



**Connecticut
Public Health
Association**

Promoting Public Health in Connecticut Since 1934



CPHA eNewsletter - March 2014

3/20/2014

Table of Contents

- Awards Breakfast
- UConn MPH Celebration
- Google Hangout
- Legislation
- CSHCT
- Advocacy
- HEC
- CABOH
- MOR
- Program
- Professional Development
- Legislative Breakfast



Visit us at
<http://www.cpha.info/>

2014 CT PUBLIC HEALTH AWARDS BREAKFAST, APRIL 10

Please join us for a morning of celebration and professional networking with public health colleagues and supporters from around the state during National Public Health Week. The Connecticut Public Health Association (CPHA) cordially invites you to the [2014 CPHA Public Health Awards & Networking Breakfast](#) on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at Quinnipiac University, Center for Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences in North Haven, CT.

Come and honor our 2014 CPHA Award Recipients for their outstanding contributions to public health in Connecticut:

- **William G Faraclas, Dr.P.H.:** C.-E.A. Winslow Award
- **Ann Greene:** Ira V. Hiscock Award
- **Louise-Marie Dembry, M.D., M.S., M.B.A.:** Charles G. Huntington III Award
- **Avery H. LaChance:** Michael J. Perlin Student Award

We are also pleased to be joined by CT Commissioner of Health, Dr. Jewell Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA. Following the event, register to take a tour of the brand new Quinnipiac University, Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine.

Admission includes breakfast and tour and is \$25 and \$20 for students with a valid ID. **You do not need to be a member of CPHA to join us, so feel free to spread the word!**

Doors open at 8:30 AM. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. For more information and to register, visit the events pages at www.cpha.info.

[Top »](#)

[UCONN MPH ALL ALUMNI CELEBRATION, MARCH 29](#)

The UConn Master of Public Health All Alumni Celebration will be held on **Saturday, March 29 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Rentschler Field, 615 Silver Lane, East Hartford, CT.**

Join fellow alumni, faculty and leadership from the Master of Public Health program for hors d'oeuvres at to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the program. That evening enjoy live music performed by alumni Gary Lapidus and his band Covert Jazz.

The event will honor a distinguished faculty member, **Assistant Professor Joan Segal, MA, MS**, for her dedication and commitment to the UConn Master of Public Health Program.

For more information, visit:

https://secure.www.alumconnections.com/olc/pub/UCN/event/showEventForm.jsp?form_id=162000

[Top »](#)

“GOOGLE HANGOUT” ON CT’S PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM, APRIL 7

Please join the Connecticut Department of Public Health on **April 7, 2014 from 12-1 PM** for a “Google Hangout” on Connecticut’s Public Health System. Google Hangouts is a video chat program that hosts panel discussions with an online audience.

CPHA President, Kathi Traugh, will be moderating with guests Bill Faraclas, CPHA Board member and founder of the Public Health Program at Southern Connecticut State University; First Selectman of Simsbury, Mary Glassman; and newly elected Mayor of New Haven, Toni Harp.

Building upon the work of the February 7th *Lead Public Health* forum, participants will hear from municipal, academic, and public health leaders about why public health is important, how public health needs are being met and strategies for delivering critical public health services to Connecticut communities.

The forum is hosted by the Connecticut Department of Public Health, as part of the state’s participation in the Aspen Institute’s Excellence in Public Health Law Program. This program is a one-year initiative designed to help states examine how law and policy can advance their state’s health priorities.

To register, email the names of registrants, organization you represent, and contact information to dph.leadpublichealth@ct.gov with the words “Google Hangout” in the subject line and body of the message.

[Top »](#)

CURRENT LEGISLATION

The Legislative Session is up and running, and things are happening fast as lawmakers only have three months to accomplish everything on their wish lists during this “short” session. The Legislative Session ends on Wednesday, May 7th at midnight.

The Advocacy Committee is following legislation which fit into our four priority areas: health equity, environmental health, prevention, and public health infrastructure. Some bills to note include:

- **SB 24 – AAC The Governor’s Recommendations Regarding Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Youth Smoking Prevention** – this bill bans the sale of any nicotine delivery system (e-cigarettes) to individuals under the age of 18. *CPHA supports this bill.*
- **SB 5528- AAC Essential Public Health Services** — this bill would require local health departments to provide ten essential public health services as a condition for receiving certain state funding. *CPHA supports this bill.*

[Top »](#)

COALITION FOR A SAFE AND HEALTHY CT

CPHA is an active and funded member of the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy CT and is once again working hard for legislation that protects children from toxic chemical exposure.

