

The Florida Public Health Advocate

A publication of the Florida Public Health Association

From the President's Desk...



In central Florida, February signals strawberry season and that the festival in Plant City is just around the corner. At FPHA, February lets us know the legislative session is about to start. As your association, we advocate for the public health issues that are important to you.

Each spring the Florida Legislature meets in a 60-day regular session which must begin on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March. Before the session, there is much activity going on. Bills are being submitted, committees are holding conferences, and priorities are being set. To follow all of the action the FPHA Legislative Committee has regularly scheduled conference calls and is updated by our legislative consultant and advocate, Chris Nuland.

If you have ever wondered how the legislative process really works, becoming part of the Legislative Committee is your window through which to watch the political world. There are many public health related bills that come up that are important to members and it is the committee's task to be sure our voice is heard. While we will not have success with all of our bills getting through, you can be confident that the committee is advocating for you.

You can become part of the Legislative committee or just follow the updates on the FPHA website, FPHA Facebook, FPHA Twitter, and our regularly updated session email.

Dr. Rick France

February 2017

Florida Public Health Association

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2017 Leadership Chair

Greetings Fellow FPHA Members,

I'd like to take this moment to introduce myself as your Chairperson for the 2017 Leadership Interest Group and to solicit your involvement within our focus area to enhance Public Health leadership opportunities not only in Florida but throughout the country. Many have heard me say "Public Health is not a job, but rather a profession that those who work in this field have chosen based on passions to serve our communities". I have actively pursued my passion in the Florida Public Health System for almost 27 years, serving in many roles, which ultimately led to me becoming the

Administrator for the Florida Department of Health in Columbia and

Hamilton Counties. Through the years of experience one thing that stands clear is "leadership" is not just required from titled positions such as supervisor, director, manager or administrator. Effective leadership starts with every employee within your organization and it is up to those titled positions to empower others into becoming leaders. While organizational leaders make the final decisions, if staff has not been actively engaged in the process are we doing what's best in the interest of community public health. I will be reaching out soon to many of you as we organize our leadership interest group to move towards developing public health leaders through staff engagement, recruitment and retention, workforce needs, and a solid mentoring process. Thank you for this opportunity to serve FPHA.

Mark S. Lander, M.S.



Medical Device Ban: Powdered Gloves

Effective January 2017

What is a Medical Device Ban?

A medical device ban is a total prohibition on the current and future sales, distribution, and manufacturing of a medical device.

The FDA has the authority to ban a medical device intended for human use if it finds, on the basis of all available data and information, that the device presents a substantial deception to patients or users about the benefits of the device, or an unreasonable and substantial risk of illness or injury, which cannot be corrected by a change in the labeling. (see Section 516(a) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act; 21 CFR 895.20)



[Click here to read the Final Rule](#)



FPHA
Florida Public Health Association



Tampa Bay
Healthcare
Collaborative



JOINING FORCES TO ACHIEVE HEALTH EQUITY

31 MARCH 2017
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

USF
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH
TAMPA, FL



REGISTER HERE

<http://fpha.org/event-2428428>

Join us on March 31, 2017 to look at increased ways to collaborate in achieving health equity for members of our communities. You will hear from experts on Health Equity, hear from groups currently collaborating in offering services, what was successful and where they had weaknesses, and have the opportunity to network with other professionals.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

- Highlight opportunities to collaborate regionally to achieve health equity
- Explore local health disparities and describe how organizations are addressing them
- Leverage existing efforts to reduce health disparities and develop action steps

QUESTIONS

[CLICK HERE FOR LINK TO WEBSITE](#)

Contact Allison Rapp at allisonrapp@sofl.org or Carrie Hepburn at director@tampabayhealth.org



Florida Action Coalition

Formed in 2011, the **Florida Action Coalition** aims to provide leadership in advancing the nursing profession so that Floridians can access safe, high quality health care. Our vision is for all Floridians to have access to high quality, safe, and patient centered care in a health care system where nurses contribute as essential partners in achieving success.

