



SHA UPDATE

Dr. Kristine Gebbie to Keynote Annual Meeting



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Kristine M. Gebbie, DrPH, RN Director of the Center for Health Policy at Columbia University School of Nursing, Columbia University, New York, NY will be the keynote speaker for the Opening General Session of the joint annual meeting of the Southern Health Association and the Arkansas Public Health Association on Wednesday May 7, 2008 in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The theme for this year's annual meeting will be **"A Matter of Time..... The Time is Now"**

Dr. Gebbie has always paid particular attention to population-based public health services and nursing in her teaching and research focus on public health policy and health services. Her career has included White House service as National AIDS Policy Coordinator (1993-94), Secretary of the Department of Health for the State of Washington (1989-94), public health administrator for the State of Oregon (1978-89), and coordinator of ambulatory care for St. Louis University Hospitals (1975-78).

Dr. Gebbie currently directs Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded research on public health law modernization and HRSA-funded emergency preparedness education for clinicians. She has had publications in the *American Journal of Public Health*, *Health Affairs*, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*, *American Journal of Nursing*, and *Journal of Public Health Policy*.

Dr. Gebbie's degrees include Doctor of Public Health, University of Michigan School of Public Health (1995), Master of Nursing in Community Mental Health Nursing, University of California Los Angeles (1968); and Bachelor of Science in Nursing, St. Olaf College, Minnesota (1965).

Southern Health is honored to be able to sponsor Dr. Gebbie as the keynote speaker for the Wednesday Opening General Session of the joint annual meeting.

Immediately following Dr. Gebbie's presentation, SHA will host a multi-state panel. The panel will discuss succession planning activities in their respective states. Panel participants are Warren R. McDougale, Jr., MPH, Epidemiology Program Manager Hillsborough County Health Department Tampa, Florida; Mike Miller, County Judge/Executive, Marshall County, Kentucky; and Dennis Thompson, Region 7 Administrator South Carolina Department of Public Health and Environmental Control.

Dr. Bailey to Present Leadership Lecture



On Thursday, May 8th, SHA will also sponsor a Leadership Presentation featuring Stephanie B.C. Bailey, M.D., MSHSA, Chief of Public Health Practice of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

As Chief of Public Health Practice, Dr. Bailey is responsible for assuring the U.S. public health system is strengthened, and CDC provides leadership in building and supporting public health infrastructure; and that CDC provides leadership to improve overall public health system performance. The Office of the Chief of Public Health Practice serves as an advocate, guardian, promoter and conscience of public health practice throughout CDC and in the larger public health community.

Dr. Bailey holds a M.D. from the Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee and performed her residency in Internal Medicine at Grady Memorial/Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia; and a Masters of Science in Health Services Administration from the College of St. Francis.

Prior to Dr. Bailey's career at CDC, she served for eleven years as the Director of Health of Nashville and Davidson County Public Health Department, Nashville, Tennessee, and as Nashville Medical Director/Director of Health Services Administration from 1988 to 1995. She began her career at the Metro Nashville Public Health Department in 1981 as Medical Advisor for the East Nashville Clinic.

Her work as Director of Health has been noted nationally. She has received the American Public Health Association Roemer Award and the American Medical Association's Nathan Davis Award. Dr. Bailey is a Past President of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). She has been appointed to Four National Committees by the Secretary of Health and Human Services including the Advisory Board to the Director of CDC. She co-chaired the CDC National Public Health Workforce Taskforce and served as a senior consultant for local practice to CDC Public Health Practice Program Office.



President's Message

Tammy Burke

Greetings!

In Tennessee, as in most of our Affiliate states, the state legislative session is in full swing. We have had several health related bills that have received much attention. Of particular note was a bill that would seriously degrade the Non-Smoker Protection Act that was passed last year. The Act prohibited smoking in establishments that allowed persons less than 21 to either work at or patronize the business. This year's proposed bill attempted to reduce that age to 18. Fortunately because of the work of many health advocates in Tennessee the bill was defeated in the Senate and all other similar bills were pulled from further consideration in this session. The Tennessee Public Health Association and its Advocacy Network worked with other organizations to ensure our legislators heard from those of us interested in protecting the health of Tennesseans.

Let me take this opportunity to encourage you to participate in advocacy efforts in your state and in your public health association. Your legislators need input from you, not only as a constituent, but also as a public health professional. It is easiest if you personally know a legislator, but if

not, don't be discouraged. First, contact your state's public health association and ask if you can help in their effort. Also, through the ease of the internet, simply use a search engine to find your state's assembly and there you can quickly get contact information for those who represent you. You will also find information on bills that are up for your legislators' vote. It is a daunting task to start, but once you begin participating, you soon learn how simple and rewarding it can be.

