

2015 Annual Report

Kansas Public Health Association



2015 Board Members

President

Mark Thompson, PhD, M.Ed.
Kansas State Department of Education

President-Elect

Erica Anderson, MPA
Humana

Secretary

Nikki Keene Woods, PhD, MPH
Wichita State University

Treasurer

Laurence Franken, PhD, MS
Humana

Immediate Past President

**Tanya Honderick, RN, MS, MPH,
PHCNS-BC**
University of Kansas Medical Center

ARGC

Shirley Orr, MHS, APRN, NEA-BC
SOCO Consulting

Directors At Large

Mike Cates, DVM, MPH
Kansas State University

Brandon Skidmore

Kansas Department of Health and
Environment

Christina Pacheco, JD

University of Kansas Medical Center

Section and Committee Chairs

Molly Brown

Michelle Peterson

Becky Tuttle

Chris Steward

Laura Ross

Jack Brown

Pam Smith

Mary T Hynek

Daniel Craig

Megan Foreman

Miranda Steele

Molly Allison

2015—A Year of Challenges, Opportunities, and Successes for KPHA

In hindsight, every year has a wealth of experiences. Some are good. Some are bad. Some await the final verdict only time can provide. KPHA experienced all of these, and more in 2015. Very real challenges face public health in Kansas in 2016 and beyond. Though this is expected, some of the challenges are relatively new and unique. Rather than getting lost in detailing them, I'd rather focus on the pertinent question, "How do we respond?" The following are my thoughts on this question and other elements shared in my President's Address at the 2015 KPHA Annual Conference.

Challenges to public health in Kansas include threats to funding at state and local levels, efforts to roll back successes (water fluoridation, immunizations, clean air ordinances), emerging issues such as e-cigarettes, and the ongoing issues tied to nutrition and physical activity in a technologically-driven, hectic world. The specific challenges and their magnitude vary because we all look at life (and public health) through different lenses. Regardless of our individual lens, we know that collectively we need to respond with actions that reflect best practices, are based on science, and positively impact the population. Easier said than done, right?

I tend to view public health through the lens of schools and education, because that's the population with whom I work. Others view public health through the lens of a nurse, researcher, educator, philanthropist, public servant, government representative, parent, among many other occupations and roles. The beauty of KPHA is that we can be a voice for all, to help advance public health. To accomplish this,

we need to be proactive, organized, and committed. I believe KPHA has taken steps this year to be such a voice.

I shared the following statement during the President's Address, "It's not right, right now, but we're making it right." KPHA and many other organizations and individuals are making progress in public health. Whether it be a high rate of seat belt use, smoke-free ordinances, recycling opportunities, menus with nutritional information, active school wellness committees, or increased emphasis on walkable and bikeable environments, we can hang our hats on some valuable successes. Credit must be given to and accepted by those who have had a hand in these successes. Let's continue making things right.

To accomplish this, we must make health a shared value. Many of us, in our daily lives, interact with fellow believers in health. In many ways, we tend to "preach to the choir." To make true, lasting impact, we need to expand our reach to those that aren't current members of the choir. We need to reach decision makers who need good reason to support public health funding and initiatives. We need members of our choir who are interested in serving in public office. We need advocates. We need you! We look forward to another challenging, yet rewarding 2016 and appreciate your efforts in helping KPHA work toward creating a healthier Kansas.

Thank you all for your tireless efforts on behalf of Kansas public health!

