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E-NEWSLETTER

An E-Newsletter of the Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA)

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March 2007

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President's Message

Lead, Follow or Get Out of the Way



When I think of this saying I think of my dad, a retired Marine Corps officer, and a stupid little wall hanging in our kitchen. Being a Marine, you might expect that Dad etched the saying in his forearm with a Bowie knife. But no, the saying itself hung on a little square plaque attached below a countrified wood cutout of a flock of geese. Of course, being countrified, the geese looked like they were smiling at each other.

I use this saying quite a bit to decide how I want to act in a particular situation. My Dad taught me that in most cases I have to pick one of these actions but sometimes I might find myself using a combination of the three.

I'm finding that true here in my work with KPHA. One day I'm leading the Board meeting. The next day I'm following the instructions of a committee chair. And then I'm staying out of Elaine's way to let her do her job. All of us deal with this everyday in our various capacities.

We are put in leadership roles because of our position, election results, or the force of our personality. Some of us lead well: other, poorly. Some of us volunteer for leadership: others go in kicking and screaming. Leading can be difficult and lonely or exhilarating, providing a sense of purpose.

Following is not the opposite of leadership. It is just another action on the continuum of achieving a goal. Not everyone is a good follower. Some people only want to be in charge. Others don't want anyone telling them what to do. Letting others lead you takes strength and trust. Following can be easy or hard based on the trust you have in your leaders and their ability to get you to where you need to go.

Getting out of the way doesn't mean you can't or don't want to lead. It doesn't mean you can't or won't follow. It can simply mean you don't know or care about what's going on. It may also be a conscious decision not to sabotage a process or decision that you don't agree with but that is not worth fighting for or against. Getting out of the way can be a good thing when it allows the leaders and followers to get where they need to go.

KPHA is a member-driven organization. It works for its members but also needs its members to work for it. Our progress towards our mission can only go as far as the members take it. Elaine Schwartz runs the day-to-day operation of the association. KPHA's members, however, decide its policies, decide who will be its leaders, start and finish projects, and chair and serve on its committees. KPHA members promote the organization to potential members, the legislature and to the general public. Our membership spans all areas of public health and is the example the public can look to see how public health should be defined. We are the number one joining force for public health in Kansas.

KPHA has a lot to offer but it also has a lot it needs to do. As a KPHA member, what do you want to do? Lead, follow, or get out of the way? Let us know. We'll help you find the task or position that will fit into your schedule and meets your needs and personality.

How does the local health department connect with the state health department? How does that connect with the academic research department? How do these all affect the health of Kansans? Then think about how you can share that story of public health with your friends, family, neighbors, and policy makers so they understand the importance of your contribution to the bigger picture of public health in Kansas. It is not an easy process, however, it is vital to give value to what we do in a way that our communities and policy makers see how integral public health is to the quality of life we have in Kansas. Every public health worker, the receptionist, the environmental health technician, the public health nurse, and the Secretary of Health are all an essential piece of the larger picture; the picture of public health in Kansas. [Back to menu](#)

From the Executive Director



Public Health entails so many facets in life! I was in a store here in Topeka this past weekend and ran into some folks from my hometown where I had served as a Legislator, after “catching up” on old times, one of them asked me what I was doing now and I said that I am the Executive Director of the Public Health Association. A puzzled look came across the wife’s face and I said the Association represents University staff including the Med School, who have an interest in health, the state and county health departments, school health program staff, and the different organizations representing health promotion causes. And, then I said to them, “you know, professors, doctors, nurses, social workers, environmentalists, and other professionals interested in the health of the public.” Wow, after I said all that, I thought, our organization could really be the

biggest organization in the state, (even more than AARP—one of the largest), if we got everyone to join who is interested in the public’s health!

With that in mind, I want to acknowledge members who have worked long and hard hours for KPHA and are not on the payroll!

Your President, **Ed Kalas**, has devoted endless hours to meetings and emails in learning all the activity of KPHA and officially representing KPHA. Incoming President **Janis Goedeke**, has been very busy getting ready for the 2007 Fall Conference and also making contacts so that KPHA will have an article in each Health Connections and, she’s been very involved in the VISTA application along with **Kristi Schmidt**. Treasurer, **Sonja Armbruster** has been extremely involved in preparing for the 3rd annual Health Day at the Capital to be held on March 8th. Legislative committee Chair, **Kim Richter** has been involved in two efforts, first chairing the AHA-KS meetings we are having now during the Legislative Session (along with KPHA member **Mike Fox**), and also mentoring a KUMC student who is updating our Statutes and Regulations book. **Martha Froestchner**, Infectious Disease Section Chair has been our rep on the Immunize Kansas Kids task force and provided valuable input. **Barbara Mitchell**, Section Chair for Child, Family and Community Health has been dedicating time and effort to chairing the Employee Orientation Manual project. **Janet Brandes** has been busy with the Membership Committee sending out emails to lapsed members. **Leon Vinci** has been actively representing KPHA on an APHA advisory committee. **Linda Frazier** has taken a real interest in KPHA by allowing us to fully participate in the 2nd Annual Governor’s Conference on Public Health in April.

Slowly but surely you will have available to you the new 2007 Public Health Statutes and Regulations Book. Dr. Richter suggested we invite a student to take this on, since it can be done electronically. Cydney Rabourn stepped to the plate and came to Topeka to discuss the project. She is Corporate Counsel and Contracts Manager, University of Kansas Medical Center Research Institute, Inc. Kansas City, KS and also a MPH student at KUMC. Cydney will be presenting at the Governor’s Conference on Public Health in Hutchinson and at our Fall Conference on her work on this project to update the KPHA Statutes and Regulations book. The title of her session’s will be: New Horizon's in the Landscape of Kansas Public Health Law: What You Don't Know Can Hurt You." As Cydney and I discussed at our meeting you really get good orientation to public health just by reading the public health statutes and regulations—they cover everything!