It is hard to believe that our Annual Conference is just around the corner. I extend a hearty invitation to each of you to attend the joint meeting with the Arkansas Public Health Association. There is much information about the meeting in this newsletter and on our web-site. The planners from SHA and APHA have been hard at work and the conference promises to be most informative. In addition to increasing our awareness and knowledge of important public health issues it is a wonderful opportunity to visit with public health colleagues from all eight affiliate states. I hope to see you there!

Tammy M. Burke

**Southern Health Association/Arkansas Public Health Association
Joint Annual Meeting**

May 7-9, 2008

Hot Springs Convention Center, Hot Springs, Arkansas

Theme: "A Matter of Time.....The Time is Now"

Program Agenda

A preliminary program agenda is available at the SHA website at www.southernhealth.net.

Hotel Reservations

Hotel reservations may be made by calling the Austin Hotel at 1-877-623-6697.

Room rates are as follows:

\$70 – single or double occupancy

\$150 – one bedroom suite

\$230 – two bedroom suite

Tax rate is 13%. In order to get these rates, when making reservations, please tell them the group is the Arkansas Public Health Association.

Pre-Registration

The annual meeting Registration Form may be found on Page 7 of this newsletter. Please note the deadline for pre-registering is **April 7, 2008**.

APHA Announces New Affiliate Funding Opportunities

By Ted Hanekamp

APHA has just released the Request for Proposals for a new Affiliate funding opportunity in connection with its Capacity Building Initiative. These grants will be in the amounts of up to \$5,000 for Level 1 and up to \$10,000 for Level 2. Only those affiliates who did not receive funding under the first round of funding will be eligible to apply for these funds. The deadline for applications is April 14, 2008.

If your affiliate did not receive funding under the first round of funding, I encourage you to apply for funds this time. This applies to all unfunded affiliates, regardless of whether they applied or didn't under the first round. It is my impression that APHA is attempting to distribute funds to as many of the affiliates as possible for the purpose of strengthening the affiliates. Therefore, I encourage each affiliate to take advantage of this opportunity.

**Joint Annual Meeting of
Arkansas Public Health Association
Southern Health Association**

Preliminary Conference Schedule

**Tuesday, May 6,
2008**

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	SHA Governing Council Meeting	Austin
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**Wednesday, May 7,
2008**

7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Registration	HSCC Plaza Lobby
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Hospitality Booth	HSCC Plaza Lobby
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	OPA Booth	HSCC Plaza Lobby
9:00 a.m.	APHA Executive Council Meeting	Austin, DeSoto Ball- room II
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	SHA Silent Auction, Spring is Sprung	HSCC
11:00 a.m.	History Committee - Pioneer Luncheon	Austin
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Exhibits & Health Screening	HSCC
12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Welcome & Announcement	HSCC
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Keynote Address, Dr. Kristine Gebbie	HSCC
3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	Break	
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	SHA Silent Auction, Spring is Sprung	HSCC
3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Business Meeting/ Awards	HSCC
4:45 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.	ASEA Hospitality	Austin
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	ASPS Dinner Cruise	

**Thursday, May 8,
2008**

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Health Adm. Business Meeting	Austin/ Mtn. Tower
7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	SHA Silent Auction, Spring is Sprung	HSCC
7:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Registration	HSCC Plaza Lobby
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Hospitality Committee	HSCC Plaza Lobby
7:30 a.m.	OPA Booth	HSCC Plaza Lobby
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Voting	HSCC Plaza Lobby
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Exhibits & Screening	HSCC

**Joint Annual Meeting of
Arkansas Public Health Association
Southern Health Association
Preliminary Conference Schedule Cont.**

Thursday, May 8, 2008
Cont.

