

2014 KPHA Newsletter 3rd Quarter

President's Message



Dear KPHA Members,

It's that time of year again! The 71st Annual Kansas Public Health Association Conference is just around the corner. This year's conference entitled *Health is Where You Live* is scheduled to take place Monday, September 29 – Wednesday, October 1, 2014, at the Ramada Topeka Downtown Hotel and Convention Center. Thanks to Conference Chair Brenda Nickel and the rest of the planning committee, this year's conference is loaded with exceptional keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and the annual poster competition. A day of pre-sessions includes timely information on implementation of the Affordable Care Act, how to better engage policy makers, and health impact assessment. The list of exhibitors is growing every week, and includes new vendors for our conference. You won't want to miss this important networking and professional development event. Be sure to [register](#) today.

In addition to conference preparation, your KPHA Board of Directors has been busy on a number of other tasks. Workgroups have been updating the KPHA website, working on membership initiatives, developing or revising policies for the organization, and more. You will read about some of these activities throughout the newsletter. I cannot say enough how impressed I am by this board. Please thank them for their hard work and dedication to KPHA when you see them at the conference!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tanya Honderick'.

Tanya Honderick, RN, MS, MPH, PHCNS-BC
KPHA President

Membership Survey

By Greg Crawford, Membership Committee Chair and Ellen Averett, Immediate Past-President

It's almost time for the annual KPHA membership survey! A link to the survey will soon be sent to you via email. Please watch for it and fill it out when you receive it. It should take around 10 minutes or less to complete.

Why is the survey important? It helps KPHA better serve the membership in a number of ways. For one, it helps the board focus KPHA's advocacy activities to reflect the priorities of the membership. The survey also helps us know the demographics of our membership, information that is important as KPHA applies for grants and other funding. Finally, it helps KPHA plan for the future and be most responsive to the needs and desires of the membership.

Survey results will be summarized and aggregate data presented in the Year in Review session at the annual conference in September.

Please watch for the survey and, most importantly, please fill it out when you get it. If you do not receive a link to the survey by September 1st, please contact Membership Committee co-chair Greg Crawford at gcrawford@kdheks.gov to obtain the link. Thank you!

Ellen Averett Appointed to APHA Science Board **By Tanya Honderick, President**

We are extremely happy to announce the appointment of Dr. Ellen Averett, KPHA Immediate Past-President, to the APHA Science Board. She will serve a three-year term. The Science Board's primary responsibility is to review proposed APHA policy statements for their scientific merit and actively participate in the Association's policy review process to ensure that all APHA policy statements are evidence-based. The Science Board consists of 16 members who represent one of five core areas of public health: behavioral and social sciences, biomedical sciences and clinical practice, environmental and occupational health, epidemiology and statistics, and health management and social policy.

The Science Board meets in-person two times per year. In the spring, members convene at APHA headquarters in Washington, DC for a two-day meeting to conduct business and a review the proposed policy statements. The Board also meets during the APHA Annual Meeting, and holds quarterly conference calls.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Ellen and KPHA. Congratulations!



Public Health Workforce Assessment in Kansas **By Cristi Cain, Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE**

Partners from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, KU-MPH Program, Kansas State University MPH program, and other public health organizations have been preparing for an assessment of the entire public health workforce in Kansas. Developing and delivering targeted education and training requires that the proficiency of the workforce be measured. Assessment results will help supply the information needed to identify, prioritize, and develop training opportunities for the workforce around the state and in specific public health organizations; provide individuals with an opportunity to think about his/her strengths as a public health professional and areas in which he/she might want to seek additional training; and support each organization's efforts toward accreditation—specifically in Domain 8 of the national Public Health Accreditation Board Standards and Measures. The questions in the assessment are based on the Council on Linkages Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals and are divided into the following key dimensions of public health practice:



- Communication
- Cultural Competency
- Analytical/Assessment
- Policy Development/Program Planning
- Community Dimensions of Practice
- Public Health Sciences
- Financial Planning and Management
- Leadership and Systems Thinking

Workgroup members have consulted with other states and county health departments that have conducted assessments in order to gain their insight in order to effectively conduct the Kansas assessment. The assessment is currently being administered to over 1,000 employees at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Local health departments will participate in the assessment process in late August. There will be a chance to win VISA gift cards for completing an assessment. Local health department administrators with the highest participation rates will also be eligible for incentives. For more information, please contact Cristi Cain at 785-296-3641 or ccain@kdheks.gov.

APHA Affiliate Presidents-Elect Meeting **By Mark Thompson, President-Elect and Erica Anderson, Tobacco, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Section Chair**

Mark Thompson, KPHA President-Elect, and Erica Anderson, KPHA President-Elect candidate for 2015, attended the APHA Affiliate Presidents-Elect Meeting June 9-11 in Washington, DC. All Affiliate Presidents-Elect were invited to attend along with an additional representative. The goal of the meeting was to orient Affiliate leaders to

APHA's mission, priorities and governance model; discuss benefits, resources and services available to Affiliates; and to familiarize leaders with the Affiliate's role in APHA. This meeting also provided training on topics such as health equity, governance and advocacy.

