

2018 KPHA Awards Recipients

Samuel J. Crumbine Medal: -Richard Cagan BA, Director, Behavioral Health Tobacco Project for National Alliance on Mental Illness, and former Executive Director

Nominated by: Kimber Richter, PhD, MPH; University of Kansas Medical Center and KU Cancer Center; Jennifer Church, MS, RD, LD, Community Health Promotion Director, KDHE; Daniel Craig, MS Tobacco Program Coordinator, Central Kansas Foundation; Babalola Faseru, MD, MPH, University of Kansas Medical Center and KU Cancer Center



The Samuel J. Crumbine Medal, KPHA's highest award, is given 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. The first award was given to Samuel Crubmine, the Kansas public health pioneer, who raised awareness about the common drinking cup and spitting in public during the TB era. Today, 72 years later, we honor Richard "Rick" D. Cagan as the newest recipient of the Crumbine Medal.

Rick joined the NAMI staff in December of 2005 following 27 years as a nonprofit manager in advocacy and human services. He has recently retired as the Executive Director of NAMI but continues to serve the organization. Rick was nominated for KPHA's highest honor for his 1) his outstanding and constant advocacy on behalf of people with mental disorders and their family members since 2005, and 2) his trail-blazing state leadership to change the culture of tobacco use among patients and providers in the behavioral health care system.

Rick's major achievements as Executive Director of NAMI Kansas included developing and supporting local NAMI chapters across the state, disseminating evidence-based practices in communities and clinical settings, and advocating for policies to help people with mental illnesses recover and reach their full potential.

Rick has been especially effective in legislative advocacy. Many people get into lobbying because they want to be lobbyists. It is clear that Rick became a lobbyist because he cares about people with mental illness and their families. When Kansas downsized state mental hospitals, legislators and administrators promised

to provide funding for community mental health services, to help people recover in their communities. Rick was a major force for making the legislature keep that promise. Not many people show up at budget committee hearings year after year to advocate for people with mental illnesses, but he was there. Because he stayed the course for so many years, and was unfailingly honest and persistent, he became legislators' trusted source for information on mental health. Rick's work during the 2018 legislative sessions included two initiatives that achieved resounding success. One bill was focused on the continuity of care during incarceration and one was expanding Medicaid coverage for tobacco cessation. Through countless hours of hard work and advocacy, both bills were included as provisos in the annual budget despite failing in the senate. As the nominators stated, Money Talks.

Rick's other notable contributions to public health include:

- creating the home of a statewide initiative to reduce tobacco use and mortality among people with mental illness
- Numerous educational and outreach activities focused on tobacco treatment into statewide conferences and forums
- Sponsoring a groundbreaking study on the economics of smoking cessation among people with mental disorders that demonstrated that Kansas will save millions of dollars by helping these smokers quit

Leading these efforts took courage because many leaders in mental health, both nationally and in the state, still are highly ambivalent about integrating tobacco treatment into their services. Rick has had tremendous success because he is such a widely respected advocate for people with mental illness, and his

motivation stems from a deep commitment to their health and wellbeing.

Rick was nominated for the Crumbine Medal because of his tireless dedication to the health and wellbeing of people with mental illness and his effectiveness in advocating for programs and policies to improve their health environment.

Public Health Policy Maker of the Year Award: Robert Archer, Shawnee County Commission and Elaine Schwartz, Topeka City Council

Nominated by: Linda Ochs (accepting award on behalf of Commissioner Archer)



Shawnee County Commissioner Robert (Bob) Archer and former Topeka City Councilwoman Elaine Schwartz were the champions for the Shawnee County and City of Topeka Tobacco 21 Ordinances passed by both governing bodies in 2017.

These ordinances increased the legal age to purchase tobacco from 18 to 21 and effectively limiting access to harmful tobacco products to Topeka and Shawnee County youth.

As with many public health policies, there was serious opposition to these ordinances. Both of these policy makers were able to see the long term benefits from restricting the sale of tobacco products to young people under the age of 21. They listened to data regarding tobacco as the primary cause of numerous chronic diseases and how the high adult smoking rate was the leading negative factor bringing down our County Health Ranking, and knew this ordinance was good, evidenced based prevention for the future of our community.

Both Commissioner Archer and Councilwoman Schwartz were crucial to the success in our community. It was through their relentless efforts that brought together community partners needed to make a change. This effort has opened doors to help the Topeka and Shawnee County collaborate in new ways to improve the health of the community. Their community is a different and better place because of their hard work and support of public health.

