmental health departments. These city, county, metropolitan, district and tribal departments work every day to protect and promote health and well-being for all people in their communities.

Environmental Health Section

This year, the Environmental Health Section is focused on collaboration. Knowing that the key to a successful health department is working together, the Environmental Health Section is teaming up with multiple sections, hoping to gain understanding about all aspects of Public Health. Wednesday, we are pleased to join with the Epidemiology and Lab Section for "It Happened at the Fair: Collaboration in an Outbreak Setting." This will be an interactive, panel discussion where the participants will get to explore how they would react to an outbreak and compare that to what was actually done in a recent North Carolina outbreak.

We are also pleased to be partnering with the Public Health Leadership Section to hold the annual Public Health Matters 5K and 1 Mile Walk, as well as working with the Leadership Section for Thursday morning joint sessions. We will be awarding scholarships and Environmental Specialist of the Year awards at the awards luncheon, which will be followed by a member of the section sharing experiences from a recent mission to Guinea. We will conclude our section sessions with our annual business meeting. We hope you are able to join us, and we look forward to seeing you in Asheville!

Wellness & Prevention Section

The Wellness and Prevention Section is excited about the lineup of presenters for the section's sessions this year at the Fall Educational Conference. On Wednesday, September 18th, the section will host a social media panel, organized by Mike Newton-Ward, MSW, MPH. This panel will discuss the challenges and strengths of using social media in your organizations. On Thursday, September 19th, the section has a full day of presenters. We will start the day with a session discussing "Innovative Ways to Teach Sex Education", presented by Dr. Randall Berman from Lenoir-Rhyne University and Lindsey Lawhon, MPH from Catawba Council for Adolescents. Lee Lillard, RD MHS, CDE will be presenting the second session on how health educators can now be involved in diabetes education and self-management programs. We will also be hosting a presentation by Catherine Morrison, MPH from the Alzheimer's Association, who will discuss the road map & BRFSS data to address cognitive decline & Alzheimer's disease in North Carolina.

After the first round of presenters, the Wellness &

Prevention Section will be hosting lunch, for its members. During lunch Roxanne Elliott will be giving an exciting motivational talk to encourage each of us working in public health. After lunch, we will be jumping into CTG's Healthy Corner Store Initiative. During this panel you will have a chance to get information on how to assess your community's corner stores, what implementation looks like and how to evaluate your efforts. This session will be led by Brittany Crump, MPH, CHES, Kellie Hull, MPH, CHES and Diana Vetter-Craft. We will finish up the day with our Wellness and Prevention Section Business Meeting where our Section Awards will be presented.

If you have nominations for our awards please email bcrump@caldwellcountync.org by August 5th. CHES credits will be offered for all of the educational sessions. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Brittany Crump at bcrump@caldwellcountync.org. We look forward to seeing you in Asheville!



2012 Public Health Matters 5K Run and 1-Mile Hike Challenge

Finance, Administration, Management Support, Information Technology (F.A.M.I.) Section

The Finance, Administration, Management Support, Information Technology (F.A.M.I.) Section would like to invite you to join us in Asheville, NC for the NCPHA Fall Educational Conference. Our Vice Chair, Pam Cook (Person County) has an awesome program for attendees this year. We will begin on Wednesday afternoon with our business meeting. On Thursday we have Debbie Widener, Senior Training and Implementation Specialist, Patagonia Health. Ms. Widener will present "How To's for Maximum Reimbursement in Public Health". (Lunch on your own) Thursday afternoon we will have Steve Garner, NC DHHS Division of Public Health, with his presentation "Local Health Department Medicaid Cost Reporting and Settlement." Each session will allow for questions by attendees. We challenge each agency to send at least one representative to attend this year's conference. We are currently accepting nominations for the Achiever of the Year and 2013 Service Awards.

Achiever of the Year award recognizes:

- Active members in good standing in NCPHA F.A.M.I. Section who have served for a minimum of 5 years;
- Active participation in activities of the Section; and
- Outstanding achievements that have elevated the stature of Finance, Administration, Management Support or Information Technology.

