

KANSAS PUBLIC  
HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2011

AWARDS

PRESENTED

SEPTEMBER 22, 2011

WICHITA, KANSAS

# THE KPHA AWARDS LUNCHEON

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UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS MEDICAL CENTER  
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2011

KANSAS PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL AWARDS

AND

SEVENTH ANNUAL  
KANSAS PUBLIC HEALTH  
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE  
COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES



**Agenda**

Welcome	Heather Henke, KPHA President
Dessert served	
KPHA Annual Awards	Ruth Wetta-Hall, Committee Chairperson
KPHLI Cycle VIII & IX	Shirley Orr, KPHLI Co-Executive Director Suzanne Hawley, KPHLI Co-Executive Director
CPH Program Acknowledgement	Linda Frazee, CPH Co-Director Suzanne Hawley, CPH Co-Director
Closing Remarks	Heather Henke, KPHA President
Conference Adjournment	Shirley Orr, KPHA President-Elect

# SAMUEL J. CRUMBINE MEDAL

## Suzanne Hawley

Suzanne Reid Hawley, PhD, MPH, receives the 2011 Samuel J. Crumbine Medal for her passionate dedication to improving the public health of Kansans through workforce and leadership development. Dr. Hawley has developed a national reputation for research and service in this field and is also a highly accomplished teacher.

After completing her education with a Master of Public Health in biostatistics and a PhD in clinical psychology from Loma Linda University, Dr. Hawley entered clinical practice, but her interest in population-based health soon led her into an academic environment.

In 2003, she joined the faculty of the KU School of Medicine-Wichita as an assistant professor, eventually receiving tenure and promotion. At the medical school, Dr. Hawley administers the campus's MPH program as Wichita site director, a task that has recently expanded to include development of MPH concentration areas and planning for a KU School of Public Health. Dr. Hawley has made it a priority to integrate continuing education for the public health workforce with MPH education. This is carried out through the programs offered by the Kansas Workforce and Leadership Development (WALD) Center, a joint effort between KUSM-W (led by Dr. Hawley) and KDHE's Bureau of Community Health Systems. WALD Center programs—the Kansas Core Public Health Program and Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute—are key to MPH accreditation, since the accrediting body requires programs to engage in continuing education. With Dr. Hawley's important role, the KU-MPH program was reaccredited in 2011 for the maximum seven years.

Her workforce development partnerships have expanded to include K-State University, Wichita State University, the Kansas Health Institute, the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, and the Kansas Public Health Association, among others. Dr. Hawley maintains a leadership role in supporting workforce development planning across these agencies, thanks to a Kansas Health Foundation initiative to build public health capacity and prepare for PHAB accreditation.

In partnership with KDHE's BCHS, then the Office of Local and Rural Health, Dr. Hawley had a significant role in the inauguration of the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute in 2003. Primarily funded by the Kansas Health Foundation, this competency-based program provided a year-long training program, including focused mentoring and development of an applied capstone project. The program's eighth cycle ended in July 2011, having trained 175 leaders within the Kansas public health system. As of the end of Cycle VIII, 145 individual and team capstones had been completed, significantly impacting a wide variety of populations and public health agencies. These scholar-generated projects

include, but are not limited to, numerous funded grants, new state legislation supporting public health, a governor-initiated task force, and numerous national and state-wide curriculum development and training efforts, as well as supporting the morale, relationships, and social capital of public health professionals in Kansas.

Dr. Hawley has guided scholars in developing capstones with national impact through peer-reviewed publication in national or international journals. To date, 10 scholar capstones have been published. Dr. Hawley has also published 26 other articles and a book chapter. In 2008, Dr. Hawley again worked with KDHE to revamp the existing public health certificate program into an essential-services-based, blended-format program: the Kansas Core Public Health Program.

KDHE is only one of many agencies in the state of Kansas, and nationwide, that has welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with Dr. Hawley over the past decade. In collaboration with Saint Louis University and other partners in Missouri and Oklahoma, Dr. Hawley helped spearhead the formation of the Kansas Missouri Oklahoma Regional Leadership Institute in 2007. From 2009-2010, she served as the chair of the National Public Health Leadership Development Network. In addition, due to her many connections across the state, she has been a key researcher in several federal studies of epilepsy in rural Kansas communities.

