

NCPHA E-Newsletter

August 2016

Newsletter from the NC Public Health Association and the NCPHA Public Awareness Committee

Message from the President

– Suzanne Lea



While summertime may be a slower pace for many of us, local and statewide public health activities keep many of our members busy responding to threats, such as Zika virus, heat stress, waterborne contaminants, and hurricane preparedness, to name a few. At North Carolina Public Health Association (NCPHA), many of you have also been helping to plan our educational conferences. In this issue, we highlight the spring 2016 conference, *Health in All Policies (HiAP)*, and anticipate the fall 2016 conference, *Bridging Generations for New Directions in Public Health*.

As you may recall from the last newsletter, NCPHA is participating in an important statewide public health goal: to reduce infant mortality and increase survival of healthy babies across the state. Recently, NC has had a higher infant mortality rate than the US. Improving Healthy Baby Outcomes is the theme for the NCPHA 2016-2020 strategic plan. Read further in the newsletter about the kick-off at the fall New Bern meeting.

The Young Professionals Sub-committee (YPS) has been very active. They are hosting a social on Tuesday, September 13, 5:30-7:30pm in New Bern. The YPS promises to field a very competitive team for the NCPHA Scavenger Hunt through downtown New Bern, so make plans with your team to attend. The Scavenger Hunt is a fundraiser for the *NCPHA Scholarship Fund*.

Many other updates are in the newsletter...

I hope you are enjoying a bit of *staycation* or *vacation* combined with delectable North Carolina summertime fruits and vegetables (including fresh shrimp!) enjoyed with family and friends. Best wishes for good health.

INSIDE:

Health in All Policies (HiAP) Summary
of NCPHA Spring meeting, May 5, 2016
page 2

NCPHA Healthy Babies Initiative page 3

Susan Little, Robert Parker Scholarship
Winner 2015 page 3

Dr. Lane Ormond Recognized For
Lifetime of Work page 5

NCPHA Conference Section Updates
page 6

Eric Nickens, Jr. recipient of ECU's 40
Under 40 Leadership Award page 9

Albemarle Regional Health Services
Promotion page 9

Caldwell County: #PublicHealthMatters
page 11

Scotland County Health Department
Promoting Public Health page 12

2015 NCPHA All-Star Award Winners
page 13



Health in All Policies (HiAP)

Summary of NCPHA Spring Meeting, May 5, 2016

by *Suzanne Lea*

Have you ever attended a professional meeting that kept your heart thumping and your ideas rushing for most of the meeting? The Spring meeting of the North Carolina Public Health Association (NCPHA), held on May 5, 2016 in Raleigh, was that kind of experience. The Planning Committee, led by Vice-President Brittan Wood, selected a timely theme, Health in All Policies (HiAP), which is gaining momentum nationally. HiAP is a collaborative approach to improving the health of all people by incorporating health considerations into decision-making across sectors and policy areas.

Beginning with a welcome by State Health Director Dr. Randall Williams, we had many local, state, and national examples demonstrating the impact of HiAP. Dr. Williams pointed out that we are living 34 years longer, on average, than in 1900, so more health care is not the only answer; we must frame the issues in the context of structure and policy decisions that impact health. For example, incorporating sidewalks and bike lanes should be part of designing roads and buildings.

Our morning key note was Ms. Julia Kaplan, MPP, MPH, from the Health in All Policies Task Force, California Department of Public Health. She provided insights into HiAP through the California experience. Governor Schwarzenegger created a Cabinet-level Task Force that has authority to change statewide procedures to effect HiAP, which is convened through the California Department of Public Health. She gave one example of high-level problem solving. Based on poor health outcomes of the prison population, there was a goal to lower salt content in food purchased, but due to regulations, the Department of Corrections could only purchase food from service contractors. After leaders of the General Services Administration and Department of Corrections were in the same room (those leaders had never met), each agency was able to negotiate. The state contract was modified to lower salt content in food, and health outcomes in the prison population have improved.

