



Promoting Public Health in Connecticut Since 1916



CPHA eNewsletter

9/10/2012

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A Message from CPHA President, Kathi Traugh

It's that time of year again – back to school, fall flu shots and the CPHA Annual Meeting and Conference. Although our state is small, this event is one of the most highly attended statewide public health professional events in the nation. And in 2012, your opportunity to hear from national public health expert Jeff Levi from the Trust for America's Health without having to leave the state! This year's theme is change and you will see many changes in our program. We are in a new location. We have added more time during and after the conference for professional networking. And we listened to members and have two skill-building workshops planned: public health leadership and grant writing. So gather up your business cards and join us at the Four Points Sheraton in Meriden on October 5!

There is another major event coming this fall that I hope you will all participate in--the 2012 elections. The outcome of voting for the CT General Assembly, US Congress and the Presidency will impact public health programs statewide. Our Advocacy Committee works hard on your behalf to educate lawmakers in Hartford about public health, and the American Public Health Association does the same in Washington. But their job is much easier when we elect candidates that value public health and prevention programs! You can help by learning more about where the candidates stand on health and budget issues. Consider volunteering and working on a campaign. As a former local elected official, I can tell you that candidates need volunteers to get their message out to voters. In so many ways, volunteers are the backbone of our democracy. You can help public health in our state by getting involved this election season!

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Annual Conference to Explore Changing Face of Public Health

Join us for the [2012 CPHA Annual Meeting](#) and Conference entitled, **"Transforming Public Health: Changing Roles and Meeting Challenges"** on Friday, October 5, 2012 at the Four Points Sheraton in Meriden. This year's conference focuses on providing you with the insight, resources and skills you need to thrive in a changing public health system. In addition to opportunities to network with colleagues from across the state, this year's conference features:

- Keynote Speakers: Dr. Jeffrey Levi, PhD, Executive Director of the highly regarded national public health advocacy organization, Trust for America's Health, and Dr. Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, Commissioner, CT Department of Public Health
- Break out session topics: Primary Care & Public Health, Public Health Agency Accreditation, Social Media, Public Health Career Development and Public Health Informatics
- New! Skill-Building Workshops: Grant Writing & Public Health Leadership
- New! Post Conference Networking "Happy Hour"& book signing

The CPHA Annual Meeting & Conference has sold out in previous years so early registration is encouraged. CPHA member and non-member rates, group rates and student rates are available.

For more information, to register and to view the full schedule of events, visit the CPHA Annual Meeting & Conference website at <http://www.cpha.info/>

Questions? Call (860) 293-1183 or e-mail annual.conference@cpha.info

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Become a 2012 CPHA Annual Meeting & Conference Sponsor, Exhibitor and/or

Advertiser

This is a great opportunity for your agency or organization to promote your programs, services or products! And a great way to support public health in Connecticut. Choose from a variety of sponsorship levels, and advertisers several choices for their listing on the sponsorship form. For more information, [click here](#).

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2012 CPHA Annual Meeting & Conference Call for Student Posters

CPHA is committed to creating opportunities for students and new graduates of public health to showcase their academic or professional achievements. We once again invite you to participate in the annual Student Poster Session to take place during the 2012 CPHA Annual Meeting & Conference on Friday, October 5, 2012. For additional information and for more information, [click here](#).

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CPHA COMMITTEE UPDATES

Mentoring Committee (MOR)

New legislation now requires every Connecticut student to participate in experiential learning beginning in sixth grade and culminating in a capstone experience by his or her senior year of high school. Capstones allow students to apply classroom learning in the "real world," fulfilled through internships or community projects. Capstones must (1) be student -driven and supervised by a teacher and/or outside mentor (2) include supervised research or fieldwork (3) include an on-going journal and final reflection paper and a formal presentation of the student's findings. iudged by a panel. **This is an**

opportunity for CT public health professionals to get involved with by signing up to be a speaker, project advisor or internship host for students working toward their capstone requirement. In Fall 2012, MOR will convene public health professionals and educational leaders who want to forge partnerships to achieve the goal of making public health an excellent first choice for students' experiential learning.

Do you live in the New Haven area? Consider becoming a public health mentor/ambassador for students enrolled in the state's first public health course at Metropolitan High School—Public Health 101.