CPHA has provided testimony in support of four bills in three committees this Session – all four of these bills would help to reduce children’s exposure to toxic chemicals. They are:

- **SB 126 – AAC Children’s Exposure to Chemicals** (Click [here](#) and [here](#) for CPHA testimony)

- **HB 5354 – ACC Chemicals of High Concern to Children** (Click [here](#) and [here](#) for CPHA testimony)
- **HB 5305 – AAC Cadmium Levels in Children’s Jewelry** (Click [here](#) for CPHA testimony)
- **SB 316 – AA Requiring the Labeling of Food Products that are Packaged in Materials that Contain Bisphenol-A** (Click [here](#) for CPHA testimony)

We are looking for all CPHA members to contact their lawmakers and ask them to support these important public health bills to protect children from the harmful effects of toxic chemicals. **It is SO IMPORTANT that lawmakers hear from YOU about this issue** – your voice as a public health professional really makes a difference!

Anyone willing to submit a letter to the editor to their local paper on any of these bills, please contact **Noele Kidney** at Noelekidney@hotmail.com for fact sheets, CPHA testimony, or a draft letter to the editor.

[Top »](#)

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The advocacy committee would like to welcome, **Kelly Rago, MPH** who has agreed to serve as co-chair of the committee. Kelly is a 2013 graduate of the UCONN MPH program. Kelly brings relevant experience from her graduate and professional careers to this position. She previously interned for CPHA’s advocacy committee as well as for the Office of the Healthcare Advocate. She currently works at the CT Health Foundation as a Program Associate and serves on the Board for BikeWalk CT.

The advocacy committee also welcomes legislative advocacy intern, **Roberto Henry**, who is currently in his final semester in the UCONN MPH program. In addition to his advocacy internship he is working on his thesis on attitudes and beliefs regarding the collection of race, ethnicity and primary language information in healthcare settings. As an intern with CPHA, he has assisted in researching bills and drafting written [testimony on HB 5354](#).

Please contact Advocacy Chair, **Colleen O’Connor** at colleen.oconnor@cpha.info to join the advocacy committee.

[Top »](#)

HEALTH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The next HEC meeting is scheduled for Monday April 21, 2014. The date was changed so that all are available to attend the CPHA Public Health Awards & Networking Breakfast on Thursday, April 10. Planned speakers are:

Linda Ferraro, CT DPH, speaking on Children’s and Older Adults Oral Health Status Surveillance Surveys

Lucinda Hogarty, Connecticut Cancer Partnership

The HEC will be piloting something new at this meeting! Members will have a choice of attending the meeting in person at the CT DOT 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, OR by telephone conference. Details on the meeting and how to attend by phone will be on the CPHA HEC committee website and sent by email the week before.

CPHA’s [Health Education Committee \(HEC\)](#) always welcomes new members. For more information, please email the **CPHA Health Education Committee** at hec@cpha.info.

[Top »](#)

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF HEALTH (CABOH)

The CABOH section would like to share the following updates:

CABOH has an "Orientation Work Group" that is developing an Orientation Booklet for Boards of Health. The target date for completion is May, 2014.

In addition to a quarterly E-newsletter, CABOH has been e-mailing a **CABOH ADVOCACY ALERT** message, informing Boards of the current public health related Bills with contact information for testimony.

CABOH provided written testimony supporting **HB 126-Non Toxic Kids** and **HB 5528-Essential Public Health Services** for the Public Health Committee public hearing.

Plans are in the works to have a CABOH Display at Legislative Office Building during National Public Health Week.

To get involved with any of these activities, please contact: Carolyn Wysocki, CABOH Leadership Council Chair, caboh2012@gmail.com.

[Top »](#)

MENTORING COMMITTEE (MOR)

March and April are active months for public health professionals. In Connecticut, lawmakers are busy addressing public health issues such as availability of e-cigarettes, improved access to health care, and protecting children from toxic chemicals.

CPHA will be hosting students at the Capitol on **April 8th from 8:30 AM-Noon** where they will learn tips and tools for advocating. They will take a tour of the Capitol, learn about key public health bills, and meet with policymakers to both listen and voice their views. Students and teachers will prepare for the day by reading CPHA summaries of public health issues being covered at the Capitol.