To complete the morning, Mel Downey-Piper from the Durham County Department of Public Health led an interactive session using 'Kahoot' to learn more about the NC County Health Rankings.

Secretary Rick Brajer from the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) was the luncheon speaker. He provided examples of HiAP approach within DHHS. He had three main points: 1) broaden the definition of health beyond physical health – mental health is connected to physical health; 2) broaden the definition of whose health we are talking about – it is community health;

and 3) create flexibility in policy that improves health. He expressed commitment to addressing the disparities in infant mortality. He concluded by asking the audience what measures should be used to inform HiAP, because what we measure influences where the money goes and drives HiAP.

After lunch, a panel of four discussants provided examples of using the Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan to implement a HiAP approach. Brittan and her committee implemented an "Ignite Session" composed of 10 minute presentations by eight speakers on six topics, which largely addressed transportation (safe routes to schools) and access to healthy foods (schools and workplaces).

Bob Custard, President of the National Environmental Health Association, gave the finale presentation: "Redefining Moments: Passionate Advocates with Bold Visions". He gave five examples throughout public health history where the everyday citizen decided to re-define what was acceptable in public health policy, and as a result, changed history: safe drinking water, indoor plumbing, access to safe food, tobacco cessation, and health community design. He challenged us with two questions: 1) What would you like to redefine as unacceptable in your community, and 2) Are you willing to be a passionate advocate for policies that address that issue? It was the kind of concluding speaker that left the audience quiet – pondering, humbled, thankful for the experience of his passionate message – before applauding fully with vigor.

Dr. Williams summarized some main take-home messages:

- We have coalitions, let's use them effectively for HiAP,
- Frame issues that intersect agencies,
- Frame HiAP from a statewide perspective across state agencies,
- Issues must have measurable outcomes,
- Less talk about what we want and more about how to make it happen, and
- Redefine issues that are unacceptable in your community.

Sec. Brajer asked who was from a local health department. Few were in attendance compared to the many attendees who represented other sectors of government, city, county, and state. Our goal at NCPHA is to be the facilitator for health – everybody, everywhere, everyday – through intersecting with other professional organizations and agencies that seek to be passionate advocates with bold vision to achieve Health in All Policies.



NCPHA Healthy Babies Initiative

At a strategic planning session in January 2016, NCPHA executive committee discussed ideas to increase member engagement and cross-discipline conversation about current public health problems. The team knew that reducing infant mortality and improving healthy baby outcomes was a NC DHHS goal.

In 2013, the NC infant mortality rate was 7 deaths per 1,000 live births compared to US infant mortality rate of 6 deaths per 1,000 live births. Large disparities exist across our state related to infant mortality. There are many factors occurring before, during, and after pregnancy that influence infant death.

NCPHA will kick-off the Healthy Babies Initiative September 14, 2016 at the New Bern meeting to improve healthy baby outcomes as part of the Strategic Plan for 2016-2020. This is a new idea for sections to share an overarching

theme to work toward member engagement.

NCPHA Women's and Children's Health Section invites all to attend a session on Thursday, September 15 (afternoon) in New Bern to discuss NCPHA goals in conjunction with DHHS Women's Health Branch goals to address infant mortality.

It is important for us to reflect upon the challenge provided by Bob Custard, President of the National Environmental Health Association at the NCPHA spring meeting on Health in All Policies: 1) What would you like to redefine as unacceptable in your community, and 2) Are you willing to be a passionate advocate for policies that address that issue? Could improving healthy baby outcomes be one of those answers?

Susan Little, Robert Parker Scholarship Winner 2015



Hello, I am Susan Little, the 2015 Bob Parker Leadership Scholarship recipient. The scholarship has helped to pay for my tuition at Duke University as I pursue a Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP). The Duke DNP program prepares nurses for advanced-practice roles with skills needed to translate research and evidence into practice, healthcare system transformation, and quality improvement for systems, patient populations, and communities..