With the legislature in town, Topeka has gotten a little crazy. This year AHA-KS Alliance for Health

Advocates) is being chaired by KPHA and KHCC (Kansas Health Consumer Coalition). This year, KHCC was able to swing some support with grant funding and hired Liza Webb, (KPHA member Paula Marmet's niece). Liza is a Law student at Washburn and she is doing an excellent job preparing legislative tracking documents for AHA Friday afternoon health advocate meetings that Dr. Kim Richter and Dr. Michael Fox are chairing. The meetings help immensely for all health advocates to know what is going on each week, and who is supporting/opposing what. If your organization is interested in attending in person or by phone, please let me know. And, remember, that if you call the KPHA office during these months, you may get a busy signal, or I may be away from the phone. I'll get back to you, though, as soon as I can. My first priority during every month of the year is the KPHA members, not the people in the Capitol! [Back to menu](#)

Association News

Public Health Brings Many Groups and Individuals Together!

KPHA has been growing! Below is a listing of the organizations represented by membership and the tally of numbers for the year's end of 2006!

1st National Bank	KU-CRL
American Lung Association of KS	KUMC - Development Disabilities Center
Barber County Health Department	KUMC Dept of Preventive Med & PH
Barton County Health Department	KUMC-Wichita KUSM-W
Brown Co Health Department	KUSM-W Preventive Med & Public Health
Butler County Health Dept.	KU-Wichita MPH Student
Central Kansas Foundation	Labette Co Health Department
Chautauqua County Health Dept.	Lane Co Health Department
Cherokee County Health Dept.	Lawrence-Douglas Co Health Department
Cheyenne Co Health Department	Leavenworth Co Health Department
City-Cowley County Health Dept.	Lifestyles LLC
Clark County Health Dept.	Lincoln Co Health Department
Clay Co Health Department	Logan Co Health Department
Cloud Co Health Department	Marion Co Health Department
Coffey Co Health Department	Marshall County Health Dept.
Community Health Charities	Master of Public Health-KUMC Wichita
COW Child Care Lic & Reg	McPherson County Health Dept.
Crawford County Health Dept.	Meade Co Health Department
Decatur Co Health Dept.	MGP, Inc.
Dickinson County Health Dept.	Midland Care Connection
Doniphan Co Health Dept.	Mitchell Co Health Department
DG Co Community Health Improvement	Montgomery County Health Dept.
Douglas Co Health Dept.	Morris County Health Department
Edwards Co Health Dept.	MPH Student - KUMC
Elk Co Health Department	NEK Multi County Health Dept.
Ellsworth Co Health Department.	Neosho Co Health Department
EnVisage	Ness Co Health Department
Finney Co Health Department	Newman University
Flint Hills Community Health Ctr/Lyon Co	North Central Regional Planning Commission

Ford County Health Dept.
Franklin Co Health Department
Gerontology Center
Gove Co Health Department
Graham Co Health Department
Grant Co Health Department
Gray County Health Dept.
Greenwood County Health Dept.
Hamilton Co Health Department
Harper County Health Dept.
Harris Healthcare, LLC
Harvey County Health Dept.
Haskell County Health Dept.
Hodgeman Co Health Department
JCCC, State of Kansas
Jefferson Co Health Department
Jewell Co Health Department
Johnson Co, KS Government
Johnson County Community College
Johnson County Health Department
Junction City Geary Co Health Department
Kansas Academy of Family Physicians
Kansas Assn for the Medically Underserved
Kansas Assn of Local Health Department's
KC University of Medicine and Biosciences
Kansas Coordinated School Health
Kansas Foundation for Medical Care, Inc.
Kansas Head Start Association
Kansas Health Foundation
Kansas Health Institute
Kansas Nutrition Network
Kansas State Nurses Association
Kansas State University
KC Healthy Start
KDH&E
KDH&E - Children, Youth & Families
KDH&E - Nutrition & WIC Services
KDH&E - Office of Local and Rural Health
KDH&E - OHCI
KDH&E CDC and Prevention
KDH&E Division of Laboratories
KDH&E Families Section
KDH&E Kansas Immunization Program
KDH&E Kansas SAFE Kids Coalition
KDH&E Office of Health Promotion
Keller Communications
Kingman Co Health Department

Oral Health Kansas
Osage County Health Dept.
Osborne Co Health Department
PA/HSMCO
Wichita State University
Pawnee County Health Dept.
Pharmaceutical Research Mfg of America
Phillips Co Health Department
Phillips County LEPC
Pottawatomie Co Health Department
Regional Prevention Center
Reno County Health Dept.
Republic County Health Dept.
Riley Co-Manhattan Health Department
Rooks Co Health Department
Russell Co Health Department
Salina-Saline County Health Dept.
Sedgwick Co Dept on Aging/Central Plains Area
Agency on Aging
Sedgwick County Health Dept.
SEK-Multi Co Health Department
Allen
Anderson
Bourbon
Linn
Woodson
Seward County Health Dept.
Shawnee County Health Dept.
Smith Co Health Department
South Dakota State Univ College of Nursing
Southwest Kansas Health Initiative
SRS - Head Start
State Collaboration Office
Stanton County Health Dept.
State of Kansas
Stevens Co Health Department
Stormont-Vail Health Care
Sumner County Health Dept.
Sunflower Foundation
Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition
Trego County Health Department
United Methodist Mex American Ministries
University of Kansas
University of Montana
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Via Christi Occupational Medicine
Via Christi Regional Medical Center VRMC