Additionally, please take advantage of these resources to help engage students in public health:

1. Visit the CT Public Health Association MOR resources for National Public Health Week [here](#). The American Public Health Association resources can be found here: [National Public Health Week Toolkit](#).
2. Hold a Public Health Film Festival, screened and promoted by your public health/health education students. Click on the links below for examples:
 - [Treat Violence like a Contagious Disease](#)
 - [17 Facts About E-Cigarettes That Might Surprise You](#)
 - [How Social Networks Predict Epidemics](#)
 - [The Toxic Baby](#)

Contact Cyndi or Pamela to learn more:

Cyndi Billian Stern
CPHA Mentoring Organization Registry
860.729.2929

Pamela Kilbey-Fox
CPHA Mentoring Organization Registry Chair
860.912.0032

[Top »](#)

PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE

Plans for the CPHA 2014 Annual Conference are well underway!

This year's theme is *"Public Health and Healthcare: Building on Our Past, Evolving for the Future."* The conference is scheduled for **Friday, October 17, 2014**, at the CoCo Key Resort in Waterbury.

The CPHA Program Planning Committee meets every two weeks on Thursdays from 12:00pm-1:30pm. Current committee members bring a variety of public health experiences and perspectives.

Committee members include: Joan Achiem, Michele Kelvey-Albert, Anjuli Bodyk, Frances Dixon, Ingrid Kania, Pamela Kilbey-Fox, Linda Mako, Jonathan Noel, Julie Risinit, Cyndi Stern, and Barbara Dingfelder – Chair.

If you are interested in joining the Committee and assisting with the conference preparations, please contact **Barbara Dingfelder** via e-mail: Barbara.dingfelder@ct.gov. Stay tuned for information regarding the conference speakers and the various sessions.

[Top »](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Grant Writing 101 for Public Health Professionals: Free one day workshop on April 9 or April 16 provided by CT-RI Public Health Training Center. For more information go to www.ct.train.org and search for course ID#1049911, or contact Anjuli Bodyk at 203-737-6264 or anjuli.bodyk@yale.edu.

The University of Connecticut Graduate Programs in Public Health invites practitioners to enroll in a public health class as a non-degree student this fall. Registration opens for non-degree students on March 31, 2014. Please contact Morgan Spencer at mhspencer@uchc.edu if you are interested in enrolling.

Connecticut Department of Public Health Genomics Office and Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention Program, and the American Heart Association announce a symposium on: *Cardiovascular Disease Genomics: Getting to the Heart of the Matter*, on May 1, 2014, 9:00 am – 11:30 am. For more information go to www.ct.train.org and search for course # 1048792.

[Top »](#)

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

The Advocacy Committee held its annual Legislative Breakfast at the Legislative Office Building on March 12, 2014. The breakfast provided an opportunity for members to speak with Legislators and policymakers about policy issues that are important to them as well as to learn about legislation the Advocacy Committee is working on.

We were honored to have Karim Ahmed, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at the *University of Connecticut Health Center* (UCHC) as a guest speaker. Dr. Karim Ahmed is an internationally recognized expert in the field of environmental health. At UCHC, he teaches courses in children's environmental health, environmental ethics, and green technology/sustainable development. He has held high-level positions at the *National Council for Science and the Environment* (NCSE) in Washington, DC, the *Natural Resources Defense Council* (NRDC) in New York City, and the *World Resources Institute* (WRI) in Washington, DC. Dr. Ahmed has provided expert testimony on several bills aimed at protecting children's health that CPHA has supported over the past few years.

Dr. Ahmed spoke eloquently about the precautionary principle and its application to current chemical policy in the U.S. and Connecticut: "We have allowed thousands of chemical compounds ..., whose harmful impacts on the growing fetus and newborns are basically unknown. And most disturbingly, these chemical compounds are treated as if they were literally 'people' in the eyes of the law - they are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond all reasonable doubt. This is indeed a perverse application of the common law tradition of our society. Chemicals are not people - they do not live or breathe, they do not feel pleasure or pain, they do not bear or raise children, and most of all, they are not too concerned about the future of our society." Dr. Ahmed's complete talk will be posted on the CPHA website.

[Top »](#)

CPHA eNewsletter is a subscription-based email publication from the Connecticut Public Health Association to its members. If you would prefer not to receive the newsletter anymore, [click here to unsubscribe](#) and enter "Unsubscribe" in the subject line of the email or copy and paste this link: @@unsubscribe_url@@.



Copyright © 2014 Connecticut Public Health Association. All rights reserved.