A requirement for graduation from the Duke DNP program is completion of a scholarly project involving the translation of evidence into practice. The focus of my doctoral project is improvement to the continuing nursing education unit at the NCDPH. By integrating evidence-based criteria into the process of planning, implementing, and evaluating continuing nursing educational activities provided by the NCDPH, we will guarantee that our NC public health nurses' knowledge, skill, and practice needs are addressed by quality educational activities.

We know that it is important that our NC public health nurses use their time efficiently toward meaningful learning activities so that they will return to the local health department to translate that learning into quality care, improved patient outcomes, and improved population health. Through helping to pay for my tuition at Duke and allowing for the improvement project in the continuing nursing education unit, the 2015 Bob Parker Leadership Scholarship is positively impacting the quality of care provided by public health nurses across all of NC.

Thank you for investing in me so that I may invest in North Carolina's public health nurses.



Inspired partners, dedicated to better health



Dr. Lane Ormond Recognized For Lifetime of Work

For each of the past 60 years, the UNC School of Medicine has celebrated exemplary alumni and faculty with its Distinguished Alumni Awards. These awards were established in 1955 to recognize those who had made an important contribution to the establishment and early growth of the four-year medical school at UNC. Over the course of his more than 50 years in practice, Dr. Lane Ormond has delivered a sizable percentage of the babies born in Union County.

Graduating in 1958, Dr. Ormond established his solo OB/GYN practice in Monroe in 1962. Since then, he has been a fixture of the community, displaying an unwavering commitment of improving the health of generations of patients.

That half-century commitment has earned Dr. Ormond one of this year's Distinguished Medical Alumni Awards.

Early in his career, Dr. Ormond also served his country, working for two years as an OB/GYN at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia.

Back home in Monroe, Dr. Ormond was Union County's first board certified OB/GYN specialist. He has dedicated his career to expanding the women's health service available in the community. He was instrumental in the creation of the Union County Health Department's High Risk Maternity Clinic. Over the course of his career in private practice, Dr. Ormond covered the family planning and maternity clinics, including the High Risk Clinic, at the

Union County Division of Public Health.

Upon Dr. Ormond's retirement, the Monroe Women's Clinic was renamed in his honor and now serves patients as the Ormond Center for Women.

After retiring, he continued working with public health when he saw that there was a need for additional physicians.

Dr. Randall Williams, State Health Director at the NC Department, deputy secretary for health services at the NC Department of Health and Human Services, said Dr. Ormond is a role model for physician's service in rural and underserved areas. "One of my primary missions is to recruit and advocate for physicians serving in rural areas," Williams said. "I often tell members of the legislature and other leaders across the state that if we could somehow clone Dr. Lane Ormond, the world would be a much better place."

In recognition of his exemplary contributions to improving the health of generations and his extraordinary, lifelong commitment to his community, Dr. Ormond received a second recognition at the event, The Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is among the most prestigious awards presented by the Governor of North Carolina. The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is presented to individuals who have a proven record of extraordinary service to the state.

Dr. Ormond has certainly done that.



Pictured above (left to right): NC Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Rick Brajer, State Health Director Dr. Randall Williams, Dr. Lane Ormond, NC Senator Tommy Tucker, Union County Division of Public Health Director Phillip Tarte.



NCPHA Conference Section Updates

The NCPHA Environmental Health Section

NCPHA-EH Section members have been extremely busy this year! Several house and senate bills that impact our profession demanded attention and last-minute action to oppose or support was critical. Thankfully the “gag” bill went quietly away, the Professional Engineer Permit option did pass, inspection of water piping installations did not pass, Public School Testing of water for lead did pass, and the proposed bill to rename REHS thankfully went away... For now, these are just some of what our emails and texts have impacted. For a strong future career as a Registered Environmental Health Specialist, there is no denying the importance of membership in our professional organization.

