

National Network of Public Health Institutes News

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Time is running out to register for the 6th annual NNPHI conference from May 21-23rd, 2007 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The theme for the conference is: ***Partnering for Public Health Systems Improvement***. Numerous representatives from public health institutes across the country will share their strategies for working with public health systems partners to address obesity, use population- based data for advocacy, and develop health information and exchange policies and infrastructure.

Visit the [conference page](#) of the NNPHI website to learn more about the meeting and click [here](#) to view the most current agenda.

The deadline to register and to receive discounted rates on hotel reservations has been extended to April 30th, 2007. Register now by visiting:

www.regonline.com/2007nnphiconference Please contact An Nguyen, NNPHI Member Services Coordinator, at anguyen@lphi.org with any questions about the conference.

We hope to see you here in New Orleans next month!

As always, we look forward to your feedback and future submissions to this newsletter. Please send all feedback, comments and submissions to kadams@nnphi.org.



NNPHI Updates



Control and Prevention (CDC-OCPHP) have announced the selection of two entities to conduct public health systems research as a result of a competitive review process that took place earlier this year. See below for additional information about the awardees and the research that they plan to conduct.

National Public Health Performance Standards (NPHPSP) Research **The University of Kentucky, College of Public Health** was awarded funding to conduct research that will enable the public health practice community to further understand pertinent findings of the NPHPSP dataset and determine what the assessment instruments indicate about public health performance. [View press release.](#)

Accreditation Research **The University of North Carolina, Institute for Public Health** was selected to conduct research on the benefits and incentives of accreditation and to determine what incentives are the most effective. Please see the attached press release for more information. [View press release.](#)

National Public Health Performance Standards

On behalf of the CDC and the NPHPSP partnership, NNPHI would like to invite you to join us for the Fifth Annual NPHPSP Training Workshop on June 26th and 27th in Scottsdale, Arizona! The training will be held at the beautiful Firesky Resort and Spa and will be followed by a one-day MAPP training sponsored by NACCHO. Public health institutes have promoted the use of the NPHPSP and have been contracted to coordinate the NPHPSP implementation. Institutes have also assisted state and local public health systems with quality improvement efforts once assessments have been implemented. If you would like to learn more, please join us! Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Emerging Institute News

FEIP Matching Grants Awarded

NNPHI is pleased to announce that five organizations have been selected to participate in the Fostering Emerging Institutes Matching Grant Program. The five organizations are the **Rhode Island Public Health Foundation**, the **Florida Public Health Institute**, the **Tennessee Institute of Public Health**, the **Mid-America Alliance** and the **South Carolina Public Health Consortium**. Each organization will receive \$50,000 a year for two years and are required to contribute equivalent dollar amounts in matching funds. These funds were awarded to help emerging institutes with core organizational development activities. Grantees will receive personalized technical assistance and participate in a sustainability curriculum based on the best practices of NNPHI members. The goal of the Fostering Emerging Institutes Project is to enhance states' public health capacity through improved organizational sustainability among public health institutes. NNPHI is dedicated to helping all emerging institutes as they develop. This project is possible through a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

For more information regarding the Fostering Emerging Institutes Project, please contact Erin Bertschy at ebertschy@nnphi.org or 504-301- 9823.

Multi-State Learning Collaborative II

The Multi-State Learning Collaborative II (MLC-2) will hold its second Open Forum on May 23rd and 24th in conjunction with the NNPHI Annual Conference in New Orleans. The Open Forum will convene the ten MLC-2 participant states, as well as representatives from applicant states, national partners, and other interested parties.

The meeting will allow participants to share their knowledge about assessment and quality improvement efforts with one another and provide training on multiple quality improvement tools.

During the next several months, each MLC-2 funded state will host a visit from the MLC-2 staff and consultants, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, other funded states, and national partner organizations, including ASTHO, NACCHO, and NALBOH. These site-visits provide MLC-2 participating states the opportunity to convene local stakeholders and leaders, to gain buy-in for their efforts, and to showcase their quality improvement efforts to national partner organizations and other MLC-2 participants.

The MLC-2 hosted its first teleconference "Culture, Caveats, and Cautions: Creating a Culture of Quality Improvement in Public Health" on March 16, 2007. Dr. Leslie M. Beitsch, Director for the Center on Medicine and Public Health at Florida State University School of Medicine, facilitated a dialogue session with Dr. Dennis Cookro, Medical Consultant for the Florida Department of Health, Roland Martinez, Performance Excellence Coordinator for the Miami-Dade County Health Department, and Torney Smith, Administrator for the Spokane Regional Health District, who shared their successes with integrating quality improvement into their work.