Dr. Hawley practices what she preaches, remaining dedicated to her own leadership development. She is a 2009 graduate of the National Public Health Leadership Institute. In 2008, she was the annual inductee into the Victor Valley (California) College Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame.

In October 2011, Dr. Hawley will take the position of Chair and Professor of Public Health Sciences at Wichita State University. This role will give her the opportunity to further extend statewide and national collaborative partnerships, sharing her passion for public health workforce and leadership development to help ensure the health of Kansans for years to come.

# SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD

## Judy Seltzer

For her leadership and dedication to public health, and her years of service to Reno County Health Department and the State of Kansas, Judith Seltzer, RN, MS, receives the Special Service Award from KPHA.

Judy began serving as Administrator of the Reno County Health Department nearly 30 years ago. Starting with four or five employees, she managed home health services for the elderly, immunizations, communicable disease testing and treatment, day care licensing, and maternal child health services. She soon added well child clinics, prenatal clinics, WIC, expanded walk-in services, and an environmental health program. The Reno County Health Department has grown under Judy's leadership into a highly respected facility with more than 55 employees, serving 10,900 clients last year.

As health department administrator, Judy has written many grants impacting Reno County. She wrote the Special Beginnings grant in 1987, which led to the expansion of services for early intervention with at-risk infants. In 1988, she led the Turning Points community assessment. From this, the local directory of all helping agencies was born. The Rural Health Outreach Grant was written as a strategic plan following the 1992 Community Health Assessment. The first Community Health Center was housed in the health department for five years, continuing today as Prairie Star Health Center. In 2003, Reno County experienced a Hepatitis A Outbreak. Under Judy's direction, one of the first "PODs" was activated, and more than 5,000 people were treated.

During the past 30 years, Judy Seltzer has worked with many state program directors, been on many public health committees through Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Health Institute, and has been active in the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments and the Kansas Nurses Association. She served on the steering committee for Immunization Kansas Kids and was also a member of the inaugural class of Kansas Health Foundation Fellows. Steve Coen, director of the Kansas Health Foundation, said, "Over the years, whenever a statewide public health issue has arisen, Judy has always been among the first to be asked to serve in a leadership capacity because of her knowledge, experience and sage advice."

Shirley Orr, public health consultant, said, "Throughout Judy's public health career, she has been a tireless advocate working to improve the health of her community. ...Judy is a role model and mentor to many for excellence in public health practice and leadership." Dan Partridge, the director of the Lawrence/Douglas County Health Department, said, "I am very grateful to Judy as I don't think I would be the Director here in Lawrence if I had worked in any other health department. ...I do not know how I would have gotten such a broad, well-rounded understanding of public health under anyone else." For her numerous achievements in service of Kansas public health, KPHA is pleased to recognize Judith Seltzer with the Special Service Award.

# SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD

## Elizabeth Ablah

Elizabeth Ablah, PhD, MPH, began her work in the KU School of Medicine-Wichita's Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health in 2003 as a Research Associate. Today, she is an invaluable Assistant Professor who leads numerous research projects, teaches in both the Master of Public Health and the Master of Science in Clinical Research programs, and supervises an unprecedented number of student capstone projects. In recent years, she has also spearheaded significant research efforts into the City of Wichita's environmental landscape. For these achievements, Dr. Ablah receives a Special Service award from KPHA.

In 2008, Dr. Ablah received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency's Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. With this first grant, Dr. Ablah created the Wichita Initiative to Renew the Environment (WIRE). During the first phase of WIRE, Dr. Ablah and her WIRE team moderated 52 discussion groups in the community in order to create a comprehensive list of environmental health concerns across the city. Over 1500 individuals participated in these groups, and over 90 pages of qualitative results were produced. After analyzing this information, the WIRE group was able to produce a list of the 19 most commonly cited areas of environmental concerns in the city and educational fact sheet were created for each area of concern.

But the work didn't stop there. Dr. Ablah and her team went back out to the community, conducted an additional 43 discussion groups, educated them about the 19 most commonly cited areas of environmental health concerns, and then asked the group to prioritize areas were of greatest concern. Over 450 individuals participated in round two of the discussion groups. Based on these results, WIRE is now focusing on the areas of solid waste, air quality and water quality. Currently, several demonstration projects are underway that address these three areas, including a rain garden near the Keeper of the Plains and a grotto in the downtown that filters the pollutants out of rainwater and drain-off before it reaches the Arkansas River.