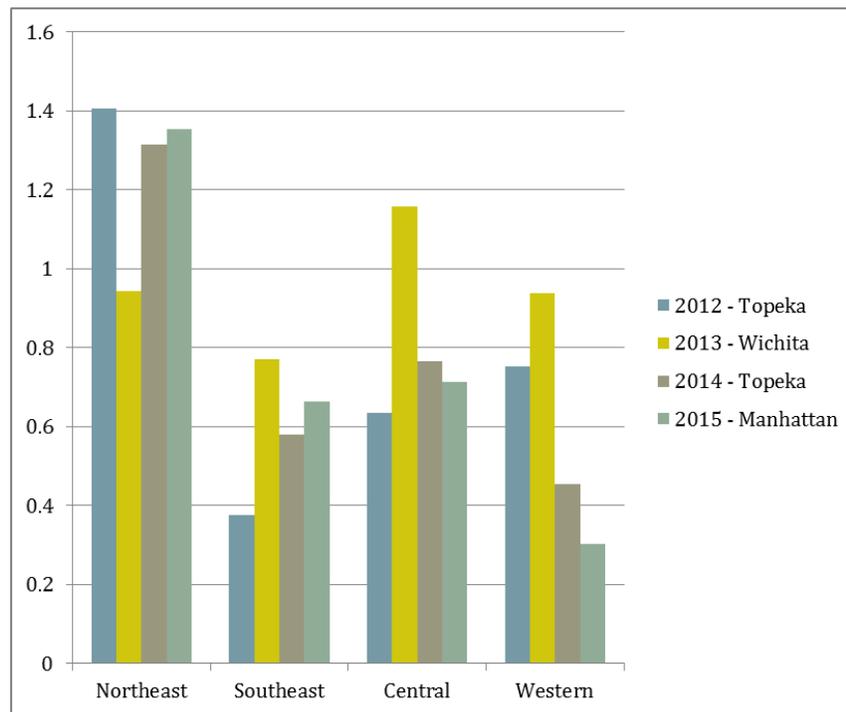
Mark Thompson
2015 KPHA President

FINANCIAL POSITION		
ASSETS		
	Current Assets	\$99,997.22
LIABILITIES		
	Current Liabilities	—
TOTAL LIABILITIES & ASSETS		\$99,997.22

MEMBERSHIP

2014	2015	Percent Increase
454	598	31.7

KPHA Registration Proportion by Location, Adjusted by Regional Population Percentage



How Public Health Invented the Flyswatter

KPHA was founded by Dr. Samuel Crumbine, a great Kansan who began the public health movement and is today recognized nationally. Created in 1920, KPHA is the oldest and largest public health organization in Kansas.

Dr. Samuel Crumbine was one of the nation’s leaders in the field of public health. He became secretary of the Kansas State Board of Health in 1904

and served for 19 years. His public health campaigns were directed at practices and conditions that led to the spread of communicable diseases.

His campaign against houseflies

Swat the Fly was based on a baseball chant heard in Topeka—originally “swat that fly ball”

urged screening windows and doors and used the slogan “Swat the Fly,” which was based on a chant he heard at a Topeka softball game. This led to the invention of “fly bats”—screening nailed to yardsticks—created by Frank Rose and his Boy Scouts. When Rose showed the fly bats to Dr. Crumbine at the capital, Dr. Crumbine called it a “fly swatter” and the name stuck.

Public Health Advocacy

On October 19th, the KPHA Board held a special session after the regular monthly meeting to talk about the ways KPHA can connect to members and the community through public health advocacy. It is crucial for health communities to rally around positive health messaging backed by scientific evidence. That is why KPHA seeks to engage in policies and initiatives that further the public health agenda.

Some of the topics discussed at the meeting:

- Nutrition and Physical Activity
- Maintaining WIC
- Tobacco
- Electronic cigarettes
- Tobacco 21 initiatives
- Vaccinations
- Supporting Public Health
- Funding for public health
- Health Coverage Expansion
- Fluoridation
- Advocating for County Boards of Health

- Elevating role for and reliance on evidence for policymaking in public health programs
- Protecting vulnerable populations and creating health equity

This list is not exhaustive and will continue to be developed by the KPHA Board.



2015 KPHA Fall Conference

Promoting Health for All Kansans was the theme this year for the 72nd Annual Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference. Held in Manhattan, KS, this conference was the largest KPHA had hosted in recent years with 251 registered attendees.

Opening remarks were given the morning of September 16th by Dr. Susan Mosier, Secretary of Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Paul Kuehnert, Director of Bridging Health & Healthcare Portfolio at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, followed with his keynote presentation - A Vision for a Culture of Health. Attendees then split for breakout sessions.

The KPHA Year in Review Meeting was conducted that afternoon. Following section break outs, special reports, and addressing accomplishments and challenges of the year, the ceremonial

passing of the gavel moved from President Mark Thompson to President-Elect Erica Anderson.

Later that evening, attendees were given the opportunity to network while enjoying the beautiful Konza Prairie.

The keynote panel discussion held the following morning was led by Julia Resnick, Program Manager for the Association for Community Health Improvement. Panelists included Allison

Allejos, Director of Shawnee County Health Agency; Tom Luellen, Director of Planning and Analytics at Stormont-Vail Healthcare; Dana Rickley, Administrator of Clay County Health Department; and Marcia Newell, Director of Planning and Development at Clay County Medical Center.

The final keynote - Public Health in the Medical Neighborhood - was given that afternoon by Dr. Robert Moser, Executive Director of the Kansas Heart & Stroke Collaborative. Awards and closing followed.