Service Awards recognizes:

- A paid member of NCPHA F.A.M.I.; and
- Finance, Administration, Management Support or Information Technology staff members who have dedicated 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of service in the management support field as of 12/31/12.
- We welcome all conference attendees to join our sessions. Attending the NCPHA conference will provide participants an opportunity to network with others, be educated in matters of Public Health, learn invaluable information and form new and lasting friendships. We hope to see you there!

Submit names and years of service for a 2013 Service Award or a nomination for a 2013 Achiever of the Year Award to Trish Belton at tbelton@yadkincountync.gov or 1-336-679-4203 ext. 7602.

ATTENTION!

ALL NCPHA PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP SECTION MEMBERS

NCPHA and your Section NEED YOU! The Environmental Health Section and the Public Health Leadership Section of NCPHA will host the 4th Annual "Public Health Matters 5K and 1-Mile Hike" on Wednesday, September 18th at 6:00 p.m. in Asheville NC.

NCPHA Governing Council has agreed to award a free membership as well as a free registration for the 2014 Annual NCPHA Fall Educational Conference to the Section that has the highest percentage of participants for this event.

The Public Health Leadership Section needs you (our members) to participate in this activity as well as volunteers to work in the event. There will need to be volunteers at the start/finish line and volunteers out on the road course with water and to cheer the participants on during the 5K event. Also, if you can run 5k or walk 1-mile this is the time to show commitment to healthy activity.

OH YEAH, and if you have staff going to the NCPHA Fall Educational Conference in Asheville please remind them about the "Public Health Matters 5K Run and 1-Mile Hike Challenge."

All volunteers should contact:

Lillian Barfield, Chair

Public Health Matters 5K and 1-Mile Hike Committee

Email: Lillian.Barfield@DavidsonCountyNC.gov Phone: 336-242-2379

EHL- NC Meets FDA Program Standard No. 1

Larry D. Michael, REHS, MPH

The North Carolina Division of Public Health, Food Protection and Facilities Branch is pleased to announce meeting Standard No. 1 of the FDA's Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards (Program Standards). Achieving national uniformity among regulatory programs responsible for retail food protection in the United States is a goal for industry, regulators and consumers. Adoption of the FDA Food Code has been a keystone in this effort to promote greater uniformity.

To meet Standard No. 1 criteria, North Carolina has successfully completed a third party audit by demonstrating the adoption of a sound, science-based regulatory foundation and the uniform regulation of industry. The essential program elements required to meet this standard include:

- Adopting rules that contain provisions at least as stringent as the public health interventions and the provisions that control risk factors known to contribute to foodborne illness contained in the Food Code.
- NC Regulations must contain provisions that address Good Retail Practices and Compliance/Enforcement requirements that are at least as stringent as those in the Food Code.

North Carolina's recent adoption of the 2009 Food Code and associated laws meets or exceeds the above criteria.

The FDA has developed the Program Standards through ideas and input from federal, state, and local regulatory officials, industry, trade and professional associations, academia and consumers on what constitutes a highly effective and responsive retail food regulatory program. There has been a lot of discussion regarding quality assurance/improvement and the Program Standards are recognized as the Gold Standard. Criteria within each standard provides a path for jurisdictions to evaluate and measure program effectiveness. The FDA Program Standards are as follows:

- Standard No. 1--Regulatory Foundation
- Standard No. 2--Trained Staff
- Standard No. 3--Inspection Program based on HACCP principles
- Standard No. 4--Uniformity of Inspections
- Standard No. 5--Foodborne Illness and Food Defense Preparedness and Response
- Standard No. 6--Compliance and Enforcement
- Standard No. 7--Industry and Community Relations [NC meets this standard also]
- Standard No. 8--Program support and resources
- Standard No. 9--Program Assessment

For more information on the Program Standards:

www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/RetailFoodProtection/ProgramStandards

I would like to thank Melissa Ham for working with the FDA auditor to achieve compliance with Standard No. 1 and for her continued work coordinating NC's Program Standards and communicating with the many local health departments that have enrolled. If you would like further information regarding enrolling your program in the Program Standards, please contact your regional specialist or Donna Wanucha at donna.wanucha@fda.hhs.gov.

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