One of the positive items to come out of the state budget is the allocation of recurring monies to support **Zika Prevention and Detection**. These monies are allocated to develop an infrastructure to detect, prevent, control, and

respond to the Zika virus and other vector-borne illnesses. Hopefully the message heard is that county vector programs in North Carolina are critical to the future of public health and not a program to cut in the future.

NCPHA has adopted the Healthy Babies Initiative as our focus for the upcoming years and the EH Section is focusing efforts on parental preconception care. Detecting, preventing, controlling, and responding to the Zika virus and other vector-borne illnesses (who knows what lurks in the wings of nature?) fit the bill for this focus as do continuing to be instrumental in ensuring safe drinking water and safe food when dining out. It doesn't take additional effort for those of us in the Environmental Health field to focus on this initiative; it is what we do every day, for everybody. Stay healthy.

The NCPHA Nursing Section

The NCPHA Nursing Section Executive Committee has been very busy this year. Under the strong leadership of Chair Jennifer McCracken of Catawba County, the committee has been diligently working to promote public health nursing in North Carolina. The committee has sponsored a statewide public health nursing conference call with updates from Phyllis Rocco, Chief Public Health Nurse and Lynette Tolson, Legislative Liaison for NC DHHS. Recently the committee met with Lynette Tolson to discuss the Healthy Babies Initiative and how the Nursing Section will participate in the strategic plan.

The executive committee has planned a very exciting agenda for the NCPHA Fall Education Conference. We are pleased to partner with the WCH, Social Work and Dental Sections to sponsor a Public Health Legal Update with Jill Moore, Associate Professor of Public Law and Government at the UNC School of Government.

Joyce Winstead, Education Consultant at NC Board

of Nursing, will present on “Just Culture” and the Board of Nursing Complaint Evaluation Tool.

In keeping with the theme of the conference, *Bridging Generations for New Directions in Public Health*, the section will present a panel discussion on “Creating a Meaningful Public Health Experience for Students”. Panelists include representatives from local health departments and faculty from several NC schools of nursing.

Last year the nursing section unveiled the new public health nursing logo designed by Carol Rose from the Beaufort County Health Department. We will again have items available branded with the logo available for sale. These items are perfect for gifts for staff or your favorite public health nurse. Proceeds help fund scholarship awards for nurses furthering their education. Please join us at the conference in New Bern and support public health nursing in North Carolina.

The NCPHA Wellness and Prevention (W&P) Section

The Wellness and Prevention (W&P) section is excited to partner with the Academic Practice-Based Research (ABPR) and Public Health Leadership sections to host “Using Results Based Accountability for Action Planning and Evaluation.” This a hands on session that'll guide participants on how to facilitate Results Based Accountability (RBA) exercises that can be taken back to community coalitions. Throughout the remainder of the conference there will be presentations on

presentation design, energizing meetings and presentations, and improving education during clinical visits. There will also be a session on the impact, results, and lessons learned from the North Carolina Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCP). W&P will end our Thursday sessions with a presentation and panel discussion “Making Friends with the Media” and a Healthy Babies Initiative strategic plan discussion.



NCPHA Section Updates continued

The NCPHA Social Work (SW) Section



For helping professionals, supporting those who are in physical, economic, social or emotional stress, can often cause stress and lead to negative consequences such as increased

health problems, emotional exhaustion, anxiety, reduced self-esteem, and increased problems in relationships. Stress can also impact professional effectiveness because of reduced focus and concentration, impinges on decision-making skills, and reduces one's ability to establish relationship with clients and coworkers.

Mindfulness practices are ideal for cultivating greater awareness of the connection between mind and body, as well as increasing understanding of the ways unconscious thoughts, feelings, and behaviors can undermine emotional, physical, and spiritual wellness. The SW Section will host a workshop at the Fall Educational Conference that will specifically focus on cultivating an individualized mindfulness practice of self-care for helping professionals and include a brief history, an overview of the core principles of Mindfulness, and experiential opportunities to immediately begin developing mindfulness practices to reduce stress, anxiety, and increase self-compassion.