Public Health Leadership Society

The Public Health Leadership Society is pleased to announce the line-up of its 2007 Leadership Series, *Improving Quality on the Public Health Frontline: What Every Public Health Leader Should Know*. The first call, entitled *Setting the Stage: Quality Improvement on the Frontline*, will occur on May 11, 2007 at 1 PM ET. The Leadership Series is a benefit for PHLs members. For more information, please refer to the [Leadership Series flyer](#).

NNPHI Members Services

NNPHI kicked off its first Information Technology Interest Group teleconference of the year on April 19th. The call, lead by Gaurav Nagrath, Director of Information Services at the Louisiana Public Health Institute (LPHI), focused on the current and innovative IT-related projects at LPHI. The interest group will serve as a venue for IT staff of NNPHI members and emerging institutes to meet one another and discuss common issues and ways of supporting one another's work in relation to incorporating IT into public health practice. These quarterly teleconferences will include discussion on technology, policy, evaluation, health informatics, and health information exchange (HIE) infrastructure. In response to the success of the call, NNPHI will create an IT list serve for members to communicate with one another in regards to IT-related initiatives. For more information regarding the IT list serve, please contact An Nguyen at anguyen@lphi.org.



National News

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

RWJF Commits \$500 Million to Reverse Childhood Obesity

It is from this platform of experience, partnership and confidence that we announce that the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation will commit at least \$500 million over the

investment that is urgently needed to catalyze efforts throughout the nation to create healthier environments for children and families. To read more information, please [click here](#).

COVER THE UNINSURED WEEK. Now in its fifth year, Cover the Uninsured Week brings together business owners, union members, educators, students, patients, physicians, nurses, faith leaders and their congregants, and organizations in all 50 states and the District of Columbia to demand that our nation's leaders find solutions for the nearly 45 million Americans living without health insurance. What started in 2003 as a week-long effort to raise awareness has become a nationwide movement to make sure that this issue is a top national priority. Each year, *Cover the Uninsured Week* gains momentum as thousands of people organize events and activities on behalf of America's uninsured. To read the *Cover the Uninsured Week*, please [click here](#).

NNPHI Member Headlines

Maine Center for Public Health

The Maine Center for Public Health has moved and expanded! There new address is:
Maine Center for Public Health
One Weston Court Suite 109
Augusta, ME 04330

Phone and fax remain the same at:
phone(207) 629-9272, x206
fax (207) 629-9277

Medical and Health Research Association of New York City, Inc

MHRA is hosting and staffing the new Alliance for Women's Health, a statewide group with the goal of improving the health status of the State's women. Members of the Alliance include representatives from ACOG, Planned Parenthood, NARAL, NY Civil Liberties Union, NOW, Public Health Association of NYC, NY Immigration Coalition, Women of Color Policy Network, National Advocates for Pregnant Women, Family Planning Advocates of NYS and provider organizations. Initially, the Alliance will focus its attention on getting consensus on a Universal Maternity Care Proposal and developing a model abortion law.

Funded by the NYS Assembly, MHRA has recently completed an English/Spanish video aimed at reducing early childhood obesity by improving the feeding of children from 0-24 months of age including promoting exclusive breastfeeding in the early months of life. Prior to wide-scale distribution, the video will be evaluated in MHRA's WIC centers in a project that also includes distribution of neighborhood maps highlighting parks and recreational facilities. The New York Community Trust is sponsoring the development and evaluation of a similar video in Mandarin which should be available in the Fall. WIC client surveys and focus groups informed the development of both videos.

North Carolina Institute for Public Health

The NC Center for Public Health Preparedness (CPHP), part of the NC Institute for Public Health, has concluded an important phase of its pandemic influenza planning project. All NC local health departments were required to submit a pandemic influenza

plan to CPHP for review prior to March 31, 2007. CPHP provided materials, onsite consultations and support to NC local health departments to help achieve this goal. Sponsored by the NC Division of Public Health, DHHS, the project was headed up by CPHP's Richard Rosselli. All NC health departments will have approved local plans in place, following the incorporation of feedback provided by the preparedness center and the North Carolina Division of Public Health. For details, Rosselli can be reached at rosselli@unc.edu

Umble to receive Balderson leadership support award Karl Umble, Ph.D., program planner and evaluator for the North Carolina Institute for Public Health (NCIPH), has been chosen as the recipient of the 2007 Balderson Award for Support of Public Health Leadership Development. [[complete article](#)]