Kiowa Co Health Department
Kiowa District Hospital
K-State Research and Extension
Reno Co
KSU Community Health Institute
KU Medical Center
KU RTC/IL
KU School of Medicine-Wichita
KU School of Social Welfare

Wabaunsee County Health Dept.
Wallace Co Health Department
Washburn University
Washington County Health Dept.
West Central Public Health Initiative
Wichita State University
Wilson Co Health Department
Wyandotte County Health Dept.
YMCA

Totals:

170 Organizations

628 Members:

Associate-1

Individual-227

Life-14

Org-328

Retired-5

Student-53

If you didn't see your organization listed, please contact me so we can update our records! This means that KPHA has past the 600-member mark! And, that means we are rated as one of the larger state public health association in the nation! But, we still have lots of work to do to get in the top percent with some of our sister states! [Back to menu](#)

Meet Your 2007 KPHA Board



Ed Kalis, President is currently the Environmental Consumer Protection Division Manager at the Shawnee County Health Agency, where he has worked for the last 8 ½ years. Before holding this position, he worked as a sanitarian at the Tulsa City-County Health Department in Tulsa, Oklahoma for 5 years. Ed obtained his Bachelor of Arts in English in 1983 from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia and his Master's of Public Health-Environmental Management from the University of Oklahoma-Health Sciences Center in 1996. Ed is a 1998-transplant to Kansas and has been actively involved with the Kansas Public Health Association, serving as the Environmental Health section chair and conference exhibitor chair for the last five years. Ed volunteered and was approved by the Board to serve as President-elect when the then-President-elect had to step down and will serve as President for the 2006-2007 term.



Janis Goedeke, RN President Elect, Health Officer, Crawford County Health Department, is a proud native of Southeast Kansas, and she has served Crawford County as the health officer since 1996. This position requires overseeing multiple health department programs, including some programs that cover 15 counties in Southeast Kansas. In 2002 Janis received a public health nursing certificate from Washburn University, and in 2005 she completed the certification for Disaster Preparedness from Saint Louis University School of Nursing. In addition, Janis is a 2004 Cycle I graduate from the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute. Janis has been an active member of KPHA since 1996. She has also had the pleasure of serving as the 2003-2004 Secretary for KPHA Nursing Section, and serving as director at large for the KPHA Board from 2004 to the present. She has actively participated in the annual KPHA conferences by making poster presentations on the 1999 Community Learning Garden, 2000 Straight Talk Peer Educators, 2003 Franklin tornado, and in 2004 "Breaking the Barriers to a Prepared Public Health Workforce." In 2000 she presented a poster at the APHA annual conference in Boston, Massachusetts. Other public health activities include serving on the Governor's Public Health Improvement Commission Work Task Force Committee, being a member of the Judicial Youth Authority Steering Committee, and a member of the Kansas Public Health Nursing Steering Committee. She has written articles on the 2003 Franklin Tornado and the 2004 Straw Itch Mite that have been published in the Public Health Connections. Janis received recognition in 2003 for service as a Medical Advisory Committee Member in the Breast and Cervical Early Detection Program.



Sonja Armbruster, MA-C, Treasurer since October 2003 has worked for the Sedgwick County Health Department, currently as the Health Promotion Programs Coordinator. Developing and supporting public health partnerships is a key component for this position and in that capacity, Armbruster serves on the USD 259 Student Wellness Committee, the Health & Wellness Coalition, Tobacco Free Wichita, the Derby Community Coalition for Promoting Health Choices, and supports the Visioneering Wichita Health Alliance. Sonja came to the Health Department from the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita

the Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health where she had worked since 2000. Armbruster continues to occasionally serve as an Adjunct Teaching Associate for the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita, Preventive Medicine and Public Health where she has taught Health Communication, Community Health Seminar, and has co-taught Tobacco and Public Health and co-taught the Mentored Practicum in Health Policy. Sonja chaired the KPHA Health Day at the Capital last year. Sonja is a Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute Cycle 3 Scholar.

Holly Whitlock, Secretary, Human Sexuality Programs Coordinator, Johnson County Health Department Overland Park

Special Skills: Fund-raising, Finance/Budgeting, Marketing, and Membership Recruitment

Professional background: Government

Education: Undergraduate college degree and some graduate coursework

Other affiliations and service: American School Health Association, American Red Cross Health and Safety Board

Public Health areas of interest: HIV/STD, TB, Teen pregnancy, Human sexuality, Child Development, Prison Health

Previous KPHA board service: Health Promotion Section member, Conference Planning Committee

Other pertinent information: Community Health degree from University of Kansas Ed Garner, KPHA Director, Public Health Preparedness Coordinator, Lower Eight of SE Kansas, Wichita

Special Skills: Personnel/Human Resources, Finance/Budgeting, Business/Management

Professional background: For-Profit Business, Government

Education: Graduate degree

Other affiliations and service: KALHD: District Representative, Treasurer, Secretary, President, Executive Director; KAMU: Executive Director

Public Health areas of interest: Public Health Systems, Public Health Preparedness

Previous KPHA board service: Adm/Lab Section Chair, APHA Affiliate, Member at Large, Interim Executive Director



Shirley Orr, MHS, ARNP, APHA Delegate, Director, Local Health, KDHE Office of Local and Rural Health, Wichita

Special skills: Business/Management

Professional background: Government

Education: Graduate degree

Other affiliations and service: American Public Health Assn (APHA); American Nurses' Association (ANA); Kansas State Nurses' Association (KSNA); Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing (ASTDN); Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society. ASTDN Executive Board 2004 to present; KSNA Board of Directors 1996 to 2000

Public health areas of interest: Public Health Leadership Development; Public Health Performance Standards; Public Health Administration

Previous KPHA board service: Past President; Past Chair, Public Health Nursing Section; KPHA Board 8 yrs.