Social Work Section Events

Cultivating Mindfulness Practices to Enhance Self-Care

September 9, 2016 9:00 am - 11:30 am

Presented by Angela Q. Cowell, LCSW, LMFT who is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Licensed Marriage Family Therapist, and AAMFT Approved Supervisor. She is a school social worker and therapist providing school-based mental health services to students and families in Winston-Salem/ Forsyth County Schools. She is a trainer and presents on topics such as Ethics and the Mindfulness Practices of Self-Care, the Use of Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction with Clients, Cultivating Mindfulness Practices, Trauma Informed Care, Self-Of-The-Therapist, and Clinical Supervision. She also provides clinical supervision to LCSWAs, LPCAs, and LMFTAs. She uses a systemic orientation and strength-based perspective while promoting present moment awareness.

Awards

Social Work Section Awards & Business Meeting will occur during lunch in our meeting room.

Section Discussion

Join NCPHA Social Work Section as we engage in a facilitated discussion regarding how self-care relates to our professional and ethical obligations. NASW's position statement on self-care will be reviewed as well as group discussions on ways Public Health Social Workers can assist with *Bridging Generations for New Directions in Public Health!*

Reminder

The SW Section will again have a silent auction table in our meeting room. Please stop by to check it out and help us fund our student scholarships.

REGISTER NOW!

Fall Educational Conference

September 14-16, 2016

New Bern

Theme- *Bridging Generations for New Directions in Public Health*

[Click here to register!](#)



WORKING TOGETHER towards better health for all

At Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, our mission is to improve the health and well-being of our customers and communities. So we're proud to help sponsor the NCPHA Fall Educational Conference. Together we can all contribute to making North Carolinians healthier and our state's health care system more effective and efficient.



   | bcbsnc.com

 **BlueCross BlueShield
of North Carolina**

© Marks of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. U12373, 7/16



NCPHA E-Newsletter

Eric Nickens, Jr., Recipient of ECU's 40 Under 40 Leadership Award



On April 16, Durham County Department of Public Health Communications Manager Eric Nickens, Jr., was honored by East Carolina University as part of the 2016 class of 40 Under 40 Leadership Award recipients during the 2nd Annual Division of Student Affairs Corporate and Leadership Awards Banquet, held at the Greenville Hilton.

Established in 2015, the 40 Under 40 Leadership Award annually recognizes 40 outstanding former student leaders and emerging professionals that are making an impact on the world and have used their East Carolina experience to pursue their passions, help others, and lead positive change in industry, civic service, and beyond.

Albemarle Regional Health Services Promotion



In April 2013, Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS) launched its Facebook and Twitter accounts as ways to promote services, encourage learning and public health knowledge, and inform the public, both internally and externally, related to priority health issues. ARHS uses social media platforms integrated with traditional public health communication channels which allow for public health information to be shared in new spaces while messaging with diverse audiences.

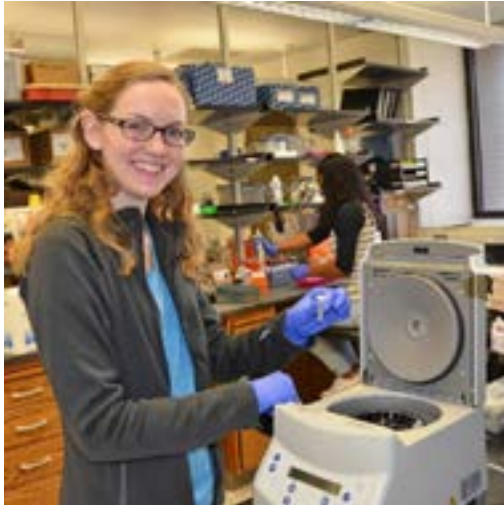
ARHS utilizes social media in tandem with the agency website as a way to offer the community more in-depth information on health topics through the monthly blog posts, current public health announcements, and access to upcoming programs and services throughout the area. The

most viewed and shared posts and tweets include upcoming programs featuring staff, health department services, and the “Harvest and Recipes of the Month”. The ARHS Social Media Committee diligently provides current, helpful, and reliable health information to the communities. Another benefit to using social media involves allowing the committee members to listen and collect feedback in real-time and increase direct engagement. People in the community can seek information that is pertinent to them in a fashion that they are most comfortable with as individuals, as well as collectively, based on the health information need.