Philadelphia Health Management Corporation

- The National Nursing Centers Consortium (NNCC), a Philadelphia Health Management Corporation (PHMC) affiliate, was recently awarded the American Public Health Association (APHA) Public Health Nursing Section 2006 Lillian Wald Service Award.
- In April, Richard J. Cohen, Ph.D., FACHE, President and CEO of the Philadelphia Health Management Corporation, was recognized by the College of Physicians of Philadelphia for outstanding service to public health.
- The Philadelphia Health Management Corporation recently began participating in the Jobs to Careers Initiative, an educational and professional development program targeting direct care workers in partnership with the District 1199C Training and Upgrading Fund and the Temple University Health System, with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Jobs to Careers: Promoting Work-Based Learning for Quality Care is a national initiative that seeks to support partnerships to advance and reward the skill and career development of incumbent workers providing care and services on the front lines of our health and health care systems.
- In April, the Philadelphia Health Management Corporation's Community Health Data Base released a special report on Health Disparities in Southeastern Pennsylvania. The report highlights the latest data from PHMC's 2006 Southeastern Pennsylvania Household Health Survey on disparities among children and adults regarding access to care, health conditions, and environmental and behavioral factors that contribute to disparities. To get a copy of the report, please call 215.985.2548 or email JohannaT@phmc.org.

Texas Health Institute

Six Texas Community Collaboratives Selected for Mental Health

Transformation The Texas Health Institute (THI) announced the six community collaboratives that have been selected to be prototypes for mental health transformation at the local level. This initiative is part of a statewide effort related to mental health transformation which emphasizes early intervention and coordination of services across multiple state and local agencies. This statewide initiative is funded through a federal five-year grant. Texas is one of nine states that received such funding. [Click here to read more.](#)

Vision for Change: Uninsured Update

On January 31, 2007, the Texas Health Institute released **A Vision for Change: Policy Solutions for Increasing Health Coverage in Texas**. For the report, THI

researched best practices and trends in Texas and other states to develop 12 practical, pragmatic, evidence-based policy solutions for increasing health coverage in the state. Each proposal targets a specific subset of Texas' uninsured population. Some of the policy solutions are new to Texas, while others are expansions or modifications to existing programs. When combined together, these policy solutions could reduce the number of Texans without health coverage by almost half - extending coverage to nearly 2.7 million Texans in three to five years. To learn more about the report go to: [Vision for Change Full Report](#) or [Vision for Change Executive Summary](#)

THI to Release Long-Term Care Health Policy Brief

The Texas Health Institute released a health policy brief in March focusing on long-term care issues in Texas. The challenges to providing Texans with accessible and affordable long-term care (LTC) services are numerous. This policy brief explores the Texas LTC system and the obstacles the system faces in assuming the delivery of varied and high quality LTC for the aged and persons with disabilities. The brief defines long-term care, reviews the current payment structure, identifies demographic and policy trends and discusses the impact on LTC in Texas now and into the future. The brief has a series of policy options designed to increase access to and the delivery of quality long-term care in Texas. Finally, included in the appendices, this report includes a consensus by the industry on priorities, and the priorities of a consumer advocacy group, ADAPT. To view the brief go to: [Long-Term Care Health Policy Brief](#)

Miller Named to American College of Mental Health Administration

On March 11, 2007, **Camille D. Miller**, THI President & CEO, was named a fellow of the American College of Mental Health Administration (ACMHA). ACMHA provides forums and facilitation that move core issues of mental health and substance abuse from controversy to consensus, and discourse to action. The ACMHA membership is a diverse working network of influential leaders representing public and private administrators of services; national, state and county government; professional organizations addressing mental health and addictive disease; managed behavioral healthcare organizations; research and academia; and consumer and family advocacy organizations.

Improving Nutrition and Physical Activities in Communities Training and Conference

On May 30-31, 2007, the Texas Health Institute will hold a two-day training session and conference focusing on the promotion of health in communities by improving nutrition and physical activities. Day One will consist of a training session on the web-based Environmental Nutrition and Activity Strategies Tool (ENACT). ENACT is designed to help communities improve their nutrition and physical activity environments by offering specific achievable strategies in several environments. Day Two will consist of a conference in which two to three communities that have been identified as having implemented best practices in preventing and overcoming obesity will share and showcase their results. The training and conference will be open to diverse stakeholders, including residents, public health officials, business leaders, students, associations and government officials that are working to improve nutrition and physical activities in their environments. For more information or to register to attend training/conference please contact Amanda Conway @ 512-279-3907 or email her @ aconway@texashealthinstitute.org.