Presented in the December 2016 FPHA Newsletter was information on the Florida Action Coalition, time line from 2010-2017. As your FPHA representative on the Florida Action Coalition, I have represented you on the Practice Action Team. One of the major recommendations that came from the Institute of Medicine's Future of Nursing report was to address the issues of removing scope-of-practice barriers to nurses.

Our Practice Action Team has been involved in educating health providers, elected officials, health care stakeholders, and others about the many aspects of nursing. Additionally, the importance of nursing activities is being publicized, especially in trying to more fully utilize ARNPs in the provision of health care in Florida, not only on access to healthcare, but also on the economy through jobs and increased spending. According to Unruh, Rutherford, and Schirle (2016), ARNPs can contribute an additional \$238 to \$537 million in wages and benefits annually in the least restrictive practice area. Jobs could be increased by more than 1,800 ARNPs in areas with the least restrictive practice area (Unruh et al., 2016).

Educating the public about the many aspects of nursing can help to form true collaboration of care coordination. As a public health nurse on the team, my goal has been to continue to promote the value and effectiveness of public health nursing in providing health education to not only the public but to the health care receivers and providers in areas of prevention. Prevention is the key to good health, improving health outcomes, and teaching about risk-reduction behaviors.

The Practice Action Team has two work groups: the Institution Work Group and the Legislative Work Group. As a member of the Institution Work Group, FPHA has been involved in promoting information about specific benefits provided by Advanced Practice Nurses. We developed a [Nurse Practitioner Role Fact Sheet](#), [ARNP Benefits of Florida-Brief Report](#), and [ARNP Benefits of Florida-Technical Report](#), which can be reached at the Action Team link <https://www.flcenterfornursing.org/FL-ActionCoalition/FocusAreas/PracticeActionTeam.aspx> (Florida Action Coalition-Practice Action Team, 2014).

The Florida Action Coalition is "providing leadership in advancing the nursing profession so that Floridians can access safe, high quality healthcare" and the Practice Action Team will continue "to educate health providers, elected leadership, coalition stakeholders and the public about the practice of nursing and the many roles of nurses" and continue to promote the importance "that physicians, nurses and other health professionals work together to successfully accomplish coordinated care that is effective and efficient". Public health nursing/community health nursing "averts the initial occurrence of disease or injury and provides early identification and treatment or a comprehensive rehabilitation of the disease or injury to maximize health" (Hunt, 2013, p. 24).

Linda LaComb-Williams,

R.N. Nursing Section Co-chair

References

- Florida Action Coalition-Practice Action Team. (2014). *Nurse practitioner role fact sheet*. Retrieved from Florida Center for Nursing: <https://www.flcenterfornursing.org/FL-ActionCoalition/FocusAreas/PracticeActionTeam.aspx>
- Hunt, R. (2013). *Introduction to Community-Based Nursing* (5th ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.
- Unruh, I., Rutherford, A., & Schirle, L. (2016, November 11). *What role do Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners have in meeting Florida's health needs and contributing to its economy? A brief report*. Retrieved from Florida Center for Nursing: https://www.flcenterfornursing.org/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/Download.aspx?Command=Core_Download&EntryId=1246&PortalId=0&TabId=151

Florida's first master's degree program in genetic counseling earns accreditation

The University of South Florida College of Public Health is the first in Florida to offer a graduate degree in genetic counseling. Last fall, the college's graduate program in genetic counseling earned a crucial accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling. Accreditation as a new program by this national organization is essential for graduating students to be eligible to take the American Board of Genetic Counseling examination and become certified genetic counselors.

With that milestone met, the program leading to a master of science degree in public health and genetic counseling (MSPH) is now recruiting and expects to admit its first group of students in Fall 2017.

While more people with genetic predispositions for certain cancers or other conditions are seeking out testing, there is a critical shortage of certified genetic counselors to help guide patients and their families through the process.