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Concurrent Workshop, Social Work	HSCC
8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Concurrent Workshop, Nutrition	HSCC
8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Concurrent Workshop, PHNAA	HSCC
8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Concurrent Workshop, SOPHE	HSCC
8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Concurrent Workshop, ASPS	HSCC
10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Dr. Stephanie Bailey	HSCC
11:30 a.m. - 1:00	Lunch (on your own)	
11:30 a.m. - 1:00	Social Work Section Business Meeting	
11:30 a.m. - 1:00	OPA Business/ Lunch Meeting	
11:30 a.m. - 1:00	Nutrition Business/ Lunch Meeting	
11:30 a.m. - 1:00	Health Disparities Business/ Lunch Meeting	
11:30 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.	SHA Silent Auction, Spring is Sprung	HSCC
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshop, SOPHE	HSCC
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshop, Health Dispari- ties	HSCC
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshop, PHNAA	HSCC
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshop, Nutrition	HSCC
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshop, Infectious Dis- ease	HSCC
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshop, Health Adm.	HSCC
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshop, ASPS	HSCC
2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Break	
3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m..	Concurrent Workshop, Social Work/ Health Adm.	HSCC
3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m..	Concurrent Workshop, PHNAA	HSCC
3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m..	Concurrent Workshop, Health Adm.	HSCC
3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m..	ASPS Business Meeting	HSCC
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	OPA Follies	Austin
6:15p.m. - 8:00p.m.	SHA Reception	Austin
8:00p.m.	Dance	Austin

Friday, May 9, 2008

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	SHA Business Mtg & Council Mtg	Austin
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Health Adm. Section	Austin
9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Closing Session	Austin

Joint Annual Meeting of Arkansas Public Health Association Southern Health Association

ARKANSAS PUBLIC HEALTH & SOUTHERN HEALTH ASSOCIATION REGISTRATION
May 7-9, 2008
Austin Hotel and Hot Springs Convention Center
Registration \$60.00 if postmarked by April 7, 2008
Must Register at Conference after April 7, 2008 - \$70.00

NAME

HOME ADDRESS (city,state,zip code)

NAME OF WORK LOCATION (Regional Office/LHU/Etc.)

APHA Membership Dues

SHA Membership Dues

Registration: \$60.00 if post-marked by 4-7

		Individual Dues Enclosed (\$20.00)		Individual Dues Enclosed (\$25.00)	Must register at conference after this date
		Student Dues Enclosed (\$5.00)		1st time member Dues Enc (\$20.00)	1 day Registration \$40.00 Registration Enclosed
		Retiree Dues Enclosed (\$5.00)		Student Dues Enclosed (\$10.00)	
		Dues Already Paid or Payroll Deducted		Retiree Dues Enclosed (\$10.00)	TOTAL AMT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Mail check (payable to APHA) and registration form to one of the following:

Tiffany Friga-Clinton Central Office 5800 West 10th Street, Suite 300 Little Rock AR 72204 501-661-2969	Supervisor's Signature Please use RED ink	Dee Shelton Central Office 5800 West 10th Street, Suite 300 Little Rock AR 72204 501-661-2927
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WELCOME TO THE BELLE OF HOT SPRINGS RIVERBOAT



Come Join Us on the "Belle of Hot Springs Riverboat" for a Sunset Dinner Dance Cruise! Apha - Wednesday, May 7th

Registration - \$25.00

The boat will begin boarding at 6:00pm and leave the dock at 7:00pm. We will return at 9:00pm.

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE for Registration is April 25. Registration is limited to 140 people, so register early!

Shuttle service to & from the Convention Center will be provided.

Sponsored by the Arkansas Society of Professional Sanitarians.

Belle of Hot Springs Registration Form

Wednesday, May 7, 2008 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Name: _____

Address: _____

of people attending: _____ @ \$25.00 a person for a Total of: \$ _____

Please return this form and a check made payable to **ASPS** to:

Craighead County Health Unit

% Greg Hogue - ASPS

611 E. Washington,

Suite B

Jonesboro, AR 72401-3001



Tennessee State Report

Department of Health News:

Veronica Gunn, MD, MPH, FAAP, has been named chief medical officer for the Department of Health. In this position, she will serve as medical director for the Department and will work to assess the health needs of Tennesseans and establish statewide health objectives. As chief medical officer, Dr. Gunn will serve as an advisor to the Commissioner on matters of health policy and assist in setting priorities for the Department. Dr. Gunn comes to the Department of Health from the Tennessee Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination, where she has served as medical director since 2005. She also currently serves as assistant professor of pediatrics at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, a position she has held since 2002. Gunn also served as staff pediatrician at a number of hospitals in Baltimore, Md. Dr. Gunn earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Rhodes College in Memphis, and her medical degree at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. She completed a pediatric residency and chief residency at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, and holds a Master of Public Health degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health in Baltimore. She is licensed to practice medicine in both Tennessee and Maryland, and is certified by the American Board of Pediatrics. She has published numerous articles, book chapters and abstracts, and serves as a reviewer for professional journals including *Pediatrics* and the *International Journal of Nursing Studies*.

