

THE FLORIDA PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCATE

A publication of the Florida Public Health Association



FPHA
Florida Public Health Association

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK....



This is my last newsletter message as your FPFA president. The past twelve months certainly have been an eventful time in public health, beginning with the first identified case of Ebola in the US last September and up through last June with the conclusion of a special Florida Legislative session that centered around healthcare spending. I was pleased to see that one of the outcomes of the latter was the passage of a bill concerning the potential impact of something such as the former—namely, HB 697 which addresses public health emergencies and which reinforces the authority of

the Department of Health in carrying out isolation and quarantine measures due to communicable diseases.

Ebola also underscored the role of, and need for, a highly-trained public health workforce. Towards that end, I hope you will join me in attending the FPFA Annual Educational Conference (AEC) beginning on August 19 in Orlando, and where the theme will be “A Prepared Florida: What Does It Mean For Public Health”. President-Elect Shannon Hughes and her planning committee have been working since the beginning of the year on reviewing your responses to the FPFA membership surveys on the topics you wanted to see covered, and have lined up an excellent group of presenters over the three days of the AEC. Please visit the FPFA website at www.fpha.org to see the agenda, and to register if you haven't already.

Meanwhile, it has been an honor to serve you as FPFA president, and I look forward to continue playing an active role in the organization.

Greg Danyluk

Annual Educational Conference Has Lots to Offer

Have you signed up to attend the 2015 FPFA Annual Educational Conference? There are a lot of exciting happenings planned. Each day will focus the general session speakers on a specific priority program of the FDOH. Wednesday –Preparedness, Thursday – Accreditation/QO, and Friday – Healthiest Weight.

The various tracks will cover a lot of public health topics that are current and offer things you can take back to your job. There are also 18 poster presentations this year that provide information on a broad range of topics. Plus there are over 17 exhibitors bringing information on the latest items and services they offer.

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Inside this issue:

Annual Education
Conference

Items of Interest

Conference Sponsor

Health Innovations Grant

University News

USF College of Public
Health

Conference and Events

We have some special guest joining us this year. American Public Health Association President Shiriki Kumanyika, PhD, MPH, will be sharing news about public health on the national level. Dr. Kumanyika has a unique interdisciplinary background. Her training in social work, nutrition, epidemiology and public health allows her to address the prevention of obesity and other diet-related chronic diseases and health disparities. We will also have Southern Health Association President, Mark Hemsley, BS, from London, Kentucky. Mark is one of those rare people whose first experience in public health was when he served as an intern during his senior year of college. After graduating, he was hired as an Environmentalist. He is now the Executive Director of the Laurel County Health Department. Mark brings to us information from our southern region states where we share many of the same issues.

A new thing being used this year is an APP that attendees can download to their smart phone and have information about the meeting literally at their fingertips. It will include the program schedule and also allow the attendees to upload pictures and information during the conference. It should prove to be interesting!

If you plan to attend and have not yet registered, online registration is only available through August 12th (Wednesday). After that everyone will need to register on site. We hope to see a lot of you next week in Orlando!

Items of Interest

2015 Epidemiology Meeting Presenter:

Chris DuClos gave a presentation on the use of Geographic Information Systems (ArcGIS Online) to map vaccine exemptions in Florida at the census tract level. This new tool enables local health departments and other partners to look for areas with relatively high percentages of children with vaccine exemptions. Such information can be used to promote vaccine coverage with education materials, and to respond to outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases.

Note from an FPHA Conference Sponsor:

Clear Health Alliance: Serving Members Statewide



Clear Health Alliance is the only statewide HIV/AIDS Medicaid Specialty Plan in Florida. The plan provides Medicaid recipients living with HIV/AIDS access to quality healthcare, care coordination and a wide array of expanded benefits and services. In addition to regular Medicaid benefits such as prescription drugs and doctor visits, members receive expanded services tailored to their specific needs including non-emergency transportation, adult dental care, over-the-counter medications and supplies, eyeglasses and vision care, home delivered meals and nutritional counseling. The Clear Health Alliance provider network includes HIV/AIDS trained primary care physicians and Infectious Disease providers, and an extensive network of specialists. Plan members also receive “high-touch” services from individually assigned, experienced Care Coordinators who guide them in their medical treatment and provide assistance in meeting other needs specific to their condition. The plan’s Care Coordinators also work with community based providers and grassroots organizations to effectively meet the comprehensive and specialized needs of this underserved population.

