From our TPHA Executive Director, Terri Pali

A Call to Leadership

The Texas Public Health Association is looking for dynamic new LEADERS and we need your help! We are looking for TPHA member volunteers to run for and, if elected, serve in the following positions: Governing Council (3 three year positions available) AND President-Elect.

Become a voice for public health in Texas. Harness the energy of public health advocacy-run for office in TPHA!

President-Elect

6.06. President-elect: The office of President-elect shall be responsible for development of programs which will occur during his/her year as president. (S)He shall function as ex-officio member of the program committee. The President-elect shall, in consultation with the Policy & Advocacy committee establish legislative policy for the coming year.

6.06.1. President-elect: For nominations to the office of President-elect, an individual shall be and Active Member in good standing for the preceding five (5) consecutive years, a current Fellow in the Association, a present or past member of Governing Council, and a participant in two or more annual meetings.

Governing Council: Three positions available (3 year term)

GOVERNING COUNCIL

4.01. There shall be a Governing Council which shall consist of the officers of the Association; the Executive Board; nine (9) members to be elected from the membership consistent with Article Two for three (3) year terms that are staggered so that one-third (1/3) retire each year; the Chair of each Section; one (1) representative to be appointed by each affiliated society; and the affiliate representative to the Governing Council of the American Public Health Association. Such representatives to Governing Council shall be members of the Association.

4.01.1. The President of the Association shall serve as Chair of the Governing Council.

4.02. The terms of the Governing Council members shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected and terminate at the close of the annual meeting at which their respective terms expire.

4.03. A quorum of the Governing Council shall consist of a majority of the Council members.

4.03.1. Once a quorum is determined to be present, that quorum shall be assumed for the remainder of a meeting. If a member must leave a meeting prior to the finish of business, (s)he should, if possible, select a proxy from qualified Association members in the audience.

4.03.2. A proxy must be written by the Governing Council member and shall be presented to the Executive Director prior to the meeting, or during the meeting for members excused as described in Section 4.03.1.
4.04. There shall be three (3) regular meetings (one in the Spring, one in the Fall, and one during the Annual Meeting) of the Governing Council annually to be designated at the first regular meeting of the incoming Governing Council at the annual meeting by the incoming Governing Council at its organizational meeting during the Association’s annual meeting.

4.04.1. Special meetings of the Governing Council may be called by the President, the Executive Director at the request of the President, or at the request in writing by twelve (12) Governing Council members. In the latter case, the call-to-meet shall be issued at least thirty (30) days in advance and shall state the purpose of the meeting.

4.05. The Governing Council is the governing body of the Texas Public Health Association. Functions of the Council shall include but not be limited to the following:

4.05.1. The Governing Council shall establish and amend the bylaws of the Association.

4.05.2. The Governing Council shall establish the goals, policies, and procedures for the Association.

4.05.3. The Governing Council shall establish the Sections of the Association, combine or discontinue them when necessary to maintain coordination among them, and to approve general rules governing the policies of the Sections.

4.05.4. The Governing Council shall approve all resolutions of the Association and submit them to the membership for a vote.

4.05.5. The Governing Council shall elect the elective members of the Executive Board.

4.05.6. The Governing Council shall approve all new members of the Association.

4.05.7. The Governing Council shall receive and approve the report of the membership committee for elective members of the Governing Council and officers of the Association.

4.05.8. The Governing Council shall ensure that annual elections are held in accordance with the procedures of the Association.

4.05.9. The Governing Council shall approve the annual budget of the Association.

4.05.10. The Governing council shall approve all actions of the Executive Board.

4.05.11. The Governing Council shall refer all fiscal considerations to the Executive Board for a recommendation.

4.06. Any elective member of the Governing Council who misses three (3) consecutive Council meetings without arranging for a proxy will be removed from the Council. The unexpired term will be filled by the individual not elected but receiving the next highest number of votes among the elective Governing Council candidates on the most recent ballot.

For more information about either the Governing Council or duties of the President-Elect go [HERE](#) to read the Association Bylaws.