Laura Barton, a genetic counselor at Moffitt Cancer Center and president of the Florida Association of Genetic Counselors, said the need for a genetic counseling training program has been long overdue. "It's very exciting because now students won't have to leave Florida to become a genetic counselor like I had to."

Michael White, PhD, a professor in the College of Public Health who was instrumental in initiating this program pointed out, "We're the third most populous state, but until now we didn't have any genetic counseling training programs."

The USF Genetic Counseling program is a 42 credit graduate degree (21 months) with estimated total tuition costs for Florida state residents of \$19,000. The program is open to students with a bachelor's degree; however, a few key undergraduate courses including molecular biology and genetics will be required to apply.

"We're not restricting what their undergraduate major is, they just need to make sure they have certain prerequisites," said Deborah Cragun, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Global Health, and director for the new program.

COPH and the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, teamed up with faculty across the university and throughout



the Tampa Bay area to create the genetic counseling program. USF's Division of Genetics & Metabolism, Moffitt Cancer Center, Orlando Health and other community partners will provide students with the hands-on counseling experience required for graduation.

Cragun said students of the program will be prepared to practice in multiple areas including cancer genetic counseling, prenatal counseling, pediatric counseling and newer specialties that are arising due to advances in genomics and precision medicine.

"Students go out and work with practicing genetic counselors so they can gain the experience they need," Cragun said. "They will work with counselors who are certified themselves and who see patients in a variety of clinical settings. Currently we have partnered with all 10 clinical genetic counselors in Tampa and six clinical genetic counselors in Orlando. In addition, our students will gain experience shadowing and learning from several other counselors who work in industry or laboratory settings."

"This program will help the state and the profession," Cragun said. "It will be critical, because as we start doing more genetic tests, it's really important that we have the expertise out there to help families accurately understand those results and make decisions that are right for them."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of genetic counselors is projected to grow 29 percent from 2014 to 2024, which is much faster than the average for other occupations.

"Admissions across the country are actually highly competitive for genetic counseling training programs," Cragun said. "To date, no other public or private academic genetic counseling program exists in Florida, and ours is one of only 35 accredited programs in the U.S."

To learn more about the graduate program in genetic counseling, contact (813) 974-6505, preadmissions@health.usf.edu or visit <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/genetic-counseling.htm>.

FLORIDA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION 2017 ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

“The Power of Collaboration” July 25-28 2017

Location: The Florida Hotel & Conference Center 1500 Sand Lake Rd. Orlando, FL 32809

CALL FOR POSTERS

FPHA Members, Public Health Students and Faculty, and Public Health Organizations are invited to submit proposals for posters reporting public health research or innovative programs or policies.

We are seeking proposals for posters representing public health issues in Florida. Proposals focusing on “The Power of Collaboration” are especially encouraged.

The submissions will be reviewed using the following general criteria:

- Importance of the public health issue/topic
- Creativity of program approach or study design and research questions
- Innovative use of partnerships/collaborations
- Logic of methodology or program description
- Results of program of study are clearly presented
- Discussion points justified by results/findings
- Organization/grammar/coherence of abstract



Poster abstracts must be submitted via email, on the abstract submission form below, by 5:00pm ET on **April 15, 2017**. Submit completed applications to Jessica Weissman, Chair of the Poster Committee at Jessica33026@aol.com.

Poster abstracts that do not follow the outline on the application form will be discarded.

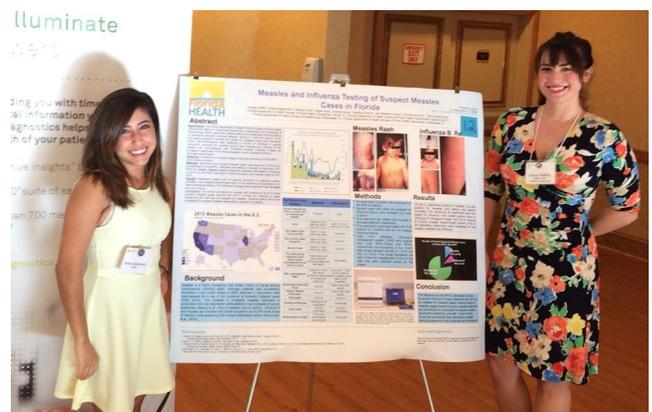
You will receive notification if your application is accepted, following committee review, no later than **May 20, 2017**. Specific instructions for your poster presentation such as which day(s) you will be presenting will be sent prior to the conference along with other pertinent information.

