Save the Date
March 18-20, 2019
San Antonio, Texas
“Continuing education credit for multiple disciplines will be provided for this event”

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
The Henry B. González Convention Center is the City of San Antonio's convention center located in Downtown San Antonio, Texas, along the banks of the River Walk at 900 E. Market Street, San Antonio, Tx

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS We have reserved rooms at three hotels (all within walking distance to the convention center)

Hotel Room Rates-prevailing government rate. More information about each hotel is available by clicking on the hotel links associated with each hotel. NOTE: Each hotel provides a complimentary hot breakfast.

Listed below in no particular order

- **SpringHill Suites San Antonio Alamo Plaza/Convention Center**
  411 Bowie Street, San Antonio, TX 78205
  [click here to reserve a room at Springhill Suites]

- **Fairfield Inn & Suites San Antonio Alamo Plaza/Convention Center**
  422 Bonham San Antonio TX 78205
  [click here to reserve a room at Fairfield Inn & Suites]

- **Residence Inn Marriott**
  425 Bonham San Antonio TX 78205
  [click here to reserve a room at Residence Inn Marriott]
# Call for Abstracts for the TPHA AEC

**DEADLINE is September 28th**

The Texas Public Health Association invites abstract submissions for oral presentations and posters on various public health topics including original research, program implementation and evaluation, community assessments, public health methods, theories, and issues relating to health promotion and disease prevention, public health nursing, outbreak investigations, disaster preparedness and response, epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, social determinants of health and social justice, population health, health administration, public health partnerships, public health accreditation, school health, aging, community health work, and health policies that affect individuals, groups, communities, and populations at any age or stage in life. Submit your abstract here: [https://www.texaspha.org/page/2019Call](https://www.texaspha.org/page/2019Call)

TPHA is a statewide community for discussion, sharing best practices, and networking among public health professionals in Texas. Learn more about TPHA at [http://www.texaspha.org/](http://www.texaspha.org/).

Come join us in March as we celebrate our 95th Annual Education Conference!

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# Call for Volunteer Abstract Reviewers

The Annual Education Conference Planning Committee is looking for reviewers for abstracts for the Conference. Reviewers are needed for poster abstracts, breakout session abstracts, and student competition abstracts. Each reviewer will be assigned 5-10 abstracts to review. Abstracts should be ready for review on Sept 30. Instructions will be sent later this month. Reviews of all abstracts must be completed by October 18th.

Please sign up on the TPHA website by clicking [HERE](http://www.texaspha.org/). You'll need to be logged in to the TPHA website to sign up.
**TPHA Public Health Photo Contest**

To celebrate National Public Health Week in 2019, the Texas Public Health Association will be holding a photo competition. TPHA members are encouraged to capture the meaning of public health in a photograph.

**Competition Requirements:**

- The photograph must have been taken by and submitted by a TPHA member.
- The photograph should be taken in 2018 or 2019.
- The TPHA member must agree that TPHA can use the photograph on TPHA materials such as our website, journal, and other items prepared by or for TPHA.

**Submission Requirements:**

- Photographs must be submitted no later than 3/1/2019
- No more than two photographs may be submitted per TPHA member
- The photograph should be in jpeg or another format compatible with our website.
- The photograph should be emailed to txpha@aol.com
- Include a brief paragraph describing the public health significance of the photograph

A panel consisting of TPHA members and one guest judge will select the winner. The winner will be announced at the beginning of National Public Health Week 2019 and their photo will be highlighted on the TPHA website. The winner will also receive a complementary membership (or membership renewal) to TPHA for 1 year.

**Call to Leadership**

**TPHA Governing Council**

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). **Become a voice for public health in Texas. Harness the energy of public health advocacy-run for Governing Council!**

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.

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 San Antonio, Texas.