Clear Health Alliance is available as a choice for Medicaid recipients living in all Regions except Region 4. For more information on Clear Health Alliance, a Medicaid recipient can call the plan toll-free at 877-777-7871 or TTY 711, or Choice Counseling at 877-711-3662 or TDD 866-467-4970. To learn more about Clear Health Alliance, visit us at www.clearhealthalliance.com (be sure to go by their exhibit at the Annual Meeting)

Florida Institute for Health Innovation Receives Grant from Build Health Challenge

Recently, Dr. Roderick King, Dr. Lilian Rivera, Cecilia Guterrez-Abety (CEO of the Miami Children's Initiative) and Christine Kovach Hom traveled to Washington, DC to accept a grant award of \$75,000 from the [BUILD Health Challenge](#) for FIHI's partnership project entitled "Building a Healthy and Resilient Liberty City." In addition, they traveled to the White House to meet with Michael D. Smith, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director of Cabinet Affairs for the My Brother's Keeper Initiative.

For more information on this piece of FIHI work, please visit: <http://flhealthinnovation.org/liberty-city-partnership-recognized-as-national-leader-in-promoting-health/>.

University News

The **Rollins Center for Health Innovation** is offering a 10% tuition discount for members of the FPFA that wish to enroll in either our new executive-style Master of Public Health (MPH) program or our new executive-style Master of Health Services Administration (MHSA) program. Classes meet every other weekend on some Friday evenings and Saturdays for approximately 21 months.

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College of Public Health, USF

The COPH created a video focused on the leading causes and prevention strategies for child and adolescent injuries with one goal in mind—"change behavior so that lives are saved and people can reach their full potential," said [Dr. Karen Liller](#), a child and adolescent injury professor at USF. To see this video, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2wxNY1n0GU&list=PL61EAC2BB13A965E0&index=1>

<http://hscweb3.hsc.usf.edu/health/publichealth/news/chiles-center-stands-tall-for-women-and-babies/>

<http://hscweb3.hsc.usf.edu/health/publichealth/news/public-health-programs-across-the-country-see-major-changes-to-curriculum-multimedia/> (Framing the Future video with Donna Petersen)

<http://hscweb3.hsc.usf.edu/health/publichealth/news/trending-health-hazards-hookah-and-e-cigarettes/>

<http://hscweb3.hsc.usf.edu/health/publichealth/news/global-health-researchers-play-role-in-discovery-of-new-antimalarial-drug/>

Conferences and Events

National Women, Infants and Children Breastfeeding Week

<http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAOOC/bulletins/112a568>

[First 1000 Days Florida Summit](#)

<http://flmiechv.com/register-now-first-1000-days-florida-summit-oct-21-23/>

2015 Clinician's Network Educational Conference

<http://www.cvent.com/events/2015-clinician-s-network-educational-conference/event-summary-49c4f8b399014f008126fda3a3751731.aspx>

Workers' Compensation Institute Education Conference

<http://www.wci360.com/conference>

Open Forum for QI in Public Health, October 15-16, 2015 · Seattle, Washington

National Network of Public Health Institutes

<http://www.cvent.com/events/october-2015-open-forum-for-quality-improvement-in-public-health/event-summary-60e4357e3c504cd49aac5428aba0076f.aspx>

9th Annual Southern Obesity Summit, November 15-17, 2015, Jackson, MS

www.southernobesitysummit.org

Association of Food and Drug Officials Southern States Fall Conference in Gatlinburg, TN

<http://www.afdoss.org>

Looking Ahead...

2016 Annual Meeting of the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers

<http://nursingworkforcecenters.org/>