If you have questions about developing or submitting your abstract, please contact Jessica Weissman at Jessica33026@aol.com.

Thank you,

Jessica Weissman, MS, RD, LDN

FPHA Annual Education Conference



FLORIDA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION 2017 ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

“The Power of Collaboration” July 25-28 2017

Location: The Florida Hotel & Conference Center 1500 Sand Lake Rd. Orlando, FL 32809

Abstract Submission Form

Presenter's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Organization/School Affiliation: _____

Employment Title (if applicable): _____

Title of Poster: _____

Names of Co-Authors (if applicable): _____

Submission Instructions:

• You must submit the abstract submission form **and** a separate Word or PDF file that includes only your abstract and title and no author or presenter names. Names should only be on the abstract submission form

Save your submission form as "SubmissionForm_Your Last Name" (i.e., SubmissionForm_Smith)

Save your abstract documents as the first three words of your title

• 300-word limit using only the below subtitles:

1. Title of Poster

2. Statement of Problem/Significance

3. Goal/Objective

4. Description of study, program, or intervention

5. Results/Outcomes

6. Conclusions and/or Implications

• Must be submitted via email by 5:00pm ET on **April 15, 2017** to Jessica Weissman, Chair of the Poster Committee at Jessica33026@aol.com



Anti-Fluoridationist's Target Civil Rights Leaders with Misinformation!

Response to Letter of Andrew Young

A letter signed by Dr. Andrew Young, civil rights leader and former US Ambassador to the United Nations, is currently being promoted by anti-fluoridationist groups. This letter contains the typical out-of-context information, half-truths, and misrepresentations characteristic of fluoridation opponents targeting emotional responses in lieu of facts and evidence.

The first point claims that fluoridation has not been properly researched. In reality, water fluoridation has been the most tested and investigated initiative in history. The scientific literature on fluoridation is voluminous. Even in the face of such scrutiny, in the entire 71 year history of fluoridation, there have been no proven adverse health effects. There can be no more convincing demonstration of the safety of this initiative.

The next point claims that the description of dental fluorosis has gone from "pathologic" to "inconsequential" implying a conspiratorial reason for so doing. In actuality, the characterization of dental fluorosis has not changed. This effect of the teeth has several levels, with the severe level being the only form considered to be an adverse health effect. Most importantly, severe dental fluorosis does not occur in communities with water fluoride content of 2.0 mg/liter, or less.

The letter then claims that the amount of fluoride in saliva resultant of fluoridation, is insufficient to have any benefit. This claim is a perfect example of misuse of out-of-context information. The entire paragraph from the CDC report is as follows:

2001 CDC report:

"Saliva is a major carrier of topical fluoride. The concentration of fluoride in ductal saliva, as it is secreted from salivary glands, is low --- approximately 0.016 parts per million (ppm) in areas where drinking water is fluoridated and 0.006 ppm in nonfluoridated areas. This concentration of fluoride is not likely to affect cariogenic activity. However, drinking fluoridated water, brushing with fluoride toothpaste, or using other fluoride dental products can raise the concentration of fluoride in saliva present in the mouth 100- to 1,000-fold. The concentration returns to previous levels within 1--2 hours but, during this time, saliva serves as an important source of fluoride for concentration in plaque and for tooth remineralization."

Finally, the claim is made that minorities are disproportionately harmed by "fluorides causing all forms of dental fluorosis teeth disfigurement", and implies that diabetic and kidney patients in the African American communities are being misinformed.

