

NCPHA e-newsletter

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

February 2014

President's Comments

– Joanne Rinker, President



Greetings NCPHA Members,

I encourage you to become an active member of NCPHA. We are planning and working on a variety of different events and projects that will hopefully help you with your professional growth and leadership development. Throughout this newsletter, please notice all of the great things that are going on within NCPHA and things with which you can get involved. If you are interested in any of these activities, please feel free to e-mail me at joanne.rinker@centerforhealthync.org or Kim at kdittmann@ncapha.org and we will get you plugged in!



Spring Educational Conference

– Suzanne Lea, Vice President

SAVE the Date: NCPHA will provide its 4th annual Spring Educational Conference on **Tuesday, May 13th, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** at the McKimmon Center (NC State campus) in Raleigh, lunch included. After a full day of dynamic educational content, a social hour will also be offered. Please mark your calendars! The spring meeting is a great way to build continuity throughout the year, network face-to-face more regularly, and conduct business. Last year 200 people attended the meeting in RTP.

The theme of the meeting is *Funding of Population, Health Prevention and Wellness Programs: What are the Fiscal Relationships among Health Agencies?*

We have three speakers:

- Ms. Trinity Tosmic, Deputy Executive Director of the Federal Funds Information for States, a non-profit agency that tracks federal health dollars, www.ffis.org/about/staff
- Ms. Jan O'Neill, Community Coach from the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program, will speak on *The Changing Role of Public Health in Creating a Culture of Health*. She will also host a breakout panel session featuring 2:00 - 4:00p.m. highlighting NC counties that are implementing programs and policies to address County Health Rankings findings.
- Mr. Brad Wilson, CEO of Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina, will speak from 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. on how BCBS implements health and wellness programs provided through the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

AND MORE is planned. Please plan to attend on May 13th.

Future Newsletters

What kinds of information you would like in the newsletter? Please complete the enclosed survey. Lauren Boyle-Estheimer, a new member of the Epidemiology Section, has volunteered to compile survey results to for the membership.

www.surveymonkey.com/s/BFMSJTS

Report from the State Health Director's Conference, January 23-24, 2014

The 2014 State Health Director's Conference was convened at the North Raleigh Hilton on January 23-24, 2014. This year's theme was *Public Health Remix – Transforming Public Health*. Approximately 350 state and local public health staff and staff from public health partner agencies in North Carolina attended this annual conference.

Featured national speakers included Dr. Judith Monroe, Director of the Office of State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support, Centers for Disease Prevention and Control and Bobby Pestronk, Executive Director, National Association of County and City Health Officials. Dr. Monroe provided participants a national perspective on changes impacting public health. Mr. Pestronk

convened a panel of North Carolina Local Health Directors to discuss challenges of local consolidation and how to remain impactful to the public's health in a climate of change.

North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory and NC Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Aldona Wos both spoke to participants during the Ronald Levine Awards Luncheon on January 23. They highlighted prior year achievements and upcoming priority focus areas for Governor McCrory's administration. State Health Director, Dr. Robin Cummings, provided conference opening remarks on January 23rd regarding managing change with continued challenges to achieving improved health outcomes in NC. He also partici-

pated in a panel discussion on January 24th about prescription drug abuse in our state.

The Association of North Carolina Boards of Health named Alamance County Board of Health as the 2014 Outstanding Board of Health. The Carl Durham Award was presented to former board member, Dr. Donald A Courtney of the Alamance County Board of Health.

The Ronald Levine Public Health Legacy Awardee for 2014 was named on January 23rd. Dr. Joy Reed, Branch Head for the NC Division of Public Health Local Technical Assistance and Training Branch, was honored for her lifetime achievements and contributions to public health in North Carolina.

Social Work Section Announcement



NCPHA Social Work Section will be co-sponsoring a one-day Public Health Social Work conference on March 5th entitled *All People Matter* to help kick off Social Work Month. This will be an exciting day of education, networking and renewal for public health social workers and professionals in related disciplines working to provide preventive health services for women, reduce infant morbidity and mortality, and strengthen families and communities.

Please wish your social workers Happy Social Work Month in March! Conference information can be found at: ncpha.memberclicks.net/public-health-social-work-conference

Networking Event!!