Corporate Public Health Service Award: BCBS of Kansas, “Blue Health Initiatives”

Virginia Barnes, Director

Nominated by: Aaron Davis, Wichita State University



BCBSKS is a leading insurance company in our state and they are taking big steps to create healthier environments and lifestyles for all Kansans through their Blue Health Initiatives. Some of the programs include: Pathways, Bike Share ICT, Healthify Northeast Kansas Network, and GoNoodle.

Pathways

Pathways to a Healthy Kansas is the largest community grant program ever funded by BCBSKS. The Pathways program provides community coalitions with

the tools and resources needed to remove barriers and engage their communities in ways that enable healthy eating and tobacco-free, active living to become a way of life. The financial support totals \$500,000 per community.

Bike Share ICT

BCBSKS is the presenting sponsor for Bike Share ICT, Wichita's very own bike transportation system. Bike Share ICT boasts 105 bikes in 21 locations, with plans to add 100 bikes and 20 more stations to the network in the summer of 2018. Thanks to BCBSKS, Bike Share ICT is easy to use, low cost and provides safe transportation options in the community, with 2018 expansion efforts focusing on health equity access points.

Healthify Northeast Kansas Network

The mission of Healthify is to build a world where no one's health is hindered by their need. By sponsoring the Healthify software and sharing it with partners, BCBSKS is increasing community organizations' access to valuable service data. The project positions BCBSKS as a leader in improving the social determinants of health and help communities gain a clearer picture of their health needs.

GoNoodle

GoNoodle's online movement and mindfulness videos activate children's bodies and brains for use at school and at home. BCBSKS was proud to expand the program in 2017 to serve all 103 Kansas counties served by BCBSKS. As a result, all elementary school teachers throughout the BCBSKS service area now have free

access to the premium version of GoNoodle, help them get student moving while deepening learning throughout the day.

Other BCBSKS programs include; Be-the-Spark, Trailblazers, maternal and infant health in Sedgwick County, Healthy Happy Holidays Flu Shot Campaign, and Tonic for Health Partnership with KU Asthma Team. Through their partnerships, they are a leading example of what organizations can do to give-back to the community in ways that create a better, healthier Kansas. Virginia Barnes is the director of the Blue Health Initiates.

Special Service Award: Bertha Mendoza, MA, K-State Research and Extension

Nominated by: Rachel Showstack, Wichita State University



During Bertha's collaborative work, she has shared some rather moving stories. She arrived in the U.S. with basically nothing - a bag of clothes and her first daughter, as she describes it, and proceeded to raise a family while receiving multiple master's degrees and struggling to obtain citizenship. She worked for 7 years in a beef packing plant, where her husband also works, and they both suffer from mild to moderate repetitive-motion injuries. **It's pretty amazing** how far she came against the odds. She serves a city and a school district that's severely understaffed and still advocates for all manner of disadvantaged people: children with learning disabilities, immigrant workers with health issues, people with mental health issues, monolingual Spanish-speaking residents seeking resources from the city.

Bertha is an agent of the K-State Research and Extension Southwest Kansas Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) in Garden City. Her community efforts include: helping immigrants to feel proud of their communities, teaching immigrants to integrate traditional foods into their diet rather than eating unhealthy American food, and developing programs for schools provide food for children. She's a perfect example of a driven individual who has used their personal experience for the benefit of her community.

We would now like to recognize Rebecca Garza for the second Special Service Award, she was unable to join us today. Rebecca was nominated by Dr. Ed Ellerbeck from KUMC.

Special Service Award: Rebecca Garza, MS; Tobacco Free Wyandotte Coordinator, Unified Government Public Health Department (Kansas City).

Nominated by: Ed Ellerbeck, KUMC

(unable to attend)

Rebecca Garza was selected for the KPHA Special Service Award in recognition of her outstanding leadership as the Tobacco Free Wyandotte Coordinator for the Wyandotte County Health Department. She began her work in 2015 by quickly forming a community coalition which included health care providers in the region to increase uptake of cessation services, including the Kansas quitline. Many of us can recognize the hours of hard work that support a successful community coalition! She helped to link primary care and safety net clinics with training opportunities to create Tobacco Treatment Specialists within their own clinics. Twice she led efforts to procure free nicotine replacement therapy for smokers not only to increasing use of evidence-based cessation services, but also increasing awareness of these services among smokers and providers. She also formed partnerships with the Black Health Care Coalition and the Kansas Pharmacy Association to improve access to smoking cessation medications, leading to continuing education classes for pharmacists and cessation classes for public housing residents. She has been an outspoken advocate for policies that would reduce uptake of tobacco and increase cessation rates on behalf of Tobacco Free Wyandotte.