Partners in Action: Communities at the Heart of Illinois Health

May 1-3, 2007 -- Chicago, IL

The goal of the 5th annual Illinois Public Health Institute conference is to strengthen and align community health processes to support health improvement throughout Illinois. IPHI is a partnership of public, private and voluntary organizations that seeks to maximize health, wellness and quality of life for the people of Illinois. The target audience for the conference is the range of stakeholders in local community health planning and implementation, including: community groups, especially those serving minority and immigrant communities; the faith community; the philanthropic community; employers/business; hospitals, clinics and physicians; and local public health agencies.

For details, [click here](#).

North Carolina Institute plans alumni reunion and more

May 17 - 18 -- Chapel Hill, NC

What do you do with a cadre of smart, creative, energetic public health professionals who thrive on new educational opportunities for themselves and their organizations?

The North Carolina Institute for Public Health's Office of Executive Education answer is "KnowledgeBoosters."

"It's all about lifelong learning support," said Steve Orton, director of the Institute's executive education. "Most people like refreshers and appreciate follow-up that reinforces why they enrolled in a program or course in the first place."

KnowledgeBoosters does just that. It will provide events and online services where leadership and management alumni can network and share best practices, be part of a book club, and keep up-to-date with hot topics in public health management and leadership.

The kick-off event will be a reunion of NCIPH "exec ed" alumni May 17-18 in Chapel Hill. The KnowledgeBoosters website and blog will be launched at the session. In addition, KnowledgeBoosters will host six webinars over the next year.

Added Orton, "Our alums asked us for a program like this. They know that education is not inoculation."

For registration and other details, email knowledgebooster@unc.edu or call Nancy Cripps at 919-966-2248.

The 2007 NNPHI Annual Conference

May 21-23, 2007 - New Orleans, LA

The National Network of Public Health Institutes hosts an annual educational conference for its members and leaders from federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, foundations, and academia.

For details, [click here](#).

NACo's Second Regional Health Care Leadership Institute

June 19-20, 2007 --New Orleans, LA

The institute, supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, is a two-day training

workshop for elected county officials and their community partners. The goal of the Institute is to educate participants on issues related to access to care; to strengthen leadership skills; and to cultivate partnerships between county officials and local organizations working to improve access to care. NACo will offer partial travel scholarships on a competitive basis for travel to the meeting. For details, [click here](#).

Application deadline: April 30, 2007

International Conference on Urban Health - Initial Call for Abstracts

October 31 - November 2, 2007

Harnessing the Power of Technology to Achieve Behavior Change and Improve Urban Health is the title of this 6th annual conference.

For details, [click here](#).

Abstract submission deadline: April 30, 2007

Recent Publications

Michigan Public Health Institute

More than 120,000 Michigan workers are paid to assist in caring for someone with dementia. Some workers are paid to provide assistance to one person with dementia. Others provide assistance or care to a number of individuals that includes some who have dementia. Workers who are paid to help provide care for someone with dementia often choose this type of work because they are caring individuals. They have a great deal of compassion and love to give.

To read the press release, [click here](#).

To read the article, [click here](#).

Employment Opportunities

Public Health Institute (CA)

Several positions available at <http://www.phi.org/about-employment-open.cfm>

Georgia Health Policy Center

Several positions available at <http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwghp/employment.htm>

Kansas Health Institute

EFL Associates has been retained to assist in the recruitment of a dynamic individual to serve as the Director of Health Care Financing and Organization for the Kansas Health Institute (KHI), a state based health policy and research organization. In 2006, KHI received a 10-year, \$30 million core funding grant to support its work in health care financing and organization, health informatics, public health, early childhood development and strategic communications. The organization works closely with policy makers in Kansas to make a real difference on important health policy issues. This new Director position will lead KHI's work in the area of health care financing and organization including Medicaid/SCHIP, private insurance, tracking the uninsured, safety net systems, health care markets, HIT/HIE, and others. Reporting the President/CEO of KHI, the Director will be responsible for the identification and development of strategic initiatives, management of projects and staff, participation on

the senior management team, and interaction with health policy leaders and researchers in the state, region and nation. To learn more about this opportunity, please [click here](#).

Louisiana Public Health Institute

Several positions available at <http://www.lphi.org/home/>

Maine Center for Public Health

The Maine Center for Public Health is seeking a **President and Chief Executive Officer** to lead a dynamic, growth-oriented organization. The Augusta- based 501c(3) nonprofit exists "to improve the health of Maine by increasing knowledge, influencing policy, and advancing high quality public health practice". Must have strong leadership experience in public health, a collaborative style, and proven management and fundraising abilities. Doctoral degree preferred (masters degree minimum), and at least seven years progressive leadership experience in non-profit organization or public sector. More information can be found at www.mcph.org. EOE.