President Mark Thompson at the Year in Review Meeting

Save the Date!

The 73rd Annual Kansas Public Health Association Conference will be held at DoubleTree by Hilton Wichita Airport in Wichita, KS on September 19th-21st, 2016.

2015 KPHA Awards



Attendees enjoying the Konza Prairie Walk

Samuel J. Crumbine Medal	Robert Moser, MD
Public Health Policy Makers of the Year	City of Wichita
Dorothy Woodin Award	Georgetta Schoenfield, RN, BSN
Corporate Service	Oral Health Kansas
Special Service Award	Michael Cates, DVM, MPH
Jane Adams Award	Sherry Vierthaler, LBSW
The President's Award	Tanya Honderick, RN, MS, MPH, PHCNS-BC

To read award recipient bios, visit www.kpha.us/awards.

Kansas Public Health Association

5960 Dearborn, Suite 230
Mission, KS 66202
913-945-6951
kpha@kpha.us
www.kpha.us

**KANSAS
PUBLIC
HEALTH
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Promoting and Improving
Population Health in Kansas

Supporting KPHA

Thank you for your membership in the Kansas Public Health Association. Your continued support of KPHA ensures that we are not alone in our public health mission. You are helping us improve the health of people and communities all across the Sunflower State.

In 2015, we bolstered our internal strength which allowed us to stand up for our community. We developed our advocacy priorities and strategies while maintaining our strong relationships with APHA, MINK, and our members. We celebrated 70 years of fluoridation and National Public Health Week. We spoke against decreases in public health funding and spoke for increases in tobacco tax. We've worked hard to make a difference, and we hope you have too.

We've accomplished much together this past year, but there is still work to be done. If you believe in the work that we do, would you consider making a voluntary tax-deductible donation? Your contribution will be used to directly promote and improve population health in Kansas through action and advocacy.

I hope you'll join me in pledging a donation towards the valuable work we do. It is through your support that we are capable of being a voice of public health within our state. Please consider visiting www.kpha.us/donate to make a donation online.

Best wishes,

Mark Thompson, 2015 KPHA President



The 143rd APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition took place in Chicago from October 31st to November 4th, 2015. More than 13,000 public health professionals from across the U.S. and around the world came together to network, educate, and share experiences.

At the Annual Meeting, many renewed their commitment to Generation Public Health. Generation Public Health is the national movement of people, communities, and organizations working to ensure conditions where everyone has the opportunity to be healthy. The vision is to create the healthiest nation in one generation. This movement is built on a foundation of equality, synthesizing health goals with social issues such as income inequality, discrimination, and human rights. Generation Public Health is also dedicated to educating the public about the power of prevention and rallying diverse support to make prevention a priority in our health care system. Learn more about the Healthiest Nation in One Generation at [www.apha.org/topics-and-](http://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/generation-public-health)

[issues/generation-public-health](http://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/generation-public-health).

Physical activity was the star of many Annual Meeting events. A walking challenge was initiated where attendees could synchronize their step-counting devices and compete against one another. 268 participants took a collective 7,903,702 steps over a three-day period. That's almost halfway across the United States! Parth Patel of Morgantown, West Virginia, took first place with 104,084 steps. Free yoga sessions in the morning also saw quite a few downward facing dogs in business clothes.

KPHA's own Eldonna Chesnut took office as the Council of Affiliates Chair. Eldonna has served in the past on the KPHA Board as Section Chair, Director-At-Large, President-Elect, and President. She had previously served as the Affiliate Representative to the APHA Governing Council from Kansas.

The Closing General Session spoke about health delivery in the context of current civil unrest in our nation. When Baltimore City Health Commissioner Leana Wen found that 13 of the city's pharmacies had burned down after the death of Freddie Gray while in po-



Eldonna (left) with CoA Immediate Past Chair Pat Parker (right) and Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy (middle)

lice custody, the public health department organized to bring medicine, food, and basic supplies to those in need. These good intentions were often met with suspicion. Wen noted that this was a difficult reminder that even with the best of intentions, histories of inequality and disenfranchisement continue to frame the context in which public health is practiced. Without acknowledging those histories and allowing them to inform public health interventions, sustainable health improvements may remain out of reach.

To read more about APHA's 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition, visit their Meetings Blog at www.APHAAnnualMeeting.blogspot.com.

Save the Date!
144th Annual Meeting
October 29th–November 2nd, 2016
Denver, Colorado

Celebrating 70 Years of
Community Water Fluoridation!