In addition to meeting and networking with Affiliate leaders from other states and staff from APHA, time was spent discussing goals for and strategies to move KPHA forward. Some of the ideas that percolated included co-branding with APHA to create consistency between logos, recognizing the pharmacy chain, CVS, for their steps to limit tobacco use, and developing letters to the editor and op-ed pieces to highlight public health issues and KPHA's potential role, among others.

The Kansas contingent also had an opportunity to visit with staff from Senators Pat Roberts' and Jerry Moran's offices as well as met with Representative Lynn Jenkins and her staff. Erica and Mark were able to share some of the strides that are being made in Kansas relative to youth tobacco use prevention, increasing student physical activity, and improving student nutrition. Ongoing challenges were also discussed.

Kansas will benefit from the investment APHA and KPHA made in supporting this meeting through the increased knowledge and tools, idea generation, and the dialogue established with governmental leaders. Hopefully this opportunity will be extended to future leaders within KPHA.

Membership Campaign Underway **By Greg Crawford, Membership Committee Chair**

KPHA board members are in the process of contacting lapsed member from the past few years in an effort to rekindle their interest in the association. Lapsed members were sent a letter, an application, and a flyer for the fall conference. The letter from President Tanya Honderick pointed out our desire to see persons remain active in support of public health.

Following the mailing a list of lapsed members was provided to board members to contact. The personal contact was intended to let lapsed member know we remain interested in their involvement. It also provided an opportunity for the board to learn what factors might be influencing decisions to leave the organization.

Once the campaign is finished, the former members who do not rejoin will be culled from the membership list. This will make the membership process much easier to manage for Support KC. Once the membership list is current, it will be easier to monitor the status of renewals.



Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds Fall 2014 Series
By Mary Beth Warren, KUMC AHEC

The Kansas Association for Local Health Departments, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Public Health Association and KU Medical Center's Department of Preventive Medicine and Area Health Education Centers are once again collaborating to make available the Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds series. The Fall 2014 series will occur live on Wednesdays between August 27 through December 10 from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. via the internet utilizing the Adobe Connect web conferencing system.

A total of 13 sessions are planned. We are in the process of finalizing the session schedule and will distribute soon. Topics will include: 10 Essential Services and PHAB update; Quality Improvement: Implementing Evidence-Based Practice; Local Health Department Accreditation Experiences; Primary and Secondary Data Sources for Public Health Practice; Profile of E-Cigarette Use in Kansas; Cultural Sensitivity & Health Equity: Preparing to Meet the PHAB Standards; and Human Trafficking.

The fee for the entire fall series (a total of 13 sessions) will be \$100 per organization per computer and will include continuing education credit for nurses **employed by or volunteering at your organization and attending at your location**. Support is provided for the fall 2014 series in part by the Kansas Health Foundation. Assistance is available to provide 50% (\$50.00) of the site registration fee for up to 30 local health departments registering for the Fall 2014 series. The local health department will be responsible for the remaining \$50.00. The stipend will be available on a first come, first served basis.

Enrollment for the Fall 2014 series is open. Your organization may enroll by e-mailing KU Medical Center AHEC at ksphgr@kumc.edu or calling 620-235-4040. If you have questions, please feel free to contact KU Medical Center AHEC at 620-235-4040.

Master of Public Health Program Earns Accreditation from Council on Education for Public Health
By Mike Cates, Director-At-Large

Kansas State University's Master of Public Health Program has earned accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health. The accreditation takes effect immediately.

"Accreditation is a very welcomed acknowledgement by the experts at the Council on Education for Public Health that Kansas State University has an extraordinary faculty team, which provides an outstanding combination of public health instruction, research, service, extension and workforce development," said Mike Cates, director of the Master

of Public Health program.

The program now joins the University of Kansas Medical Center's Master of Public Health program as the only accredited programs in Kansas.

Approved as a new graduate program in 2003 by the Kansas Board of Regents, Kansas State University's Master of Public Health program enrolled its first students in the fall of that year. Accreditation was applied for in 2009, and during the subsequent, rigorous self-study period, the program made numerous enhancements related to academics and governance to meet the required accreditation criteria.

An interdisciplinary program, it involves partnering faculty, staff and administration from the university's Graduate School and the colleges of Agriculture, Arts & Sciences, Human Ecology and Veterinary Medicine. The program offers a Master of Public Health in four areas of emphasis: food safety and biosecurity, infectious diseases and zoonoses, public health nutrition and public health physical activity. It also offers a graduate certificate in public health core concepts.

