The Texas Public Health Association is proud to offer the following awards to members who have exhibited outstanding contributions for the Association or for public health interests in Texas. Members may nominate another member who they feel meets the criteria outlined in the award description.

If you have any questions, please contact the TPHA office either by phone at (903)309-3380 or email at txpha@aol.com

Awards will be presented during the TPHA Annual Conference being held in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Questions? Call TPHA (903)309-3380 or email txpha@aol.com

Thank you for helping us to recognize deserving public health workers.

All nomination materials must be postmarked no later than December 31st and emailed (txpha@aol.com) or mailed to the following address:
TPHA/Awards Committee
PO Box 9610
Longview, Texas 75608

**Honorary Life Member:** One of the greatest distinctions bestowed on a member of the Texas Public Health Association is that of Honorary Membership. Any active member may nominate a prospective candidate for Honorary Membership by writing to the Awards Committee. The following criteria are required of nominees for Honorary Membership:

- Must have been an active continuous member of TPHA for at least 20 years and must have attended ten or more annual meetings.
- Must have served the Association contributing to annual and regional meeting programs, holding office within the Association, and participating on Association committees.
- Supporting documentation such as letters from employers, individuals, public citizens or community groups, schools or colleges, or businesses; news clippings, photographs; journal articles; or other documentation pertinent to the nomination.

**James E Peavy Memorial Award:** The James E. Peavy Memorial Award is presented annually to the public health worker in Texas who has made significant contributions to the advancement of public health knowledge or practice or who has demonstrated a genuine concern for the health needs of society. This award is the Texas Public Health Association’s highest accolade for outstanding health professionals; it consists of a $500.00 honorarium and plaque. The award serves as a living memorial to James E. Peavy, M.D., who served as Commissioner of Health in Texas from 1959 until his retirement in 1975. Dr. Peavy was an active member of the Texas Public Health Association for
thirty-nine years and was made an Honorary Member in 1969. The following criteria are required of all nominations:

- A 250-word (or less) description of why the nominee is deserving of this award. Descriptions should be concise and specific and should demonstrate the nominee’s work over and above job requirement,
- A one-page biographical sketch (or vita) of the nominee and a 4 x 5 glossy, black & white photograph of the nominee,
- No more than 10 pages of supporting documentation such as letters from employers, individuals, public citizen or community groups, schools or colleges, or businesses; news clippings; photographs; journal articles; or other documentation pertinent to the nomination,
- The nominee must be a member of TPHA. Nomination may be made by nominee or a sponsor. If nominated by a sponsor, sponsor must be a TPHA member and sponsor’s name must accompany the nomination.

**Legislator of the Year Award for Legislative Excellence**: This award may be presented to both a state representative and state senator who has shown special interest in public health issues. Any active TPHA member may nominate a candidate for these awards. The following guidelines have been established for nominees of these awards; nominees must have:

- Demonstrated an interest in public health issues.
- Shown a concern for the recruitment and retention of high-quality health care workers.
- Supported legislation which emphasized prevention and health promotion.
- Facilitated legislation supporting preventive health care, health care professionals, and options of health care.

**The Dr. Ron J. Anderson Thinking Progressively for Health Award**: The Dr. Ron J. Anderson Thinking Progressively for Health (TPHA) Award, formally the Thinking Progressively for Health Award honors the late Dr. Ron J. Anderson and the innovative ideas and practices he established for the public health profession. The award rewards excellence and innovation in current public health practice across the state of Texas.

**About the Award**:

1. Recipient will receive: a $400 cash award and the Dr. Ron J. Anderson Public Health Innovation Award plaque.
2. Recipients’ projects will also be highlighted in the issue of the Texas Public Health Association Journal published following the Annual Education Conference.
3. Submissions should demonstrate how their nominee has Identified creative solutions, large or small in scope, that have made a significant and positive difference in public health; suggested new ways to improve the quality of services or programming; identified novel approaches for completing work more effectively or efficiently; identified new ideas, solutions, or directions; worked to develop new approaches for problem solving; planned effectively for the successful implementation and long-term success.

Nominees should clearly demonstrate:

1. Improvement or increase in Efficiency, Productivity, Cost-Savings and Extraordinary achievement
of health and well-being goals (individual or community).

2. Originality - Is this a new idea, or a modernized redesign of an established concept? - Is it unique to the agency where it was established? - Is it unique to the field of public health? - Is it “ahead of its time”?

3. Impact - Will it make or has it made fundamental changes in public health practice/delivery? - How will it impact the community it is being implemented in?

4. Measurability - The impact of the project is measurable (i.e. number of beneficiaries, assessment of attitude or behavioral changes, clear policy changes, etc.

5. Applicability - Can it be generalized to the greater public health profession? - Could it lead to changes in how public health practices/processes are carried out?

Application Process:

Nominees should submit a written narrative addressing all of the above criteria and any supporting documentation that is relevant to the project being nominated. Narrative should also include the attached cover sheet.

All nomination materials must be postmarked no later than December 31st and mailed or scanned and emailed (txpha@aol.com) to: TPHA/Awards Committee, PO Box 9610, Longview, Texas 75608. Awards will be presented during the TPHA AEC, date and location to be announced. Will be held in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Questions call TPHA (903)309-3380 or email txpha@aol.com

News from TPHA Boards, Committees and Sections

From the TPHA Editorial Board:
We have a new Board chair! Mathias Forrester has been a key member of the board for several years. He has stepped into the position vacated by Catherine Cooksley, DrPH who is now focusing her efforts on being your Texas Public Health Journal Editor and most recently, compiler of this newsletter.