Other pertinent information: 2004 recipient Samuel Crumbine Medal



Ed Garner, KPHA Director Public Health Preparedness Coordinator, Lower Eight of SE Kansas, Wichita

Special skills: Personnel/Human Resources, Finance/Budgeting, Business/Management

Professional background: For-Profit Business, Government

Education: Graduate degree

Other affiliations and service: KALHD: District Representative, Treasurer, Secretary, President, Executive Director; KAMU: Executive Director

Public health areas of interest: Public Health Systems, Public Health Preparedness

Previous KPHA board service: Adm/Lab Section Chair, APHA Affiliate, Member at Large, Interim Executive Director



Eldonna Chestnut RN, BSN, MSN, KPHA Director, Registered Nurse and a public health leader. She currently is the KPHA Child, Family, and Community Health Section Chair and has worked in a variety of settings before public health; these include hospitals, clinics, home health, long-term care, and proprietary schools. Except for the academic setting, her focus has always been children and/or the elderly. 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. She is now Division Director of Adult and Child Care Facilities for Johnson County Public Health, which involves working closely with KDHE and KDOA. Her division is responsible for regulatory monitoring of all elderly and childcare facilities in Johnson County Kansas. She is active in Elder Abuse Committee, Johnson County CHAP, SRS statewide early education advisory committee, SRS Regional partners committee, Johnson County Multidisciplinary team and she is a KPHLI fellow. Eldonna's current initiatives are working with community partners to establish on site oral health services for the elderly residents of nursing homes, assisted living and home plus setting in Johnson County and setting up an elder hoarding task force for the county.

Heather Hicklin-Henke, RN, KPHA Director, is the Administrator of the Barber County Health Department and the mother of four daughters. She works to ensure the public health system works to provide a safety net for their health and the health of her fellow Kansans. She began her health care profession as a nursing assistant in high school. She has provided direct patient care as well as population based care in many settings as an aide, an LPN, a registered nurse and public health department administrator. Heather has a passion for the programs she directs. "With compassion and a passion for what you do, you can put a face on the many people served by the programs provided by public health," said Heather. Chronic Disease Risk Reduction and Tobacco Use prevention, Maternal Child Health, WIC, Immunizations, Family Planning, Breastfeeding support, Oral Health improvement, and all Hazards preparedness are a few of the programs Heather directs and implements in the community in which she has been a member of for more than 20 yrs. Heather is a member of KALHD, KPHA, APHA, La Leche League and NACCHO. She looks forward to continuing to serve the awesome people of Kansas by striving to ensure the highest quality health care services are available to the public.



Debbi Baugher, RN, BS, KPHA Health Administration Section Chair, Administrator, Labette County Health Department, a native Labette County citizen and has served as the health department administrator for 5 years. She is a graduate of the Labette Community College ADN program in 1975. Most of the years in nursing have been spent in a hospital setting performing med-surg nursing and 15 years as a surgical nurse. She has worked with Hospice and served as a Director of Nursing at a long-term care facility. Her public health experience began shortly after 9-11 with anthrax; preparedness and response planning have not slowed down since that time. She received a certificate in Public Health in 2002 and graduated from of the KPHLI Cycle II in 2005. She is a member of KALHD and currently represents the

small health department populations on the PHIST (Public Health Infomatics Stakeholders Team) committee. Debbi has been a member of KPHA since 2001 and was elected to chair the Administrator's Section in 2006-2007.

Ellen Averett, PhD, MMSA, Education and Research Section Chair, Research Assistant Professor, KU School of Medicine, Department of Health Policy and Management, Kansas City

Professional background: For-profit and Nonprofit organization

Education: Graduate degree

Other affiliations: APHA, Examiner with the Kansas Award for Excellence, AFS Parent Board

Public Health areas of interest: health communications, disease prevention, health promotion, program evaluation, child development/health

Other pertinent information: health-related behavior change, quality improvement in healthcare organizations



Barbara Berry RN Co-Chair Infectious Disease Section currently serves as Director of Nursing at the Junction City Geary County Health Department in Junction City Kansas. She has held this position for 3 years, with previous positions as Kansas State University applied statistics instructor, and registered nurse in a hospital OBGYN section. She heads the following programs in the health department: Maternal Child Health, Family Planning, Health Education, Teen Pregnancy Case Management, Sexual Transmitted Disease/HIV Program, and Healthy Family Kansas. Her educational background includes: Bachelor of

Arts in Experimental Psychology, University of Denver, Denver Colorado, 1970 Master of Arts in Psychology, Northeastern University, Boston, Mass 1972 Master of Science in Applied Statistics, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado, 1991 Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas, 1994 Graduate of Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute, Cycle II, 2005

Martha Froetschner, RN, BSN; Co-Chair, Infectious Disease Section

Communicable Disease/Immunization Team Leader, Shawnee County Health Agency, Topeka;

Special Skills: Business Management, Program Development and Education;

Professional Background: Profit and non-profit businesses and Government programs;

Affiliations: KPHA Board, KS Immunize Kids Steering Committee, Case Management Society of America