The leadership from NCPHA met in February of 2013 to discuss strategic planning for the next 3 years. In addition to our overall goals of improving professional development and increasing leadership opportunities for our members, our other goals include increasing individual members, increasing organizational members and increasing overall revenue with a goal of becoming a sustainable association. In order to become sustainable, we are working on increasing endowments, sponsorships and an annual appeal, as well as holding an

annual fundraising event. This is brand new territory for us, so we need someone who has great organization skills, has planned other events and could get excited about building a team to help plan our first-ever annual networking and social event. Because we have never done this before, we are open to suggestions of how this should be structured we need your help. We need a team to lead this project and plan a great event. If you are interested, please send me an e-mail and let me know! Joanne.rinker@centerforhealthync.org

Celebrate National Public Health Week, April 7-13, 2014



During the first full week of April each year, American Public Health Association brings together communities across the United States to observe National Public Health Week as a time to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improving our nation. The theme this year is *Public Health Starts Here*, which focuses on public health's ability to guide people through the changing health system. Each day will have a different sub-theme. What is your agency doing to promote national public health week? Please send NCPHA (kdittmann@ncapha.org) your agency plans for national public health week and submit directly to the National Public Health Week Website, www.nphw.org/about.

Themes for the Week:

- Monday, April 7th: **Be healthy from the start.** From maternal health and school nutrition to emergency preparedness, public health starts at home. Let us show you around. Link: www.nphw.org/tools-and-tips/themes/be-healthy-from-the-start
- Tuesday, April 8th: **Don't panic.** Disaster preparedness starts with community-wide commitment and action. We're here to help you weather the unexpected. Link: www.nphw.org/tools-and-tips/themes/dont-panic
- Wednesday, April 9th: **Get out ahead.** Prevention is now a nationwide priority. Let us show you where you fit in. Link: www.nphw.org/tools-and-tips/themes/get-out-ahead
- Thursday, April 10th: **Eat well.** The system that keeps our nation's food safe and healthy is complex. We can guide you through the choices. Link: www.nphw.org/tools-and-tips/themes/eat-well
- Friday, April 11th: **Be the healthiest nation in one generation.** Best practices for community health come from around the globe. We have a world of public health to show you. Link: www.nphw.org/tools-and-tips/themes/be-the-healthiest-nation-in-one-generation



Fall Annual Educational Conference

– Lisa Harrison, President-Elect

Please plan to join NCPHA for the annual Fall Educational Conference, **September 17-19, 2014, in warm, sunny Wilmington, NC.** If you would like to join the planning committee to discuss speakers, conference activities and a 2014 approach to our largest annual learning and networking opportunity as public health professionals, please call in to our planning calls the second Thursday of every month at 3:30pm. **Conference Line: (712) 775-7300, Pass Code 234214#**

Abstract Reviewer(s)!!

Do you like learning about new public health topics? For the past 5 years, leading up to and during the annual Fall Educational Conference, Suzanne Lea has collected, reviewed and handled the logistics associated with having abstracts for the NON-SECTION related presentations at NCPHA. Now, with her added responsibilities as an NCPHA officer, it is no longer realistic to expect her to shoulder this effort too. Volunteers are sought to share the responsibilities below:

Prior to conference:

- Edit the abstract form and set the submission dates based on the annual meeting planning schedule;
- Coordinate with John Rowe to get the online form set up on the Alliance website;
- Download the submissions into a Google doc spreadsheet ; easy management;
- Identify a review committee;
- Review and select the abstracts;
- Notify the presenters with a generic letter that can be edited;
- Coordinate rooms and time slots with Kim, based on the deadlines set for sections;
- Answer phone calls and e-mails from submitters.

Then, during the meeting:

- Check to see if there are proctors in each room and identify one if gaps; proctors will be responsible for: set up of audio-visual (AV), screen, laptop, and other materials as needed;
- If it is the student poster or presentation session, it is best to have a NCPHA person stay the entire allotted session time;
- Order a sufficient number of large poster board mounts prior to meeting in time for delivery;
- Be present at poster hanging time, and at actual poster presentation time; there are always a ton of questions.

If you are willing to assist with this, please contact Suzanne Lea at leac@ecu.edu, 252-744-4036.

There are a lot of things going on at NCPHA. If you want to get involved, this is a great time. Please consider being an active member of your association, NCPHA!!!



Have you enjoyed running/walking the 5K at our fall NCPHA conference? Each year for the last 5 years the Environmental Health Section of NCPHA has organized and orchestrated a 5k for the annual Fall Educational Conference. This is a great way for us to come together, do something active, burn some calories and encourage the public in the community where we are holding our conference, to join us in a healthy activity. For this event to continue, we need your help! Volunteers from other sections are needed to help with things such as t-shirts, awards, sponsorships, city permits, police and emergency medical technicians (EMT), master of ceremonies, door prizes, printing, promotions, section participation drive and setting up a table at the conference for registration. If you are willing to participate and help with this effort, please connect with the Fall Educational Conference Planning Committee via our President-Elect, Lisa Harrison lharrison@gvdhd.org.

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