Dr. Ablah's ultimate goal is to create a self-sustained, community-based partnership that will continue to improve the local environment beyond the cycle of CARE funding. Her work in Wichita and Sedgwick County to lead and support environmental initiatives at the community level is extraordinary. These efforts often succeed based on Dr. Ablah's passion and unyielding determination to make a difference in the community. The KU School of Medicine-Wichita and the City of Wichita are lucky to be recipients of her enthusiasm.

# DOROTHY WOODIN AWARD

## Lillian Akings

For her contributions to public health nursing, Lillian Akings, BSN, MSN, receives the Dorothy Woodin Award from KPHA. Over the years she has served as the Director of the Barton County Health Department, Lily has been instrumental in the development of policies, systems, and environmental changes that have impacted the county and the state.

After receiving her degrees from Fort Hays State University, Lily began her public health career at Barton County Health Department in 1979. Lily guided innovative systems changes, introducing computer-based record keeping and billing for Barton County Health Department in 1992. In 1995, she oversaw the networking of school nurses to Barton County immunization records. She also advocated for the adoption of the KIPHS computer system developed by the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, and she promoted the Web IZ statewide registry for immunizations.

Lily has been ever-vigilant in identifying and investigating community health problems. Major efforts have included flood recovery in 1981, emergency and public health care following the 2001 Hoisington tornado, a Hepatitis A outbreak requiring treatment of 300 individuals, and the 2009 H1N1 campaign. She led local participation in West Nile Research Projects and has served on multiple Governors' Committees for the study of special issues, as well as the Governor's Commission on Public Health.

Lily's ability to mobilize community partnerships is a key strength. Strategic partnerships were formed in Barton County for child abuse prevention (Ourselves and Our Families), early childhood assessment and education (Interagency Coordinating Council), and substance abuse prevention (LEAD: Leadership, Education, and Action against Drugs). Under Lily's leadership, Barton County Health Department began the Healthy Families Program using the Davis-Olds Model of Nurse Home Visitation that served young teen mothers with pregnancy counseling and services.

Lily has led multi-county initiatives and implemented services for as many as eight counties in WIC, chronic disease risk reduction, child care licensing, family planning, and maternal & infant programs. She also guided the establishment of the rural health care clinic—We Care—to serve the indigent and migrant populations of Barton County, and served on its Board of Directors for many years.

A member of KPHA since 1980, Lily served as President of KPHA in 1986 and President of the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments in 1990. She has been a Board Member of both organizations for multiple years. She has long been a mentor to new local health department administrators and provides guidance whenever called upon. With thanks for her contributions to public health nursing in Kansas, KPHA honors Lillian Akings with the Dorothy Woodin Award.

# VIRGINIA LOCKHART HEALTH EDUCATION AWARD

## **Aiko Allen**

Aiko Allen, MS, receives the Virginia Lockhart Health Education Award in recognition of her longtime dedication to public health education related to diverse underserved populations.

Aiko is currently the Director of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Center for Health Equity. In this role, she is an educator, administrator, and diplomat, working closely with Kansas communities to support awareness of health disparities. This often includes tasks as diverse as providing data, assisting with program planning, and conducting evaluation. Because of her cultural sensitivity, Aiko is trusted by the state's tribal communities as a liaison and advisor on community-based health education strategies.

Before joining KDHE, Aiko served as the Director of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention for the Sedgwick County Health Department and for Hunter Health Clinic. She has served since 2004 on the Advisory Board of the Kansas Center for Health Disparities. She has also taught for the Wichita State University College of Health Professions as an adjunct faculty member since 2003, offering core public health courses for undergraduates, as well as a cultural competency course for graduate students in public health. In 2006-2007, Aiko participated in the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute, Cycle IV. Aiko's capstone project was an assessment of emergency preparedness among the four sovereign American Indian nations in Kansas. Since graduating from the leadership institute, Aiko has served as a mentor to current scholars in the program.

Aiko's experience as a health educator extends from the community level to the national level. Over the past twenty years, she has developed culturally specific education programs for tribal communities, and she has worked as a trainer and facilitator with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Centers for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). In her current position at KDHE, she brings together her experience with applied programming and her devotion to providing culturally competent health education. In thanks for her unique and skilled service to Kansas's medically underserved populations, KPHA is pleased to recognize Aiko Allen with the Virginia Lockhart Health Education Award.