Health Initiatives in Tennessee:

Infant Mortality continues to be an area of grave concern for Tennesseans. Tennessee has one of the highest infant mortality rates in the nation with African Americans bearing a significantly greater burden of the problem. Governor Phil Bredesen's Initiative to decrease Infant Mortality has brought several new programs to the metropolitan areas of Chattanooga, Nashville and Memphis. Nashville is piloting a Magnolia Project, modeled after the successful program in Jacksonville, Florida. This program utilizes intensive case management and community outreach along with access to clinical services to target at-risk women between the ages of 14 to 44. Chattanooga and Memphis have received funding to create clinical services for pregnant women that utilize the Centering Pregnancy model. This model has been proven to increase a woman's participation in and attendance to prenatal visits, thereby decreasing infant mortality. All three metropolitan areas will have an opportunity for area youth to participate in The Infant Mortality Public Awareness Campaign for Tennessee (I.M.P.A.C.T.) which challenges youth to create a messaging campaign. I.M.P.A.C.T. participants will develop and implement a fast paced and comprehensive, youth led messaging campaign with an emphasis on social change. In all over 30 unique media products will be created. Youth participants will create print, audio and video public service announcements that heighten awareness about infant mortality. An important component of this program is the education that is given to the youth serving on each team. They will gain a knowledge and understanding of the issue within the context of their community, learning about contributing factors such as poverty, disproportional representation, and health care. Participants will learn to recognize disparities within their community and learn creative and constructive ways to address these issues.

Association News:

TPHA held its 2007 Annual Conference, October 31 – November 2 at the Cool Springs Marriott in Franklin, Tennessee with over 700 in attendance. The theme this year was *Bridging Health across the Span of Life*. Highlights of the conference were opening plenary speakers, Pat Cooper, CEO of the Early Childhood and Family Learning Foundation of New Orleans who spoke on the benefits of Coordinated School Health Systems and Reverend Nick Mezacapa, rector of Calvary Episcopal Church, Rochester, MN who presented an inspirational and motivational presentation on taking care of the care giver.

Governor Phil Bredesen was presented the Southern Health Association Legislator of the Year Award.

TPHA will host its 2008 Annual Conference, August 27-29, 2008 at the Cool Springs Marriott in Franklin, Tennessee. The theme of that conference will be *Preparing the Best Game Plan: Tackling Behaviors for Health Improvement*.

The association currently has 1,171 active members, 194 life members and 126 agency members.



ALABAMA NEWS

Annual conference April 8-9, 2008

Doubletree Hotel, Birmingham, AL

Theme: "Prevent. Promote. Protect-- Partnering for Health and Preparedness."

Some of the session topics confirmed include customer service, aviation model of teamwork, ethics, and psychological first aid; and "Matching Values and Real World Challenges: Maintaining Our Personal Vision." The Program Committee applied for and received a \$5,000 grant from Merck Pharmaceutical Company to assist with the conference.

The 2009 ALPHA annual educational conference will be held in Birmingham, Alabama at the Radisson Hotel April 10-11, 2008. The Program Planning Committee is in the process of negotiating the contract.

An Executive Exploratory Committee was established to explore the possibility of hiring an executive director and to focus on strategic planning. Since that time the Committee moved forward with a recommendation to create an Executive Officer position. This proposed position would be a 40 hour per month part-time position with a monthly salary of \$600. A list with the executive director responsibilities and assignments was also developed.

Three resolutions were passed by the Board including "Promoting Colorectal Cancer Screening and Partnerships to Reduce the Preventable Burden of Diabetes."

The Association met two of the three requirements to submit a proposal to expand affiliate capacity building initiatives. Both surveys were completed, but ALPHA did not have a signed MOU on file with the American Public Health Association. This requirement was discussed at length at the last board meeting. A motion to sign the MOU was not made.

Medical professionals met with representatives of the Alabama

Department of Public Health (ADPH) to begin developing a statewide trauma system for Alabama. The purpose of the trauma system is to get patients to the right place in the shortest amount of time which saves lives. This legislation which provides for the development of the system was passed during the 2007 legislative session and gives oversight authority to the ADPH.