Education: Graduate degree

Other affiliations and services: KS Immunization Action Coalition, KIAC, Metro Imm Action Committee, TB Coalition, KC Metro TB Coalition (Past President) to be on KC APIC board this year, MAIC, Mid American Immunization Coalition-on steering committee for metro area

Public Health areas of interest: Infectious Disease



Barbara Mitchell, MSW, KPHA Children, Family and Community Health Section Chair is the Division Director of Health Education for the Johnson County Health Department in Olathe, KS. Barbara oversees the programs, projects and events of the Health Education Division and supervises a staff of eleven full and part-time staff. She also serves as the Public Information Officer for the Department. She received her Master's Degree in Social Work from Fordham University, New York, N.Y., and has worked for the Brain Injury Association, Adolescent Resources Corporation and the American Heart

Association

Patricia Dunlap, Tobacco, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Section Chair, LPN, Task Sponsor, Rooks County Health Dept., Smoke Free Tiger Task Force, Stockton

Special Skills: Fund raising, Membership Recruitment

Professional Background: Non-profit organization, Government

Education: LPN degree

Other affiliations and services: Smoke Free Tiger Task Force Sponsor, Secretary for Rooks County Communities That Care Public Health

Ruth (Toni) B. Pickard, PhD, Oral Health Section Chair, Asst. Prof & Executive Director, Healthy Options for Kansas Communities (HOP) Organization, Dept of Physician Assistant, Health Services & Community Development, Wichita State University, Wichita

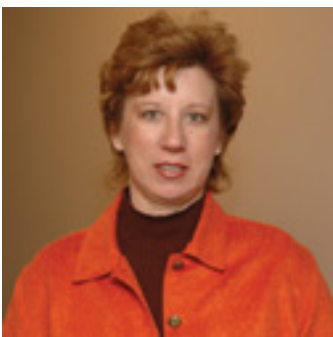
Special skills: education, policy

Professional background: Nonprofit organization; University

Education: Graduate degree

Other affiliations and Service: several; e.g., KS Health Consumers Coalition; APHA CHPPD **Public**

health areas of interest: Oral Health, Community Development; health disparities, immigrant health



Cindy Mullen, KPHA Emergency Preparedness Section Co-Chair is the Regional Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the West Central Public Health Initiative (counties of Gove, Logan, Ness, Sheridan and Trego). Cindy is responsible for facilitating the development and implementation of emergency preparedness planning, activities and requirements EMBPBRC

for these county health departments. She is involved in the organization, research, education and the delivery of public health emergency training for the health departments. She is greatly involved in networking with other

community/county/state organizations and agencies. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Business and Economics from West Texas State University, Canyon, TX.

Melissa Wachendorfer, Co-Chair Emergency Preparedness Section

(No personal information provided)

Western Pyramid Public Health Initiative

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Dana Shapland, Co-Chair, Emergency Preparedness Section

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Fax: 620-397-2185

lchd@st-tel.net



Kim Richter, PhD, KPHA Legislative Issues and Action Committee Chair, is

currently Associate Professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health at the University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City. At KU, Kim co-teaches a 4th year medical student course; conducts research on tobacco treatment as well as geriatric medical care; is Associate Editor of the journal *Nicotine and Tobacco Research*; and is clinical director of KanQuit at KUMed, a hospital service for employees and patients that smoke. Before this position, Kim helped support and evaluate a number of Kansas community

health coalitions as a member of the Work Group on Health Promotion and Community Development at KU, Lawrence. Kim has lived in Kansas since 1987. She has served KPHA as conference chair (twice), President, and founder of the annual conference poster session.

Jamie Katz, Student Section Chair

(No personal information provided)

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Olathe, KS 66061

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jamie.katz@jocogov.org

Janet M. Brandes, MPH, KPHA Membership Chair serves as the Educational Program Coordinator for the Bachelor of Science degree in Health Services Management and Community Development (HSMCD), Department of Physician Assistant at Wichita State University, where she has been employed since 1998. At WSU, she coordinates the student practical and teaches health education/health promotion, program planning, and long-term care. Prior to that, she worked as the Assistant to the Director of Health at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in Topeka, KS. She earned her Master of Public Health in health education from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, and has worked in public health for state and local health departments in California, Virginia and Kansas. She is an experienced strategic planning facilitator and has interests in a variety of areas including chronic disease prevention, wellness and physical activity, and reducing youth access to tobacco. [Back to menu](#)

Health Day at the Capitol

This will be the third year for this great event!



Schedule of Events:

8:00-9:00am Walk the Halls and Invite Legislators and Staff to the Health Fair

9:00-11:30am Health Fair, encouraging screenings and health information of all kinds

11:30-1:30pm Luncheon

Healthy snacks will be sponsored by Kansas Foundation for Medical Care.

Last year we were thrilled to have so many responses and welcome all to participate. Booth space is free.

Please join us in this opportunity to inform policy makers. Email sarmbrus@sedgwick.gov to reserve a space.

Boxed lunches will be provided free to legislators, sponsored by the Kansas Health Consumer Coalition and the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas. *Advocates are encouraged to call your legislators to personally invite them to come talk with you and enjoy their free lunch!* Lunch Cost for Advocates= \$8

To participate in this event, please email your name, organization, address, email and phone number. You will receive a confirmation email with instructions for payment for lunch.

If you can't come to Topeka on March 8th, please consider calling your legislators to personally invite them to the luncheon and to thank them for their public service.

Questions? We want to plan for you. Please RSVP for a booth and lunch. Contact Sonja Armbruster, 316-660-7335, sarmbrus@sedgwick.gov. [Back to menu](#)

2006 Poster Winner's Reports

KPHA Poster/Paper Winners from the 2006 Fall Conference were required to write a report for the KPHA newsletter. Below are two of the reports.