Dental fluorosis is not a "disfigurement". It is simply a cosmetic effect on the enamel of teeth from systemic fluoride during tooth development. The milder forms are associated with greater resistance of the teeth to dental decay, and have no consequence other than barely detectable faint white streaks on these teeth. There is no credible, peer-reviewed scientific evidence that fluoridated water has any association with diabetes, or has any adverse effect on the kidneys. There is, on the other hand, clear such evidence that demonstrates no negative health consequences from optimally fluoridated water in patients with even late stage kidney disorders.

As can easily be noted here, the claims of fluoridation opponents should never be trusted for accuracy. They must always be verified for accuracy prior to according any credence.

PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE NEWS

Flawed herpes testing leads to many false positives — and needless suffering

[Read more here](#)

Mitigating Diseases Transmitted by *Aedes* Mosquitoes: A Cluster-Randomized Trial of Permethrin-Impregnated School Uniforms

Viral diseases transmitted via *Aedes* mosquitoes are on the rise, such as Zika, dengue, and chikungunya. Novel tools to mitigate *Aedes* mosquitoes-transmitted diseases are urgently needed. We tested whether commercially insecticide-impregnated school uniforms can reduce dengue incidence in school children.

[Read more here](#)

Outgoing CDC chief talks about agency's successes — and his greatest fear

“CDC has some of the top communications scientists in the world. Their key principles are be first, be right, be credible.”

- Tom Frieden

[Click here for full article](#)

"Weaving A Tapestry of Optimal Health"



Dr. Brandy Kelly Pryor
Health Equity Director
Louisville Department of
Public Health & Wellness in Kentucky, and
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Culture of Health City Award Winner

Dr. Steve Owens
Health Equity Consultant
National Association of
Chronic Disease Directors

Sunny Slaughter
Human Trafficking Expert & Certified Law
Enforcement Trainer

Registration: \$50
Breakfast, Lunch and Continuing
Education Units

Registration Link:
<http://bit.ly/FLHealthEquitySummit>

Contact Information:
Anthony T. Chapman at 386-481-2385
or flhealthequity@gmail.com

Hotel Information:
Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort,
100 N. Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL

Rate:
\$121 per night, plus \$15 resort fee

Online:
<http://bit.ly/FLHealthSummitHotel> or
866-536-8477
Group #DHPE

The Bethune-Cookman University (BCU) Petrock College of Health Sciences invites you to its inaugural Florida Health Equity Summit. The purpose of this Summit is to provide an opportunity for public health professionals, health educators, health sciences students, staff and faculty and community health advocates to gain resources; pursue partnerships; and learn skills to work towards health equity for all.

Summit attendees will receive health equity training in the areas of chronic diseases, human trafficking and law enforcement engagement, infant mortality and policy and systems change approaches.

HEALTH EQUITY POSTER RECEPTION
Wednesday, March 1, 2017
6:00pm – 8:00pm EST
(Abstracts due February 7th, 2017)

HEALTH EQUITY SUMMIT
Thursday, March 2, 2017
8:30am – 3:30pm EST

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
698 W. International Speedway Blvd, Daytona Beach, FL



BETHUNE-COOKMAN UNIVERSITY

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- **FREE** – Community, worksite, and clinic groups offered
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**if medically appropriate and 18 years of age or older.*

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GROUP QUIT

Is the in-person option of Tobacco Free Florida's Quit Your Way services.

tobaccofreeflorida.com/quityourway



23RD ANNUAL RURAL HEALTH EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT

February 28- March 1, 2017
Jacksonville, FL

FloridaRuralHealth.org/Summit
#FRHASummit



Florida Rural Health Association
One Voice for Florida. Louder.

FLORIDA RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Movement Makers: The National Active Living Summit

Richmond, VA – May 17-19

How are you getting your community moving? We are looking for proposals that emphasize how to encourage physical activity for all populations through evidence-based programs, policies, and partnerships. Special consideration will be given to proposals that address equity, create collaborative impact, and get people moving.

Find more information and to submit your proposal:
<http://www.movementmakers.com/speakers-default/submit-a-proposal/>