- The Office of Primary Care and Rural Health Development of the ADPH and the Randolph Medical Center were awarded a federal grant to address cardiovascular disease in East Alabama. The Health Resources and Services Administration made this award to Alabama as a part of the rural Hospital Flexibility Health Information Technology Network Program. The hospital has committed more than \$1.7 million of its own funds to purchase advanced cardiac technology, including a 64 Slice Cat Scan, a new echo/ultrasound and a new wireless heart monitoring telemetry. Plans for the hospital are as follows:

- Upgrade clinical information systems to reduce medical errors
- Improve data sharing capability
- Establish a reporting and trending system

Governor Bob Riley signed a bill into law requiring insurance companies to offer full coverage for prostate cancer exams that are ordered by a physician. It does not mandate insurance coverage for prostate cancer screenings, but does require insurance companies to offer full coverage for physician ordered exams.

The Perry County Health Department and the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program of the department joined together to sponsor a prostate cancer screening event. Forty men were provided free screenings during the four hour event. Goals of the project were to promote community awareness and reduce the disparities in prostate cancer incidence and death among men.

The state of Alabama is in the process of developing a statewide online resource directory to assist citizens in

finding agency resources such as Medicaid and WIC. The system will also allow for a statewide registry so clients won't have to reapply for service with the different state agencies.

The ADPH participated in the Go Red For Women Campaign in February 2008. One purpose of this campaign was to provide women with the knowledge and tools to take positive action to reduce their risks of heart disease and stroke. Activities to celebrate the movement included participating in faith-based teas, providing literature to incarcerated women at prisons, and having a kick-off and reception at the Alabama Archives and History Building. Special guests included Former Lt. Governor Lucy Baxley, and State Treasurer Kay Ivey.

The ADPH, Bureau of Professional and Support Services engaged in a partnership with the Alabama Department of Corrections to assist with reentry and transitional services for currently incarcerated and newly released offenders. This project focused on the development of a comprehensive reentry model to assist ex offenders with assessing public health and other state agency, community and faith-based resources after release. The ultimate goal of this partnership is to decrease the overall prison recidivism rates, minimize health disparities in underserved populations, and improve the quality of life of newly released offenders. Due to this project, the Alabama Department of Corrections issued a news release on October 31, 2007, announcing a policy change stating that all HIV-positive inmates will participate in visitation and religious services, as well as all other programs with general population inmates.

Steps to a Healthier Alabama, River Region provided several mini-grants to area churches to implement the Body and Soul Program in 2007. The Body and Soul Program: Healthy Eating and Living was originally developed by the National Cancer Institute for African American churches. It targets African Americans who are at a higher risk for many serious and fatal diseases that are associated with nutrition such as hypertension, diabetes and heart disease. The program encourages church members to eat diets rich in fruits and vegetables every day for better health. One area church who participated in the program changed the foods it offered in their Food Pantry Outreach Center. New policies were established and partici-



Kentucky News

The Kentucky Public Health Association's Annual Conference is scheduled for April 21-24-2008 at the Executive West Hotel, Louisville, KY. Theme for this year's conference "Making Tomorrow Healthier Today". Rosie Miklavcic and her Program Committee has been very busy putting together a great Program. The preliminary conference agenda can be viewed at www.kpha-ky.org.

The General Assembly has been in Regular Session since January and will adjourn on April 15. Our Legislative Committee, headed up by Garland VanZant, has done an outstanding job in tracking a number of Acts that affect public health. Information has been transmitted to membership periodically on the status of Bills. A number of Budget hearings and Legislative Committee Meetings have been attended. KPHA co-sponsored a legislative workshop in November along with the Kentucky health Departments Association and had a standing room crowd, which made a good impression on the Legislators who spoke at the workshop. Also KPHA and KHDA co-sponsored a legislative reception on February 6, 2008 along with a number of other organizations for all General Assembly members. We have had a number of calls from Legislative Committee Staff relating to Acts that affect public health and or local health departments.

In January this year KPHA and KHDA participate in Kentucky Chamber Day with the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. This event held in the Lexington Center involved a reception and a dinner. Governor Steve Beshear, House Speaker Jody Richards, Senate President David Williams, Minority House Floor Leader Jeffery Hover and Minority Senate Floor Leader Ed Whorley were the featured speakers. There were ninety Legislators in attendance. The event was sold out with 1200 in attendance.

KPHA has established a Marketing Committee and a Multi-Media Committee and these two Committees are busy putting together information to market KPHA across Kentucky. The Membership Committee has also been very active this year. We are putting on a drive to recruit County/Judge Executives and Fiscal; Courts as members.

KPHA has established a new scholarship designated as the "Gerald Luttrell Scholarship". Gerald is a long time member of KPHA and has donated a substantial fund to KPHA to establish this scholarship.

