

Texas Public Health Association

P.O. Box 9610 * Longview, Texas 75608
Phone (903)309-3380* E-mail Address: Txpha@aol.com *www.texaspha.org

A Message from TPHA Regarding the Annual Education Conference

Dear Public Health Colleagues,

Lamentably, the Texas Public Health Association will be cancelling the Annual Education Conference (AEC) scheduled for March 30-April 1. After discussions with our host agency, the Texas Department of state Health Services, it was decided that this would be the most prudent decision in the ever-changing environment currently represented by COVID-19.

All indications seem to suggest that without introduction of an effective vaccine, COVID-19 will continue to circulate for the foreseeable future. Therefore, we had initially thought that the TPHA AEC could serve as an example on how to reasonably conduct routine daily activities amid the concerns and constraints that have been invoked in response to this infectious disease. However, to protect vital resources in this uncertain environment, it is felt that at this time it would be best to cancel the AEC. Depending on how the COVID-19 situation develops, there is still a chance that we will reschedule the conference at a later date.

We are very thankful for the ongoing support of our members, attendees, exhibitors and volunteers who registered and helped plan the conference. **We will be issuing refunds** to all registrants and exhibitors. Our Executive Director, Ms. Terri Pali, will be contacting everyone regarding the process for refunds.

The TPHA considers the general public both its greatest responsibility and its greatest asset. We feel that by taking this action, we are doing our part in protecting the general population and serving as an example for preserving public health.

Thank you and kindest regards,

Dr. Witold Migala, President, TPHA Ms. Terri Pali, Executive Director, TPHA

PS: For your information, the following resources were released by the American Public Health Association:

- A Get Ready page (<http://aphagetready.org/coronavirus.htm>) for the general public that includes links to coronavirus fact sheets in English, Spanish, French and Chinese, mythbusters and links to FAQs and guidance.
- A Public Health Newswire series on COVID-19 (<http://www.publichealthnewswire.org/?cat=infectious-disease>)

- A COVID-19 page (<https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/communicable-disease/coronavirus>) on [apha.org](http://www.apha.org) that links to APHA resources as well as those from such trusted sources as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization.
- If you are concerned about traveling, the CDC has advice for travelers (<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/>) .

“For the Promotion and Protection of Public Health in Texas”

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