Nominees will be asked to submit a short biography. These documents will become part of the association records. Elections will be held and results announced at the TPHA Annual Education Conference in Irving, Texas.
This is the last call for nominations! Please nominate someone (or yourself) today! Please obtain the person’s permission to be placed on the ballot then submit their name and contact information prior to February 11, 2020 to: Terri Pali TxPHA@aol.com

Please consider this very important challenge to become a leader in TPHA!

**News from TPHA Boards, Committees and Sections**

**TPHA Board News**

**From the TPHA Editorial Board:**

The Spring 2020 Texas Public Health Journal (TPHJ), due for release late March, will feature our annual National Public Health Week Feature Section. This year, 2020, was pronounced “Year of the Eye” by our TPHA Vision Care Section. The TPHJ and the Vision Section members, as guest editors, are celebrating with a feature section that will focus on community programs promoting vision health.

The TPHJ Editor and members of the Editorial Board have been reviewing and updating the Journal pages [https://www.texaspha.org/page/Journal](https://www.texaspha.org/page/Journal) on the Texas Public Health Association website [https://www.texaspha.org/](https://www.texaspha.org/). Please visit the website for current information on the types of manuscripts and articles that may be submitted to the TPHJ. We will now accept Brief Reports submissions for consideration. You will also find updated guidelines on required formatting and submission instructions.

Did you know that our talented editorial board and team can help you meet your grant funding requirements? Our team of an expert typesetter, an enthusiastic editor and co-editors, managed by our executive director are available to work with you to co-edit a feature section in one of our journals or design a full supplemental journal issue that can let your funders see for themselves that your projects and programs are meeting goals and getting results. All for a VERY small fee that is re-invested into our journal budget. Read more and view some examples of what we can help you with by visiting [https://www.texaspha.org/page/Journal](https://www.texaspha.org/page/Journal) or clicking on these links TPHA Publication Resources * Example Focused Issue * Example Supplemental Issue * Advertise with TPHA.

**TPHA Committee News**

**From the TPHA Policy and Advocacy Committee (acronym - Policy, Advocacy and Resolutions Committee - PARC)**

The committee has been working hard to draft TPHA Resolutions for member approval. The resolutions are currently being reviewed by the TPHA Governing Council. Please watch your in box in the coming month for your opportunity to vote on these important TPHA policy statements.
Program Planning Committee

Texas Public Health Association
96th Annual Education Conference

March 30 – April 1, 2020
Registration is NOW OPEN!

“Continuing education credit for multiple disciplines will be provided for this event”

To register for this event click HERE

The target audience includes physicians, nurses, health educators, academicians, registered sanitarians/environmental health professionals, nutritionists/dietitians, social workers, community mental health professionals and others working in public health and related fields.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Marriott
Address: 8440 Freeport Parkway, Irving, TX 75063

Registration Fees: Register Early and SAVE $20! AFTER February 14th the registration fee for individuals increases by $20

<table>
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<td>Active Member</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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Conference Registration Fee Cancellation/Refund Information:
All cancellations must be made in writing before February 14th. All cancellations are subject to a $50 administrative fee. Once cancellation correspondence has been received, participants will receive a cancellation notice. If payment has been processed for the registration, a refund will be issued less the $50 administrative fee. If payment has not been received, accounting will send an updated invoice for the $50 administrative fee. Texas Public Health Association (TPHA) reserves the right to retain or collect conference fees in full for those who fail to cancel prior to February 15, 2020, or for those who fail to attend.
**Substitutions:**
If you register but are unable to attend, another representative of your agency may attend in your place. Please email notice of substitutions to txpha@aol.com by March 5th.

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**
Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Marriott
Address: 8440 Freeport Parkway, Irving, TX 75063

**Book your group rate for Texas Public Health Association Annual Education Conference 2020**
*Early reservations are encouraged as TPHA has reserved a limited number of rooms.* The link above will take you to information for your online reservation. If you have questions or need help with the link, please do not hesitate to ask. We appreciate your business and look forward to a successful event.