To nominate someone (or yourself), obtain their permission to be placed on the ballot then submit their name and contact information prior to January 15th to: Terri Pali TxPHA@aol.com

**TPHA Policy and Advocacy Committee Chair**

The Texas Public Health Association is looking for a member who is interested in serving as chair of the Policy and Advocacy Committee. The Chair of the Committee shall be approved by the Executive Board in the absence of Governing Council. Membership of the Committee shall include the President-elect of the Association, and others as
designated by the Executive Board in the absence of the Governing Council.

The Committee on Policy and Advocacy duties shall include, but not be limited to actively solicit ideas and proposed resolutions from the membership, policy statements from the Governing Council, and maintain records of resolutions and policy statements in order to assist the governing bodies of the Association in determining the policies of the Association. Additional duties include coordinating legislative functions for the Annual and Regional Meetings; tracking legislation that may impact TPHA and public health; tracking policy issues and developments; liaison with other public health and local policy committees and groups; development of government affairs plan; policy forum planning; provide information to TPHA members on impending policy issues and recommending policy direction to Governing Council; monitoring State and national policy events and developments; educating elected officials and the public on matters of public health interest; and building coalitions with other health-related organizations. Other duties shall include making recommendations to the Governing Council concerning proposed resolutions and policy statements.

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

**Call for Nominations for Awards**

**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 39 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.

Award Criteria:
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 January 15th and mailed or scanned and emailed (txpha@aol.com) to: TPHA/Awards Committee, PO Box 201540, Austin, Texas 78720-1540

Awards will be presented during the TPHA AEC, March 18-20, 2019 in San Antonio, Tx. Questions call TPHA (512)336-2520 or email txpha@aol.com

Silent Auction Donations
TPHA will host a silent Auction this year in conjunction with the annual education conference (AEC) to be held at the Henry B. González Convention Center, San Antonio, March 18-20, 2019. Silent Auctions can be so much fun and are a great way to earn money for YOUR organization.

Be creative when you are thinking about what to bring. Put your items in a basket or container with a pretty bow. I have included some ideas for baskets below. The sky really is the limit. For a copy of the donation form click here.

For more information contact Terri Pali txpha@aol.com

For those of you not attending the AEC please mail your donation to:

TPHA
PO BOX 201540
AUSTIN, TX 78720-1540
(for street address please contact Terri at (512)336-2520)

Please mail to arrive no later than March 1, 2019.

Need ideas? Look no further....

TPHA Section News

New Section Opportunity- VISION CARE

A group of new TPHA members have petitioned the TPHA Governing Council to start a new section call the Vision Care Section. So far, this group has recruited 25 members but needs 5 more to officially become a TPHA Section. Members can come through current members changing their section membership, new members, or current members who would like to add the Vision Care Section as an additional section membership to complement their current section membership. Cost for the additional section membership is only $5.00. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Vision Care section please contact Terri Pali at txpha@aol.com!
Section Spotlight

Join the TPHA Epi Section!

Benefits of Epi Section Membership include:

- Opportunities to network with epidemiology professionals that have diverse skill-sets, interests, and experiences
- Section participation in a new mentoring program
- Professional development opportunities and job postings
- A membership database that contains a comprehensive list of members of the TPHA Epi Section
- A monthly or bi-monthly List of Open Events (includes notices of forthcoming conferences, webinars, and other activities of interest to epidemiologists)
- Access to the Epi Section Newsletter which features:
  a. Member Spotlights that highlight Epi Section members and their achievements
  b. Information on scholarships for conferences, training courses, etc.
  c. Notification of job vacancies
  d. Short Stories and Lessons from the Field that allow epidemiologists to share practical on-the-job experiences as well as lessons learned

Contact epidemiology.tpha@gmail.com for more details

TPHA 2018 Survey Results

We recently sent out a short survey to all TPHA members to get an idea of the issues that are a priority to our organization.