Her efforts also led to the formation of the Wyandotte County Resist Coalition with teens form USD 500, helping teens connect with legislators on Kick Butts Day

in Topeka, submit an editorial for the Kansas City Star's 913 magazine, and showcase tobacco control-related art projects at community events.

Ms. Garza recognizes that it takes resources to make these things happen. Building on her successes, she has been able to garner increased funding each year from the Chronic Disease Risk Reduction grant to support tobacco control in Wyandotte County. She has supplemented these funds with additional grant support from the American Heart Association (to examine T21 enforcement) and from the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City to support cessation efforts in Kansas City Kansas public housing

Ms. Garza is recognized today, as she has had a transformative effect on tobacco control efforts in perhaps the most disadvantaged region of Kansas. Thank you Rebecca Garza!

Dorothy Woodin Award: Jolynn Dowling, MSN, APRN, NNP-BC, IBCLC; Janice M. Riordan Distinguished Professorship in Maternal Child Health, Wichita State University - Wichita.

Nominated by: Sonja Armbruster, Wichita State University



The Dorothy Woodin Award is bestowed on a public health nurse for outstanding public health nursing services. Wichita State University nursing faculty member Jolynn A. Dowling MSN, APRN, NNP-BC, IBCLC, has recently been named to the Janice M. Riordan Distinguished Professorship in Maternal Child Health at Wichita State. Jolynn Dowling (Jo) earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing

from Wichita State University. She earned her certification as a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP) from South Dakota State University and 10 years later earned her certification as an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant. Jo worked in a Level 3 Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for 17 years, with five of those as a lactation consultant, before joining the faculty in the School of Nursing at Wichita State University in 2005. Her clinical work as a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner included critical care for newborns and families, critical care newborn transport with LifeWATCH and management of complex lactation issues. This expertise led to her involvement with establishing community connections to reduce the impact of infant mortality.

In addition to teaching undergraduate nursing courses, Jo has coordinated the graduate course in Human Lactation; a course developed by her undergraduate advisor, graduate mentor and professional colleague Dr. Janice Riordan. She is currently developing workforce badge courses related to human lactation. Jo worked as an independent consultant to the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition for the United States Breastfeeding Committee Continuity of Care Connections Project to assist Wesley Medical Center to achieve Baby-Friendly Hospital designation as the first in the state of Kansas.

In 2015 she facilitated the transition of the Continuity of Care Connections community team to form the Wichita Area Breastfeeding Coalition (WABC). On behalf of the WABC, she applied for technical assistance administered through the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition to help Wichita earn the Community Supporting Breastfeeding designation. This designation was recognized by the

Wichita City Council in May 2016. Jo currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Kansas Infant Death and SIDS Network, is current Past Chair of the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition, serves as Community Outreach Coordinator for the WABC and is a member of several other professional organizations. She serves on many department and college committees, including the Faculty Senate at WSU.

Jo is married with two adult daughters. She and her husband are avid Shocker fans and longtime men's basketball season ticket holders. They are Lifetime WSU Alumni Association members, and are very proud to have both daughters enrolled at WSU to carry on the family Shocker legacy. In addition to being a great Shocker, she is a KPHA member, an active community coalition supporter, and a wonderful colleague in public health!

Jane Addams Award: Lori Salazar, LSMS; Social Worker, Children First CEO Kansas Inc.- Wichita.

Nominated by: Kathleen Webb, Children First CEO Kansas Inc.- Wichita.



It is not easy starting a new job, but it really is not easy when the job had never existed before. Ms. Lori Barnes-Salazar, LMSW has done an amazing job taking the vision of helping low-income students' success in school, including helping their families, into this amazing program.

The Jane Addams Award is for a social worker who exemplifies the qualities of Jane Addams, including a pioneering spirit, a trailblazer, and one striving to improve the health of the poor and the sanitary conditions of communities.

In September 2016, the Board started a new direction for Children First focused on the Department of Education Promise Neighborhoods' Concept. This concept is that improving the neighborhood will improve the school. In September 2017, Lori started as the social worker with a faith-based school as our largest client. This school's enrollment is 190 students who are 83.8% Hispanic with 86.3% receiving free or reduced lunches as an indicator of poverty.