Learn more about your Public Health agency @ www.arhs-nc.org. We're social too... [Like us on Facebook!](#) Follow us on [Twitter!](#)



Congratulations to the
North Carolina Public Health Association
from your friends and colleagues at
UNC's Gillings School of Global Public Health
and its
North Carolina Institute for Public Health



Students and world-renowned faculty at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health and public health professionals at the N.C. Institute for Public Health serve North Carolina's public health community through teaching, research and service.



That's how we're *bridging generations for new directions in public health!*



Caldwell County: #PublicHealthMatters



Like many public health agencies across the State, the Caldwell County Health Department (CCHD) realizes that residents may not understand what public health is or why it matters. This was evident in community health survey responses which revealed that many of the 81,990 people in Caldwell County believe the health department serves only individuals who are uninsured, non-citizens of the US, those who need a STD test, women who are pregnant, or those who need immunizations. After thoughtful consideration, Caldwell County Health Department chose to implement a campaign called "Public Health Matters - Thank Public Health". Each message describes how public health affects everyone and how the community benefits from what public health does each and every day. "Public Health Matters" will be presented in a variety of media outlets throughout Caldwell County. Currently, there are 5 billboards located throughout the county (as shown above), emphasizing how public health has influenced safe drinking water, smoke free restaurants, safety (car seats, seat belts, and bicycle helmets), rabies prevention, and access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

CCHD has also developed a great relationship with the local radio station. This allows the CCHD to promote public health services and place advertisements on the radio, educating individuals on why public health matters to them. The radio campaign includes a monthly segment reserved for the health department to conduct a live interview with the radio hosts and a radio commercial that airs 40 times a week. Each month highlights a different topic/service that the agency provides to the community. This campaign began in February, 2016 and, during National Children's Dental Month CCHD's full-time dentist, Dr. Jessica Tomberlin, went on-air to discuss services provided by CCHD's pediatric dental clinic and to educate the community on the importance of

good dental hygiene, especially for children. In addition, Dr. Tomberlin made a commercial which was played 40 times a week during the month of February along with her recorded on-air interview. Text from the commercial is shown below and can be heard here.

"February is National Children's Dental Health Month. Did you know that more than 40 percent of children have cavities by the time they reach kindergarten? The Caldwell County Health Department Dental Clinic reminds parents that their children can avoid cavities. A balanced diet, limiting snacks, brushing, and flossing each day and regular dental check-ups are the keys to a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums. The dental clinic sees children from birth to age 19 with Medicaid. Call to schedule an appointment today 426-8525."

Other topics covered on the radio included maternal health, clinical services and communicable disease, WIC and the farmers' market nutrition program, Zika virus, and Safe Kids. Future programs will include back to school vaccinations, the importance of getting a flu shot (including promoting our drive-thru flu clinic), breast and cervical cancer programs, tobacco cessation and use, environmental health, and Hepatitis C.

It is our hope that this continued campaign will increase awareness and knowledge of what public health is and the importance of the services, programs, and education provided by our public health agencies across the state. As a staff member once stated "if we don't tell our story, who will"?

If you have questions or want more information please contact, Anna Martin MPH, Health Promotion Supervisor at Caldwell County Health Department at amartin@caldwelldcountync.org.