The Program Planning Committee wants to remind you of our annual silent auction that will be held in conjunction with the annual education conference (AEC) at the Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Marriott, 8440 Freeport Parkway, Irving, TX, March 30-April 1, 2020. This fun fundraiser is a conference favorite! We are still accepting donations! For a copy of the donation form click HERE. Want more information? Contact Terri Pali at txpha@aol.com. For those of you not attending the AEC please mail your donation to:
TPHA
PO BOX 9610
Longview, Texas 75608
(for street address please contact Terri at (903)309-3380

*Please mail to arrive no later than March 1, 2020.*

**TPHA Section Reports**

The Health Education Section conducted a brief survey of their section membership to achieve a better understanding of their membership and identify topics/information members would like their section to share. Armed with this information, they plan to push information to their members to reach their goal of enhancing member engagement. This section report was submitted by Dr. Jason Rosenfeld, TPHA Health Education Section Co-Chair.

**Health Education Section Member Survey**

In August 2019, Health Education Section leadership sent a survey to health education section members (n=47). The purpose of this survey was to learn more about the membership of our section and to begin understanding how to tailor information and communications to engage members of this section.

Fourteen (14) people responded (30% response rate) to the survey. Respondents have been members of TPHA, and the health education section, for an average of three (3) years. Six (6) respondents have been members for one year or less, while one respondent has been a member for 15 years. Nine (64.3%) respondents were not members of any other TPHA sections. Of those that are members of other sections, they are members of community health worker, environmental health, epidemiology, public health nursing
and the student section. Figures 1-3 present some of the characteristics of section members, including their degrees, where they work and the type of employer.

![Figure 1: Health education section member credentials](image)

![Figure 2: Counties where health education section members have active projects or programs](image)

![Figure 3: Type of organization where health education section members are employed (n=14)](image)
Finally, we asked respondents to rank topics that they are most interested in section leadership sharing more information about. Table 1 provides a summary of these responses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interest</th>
<th>Rank 1</th>
<th>Rank 2</th>
<th>Rank 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>Conferences</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Reports/Papers</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Reports/Papers</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Professional Development Opportunities</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Job/Employment Opportunities</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networking/Social Opportunities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State/Federal Policy or Legislative Updates</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Ranked topics section members are interested to learn more about (n=14)

Health Education section leadership will use these data to plan content and activities to more fully engage section members in the coming year. If you have any questions about this survey, the results or the Health Education Section, please contact Dr. Jason Rosenfeld (RosenfeldJ@uthscsa.edu).

From Our TPHA Members

TPHA Member Elected to Lead the Oral Health Section of the American Public Health Association! At the 2019 Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Josefine Ortiz Wolfe, Ph.D., RDH, CHES, was elected to serve a two-year term as Chairperson of APHA’s Oral Health Section. Dr. Wolfe hopes to increase student and early career professional engagement in the section, as well as update the student and professional awards program for the section.

The Oral Health Section of the APHA develops and promotes policies addressing oral health and overall health. APHA members work with key decision makers to shape public policy to address today’s ongoing public health concerns. The section provides opportunities to collaborate with leaders in public health and promotes a multidisciplinary approach to reducing oral health disparities.

Dr. Wolfe serves as Director of the Oral Health Program at Texas Health Institute and holds an Adjunct Faculty position at A.T. Still University in the College of Graduate Health Studies.

The Seventh Annual Pills and Thrills that Kill! Toxicology in Review Conference is scheduled for April 8-9, 2020, in El Paso, Texas. This program reviews new approaches to common toxicological problems, poisoning of high morbidity and mortality, and will point out changes in the general management of the poisoned patient. This educational activity is designed for physicians, mid-level providers, nurses, and pharmacists working in emergency medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, critical care, and family medicine. For more information
and to register, visit: http://elpaso.ttuhsc.edu/ecommerce/Conference/. Submitted by TPHA member, Mathias Forrester, BS, TPHA Editorial Board Chair and author of the quarterly TPHJ Poison Control column.

On Behalf of Dr. Paul McGaha (PI), Carlton Allen (Co-PI), and the rest of our colorectal cancer (CRC) team, we are excited here at the University of Texas Health Science Center, Tyler (UTHSCT) to continue the work that we originally started in 2014 to address the low screening rates and high incidence and mortality rates across East Texas. Please see the link regarding CPRIT's recent funding of Cancer related grants. https://cprit.state.tx.us/news-events/articles/cancer-prevention-research-institute-of-texas-awards-160-million-in-new-grants/. Our colorectal cancer grant was recognized as one of the ten prevention grant awardees across Texas. We would like to thank our current partners, and new ones for your support and passion to address this issue. To remind everyone about our current and new expansion grant, a paragraph with a few details is below.