To: Kansas Public Health Association

From: Susan Carr, student member KPHA/APHA KPHA Poster Winner

I want to express my thanks to KPHA for the opportunity to attend APHA 2006 on November 4-6. The conference was held in Boston with a focus on Public Health and Human Rights. The overall atmosphere was very different from national medical conferences I have attended in the past: the lack of pharmaceutical advertising was a very nice relief, although the very intense political fervor was

somewhat a surprise. The sheer number of intriguing topics and fascinating findings is beyond an account of this size, but let me report briefly on several of the sessions I attended.

I felt lucky to get to attend a pre-conference session on “Causes and Health Consequences of Environmental Degradation and Social Injustice” by Dr. Martin Donohoe. Along with several interesting lectures, the lively audience with a vast array of work and background experiences provided ongoing stimulation with questions, observations, and discussion of numerous ways in which the US has ignored its role politically in preserving human rights and has placed great risk economically and environmentally to the rest of the world with its imperialism. This was a fun place to do some networking with other professionals.

The Opening General Session provided a unique 2 hours listening to key note speakers Helene Gayle MD, MPH (president and CEO of CARE USA) and Paul Farmer MD, PhD (founding director of Partners in Health). Dr. Gayle’s presentation called attention to the population of women in many countries that represent a precious resource that is being ignored due to oppression. These are women who would like to use their talents to care for themselves and their children but are held captive to a life of impoverishment by political agendas for power. She spoke of poverty as a disease in itself in which people have been denied three basic human rights; 1) the right for food and water, 2) the right to pursue education and improvement, and 3) the right to economic freedom (inequalities in pursuits of employment that lead to sex workers and disease). As she sees it, “women are the key to success against poverty!” Paul Farmer MD PhD addressed the reality that the stated obstacles to public health require engaging money, not necessarily focusing on monetary efficiency. His statements included these observations; “just because it is going to cost lots of money, Public Health does not have to apologize for expensive programs!”...“Democracy is not limited to a market economy!”... and “Human rights and social justice are being reserved as the tenets of Public health instead of cost effectiveness as the goal.” His big message; we better expect that good health programs will be expensive and just prepare for it!

One particular scientific session that made an impression on me was entitled “Human Rights through Global Lens: Challenges and Opportunities” (interesting data from regarding international nurse mobility, the “brain drain” from developing countries, and strong statement against NAFTA (“which has made 60 billionaires”). All speakers felt strongly that developed countries need to address their own shortages of nurses rather than recruit from abroad. Safety risks, economic duress, and post-traumatic stress syndrome in nursing positions in developing countries were described.

I also attended an excellent lecture was given by James Steele, DVM on “The History of Emerging Zoonoses with emphasis on Mammalian and Avian Influenzas.”

Examples of some interesting poster exhibits included one review of the effects of kids viewing the movie “Super Size Me!” (90% changed their eating behaviors), and a descriptive study of children at risk for ATV accidents (most are children <16 years of age with passenger whereas ATV’s are recommended for people age 16 or above).

These accounts are the sessions that were most interesting to me; if anyone wishes to speak further to me about the conference or my experiences while attending there, please feel free to contact me at

scarr2@kumc.edu. Again, with gratitude and thanks for this opportunity

Susan Carr

To: Kansas Public Health Association

From: Susette M. Schwartz, 2006 KPHA Poster Award Recipient

The increasing number of uninsured and the increasing costs of caring for the uninsured is not just a national news item for us at Hunter Health Clinic. We face it every day and do our best to not let it interfere with providing good quality health care. We have averaged over 500 new patients each month for over two years. Each day we are overwhelmed with the sheer volume. The old system was not responding quickly enough to the rapid growth. The Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute encouraged me to get a handle on the break-neck pace of slapping band-aids on a hemorrhaging system by not only studying the problem, but taking action. This action was my capstone project, Open Access at Hunter Health Clinic, which led me to create a poster illustrating the process. This resulted in several firsts: my first poster, my first time to attend the Kansas Public Health Association's annual meeting, my first entry in a poster contest, my first win and the prize: my first attendance at the American Public Health Association annual meeting.

Thank you, KPHA, for the opportunity to step outside of my box and attend the APHA 2006 annual conference in Boston. It was not only eye opening, but showed a deeper approach to healthcare than I am accustomed. For example, my "box" includes conferences developed for Community Health Centers and Urban Indian Clinics which focus on health disparities, how to address them and the business approach to maintaining financial viability while doing so. For example, obesity is a major issue we are addressing, but the focus of one APHA session I attended addressed USDA's current agricultural policies which provide incentives for quantity (corn, soybeans) instead of fruits and vegetables (except starch) causing the prices of sugars, fats and meats to be lower, in line with super-sizing. So instead of just addressing obesity through nutrition, self-management and clinical means, we need to take steps to address the root of the problem here in America; agricultural policy.

Again, referencing my "box," The Community Health Center movement is a part of the civil rights movement of the 1960's, and Urban Indian Clinics were created in the 1970's to fulfill U.S. treaty obligations and implement subsequent congressional policy following ethnic cleansing that lasted into the 70's. Both are as a result of social structures that are unjust, causing disparities in health care. Another APHA session explained how social justice and human rights equal health equity. The session compared positive health (the right to healthcare) with negative health (the right not to be tortured) and the need to combine these in the curriculum for medical students. They may start medical school with ideals but quickly move to a person's problems and not the social context. This is what causes disparities. A study showed a low percentage of medical school deans wanting to add Human Rights to the curriculum. Reasons given were "lack of qualified instructors" and "not relevant to daily practice." The recommendation was to train teachers around the world to teach internationally recognized moral and legal norms. They should teach values as opposed to religious/cultural values, and it should be incorporated as a cross-sectional theme, not a specific course. Central to this would be the basic human right to healthcare. At the time of the conference Guantanamo Bay was on everyone's minds. A follow-up session discussed the similarities between Neurenberg and Guantanamo Bay. They posed

the question, how could a physician trained to first do no harm keep a prisoner alive to be tortured? There is no curriculum for physicians in war. International curriculum would assist physician military officers with balancing military duty and health equity.