The Dudley J. Conner annual golf tournament is scheduled for June 23, 2008 in Bardstown at the Bardstown Country Club at Maywood. We already have a number of hole sponsors, a new car for a hole in one and many more prizes. KPHA Board Retreat is scheduled to follow the golf tournament on June 24-25-2008 in Bardstown. This is a time to prepare for the annual activities and for new Board Member Orientation.

Membership continues to grow and we are looking forward to our 60 anniversary celebration at the annual conference in April.



North Carolina News

Association News

NCPHA's Advocacy Committee has been selected for the coming year and discussions surrounding the organization's upcoming legislative agenda are underway. Our legislative efforts will focus on: increasing \$23 million in "general aid to county" for local health departments to build necessary infrastructure and support the capacity to provide essential public health services (i.e. workforce development, staffing, etc.) addressing obesity, and efforts to eliminate secondhand smoke.

NCPHA plans to work with its Public Awareness Committee to promote its legislative agenda. In addition, this committee will provide awareness about public health and what public health employees do on a daily basis, and promote the efforts of public health within local communities across the state of North Carolina.

NCPHA has created a 100th Anniversary Planning Committee. This committee will plan and coordinate the organization's 100th anniversary celebration which will be held in Asheville, NC in September 2009.

Florida News

The Florida Public Health Association (FPHA) is currently planning our annual educational conference to be held in Champions Gate, Florida, July 27 to August 1, 2008. This year we are concentrating on being “Champions for Public Health”.

Our organization enjoys a working relationship with other professional groups and again this year we will meet in conjunction with the Florida Association of Public Health Nurses as well as some other public health groups. FPHA is working to provide current and valuable information for our members and guest as part of the program, with a focus on issues of key interest to the Department of Health and the University programs. Florida is predicting a shortfall in revenue this year and training and travel expenses are under close scrutiny. FPHA has and will continue to function as a provided of quality educational opportunities. It is our goal this year to provide the highest quality program while controlling cost. This will allow FPHA to help the local health departments and professional staff maintain there expertise and credentials in a cost effective manner.

As the 2008 Legislative Session is in process, the Legislative Committee is watching very closely legislation proposed this year, while programmatic experts are watching changes in services and funding levels for the core programs. The public health system in Florida is held in high regard by the Governors’ office and so far it has fared better than other agencies in the proposed budget reductions. However the reduction of state revenue has everyone competing over the limited dollars. FPHA plans to spear head the effort to keep public health at its highest level of readiness so that when called upon we can function in a manner worthy of the governor’s trust.

As part of the Legislative Advocacy, FPHA is continuing its Grassroots Campaign program with the Voter Voice system. We are able to send weekly Legislative Updates to members and if necessary will be able to implement a grassroots campaign on a particular issue through the same system.

FPHA closed 2007 with more than 1000 members and is one of the largest public health organizations in the American Public Health Association and Southern Health Association family. The goal for 2008 is to increase that number much further.

This year FPHA is revamping its website to make it more interactive and “exciting”. We hope to have the sections more involved with their members through the website, as well as keep current information available to the membership at large.

Accept the Challenge be a public health champion!



Arkansas News

State News:

Governor Beebe sponsored a Roundtable on Health Care at the Capitol. ADH Director, Dr. Paul Halverson addressed the group that includes non-governmental representatives of community decision-makers: consumers, business representatives, health care representatives, and community leaders who will, according to the goal statement, "identify, develop, and implement achievable strategies to improve health, deliver needed health care, and enhance both worker productivity and the business climate to advance the state of health and health care in Arkansas." Arkansas Surgeon General, Dr. Joe Thompson, will chair the group. A series of bi-monthly meetings, open to the public, will be held around the state.

On November 8 - 10th, 2007, 81 health units in Arkansas practiced their Local Mass Dispensing Plans and provided approximately 78,000 free flu shots. The purpose of the clinics were to provide free flu vaccine to Arkansans, exercise the counties' mass dispensing plans, and insure that health professionals and volunteers are prepared to vaccinate or dispense medication to a large population in a short period of time. Arkansas has three counties eligible for new Community Health Centers. These Centers will expand access to primary care funded through the High Poverty County Initiative with the Department of Health and Human Services/Health Resources and Services Administration (DHHS/HRSA) Bureau of Primary Health Care. These funds are designed to create new health centers to bring the benefits of health centers to low-income counties that do not currently enjoy access to health center care.

Department of Health:

The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) was recognized by the National Public Health Information Coalition for its efforts in promoting and communicating with Arkansans about their health. In a ceremony held in Baltimore, MD in September the agency received thirteen awards for releases, websites, print media, radio and television used in various campaigns last year.