We proposed to expand the current CPRIT-funded project (Anderson, Angelina, Cherokee, Collin, Delta, Fannin, Gregg, Henderson, Hunt, Kaufman, Lamar, Nacogdoches, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby, Smith, Van Zandt, Wood) to 13 additional counties in East TX. Our project will expand into these additional 13 counties (Bowie, Cass, Camp, Franklin, Harrison, Hopkins, Marion, Morris, Panola, Rains, Red River, Titus, and Upshur). We propose to increase CRC screening rates by 50% by providing public education about CRC screening at health fairs, churches, barbershops, and other community outreach events using a diverse team trained in targeting minority populations and motivational interviewing techniques. These educational efforts will be coupled with navigation of eligible individuals to CRC screening services at participating clinics and facilitated by professional education, training and support of local providers. We will be providing Fecal Immunochemical Tests (FIT) to individuals who qualify, and providing colonoscopies for individuals with a positive FIT that are a part of our program. For individuals that complete a colonoscopy we will be providing a $20 gift card. The current application will focus on recruiting individuals that meet the criteria below:

1. Guidelines
   a. Age 50-75
   b. No personal history of colorectal cancer.
   c. Have not had:
      -A stool-based test in the last year.
      -A sigmoidoscopy exam within the last 5 years.
      -A colonoscopy exam within the last 10 years.
   d. Be uninsured or underinsured.
   e. Live in Texas

Submitted by TPHA member Carlton Allen, (903) 877-1427

Over the past few years, TPHA’s Ad Hoc Committee on Societal Violence, led by Dr. Mellissa Oden, compiled a comprehensive list of resources across the nation to address societal violence in communities. The most recent addition to this Societal Violence Resource List https://www.texaspha.org/page/SocietalViolence, recently opened in Galveston, TX. The following announcement from The Center for Violence Prevention (CVP) Director, Dr. Jeff Temple describes the center.
“The Center for Violence Prevention (CVP) aims to reduce the burden of youth and young adult violence by increasing the number of researchers, practitioners, policy-makers, and community agencies who deliver, attend to, and support the development and implementation of evidence-based violence prevention, intervention, and policy.

CVP represents an opportunity to house on the campus of UTMB, a national center for the prevention of violence with strong connections to various national, state, and regional government agencies, universities within and outside of the UT system, and partners that span UTMB’s four schools. CVP faculty will conduct innovative research on primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention programs, along with examining the causes, course, and consequences of violence. We will take a lifespan developmental approach and focus our efforts on all levels of social influence, including the individual, family, school, community, and society.”

Center’s website: https://www.utmb.edu/violenceprevention
Twitter: @UTMB_ViolPrev
Facebook: facebook.com/UTMBviolenceprevention
Phone: 409.772.1062
Submitted by TPHA member and Texas Public Health Journal Editor, Catherine Cooksley, DrPH, CPH.

Save the Date for the 3rd Annual ABC’s of Health Disparities Conference to be held on Sept 3 and 4, 2020 on the Campus of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler. For additional information please contact:
Christie C. Osuagwu, PhD, MPA, MSN, FNP
Associate Professor
Community Health Promotion & Education
University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler
11927 U S Hwy 271
Tyler, Tx 75708
Ph: 903-877-1413
Christiana.osuagwu@uthct.edu
Submitted by TPHA member Christie C. Osuagwu

Be sure to send us YOUR newsletter items for the April, 2020 newsletter!
Please send the news you want to share with fellow members to either Teri Pali at Txpha@aol.com or tphajournal@gmail.com by April 3, 2020.
Remember to include “Newsletter Item” in the Subject line.
We look forward to hearing about the public health activities going on in Texas!
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.

Happy New Year and don’t forget to get your flu shot and wash your hands! Stay healthy!

Hoping our TPHA family see all the best the New Year has to offer!

2020