Scotland County Health Department – Promoting Public Health

Public Health happens “Everyday”, “Everywhere”, and is for “Everybody” right? Those of us working in public health realize this and work hard at providing our communities not only with essential services, but also through outreach efforts informing and educating our communities about current health issues, our services, promoting healthy lifestyles, prevention, preparedness, resources available, and so on. And yet, more and more we are learning that a vast majority of our communities, from young to old, have no idea that public health is a part of their everyday lives. We also know there is a certain stigma associated with public health or (shhhhhhh) health departments among a variety of our populations regardless of literacy levels. The perception needs to change!

With this in mind, Scotland County Health Department (SCHD) understands the importance of promoting public health and its impact on our communities. So how do we promote ourselves, our services, the benefits to our communities despite being a very rural and one of the poorest counties in the state where funding, aside from grants, is sometimes hard to come by which limits our ability to campaign on a larger scale?

Along with providing our local newspaper monthly health-related articles “Public Health Matters!”, monthly radio programs “Our Health Matters!”, and “Living Healthy Today!”, we also utilize social media, our electronic board, website, and billboards placed in relevant locations that promote our programs, services, or prevention campaigns.

Like most health departments, we implement programs/presentations and promote public health in our faith communities, other agencies/organizations, collaborate with our local hospital, school system, and community clinics as well as participate in nearly all of the local annual events/festivals by providing education, health screenings, and information about the services we provide. Regardless of these efforts, we still find very few people know much at all about public health or that they actually use it on a daily basis! Furthermore, there are many that continue to perceive that health department services are only for certain or underserved populations.

So to begin ramping up our efforts in promoting public health, SCHD recently hosted an “OPEN HOUSE” inviting the public and key community members and agencies to increase our efforts in dispelling the myths surrounding public health. Our plans include creating a public relations committee to brainstorm ideas and create a tag line for our PSA’s, have other staff along with the PIO provide creative and informative PSA’s on specific/current health issues, services available, or promotion of a specific program. We also discussed featuring individual staff members in our local newspaper as part of the “Public Health Matters!” series to include information about the services they provide through their respective programs as part of our increased efforts. To listen in to our “Public Health Matters!” programs on WLNC Hometown Radio, tune in to 95.1 FM or go to www.wlnradio.com at 8:20am, the first Friday of each month!



Mary Williams – WLNC; Pearlene Leggett – WIC; Kathie Cox – Health Educator II/PIO; and Justin McNickle – WLNC



2015 NCPHA All-Star Award Winners



1st ALL-STAR

Victoria Hudson

Environmental Health Specialist, Orange County Health Department

15 years of service!

- She has served as a volunteer site visitor for NC's Accreditation program for the last 8 years.
- She is always looking for means to educate clients and increases personal knowledge by actively seeking out educational opportunities.
- She is an effective and organized leader who is an excellent mentor for new staff.

"This person is truly a special, spirited person that epitomizes public health!"



2nd ALL-STAR

Beth Jenkins

Nursing Supervisor, Wake County Human Services

31 years of service!

- Mentors her staff to find that public health spirit within them, and encourages further education and projects that address important health issues.
- She requires staff to obtain eight hours of cultural diversity training each year and ensures that all have the necessary tools and equipment to do their jobs.
- Her nurses have scored "above average" or "excellent" on the past five years of client satisfaction surveys and the vaccine inventory is always 99% accurate, all attributed to her nursing leadership.

"The American Public Health Association defines public health as promoting and protecting the health of people and communities where they live, learn, work and play. For the past 31 years, this definition captures the very essence of this nominee."



3rd ALL-STAR

Laconial Esters

Medical Laboratory Supervisor, Cumberland County Department of Public Health

12 years of service!

- He leads by example, going beyond the call of duty, without complaints, time, or schedule limitations when serving the public.
- He trains his team to be proactive, preparing for the worst, teaching them to strategically plan.
- Sharing his vision and fostering an environment of growth and progress, he inspires his team to move upward, meet new challenges, and reach higher career achievements.

"Our 2015 All-Star nominee is the epitome of performance, leadership and compassion in public service. A true public servant, he dedicates his life to serving all around him."