The Arkansas Department of Health hosted a meeting of the Delta States Stroke Network (DSSN) in Little Rock. Arkansas has recently been designated the lead state for the five state consortium. The five DSSN states (Arkansas, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana) rank as numbers 1, 3, 5, 9 and 11 in stroke mortality in the U.S.

Effective December 1, 2007 the Arkansas Department of Health implemented a Cost Accounting Time Management System for all employees. This system requires employees to complete and submit an electronic time allocation entry form each day. Implementation of this system will help the agency maintain the Department's federal funding, document the work that colleagues do on all programs and provide continued fiscal health of the Department.



Georgia News

GPHA POSITION STATEMENT:

The GPHA adopted the following positions during the October 11-12, 2007 meeting in Savannah, Georgia.

- 1) To advocate for the removal of the Division of Public Health from the Georgia Department of Human Resources and place it in a newly created Department of Public Health or in a separate Department of Health which also includes the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Addictive Disease.
- 2) To advocate for a 15% increase in General Grant-In-Aid, above and beyond current levels and exclusive of any across the board salary increases and/or insurance adjustments, to county boards of health, and that GPHA urge that the General Grant in Aid be specifically listed by county in the state budget.
- 3) To advocate for public health nursing salaries at 85% of market and the development of a progressive career track for public health nurses.

Members were encouraged to share these GPHA positions with the county boards of health in their districts, with an encouragement from GPHA that the boards endorse some or all of the positions and so inform the local delegation with copies to Governor Perdue, Lt. Governor Cagle, Speaker Richardson, Senate Appropriations Chair Jack Hill, and House Appropriations Chair Ben Harbin.



More Georgia News

GPHA/SHA Joint Meeting:

The Georgia Public Health Association/SHA Joint 78th Annual Meeting and Conference was held at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront September 4-7, 2007 in Savannah, Georgia. The theme and logo for this year's joint meeting is "Public Health: Prevent, Promote, Protect." Joint meetings provided an excellent opportunity for a beneficial exchange of expertise and networking with SHA members throughout the south. The joint meeting was beneficial to the affiliate sponsor. GPHA, in terms of quality of meeting, networking, and visibility for public health in the affiliate state. Thanks to all the SHA members who attended.

GPHA OFFICERS:

SKELTON, W. Douglas, GPHA President

TAYLOR, Robert V., GPHA Vice President, Program Committee Co-Chair

TOAL, Russell B., GPHA President-Elect

ABBOTT, Regina, GPHA Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair

FENNO, Gregory, GPHA Board Secretary, Annual Meeting Coordinator

AGEL, J. Frederick, GPHA Past President

ALDERMAN, E. Joseph, Chair, Bylaws Committee, Parliamentarian, GPHA SHA Representative

BRYAN, Alpha Fowler, GPHA Representative-at-Large HINMAN, Johanna M, GPHA APHA Representative

SELLERS, C. Wade, GPHA Representative-at-Large

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING DATE:

DECEMBER 2-5, 2008 79TH Annual Meeting and Conference at the Westin Savannah Harbor, Resort Drive, in Savannah, Georgia.

ANNUAL BOARD RETREAT:

The 2007 Annual Board Retreat will be held September 11-12, 2007 at the Inn at Ellis Square, located at 201 West Bay Street in Savannah. The upcoming year will bring many new challenges and opportunities for our organization. Participants of the board retreat was comprised of board officers, elected representatives, section and committee chairs.

There were six issues acted upon by the board:

1. Approved the expenditure of \$9,500.00 of the Healthcare Georgia Foundation grant for GPHA website development.
2. GPHA took a position to advocate that all public health nurses should be hired at 85% of market salary.
3. GPHA took an official position to advocate the removal of public health from the Georgia Department of Human Resources and place it in a newly created Department of Public Health or, a separate Department of Health inclusive of MH/DD/AD.
4. GPHA would advocate for a 15% increase in General Grant-in-Aid, above and beyond current levels and exclusive of any across the board salary increases and/or insurance adjustments, to county boards of health, and that GPHA urge that the increases be specifically listed in the budget by county
5. GPHA would advocate for the development of a progressive career track for public health nurses.
6. Each member of the board signed a petition (exceeding the number necessary) to create an Academic Section within the Georgia Public Health Association. This petition was submitted to Dr. Joseph Alderman, chair of the bylaws committee for implementation



Enterprise Health Systems



Custom Data Processing

Clinic Management Systems

CDP's Public Health Clinic Management System (CDPcms) has been serving Public Health for over 25 years. Health Departments in five states plus dozens of other sites including schools are interconnected with a common suite of data management applications. Over 800,000 patients are managed each year from CDP's data centers in Frankfort, KY and LaGrange, IL. Patient demographics, household status, eligibility, immunizations, WIC benefits and cancer screenings are just a few of the many services tracked and managed by CDP's system. In addition, environmental health tracking for food service, food borne illness investigation, as well as inspections and permitting for wells & on-site septic systems are all managed by CDP.



