

APHA Names North Carolina 2025 Affiliate of the Year

Washington, DC (November 4, 2025) — The North Carolina Public Health Association (NCPHA) received the 2025 CoA Outstanding Affiliate of the Year Award by the American Public Health Association (APHA) during its 2025 Annual Meeting. This award celebrates an APHA Affiliate that has made significant contributions through innovative programs and activities that impact the public's health.

"We're thrilled to receive this recognition. North Carolina is home to some of the best public health professionals in the world, and it's an honor that we get to represent them," said NCPHA Executive Director Patrick Brown. "This award is a testament to the work that they do to make North Carolina a safer and healthier place to live."

During the awards luncheon, NCPHA was commended by APHA's Council of Affiliates for its advocacy efforts and innovation to advance public health within North Carolina. This included hosting its first Public Health Advocacy Day at the NC Legislature, which convened over 50 members to advocate for key legislation and resulted in over 30 visits to NC House Representatives and 30 visits to NC Senators.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, NCPHA launched a Disaster Relief Fund and successfully raised \$40,000 to support 40 public health professionals in western NC, who were personally affected by the storm. NCPHA has since made this a permanent fund and continues to raise funds through its online store selling custom NCPHA apparel – 100% of profits will go toward this fund supporting public health professionals affected by future disasters like Helene.

About NCPHA:

The <u>North Carolina Public Health Association</u> was formed in 1909 by a group of concerned county superintendents of health in an effort to promote public health in North Carolina. Over 100 years later, NCPHA's 1,400 individual and organizational members continue working to improve public health by supporting education, advocacy, public awareness, and professional development as part of the <u>North Carolina Public Health Collaboration</u>.

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