This school had never had a social worker. Starting from nothing but a desk and chair, Lori created a program that includes: lunch groups for 7th grade girls (Can you believe there is drama in middle school?), scheduling school health fairs with parent follow-up, recruiting students to work in the Children First Education Garden, and continuing to develop the program.

As an example, Lori had just started a lunch group, and a parent told the principal that she noticed a difference in her daughter after two sessions. Her daughter felt bullied at school and then came home taking the stress out on the younger children. The sessions changed her attitude (and the principal stopped the bullying).

Lori also manages the Basic Needs Pantry and created a five-week summer program in order to stay in touch with high-risk students. This pantry focuses on

hygiene items (such as shampoo and deodorant), basic clothing (such as socks, coats, and other warm winter wear), school supplies (such as back packs), and specific items/services that cannot be obtained through other community resources (such as dental fees at a safety-net clinic). Lori makes sure that those students with the greatest needs have the supplies they need. Lori created a five-week Wednesday (8:00 am to 3:30 pm) free summer experience for 21 high-risk students because three months without contact was too long. She planned two field trips, scheduled guest speakers, and time in the Children First Education Garden. Lori is a “rising star” for Children First and all the families she serves.

Virginia Lockhart Award: Megan Foreman, B.A. in Public Policy and Journalism, Program Manager, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment; Kansas City.

Nominated by: Sonja Armbruster, Wichita State University



Virginia Lockhart Health Education Award is given for outstanding service in public promotion of health and/or environmental issues.

Prior to joining the Johnson County Department of Health & Environment, Megan had been working in health policy for ten years, most recently as the Policy Director at Oral Health Kansas. Prior to moving to Kansas City in 2012, Megan was

a senior policy specialist at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). During her six years at NCSL, Megan worked on a variety of state health policy issues, served as the content expert on adolescent health, managed a number of grants, and wrote extensively.

At the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment, Megan led the team for the 1422 chronic disease prevention grant in Johnson County. She is innovative, organized and led a team that accomplished an amazing amount of work in a short period of time.

Through the funding available from the multi-year State funding opportunity, she directed the creation of a LiveWell Johnson County. The initiative encompasses a large number of sustainable strategies and programs designed to address the prevention of chronic disease in specific underserved populations.

Megan is creative and has lots of excellent, inventive ideas to reach the targeted audience. Her ability to see the big picture as well as the steps needed to get there is unique.

Furthermore, Megan currently serves on the KPHA Board of Directors and is the KPHA ARGC (affiliate representative to Governing Council of APHA). In the past, she has coordinated the MINK Annual meeting when it was held in Johnson County. She is a tremendous asset to the KPHA policy committee where she takes an active role. We are so thankful for the many ways she puts her past policy experience to work. Megan is a joy to work with, gets to the point and gets work done. What an asset!

President's Award: Cristi Cain, BS, Director, Local Public Health Program , Accreditation Coordinator, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

At the President's discretion: Becky Tuttle



The President's Award is reserved for those who demonstrate an unprecedented commitment to public health in Kansas. When selecting this year's recipient, President Tuttle was looking for someone deserving of the President's Award not only for their commitment to the Kansas Public Health Association, but also for their commitment to the field of public health in Kansas.

There is an old adage that if you want something done, ask a busy person. This was invented for Cristi Cain. Cristi has been a tireless champion for the past two years as Treasurer of the Kansas Public Health Association. What many of you don't know, is that while being Treasurer of an all-volunteer-led organization can be challenging enough, KPHA was unfortunate to have our financial information hacked. This has resulted in hundreds of hours of time on phone calls communicating with banks and other organizations to ensure that KPHA's credit history is sound and unscathed. Her unmatched determination and dedication to being Treasurer has rendered President Tuttle speechless many times. Cristi simply doesn't finish a task until it is done and done well.

In her day job, while not fighting crime for KPHA, Cristi has been the driving force behind the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's efforts to become nationally accredited through the Public Health Accreditation Board in November 2017. After a grueling five-year application process where Cristi served as the leader for two years and a site visit, Cristi and other staff were able to see the fruits of their labor and the accreditation has brought refreshed energy to continue efforts of incorporating best practices and achieving an even higher quality of work at KDHE.

Having KDHE, the state's health department, being an accredited agency serves as a role model for local health departments across the state and reinforces the importance of the process to improve public health initiatives in Kansas.

There was no one else that President Tuttle even considered for the 2018 Kansas Public Health Association President's Award. Cristi is a champion for public health on every level and President Tuttle was fortunate their paths crossed in such a meaningful way during her term in office. KPHA and Kansas are just better because of Cristi.