# CORPORATE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AWARD Sanofi Pasteur

Accepting the award on behalf of Sanofi Pasteur:

Heather Keitges

Sanofi Pasteur receives the KPHA Corporate Public Health Award for their long-term support of public health and of the educational efforts. Their vision, "A world in which no one suffers or dies from a vaccine-preventable disease," resonates well with our vision as public health practitioners.

Immunization saves more than 3 million lives each year from diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and measles. Sanofi Pasteur has the broadest available range of vaccines, protecting against 20 infectious diseases. The company is the world's largest producer of seasonal influenza vaccines, providing more than 180 million doses in 2009. Sanofi Pasteur is also the world's leading provider of poliomyelitis vaccine and meningococcal vaccines.

Committed to immunization of vulnerable populations, Sanofi Pasteur provides meningococcal vaccine for outbreaks control in West Africa and maintains the broadest range of modern pediatric combination vaccines for children throughout the world. Also available are vaccines for travelers and people living in tropical areas, including typhoid, rabies, yellow fever, Japanese encephalitis, meningococcal meningitis, cholera, hepatitis A, and hepatitis B.

Sanofi Pasteur has supported KPHA in our membership development, educational efforts, and awareness programs involving immunization since 2007. Today, with the Corporate Public Health Service Award, we recognize and celebrate the company's efforts to improve public health.

# PRESIDENT'S AWARD

## Eldonna Chesnut

Eldonna Chesnut, RN, BSN, MSN, receives KPHA's 2011 President's Award, with thanks for her dedication to improving public health across the lifespan in Kansas.

Eldonna serves as the Division Director of Adult and Child Care Facilities for the Johnson County Health Department, a position that requires her to work closely with KDHE and KDOA in monitoring all elderly and child care facilities in Johnson County, Kansas. Prior to this position, she worked in hospitals, clinics, home health, and long-term care, always focusing on the health of children or the elderly.

Eldonna has always been dedicated to self-improvement and professional service. While working on her bachelor's degree in nursing, she was active in state and national student nurses' associations, as well as Alpha Sigma Tau sorority. Upon graduation, she started working as an obstetrical nurse. Showing an early interest in management and leadership, she returned to school to pursue a degree in health care administration. Once into the program, she shifted her focus from general health care administration to nursing administration. She graduated at the top of her class with a Masters in Nursing Administration. Eldonna is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

As the Division Director of Adult and Child Care Facilities, Eldonna continues to demonstrate a dedication to improving the public's health through service and her own lifelong learning. She is active in the Johnson County CHAP, the SRS Statewide Early Education Advisory committee, the SRS Regional Partners Committee, and the Johnson County Multi-disciplinary Team. She was a member of the inaugural class of the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute and served as a mentor to subsequent classes. She has served as President of the Kansas Public Health Association and is presently KPHA's APHA representative.