2015 NCPHA All-Star Award Winners, continued



4th ALL-STAR

Jim Martin

Director of Policy and Programs, Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch, NC Division of Public Health

20+ years of service!

- His career has been filled with both promises and setbacks, but he has never lost that positive, can-do attitude and has continued to make sequential changes that have led to larger successes.
- Public health outcomes were accomplished by knowing that passing good policy is not enough; it must be implemented with integrity and purpose to protect and preserve the public health.

"Our nominee for this year's Public Health All-Star Award has been working quietly in public health for more than 20 years, and yet I have no doubt that this quiet, behind-the-scenes work has produced outcomes that have resulted in preventing exposure to serious risk, thus saving the lives of many North Carolinians."



5th ALL-STAR

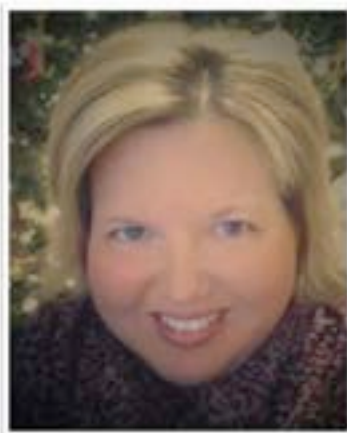
Jim Boyer

Environmental Health Director, Transylvania County Health Department

14 years of service!

- No matter the season and after: the workload, and sometimes bizarre issues we deal with, you can count on him to find the humor.
- He waits in the office no matter how late an inspection runs, knowing staff may encounter twisty-turny roads, sudden torrential rain storms, steep slopes, disgruntled customers, and long drives at the end of a tiring day. He always makes sure we return safely.

"An outstanding baker, he makes the best chocolate chip cookies in the department. Special days and hum-drum days, he frequently shows us that we are appreciated with a batch of delicious cookies."



6th ALL-STAR

Joy Spencer Brock

Human Services Planner II, Greene County Health Department

15 years of service!

- She is always going the extra mile to make sure that the health department is represented in the community in the best possible light.
- She has tirelessly helped keep the health department on track to best meet the accreditation requirements. Without her dedication to public health and team spirit the health department would never meet all of the accreditation requirements.

"Public health team spirit is one of the many qualities that make this individual stand out from the rest."



2015 NCPHA All-Star Award Winners, continued



7th ALL-STAR

Dr. Velm Taorima

Medical Director, Gaston County Department of Health and Human Services -
Public Health Division

10 years of service!

- An outstanding physician, our staff deeply admire her skills in diagnosing and treating patients, and her effortless warmth and ability to communicate with our patients.
- As an administrator, she is admired by our staff for her intellect, data analysis skills, talents in using data to guide program improvements, and for her firmness and fairness as a manager.

"This all-star nominee is deeply and selflessly dedicated to improving Public Health and the health and wellbeing of our patients and community."



8th ALL-STAR

Susan Clark

Laboratory Supervisor/Emergency Preparedness Coordinator,
Toe River Health District

17 years of service!

- Our All-Star is a leader in our agency and has a commitment to quality.
- She always leads by example, mentors, and guides.
- She has a commitment to teamwork.

"Our All-Star is a trailblazer in the community and has a strong commitment to service."

Congratulations 2015 NCPHA All-Star Award Winners!

Contact Us

Lynette Tolson, Executive Director, E-mail: ltolson@ncpha.org
Kim Dittmann, Public Health Administrator, E-mail: kdittmann@ncpha.org
222 N. Person Street
Suite 208
Raleigh, NC 27601
Phone: 919-828-6201 Fax: 919-828-6203 Website: ncpha.memberclicks.net



[facebook.com/ncpha](https://www.facebook.com/ncpha)
twitter.com/NCPHA



NCPHA E-Newsletter Editor: Kasey Decosimo

Graphic Designer: Zannie Gunn, TypeColorShapes.com