We had 109 members respond to this very brief survey (2 question). The top 5 priority areas were as follows:

- Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity 45%
- Mental Health 42%
- Health Equity / Health Disparities 39%
- Chronic Disease 36%
- Gun Violence 34%

Additional issues included Maternal and Child Health (28%), Social Determinants of Health (28%), Access to Healthcare (27%), Substance Abuse (25%), Racism and Health (15%), Injury and Violence Prevention (13%), Heart Disease and Stroke (13%), Climate Change (13%), Tobacco Use (12%), Immunization (12%), Environmental Health...
(11%), Healthy Community Design (11%), Cancer 10%), HIV/AIDS/STDs (10%) and a number of other issues which were prioritized by less than 10% of the respondents (details on all this information is included in the attached results).

The second question on the survey asked respondents to identify public health issues not on the list provided in the survey. As per the attached, members identified a number of other issues including child drownings, oral health, health impact of adverse childhood experiences, workforce shortages, antibiotic resistance, dental health, distracted driving, scientific critique of DSHS information on abortion, water fluoridation, integration of statewide programs, social justice, jurisdictional turf-cutting among LHDs, family disintegration and LGBT issues.

Results of this survey will be used to prioritize initiatives by the TPHA as well as to provide organizational input on statewide priorities when requested by state or national affiliates. It is, therefore, important that each member respond to these surveys!

One of the aims of TPHA is to represent the concerns and priorities of its membership...we cannot do this without your input into surveys like this. In recognition of the constraints on everyone’s time, we will always keep the surveys as short as possible. However, brevity does not imply a lack of importance, so we hope you will all take a few minutes to answer the next survey. Feedback from all TPHA members is important as it shapes not only TPHA priorities but those of the state or APHA, as well. For example, the results of this survey will be used to prioritize initiatives by the TPHA as well as to provide our organizational input to DSHS as they identify public health priorities for the state.

Thank you!

**TPHA Mentoring Program**

In an effort to develop the Texas public health workforce, the Texas Public Health Association (TPHA) would like to implement a mentorship program called TPHA Mentoring Program. In its simplest form, mentoring allows people to help other people grow and develop.

The TPHA Mentoring Program will match experienced public health professional with students, new public health professionals, and experienced public health professional who want to learn about a different public health area in a one-to-one relationship for one year. Those who serve as mentors will enrich their experience in the public health field while helping to grow and develop future leaders.

Please direct any questions or requests for additional information to txpha@aol.com or to volunteer complete the mentor application at [https://www.texaspha.org/page/MentoringProgram](https://www.texaspha.org/page/MentoringProgram)

Thanks for your interest in the TPHA Mentoring Program!
Public Health Events Around the State

The American Lung Association received a grant to implement COPD Quality improvement and community outreach programs in order to reduce COPD Readmission Rates within the hospital system, and ultimately increase COPD awareness and early diagnosis in hopes to increase the quality of life for our patients. That being said, we have two events left in our fiscal year that I would love to promote and expand the awareness of.

- Interpretation and Implementation of Spirometry course, offering Continuing Education Units – October 26th in Richardson, Texas. Click HERE for more information.

- Lung Force Expo. Open to ALL patients, caregivers, and ALL health care professionals (Public health officials, students, physicians, Respiratory therapist, nurses, techs, etc). – November 9th in Irving, Texas Click HERE for more information.

Questions? Call Natasha Jahani, Manager, COPD Program, American Lung Association Texas at Natasha.jahani@lung.org

In the News

Senate passes FY 2019 Spending Bill

The Senate voted to pass the fiscal year 2019 appropriations bill funding the departments of Defense, Labor, Education and Health and Human Services. Not only was this the first time in 22 years that Labor-HHS funding was approved before October 1, the bill also provides important increases to public health funding that are needed for prevention programs.

The spending package increases funding for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention by $126.6 million and increases funding for the Health Resources and Services Administration by $106.75 million. The spending package also avoided the inclusion of controversial policy riders included in previous versions that would have eliminated funding for critical reproductive health services and negatively impacted women’s health. The final bill also funds the CDC’s Climate and Health program, which had been proposed for elimination in the House version of the bill.

TPHA Annual Education Conference

March 18-20, 2019 in San Antonio, Tx
For more information go to www.texaspha.org/page/TPHAAEC