In other board news, we say thanks and goodbye to two board members who have stepped down. Dr. Amol Karmarker served the board as an integral academic team member for several years and Dr. Alisa Rich, a more recent addition, also offered her expertise in academia and practice.

With their departure, we have two open positions on our TPHA Editorial Board. Are you looking for a challenging public health opportunity? Know someone who loves public health and may be interested? Be sure to share this notice with them! Volunteering to serve on our board will give you the challenges you seek with a minimal time commitment! The only requirement is that you are a TPHA member. However, those with a fairly extensive background in public health and experience (however minimal it may be) with the publication process are preferred. Please send your CVs and a short letter to Mat at mathias.forrester@gmail.com.
Our priorities are quality and timeliness, in that order. Quality first! We know our members will step up and help us stay on schedule by volunteering to join our dynamic editorial team. To find out more information about volunteering as an editorial board team member, the journal, our publication process and our current board members, please visit our pages on the TPHA website at https://www.texaspha.org/page/Journal.

We hope to hear from YOU soon!

TPHA Committee Reports

Update on the TPHA Policy and Advocacy Committee (acronym - Policy, Advocacy and Resolutions Committee - PARC)

TPHA is excited to begin a focused effort to increase the knowledge and awareness of the work and value of public health to policy makers and the public! Activities are in the works to provide support to TPHA members in informing and educating their communities! Currently the PARC boasts 30 members who meet on a monthly telephone call the fourth Thursday of the month at 1pm. The committee created its Vision, Mission, Goals and Objectives for the next year, which are:

VISION - A Safe and Healthy Texas.
MISSION - To promote and support a safe and healthy Texas through advocacy and education.

Strategic Philosophy - Promote and support a safe and healthy Texas by:
• Mobilizing the TPHA Membership to Advocate and Educate to All,
• Using a Health in All Policies Framework,
• Considering the attainment of Health Equity in all advocacy and education efforts.

Goals:
• Increase adoption of policies and programs by state and local entities that support good health (TPHA Members actively contacting and advocating with policy makers),
• Provide people (Texans) with information on policies and programs that support good health (TPHA Members providing education materials and information via in person or social media on health),
• Increase advocacy and education by TPHA Members on TPHA policies, programs and resolutions (More TPHA Members willing to advocate with policy makers or to educate anyone on health).

Objectives for Goals:
Goal 1: Increase adoption of policies and programs by state and local entities that support good health (TPHA Members actively contacting and advocating with policy makers)
• Objective 1 – Distribute a minimum of 5 policy/position statements and resolutions that reflect what TPHA supports for achieving a Healthy Texas.
  • Products created – position and resolution statements.

Goal 2: Provide Texans with information on recommended policies and programs that support good health (TPHA Members providing education materials and information via in person or social media on health)
• Objective 1 – Distribute 2-3 educational messages to the public via social media, trainings and education events on recommended policies and programs that support a safe and healthy Texas.
  • Products created – educational messages on public health.
Goal 3: Increase advocacy and education by TPHA Members on TPHA positions, recommended programs and resolutions (More TPHA Members willing to advocate with policy makers or educate to anyone on health)

- Objective 1 – Host a minimum of 3 trainings sessions to TPHA Members on advocacy and education of TPHA recommended positions, programs and resolutions to provide to policy makers and the public.
  - Products created – advocacy training and legislative guide.

If you are interested in any of these topics and activities, please join the committee by contacting: Executive Director - Terri Pali (txpha@aol.com) or Chair - Jennifer Smith (jbaysmith@earthlink.net)

**Report from the Vision Care Section (TPHA-VCS):**

The Texas Public Health Association Vision Care Section (TPHA-VCS) is busy and hard at work. Our focus is to keep the eyes of Texas healthy and make vision a priority. TPHA-VCS mission is to promote public health education about eye health and eye safety, the importance of healthy living with a focus on preservation of sight and to advance vision related public health policies to improve access to vision care through advocacy and awareness in the state of Texas. Goals set for this year include expansion of membership, development of committees and section awards.

The VCS section held our first section meeting at the TPHA annual conference in San Antonio this year and celebrated the launch of the Why Eye Care Campaign. TPHA leaders shared testimonials about why they cared about public health and vision. Over 200 books were collected for the TPHA children’s book drive to support two great programs, Born to Read program and the Literacy Caravan with the help of the Student Public Health Vision Care Association UH Chapter. VCS also celebrated National Sunglasses Day on June 27th, 2019 and shared pictures of our members wearing sunglasses to promote UV protection. Lastly, we are happy to let you know we are on Facebook!

For more information contact:
Pat Segu, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Diplomate, American Board of Optometry
Chair, American Public Health Association Vision Care Section 2019
Chair, Texas Public Health Association Vision Care Section 2019-2020
Regional Director of Houston Community Based External Clinics | Clinical Professor
Clinical Director of Kids Vision for Life Greater Houston Area
University of Houston College of Optometry
Email: psegu@central.uh.edu

**University of Houston**

Left to Right: Conference booth featuring children’s books, VCS group picture and Pat Segu with APHA president Pam Aaltonen,
The Staff and Leaders of the Texas Public Health Association remind you that we are always searching for volunteers to serve on our committees, join our sections and run for leadership positions! Call (903)309-3380 or email txpha@aol.com our executive director, Terri Pali for more information. We wish you the remainder of a safe and wonderful summer ...and DON’T FORGET THE SUNSCREEN!