Students in the program have come from 27 states and territories in the U.S. and 16 foreign countries. More than 70 students are currently active in the program, and it has 116 graduates now serving in many different aspects of public health at the local, state, federal and international levels.

142nd Annual Meeting and Expo, November 15-19, New Orleans, LA
Taken From Email to APHA Members By Georges C. Benjamin, MD, APHA
Executive Director

Do you remember why you first decided to work in public health?

I recently had another reminder of why I did. Yet another study confirmed the quality of the U.S. health-care system is failing. This one ranks our country dead last among 11 industrialized nations. We have great hospitals, doctors and nurses. If I was sick I would want to be treated in the United States. However, when it comes to helping us live healthy lives, our health system falls short.

This is why APHA has set our sights on creating the healthiest nation in one generation. At this year's Annual Meeting, we will bring together more than 12,000 of the brightest minds in public health to discuss this challenge. Join me when I sit down with five former surgeons general and ask them what we need to do to become the healthiest nation. Attend the Science Board's session to give your input on specific goals for success and how we measure our progress. Join your colleagues in your Section, SPIG, Caucus or Forum to engage in the best science in our field. We will explore the latest research to address social determinants of health.



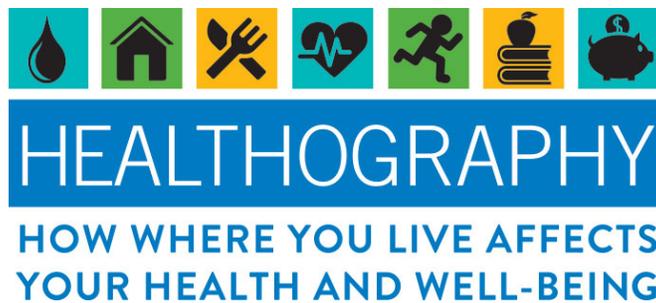
Health is a right, and our system is not delivering. At APHA we see this as the defining challenge of our generation — a challenge that we, the public health community, are uniquely positioned to overcome. We have achieved many successes — the Affordable Care Act, FDA regulation of tobacco, improving the foods our kids eat at school and administrative action on climate change, to name a few. But we have much more to do.

Together, we must continue to improve access to care as well as continue to transform our health system to focus more on prevention rather than merely treating people once they are sick. And we must ensure that all people and all communities have access to the same healthy choices that lead to a long life free of the preventable disease, illness and injury that are reaching epidemic proportions in our society.

Come to the Annual Meeting and join the movement to create the healthiest nation in one generation. I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans.

See more at:

http://action.apha.org/site/MessageViewer?dlv_id=53801&em_id=48661.0#sthash.haEciF2p.dpuf



Neighborhood Support of Physical Activity on the Rise

Taken from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Email, July 15, 2014

New Report Shares Information on Communities and Physical Activity

A new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shares good news: we're making progress in creating and enhancing places to be physically active in our communities. More than half of US youth live in neighborhoods that support physical activity.

Today 54.5% of youth have access to parks or playground areas; recreation centers, community centers, boys' and girls' clubs; and walking paths or sidewalks, according to the [State Indicator Report on Physical Activity, 2014](#).

While we applaud the progress made to date, more work is needed to ensure opportunities increase for all youth and adults to be physically active. Communities and schools are addressing this need with initiatives like:

- Joint-use agreements - giving community residents access to school physical activity spaces and facilities outside of normal school hours.
- Complete Street policies – formalizing intent to plan, design and maintain streets so they are safe for all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit riders and those in wheelchairs.

Regular physical activity is critical to overall health and fitness. With community support, the number of Americans who gain health benefits from physical activity can increase.

[Find out what your state is doing to support physical activity.](#)

More Information

- See what [communities](#) can do to help make being physically active easier.
- Find out about the [health benefits of physical activity](#).
- Get [state-specific information](#) on physical activity behavior and related policy and environmental supports.

Board Meeting Schedule 2014

August 11, 2014
 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
 Wichita Downtown YMCA
 420 N. Market, Wichita, KS

September 29, 2014 (KPHA Fall Conference)
 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
 Topeka Downtown Ramada Inn
 420 E. 6th, Topeka, KS

October 13, 2014
 Executive Board
 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
 Location to be determined
 Topeka

November 10, 2014
 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
 Location to be determined
 Topeka

December 8, 2014
 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
 Location to be determined
 Topeka

KPHA on Social Media
By Nikki Keene Woods, KPHA Secretary

Be sure to “like” KPHA on Facebook and follow on the newly created Twitter site. The KPHA Communications Committee is currently developing a social media plan for the organization. If you have a special interest in social media, please contact us (via one of the sites) to join the committee. The goal is to support the overall KPHA mission of “Promoting and Improving Population Health in Kansas” through our social media presence.