# KANSAS PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE CYCLE VIII GRADUATES

*Jon Brady, KDHE Laboratories*

*Teri Caudle, KDHE Diabetes Prevention and Control*

*Linda Davies, Dickinson County Health Department*

*Arlene Doll, Lane County Health Department*

*Liesl Hays, KDHE Tobacco Use Prevention Program*

*Joe Hopkins, Western Pyramid Regional Group*

*Jacob Jackson, KDHE Bureau of Local and Rural Health*

*John Kephart, Sedgwick County Health Department*

*Pamaline King-Burns, Sedgwick County Center for Health Equity*

*Tom Langer, KDHE Bureau of Environmental Health*

*Lisa Martin, K-State Research and Extension*

*Arrie Morris, KDHE Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention*

*Carol Moyer, KDHE Office of Health Assessment*

*Diane Nielson, K-State Research and Extension*

*Lindsay Payer, Coffey County Health Department*

*Cait Purinton, KDHE, Bureau of Public Health Preparedness*

*Cathy Savage, KDHE Office of Health Promotion*

*Jamie Simpson, KDHE Office of Health Promotion*

*Brett Starbuck, Shawnee County Health Agency*

*Denise Sullivan, K-State Research and Extension*

*Neva Thiessen, Botanica Gardens Wichita*

*Mark Thompson, Kansas State Department of Education*



# KANSAS PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE CYCLE IX SCHOLARS

*Kendra Baldrige, KDHE, Statewide Farmworker Health Program*

*Ginny Barnard, Riley County K-State Research & Extension*

*Alex Blecha, KDHE - South Central Office*

*Carrie Boettcher, Lyon County Health Department*

*Bryan Brady, First Care Clinic, Inc.*

*Molly Brown, Wichita State University*

*Susan Dickman, KDHE, Epidemiology & Public Health Informatics*

*Nicole Green, City of Wichita*

*Misty Jimerson, Community Resource Council*

*Sarah Johnston, KU School of Medicine-Wichita*

*Ty Kane, Sedgwick County Health Department*

*Jamie Klenklen, KDHE, Bureau of Family Health*

*Misty Kruger, Shawnee County Health Agency*

*Jose Martinez, KU School of Medicine-Wichita*

*Henri Menager, KDHE, Bureau of Surveillance & Epidemiology*

*Jo Miller, Harvey County Health Department*

*Linda Ochs, Shawnee County Health Agency*

*Pamela O'Neal, Wichita State University*

*Amanda Reichard, University of Kansas*

*Marla Rhoden, KDHE, Division of Health*

*Cherie Sage, KDHE, Bureau of Health Promotion*

*Stacey Sandstrom, KDHE Laboratories*

*Heather Smith, KDHE, Bureau of Family Health*

*Betty Smith-Campbell, Wichita State University*

*Jennifer VandeVelde, KDHE, Bureau of Disease Control & Prevention*

*Linda Williams, KDHE, Bureau of Family Health*

*Lisa Wineinger, Unified Greeley County Health Department*

*Jennifer Zeller, Shawnee County Health Agency*



# KANSAS CORE PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS, 2011-2012

*Crystie Amaro, KDHE, Bureau of Environmental Health*

*Sydnee Beydler, Graham County Health Department*

*Jena Callen, KDHE, Bureau of Surveillance and Epidemiology*

*Carly Craig, KDHE, Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention*

*Daniel Deane, Sedgwick County Health Department*

*Hilary Dopfel*

*Patricia Fernandez, KDHE, Farmworker Health*

*Dolores Francis, Reno County Health Department*

*Tiffany Geiger, Johnson County Health Department*

*Angela German, KDHE, Bureau of Environmental Health*

*JD Gilbert*

*Lisa Goins, Labette County Health Department*

*Alicia Grimes, Johnson County Health Department*

*Jamie Helmer, KDHE, Bureau of Public Health Preparedness*

*Sallee Hess, Coffey County Health Department*

*Jessica Hoskinson, Reno County Health Department*

*Sarah House, KDHE, Bureau of Health Promotion*

*Jeanelle Lucas, Wabaunsee County Health Department*

*Jo Miller, Harvey County Public Health Department*

*Emily Nickel, KDHE, Bureau of Public Health Preparedness*

*David Oakley, KDHE, Bureau of Epidemiology and PH Informatics*

*Angela Reith, NEK Multi County Health Department*

*Michelle Reynolds, City-Cowley County Health Department*

*Jenette Schuette, Hodgeman County Health Department*

*Sharon Sharon, Coffey County Health Department*

*Cheryl Skalla, Marshall County Health Department*

*Missty Slater, KDHE, Bureau of Health Promotion*

*Andrew Stull, Lawrence Douglas County Health Department*

*Cyndi Treaster, KDHE, Bureau of Local and Rural Health*

*Angie Williams, Lyon County Health Department/Flint Hill Health Center*

*Amie Worthington, KDHE, Bureau of Surveillance and Epidemiology*



# 2011 KPHA AWARDS

## SAMUEL J. CRUMBINE MEDAL

The highest award given by the Kansas Public Health Association is presented for meritorious service and state, regional, or national recognition related to the improvement of the health of Kansans and/or the environment of the state.

## SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD

Awarded to individuals who have rendered outstanding service to Kansas in the interest of public health and/or environmental improvement.

## DOROTHY WOODIN AWARD

Awarded to a public health nurse for outstanding public health nursing services.

## VIRGINIA LOCKHART HEALTH EDUCATION AWARD

Awarded to an individual for outstanding service in public promotion of health and/or environmental issues.

## CORPORATE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AWARD

Awarded to a company or organization, which, through public policy activities, makes a significant contribution to the mission of public health and/or environmental improvement in Kansas.

## PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Awarded at the discretion of the association's president to acknowledge special accomplishments of an individual or organization towards improving the public's health in Kansas.

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