One APHA session provided an excellent example of combining community health, public health and local farmers through a proposed farm policy bill. We had just experienced the spinach debacle. Everyone in the country quit eating spinach because it could have come from that one giant e-coli-tainted spinach farm. This showed us that decentralized farming was safer. In addition, we are gaining weight and losing farmers. Farm policy drives down the price of a few commodities through overproduction (corn, soybeans which make sugar, fat), perpetuating the corporate farm. We need incentives for small farmers to grow food crops to be consumed locally. Several examples were given of farm-share programs where the USDA pays the farmer \$100 per share to produce one or two crops and delivery is coordinated through community centers and churches. These programs address hunger and food insecurity and obesity, many targeting the elderly. A Kellogg funded project is found at www.foodsecurity.org. One project showed 95% of the consumers ate more fruits and vegetables as a result. Other examples for purposes of obesity prevention were farm to cafeteria programs for schools and free fruits and vegetables in schools as snacks.

The plethora of policy-related sessions made me feel at home yet stretched my depth of knowledge and opened my mind to a deeper study of cause and effect. I appreciate this opportunity to see the world from the public health perspective. It will continue to make a difference in my approach to community health.

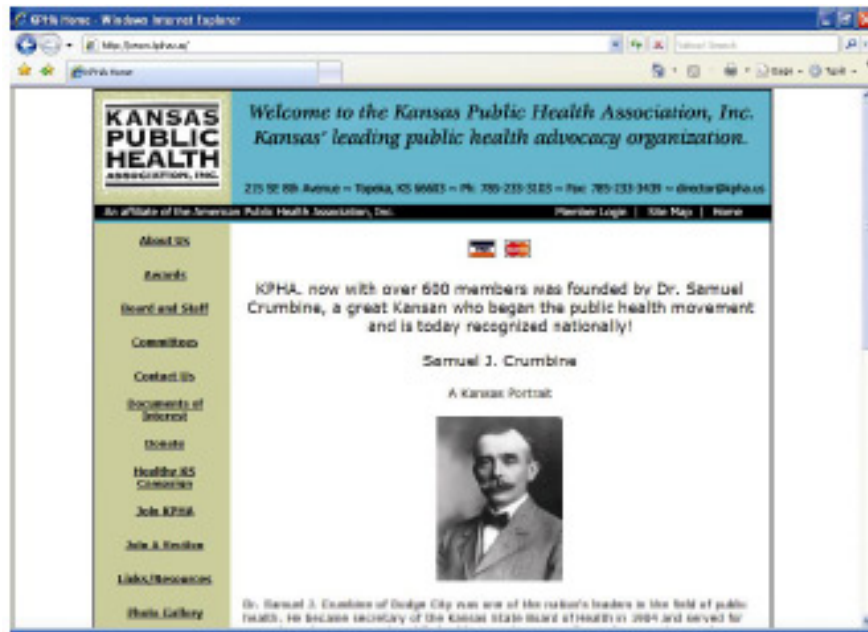
Susette M. Schwartz, CEO Hunter Health Clinic Wichita, Kansas

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KPHA Joins KDHE in Sponsoring Governor's Public Health

"New Frontiers in Public Health" will be held April 30 - May 2, 2007, Hutchinson, KS, at the Grand Prairie Hotel and Convention Center. Registration is now available at: <http://ks.train.org>. KPHA is a sponsor of the Spring Conference. Ed Kalas, President, and Executive Director, Elaine Schwartz have attended many meetings and responded to as many emails. We are delighted that KDHE has included us in the planning and encouraged our participation. You can help to make the conference a big success, too. Plan to attend the conference! [Back to menu](#)

KPHA Website---Members Only



You may have noticed a difference if you've looked at the KPHA website, lately! We've been working on a Members Only Section and have moved some of the documents that were available to the public to members only. We have also added the Video "Life in the Day of Public Health" that was produced several years ago and paid for by the Kansas Health Foundation.

You can now click on the link on the Home Page (Members Only in the bar at the top of the page or in the Documents of Interest on the Menu. To access the Members Only sections of the website, **the user ID is kpha and the password is kpha4me**. We will use this ID and Password for several months and then we will change it and send out a new one, periodically.

Please save this email to your "web info documents" to remember the ID and Password. And, please remember that this is a KPHA benefit so we ask you not to share it with non-members. Let us know of anything you would like to see on the KPHA website, especially for Members Only! [Back to menu](#)

Kansas Environmental Leadership Program (KELP)

For those public health professionals with an interest in environmental health the Kansas Environmental Leadership Program (**KELP**) is a new approach to community leadership training that offers an exciting combination of activities about leadership studies and research on water quality. The result is an experience in leadership that will prepare graduates to be catalysts for water quality protection.

The quality of our water affects everyone. The availability of high-quality water is fundamental for a community to protect its health, as well as attract new residents, industry and tourism. To ensure the future of high-quality water, it is vital that persons take a leadership role and protect Kansas water resources.