CDP has added an affordable public health record to the Clinic Management System. In 2007, CDP introduced a new module for its Health Department Clinic Management Systems. This new module, called CDPeZEMRx, is a custom built electronic medical record for public health. In cooperation with local & state health providers, CDP has developed a complete electronic medical chart for public health clinics. This new application, built on the latest web-based technologies, extends the more than 25 year history of service by CDP to its public health clients.

CDPeZEMRx is integrated with the Clinic Management System (CDPcms). This integration saves time by reducing double data entry in the other systems and also ensures the quality of data throughout the entire system. In addition, CDPeZEMRx is capable of integration with other outside systems, including hospital, laboratory, imaging and pharmacy systems.

Soon to be released by CDP, and integrated with CDPeZEMRx, is the Immunization Registry, potentially a complete record of vaccinations for every citizen of the state. This system was integrated with a focus on simplicity and ease of use for our health department customers. The new, web-based Immunization Registry will be accessible for authorized public and private providers from any internet-enabled device. CDP recognizes that the success of the registry will be measured by the enrollment, participation and usage of the private medical community.

By capturing data at the point of care, CDPeZEMRx can aid in caregiver decision-making, accessing a rules engine to provide alerts, reminders, clinical protocols, and coding assistance (i.e. E/M level coding). With the integration of Lab, Pharmacy, Imaging and other EMR systems, CDPeZEMRx can provide real-time data to the provider, thereby facilitating better clinical decision-making. At the click of a mouse CDPeZEMRx accesses large amounts of data, permitting providers to analyze and report data quickly and easily, including clinical statistics analysis, population health, patient/drug reports, and patient demographic reports.

CDP's full suite of integrated services for public health elevates our clients above the nation. Our long standing record of collaboration with public health professionals has resulted in systems that represent our clients as the leaders in data management technology for public health. By utilizing this complete network of providers and a central repository of clinical data, CDP's clients will move to the forefront in providing a comprehensive electronic health record for its citizens.

Southern Health Association Calendar

SHA Governing Council Meetings

May 6, 2008..... Hot Springs, AR

SHA Annual Meeting

May 6-9, 2008

Hot Springs, AR

State Association Meetings

Alabama.....Birmingham.....April 8-9, 2008

Theme: Prevent, Promote, Protect: Partnering for Health and Preparedness

Arkansas.....Hot Springs.....May 7-9, 2008

SHA Annual Meeting for 2008

Theme: A Matter of Time.....The Time is Now

Florida.....Orlando.....July 29—Aug. 1, 2008

Georgia.....Savannah.....December 3-5, 2008

Kentucky.....Louisville.....April 21-24, 2008

Theme: Making Tomorrow Healthier Today

North Carolina.....New Bern.....September 24-26, 2008

South Carolina.....Myrtle Beach.....May 20-23, 2008

Theme: Putting a Face on Public Health—Yours

Tennessee.....Franklin.....Aug 27-29, 2008

Theme: Preparing the Best Game Plan: Tackling Behaviors for Health Improvement

Other Meetings

APHA.....San DiegoOct 25-29, 2008

Theme: Public Health Without Border

**Southern Health
Association**

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MISSION: To serve as
a regional advocate
for Public Health and
for the growth and
development of its
leadership

Southern Health Association Membership Application

(Mail to SHA, 1590 North Bass Drive, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122)

Name _____ Office Phone _____

Email _____

Organization/Agency _____

Position _____

Dues Paid

Mailing Address _____ 1-Year 2-Year

_____ New Member ___\$20 ___\$40

_____ Individual ___\$25 ___\$45

Is mailing address: (Office ___ Home ___) Fellow ___\$40

Retiree ___\$10

Student ___\$10

Donation (Please fill in amount) _____

Functional Area:

___ Administrative

___ Direct Care

___ Environmental

___ Management Support

___ Educational/Health Promotion

U.S. Congressional District Residence _____

Are you will to serve on a committee? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, give preference _____

_____ Are you a member of your state PHA?

___ Yes ___ No

Sponsor: optional) _____

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