The Maine Center for Public Health seeks applicants for a **Senior Evaluator/Senior Research Associate** to work with multiple state and local level partners to coordinate, design and implement program evaluation, conduct qualitative and quantitative analyses, and write evaluation reports. We are looking for an experienced evaluator who has managed complex evaluation projects, supervised staff and coordinated evaluation activities with multiple stakeholders. Applicants must have a minimum of a Ph.D. in public health or related field and at least 5 years experience in public health program evaluation or research. Must be willing to relocate to Maine. More information can be found at www.mcph.org. EOE.

Michigan Public Health Institute

Several positions available at <http://www.mphi.org/careers.aspx#openings>

Medical and Health Research Association of New York City, Inc

Several positions available at <http://www.mhra.org/S5C1.cfm>.

Philadelphia Health Management Corporation

Several positions available at <http://www.phmc.org/appview/default.asp>

Funding Opportunities

RWJF

Public Health Systems Research

Public Health Systems Research (PHSR) is a field of inquiry examining the organization, financing, and delivery of public health services at local, state, and national levels, and the impact of these activities on population health. This research informs public health practice, advocacy, and policy. There are fundamental questions yet to be addressed in understanding the public health system; thus, RWJF is committed to investing in PHSR in order to build the evidence base. This solicitation seeks research that contributes to the evidence base at the systems level. Research that identifies facilitators of, impediments to, and strategies for the successful implementation of public health

list, a number of research questions that have been identified as priorities for the field are stated in the CFP. To read more about this opportunity, please [click here](#).

Brief Proposal Due: April 11th, 2007 - Full Proposals Due: June 27th, 2007

Active Living Research

Active Living Research is a \$12.5-million national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that stimulates and supports research to identify environmental factors and policies that influence physical activity. The purpose of this call for proposals is to increase our understanding of how environments and policies affect children's physical activity in community and school settings. Grants will be awarded for two research topics:

1. Examination of how children's and parents' perceptions of community and recreation environments are related to objective attributes of the environments and how those perceptions affect their desire to use the environments for physical activity.
2. Evaluation of policy interventions to promote physical activity in schools. Research funded under this call for proposals will inform the Foundation's efforts to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic by 2015. To read more about this opportunity, please [click here](#).

Proposals Due: May 16th, 2007

New Routes to Community Health

New Routes to Community Health supports local partnerships among immigrant organizations, media production centers and established community institutions to foster collaborations to improve immigrants' health, work life and civic participation. Up to eight geographically- and ethnically-diverse sites will receive awards of as much as \$225,000 over 39 months. To read more about this opportunity, please [click here](#).

Proposals Due: May 17th, 2007

Finding Answers Finding Answers: Disparities Research for Change seeks to improve the quality of health care provided to patients from racial and ethnic backgrounds likely to experience disparities. Finding Answers will:

- grant funds to discover and evaluate practical and replicable solutions designed to reduce and eliminate disease specific racial and ethnic health care disparities;
- focus on interventions aimed at health care delivery for one or more of the following health concerns: cardiovascular disease, depression or diabetes;
- conduct systematic reviews of the literature regarding racial and ethnic health care disparities interventions; and
- disseminate results from these research efforts and systematic reviews to encourage health care systems to address racial and ethnic gaps in care.

To read more about this opportunity, please [click here](#).

Proposals Due: May 17th, 2007

Advancing Public Health Practice and Policy Solutions Application

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) seeks to advance our work in three major strategic areas in order to improve the public's health:

- Building the evidence for effective public health practice and policies.
- Improving the performance and impact of local and state health departments.
- Increasing advocacy for public health policies and resources for the public health system.

In order to advance our work in these areas, this solicitation seeks proposals for

projects that will discover, implement, evaluate or disseminate practical and replicable solutions related to the following topics: public health laws, regulations or policies public health advocacy or communications engaging hard-to- reach and/or high-risk populations.

For each of the above mentioned topics, we will only accept proposals that address the areas listed below.

Please note: RWJF will not consider projects related to reducing childhood obesity and/or tobacco use and exposure.

To learn more about how this CFP visit: <http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=19849>

Application Deadline: June 6, 2007

Supporting Innovation in Health and Health Care The Local Initiative Funding Partners Program (LIFP) is a partnership program between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and local grant-makers to fund promising, original projects to significantly improve the health of vulnerable people in their communities. For more details, please [click here](#):

Application Deadline: July 10, 2007

Disclaimer

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