The Kansas Environmental Leadership Training is based on the idea of collaborative leadership. While one person can make a difference, it is only through the shared and organized efforts of citizens that long term, sustainable change will occur. Environmental leadership is the role of every citizen, working collaboratively to bring about positive environmental change for our common good.

KELP training sessions are highly interactive and reflect current water issues of communities in Kansas. The program combines practical applications, actual case study materials, and presentations from researchers and leaders. The KELP training allows participants to practice local leadership skills through an Applied Leadership Project. Training involves a five session, interactive experience. Each session lasts from Wednesday noon until Friday noon, and each is held at a different location in Kansas.

KELP Training Includes:

- Current Water Resources Legislation and information
- Leadership Profiles
- Influences on Water Quality and Quantity
- Implementing Community Change
- Group Dynamics and Facilitation
- Public Issues Education Techniques
- Watershed Assessments
- Conflict Resolution
- Water Agency Responsibilities
- Public Involvement in the Legislative Process

Seven Good Reasons to Participate in KELP Training

1. Enhance your leadership skills
2. Increase your effectiveness in your job and community
3. Learn about the water resources and issues of Kansas
4. Pick up new tools and techniques for leading groups
5. Share ideas and network with other leaders
6. Learn how to inspire people and move communities forward
7. Improve quality of life for Kansas citizens

For more information about the program, e-mail the Kansas Environmental Leadership Program at kelp@ksu.edu or visit their website at www.oznet.ksu.edu/kelp.

Updates in the Kansas Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

The Lead Case Management Guidelines book has been revised and updated. Confirmed cases are eligible for case management. A confirmed case is defined as a child under 72 months old that has had 2 capillary or one venous blood lead level tests at or above 10 ug/Dl.

Changes include the following:

- The blood lead action level went up from 5 ug/Dl to less than 10 ug/Dl.
- Confirmed cases are now eligible for environmental investigations at 10 ug/Dl instead of the one above 20 ug/Dl or two above 15 ug/Dl.
- Testing/retesting time frames vary from the previous edition.

The KCLPPP regulations (KAR 28-72-1 thru KAR 28-72-54) are being revised. If you are interested in learning more about the process or would like to volunteer time to serve on the regulation advisory group, contact Michelle Miller 785-368-7155 or MMiller@kdhe.state.ks.us.

Source: *The Unleaded Post, KCLPPP, V4, I1, January 2007.* [Back to menu](#)

National Environmental Public Health Leadership

The National Environmental Public Health Leadership Institute has chosen two public health professionals from Kansas to attend the CDC's Environmental Public Health Leadership Institute (EPHLI) this year. Judy Willingham, Coordinator of K-State Research and Extension's Kansas Environmental Leadership Program, and Ed Kalas, manager of Shawnee County Health Agency's Environmental Health Division and board president for the Kansas Public Health Association, are two of 40 national fellows who will attend this yearlong program of seminars and workshops, special projects, and individual study.

The institute was developed to strengthen the country's environmental public health system by enhancing the leadership capabilities of state and local environmental public health specialists.

Emphasis is placed on enhancing strategic visioning and direction-setting skills through critical thinking and analysis (systems thinking), political effectiveness, and organizational and team development; using the core functions of public health as a foundation for achieving environmental public health goals; creating proactive environmental public health leaders who can mobilize resources in response to the changing public health environment (core competencies); enhancing the performance outcomes of the essential services of environmental public health; and promoting and improving the delivery of environmental public health services to communities.

EPHLI graduates use what they learn to increase the ability of their environmental public health programs to provide essential environmental public health services. These state and local programs will be better able to respond to emerging environmental public health threats and coordinate the delivery of effective services to areas affected by environmental disasters. [Back to menu](#)

Call for Presentations for the Fall Conference

Share Your Insights, Experiences, and Expertise with Public Health Professionals and Leaders

of Kansas...

You are invited to submit a proposal to participate. We are currently seeking presentations on new ideas and practical solutions to the toughest challenges facing today's public health professionals. This is an opportunity to present your innovative solutions, experiences, and research to more than 300 industry professionals; increase your visibility as a presenter; and contribute to the advancement of the public health profession.

2007 Fall Public Health Conference
“Communicating Our Message: Public Health, Politics and Policy”
September, 18-20, 2007
Hyatt Regency, Wichita, Kansas

The Conference Committee invites you to submit a presentation proposal for the 2007 Fall Public Health Conference to be held September 18-20 in Wichita, Kansas. The conference will focus on communicating our message to the public health workforce, politicians, the public, and policymakers. There will be approximately 20 breakout sessions to give you the opportunity to share your successes and innovative programs with a wide audience. Presentations need to be approximately one hour long.

The 2007 Conference goals are to:

- 1) Share best practices to promote partnership in public health.
- 2) Increase effectiveness of public health leadership and management roles.
- 3) Increase public health workforce competency.

Presentation selection will be based on the significance to population-based public health, relevance to conference goals, and interest to target audience. Topics to be considered include, but are not limited to, those that reflect the following KPHA sections and functions:

- Administrative Health
- Child/Family and Community Health
- Research and Evaluation
- Emergency Preparedness
- Environmental Health
- Infectious Disease
- Oral Health
- Tobacco, Substance Use, Mental Health

The Conference Program Committee reserves the right to select and schedule any accepted presentation at any time during the Conference. No honorarium will be given. Speakers will receive a one-day registration waiver on the day on which they present. **All proposals must be received by April 30, 2007.** Please contact Cyndi Treaster at ctreaste@kdhe.state.ks.us or call (785) 296-8113 for more information and necessary forms for submission. [Back to menu](#)