If you are interested in becoming involved in any of these mentoring activities, send an email [Pamela Kilbey-Fox](#) or [Cyndi Billian Stern](#) if you would like to be involved in any of these activities, so we can help you connect with schools.

Letter to MOR from Shane Lockwood, Director of Health, Plainville-Southington Regional Health District, August 2012 *"MOR was able to connect me with Diana Hellyar, a recent graduate of Saint Joseph's College. Using her degree in Nutrition, she developed and presented How to Read a Nutrition Label at senior centers in both Plainville and Southington. Diana also worked with both school systems' Food Service Directors to create a brochure that highlighted the recent nutritional changes to the school lunch program. This brochure will be used to inform parents of changes and to provide them information on preparing healthier meals at home. It was a pleasure having Diana here this summer and I am thankful to CPHA and MOR for making this opportunity happen!"*

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Health Education Committee (HEC)

Are you a CPHA member in need of CHES credits? The HEC meets 5 times per year (January, April, June, September, November) on the second

Wednesday of the month from 9 am until noon at the Connecticut affiliate of the American Heart Association, 5 Brookside Drive in Wallingford. CHES are eligible to receive 2 CECH for a \$6 fee at each meeting. The HEC always welcome new members! For more information, please email Health Education Committee Chair, **Kimberly Ploszaj**, at cphahec@yahoo.com or [click here](#).

Upcoming HEC meetings:

- September 12, 2012--“Coordinated School Health,” presented by Lisa Budris, CT Dept of Public Health, and “Emergency Preparedness,” presented by Charles Brown, [CT Association of Directors of Health](#).
- November 14, 2012--David Hill, Quinnipiac University who will present “Global Public Health” and Krista Veneziano, State of CT DPH will speak about “[Healthy Homes Initiative](#)”

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Advocacy Committee

- The [Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut](#) used the summer months to map out an aggressive and sound strategy to get the comprehensive reform bill passed in the 2013 Legislative Session and also to assist with federal reform efforts to get toxic chemicals out of children’s products. Appointments with CT congressional delegation to discuss the Safe Chemicals Act, currently before the Senate, were requested.
- Along with many other organizations concerned with public health - including the Connecticut Public Health Association – The Coalition signed on to a letter to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (R-Nevada) urging him to schedule a vote on the chemical reform bill this fall.
- In August, the Coalition co-released the results of a study done by the [Center for Health, Environment and Justice](#) (CHEJ) that found phthalates were widespread in many of the back-to-school supplies (binders, lunchboxes, backpacks, raincoats and rain boots) tested by the group. In an effort to assist parents with back-to-school shopping, CHEJ offered a [Back-to-School Guide to PVC School Supplies](#).
- **SAVE THE DATE!** -- The Coalition invites **all** to its Annual Meeting on Thursday, September 27th from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the U.A.W. in Farmington. Celebrate the year’s successes, and help us get ready for the 2013 Legislative Session. For more information, [click here](#).

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CPHA MEMBER NEWS

- Dr. Katharine Kranz Lewis was named Deputy Commissioner, CT Department of Public Health on August 27, 2012. In assuming her new role, Kathy has stepped down as CPHA President-Elect and as CPHA Advocacy Committee Co-Chair.

“Dr. Lewis has had longstanding resolve to strengthen the public health infrastructure and improve the well-being of Connecticut residents. I am thrilled that she has agreed to bring her talent, her expertise and her passion for public health to DPH”-- Dr. Jewel Mullen, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health.

Kathy has also served as faculty at the University of Hartford Nursing School since 2001, and was the founder of the CT Public Health Policy Institute.

- **Dr. Timothy Morse** has retired after over 30 years at the University of Connecticut Department of Occupational Medicine and Ergonomics. Tim served as Associate Professor, Chair of the UConn MPH Program Admissions Committee, as advisor to numerous UConn MPH graduate students, a mentor to public health professionals statewide.
- **Jennifer Kertanis** has been named Director of Health for the Farmington Valley Health District. She leaves her position as Executive Director of CADH. Congrats, Jennifer!
- **CADH's Health Equity Index Featured in the Hartford Courant**
The Hartford Courant published an article about CADH's Health Equity Index on August 20, 2012. To read the article, [click here](#).

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UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The [CPHA website](#) maintains a list of state, regional and national educational opportunities available to public health professionals and students. We are constantly updating this list, so if you know of any upcoming events that may be of interest to members, please email them to cpha@cpha.info.

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