

The Florida Public Health Advocate

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From the President's Desk...



"I think it would be great to do a regional conference for our area."

"I would like to be a part of team that works on increasing the membership."

"Finally, a chance to put my journalism skills to work!"

"I have some students that are interested in legislative issues and I want to connect them with the committee."

"It is a way for me to keep current on nursing activities and learning opportunities in Florida."

These are just some of the reasons why members have decided to volunteer and become more involved with FPHA. What each of these individuals has in common is that they have an inner spark that drives them to do a little more.

Volunteering can be a call to challenge your comfort zone and push your envelope. It can also be a great way to get to know and work with others. What sometimes can hold people back is the nagging feeling that the unexpected obligation will show up and put them in a bind. Or the fear of getting in over your head. When volunteering we need to always keep in mind that family, health and life come first. Knowing that it is okay to take a break and bow out for a bit and then come back in when you are able can ease your worries about volunteering.

What are your interests and how can we help you get more out of FPHA? I encourage you to become an active member by joining and participating in an Interest Group or being part of a committee. The rewards can vary from small to large depending upon your involvement but they are definitely worth it as our wonderful volunteers will tell you.

Dr. Rick France

FPHA President



FPHA New Association Manager and Executive Director

Starting in February, at the time of the retirement of FPHA's long-time and dedicated Executive Director Sandy Magyar, Suwannee River Area Health Education Center (SRAHEC) became FPHA's association manager. Suwannee River AHEC is a public health nonprofit that services 12 counties in North Central Florida: *Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Suwannee, and Union*. SRAHEC is a leader in innovative health education. They create and champion diverse programming and foster strong partnerships, to improve the health of our community. Their mission is to promote and provide access to quality health connections for our community. Their professional staff members seek to assist individuals who have basic health needs, as well as train health professionals and students to better serve their patients. SRAHEC oversees and implements various public health initiatives including Tobacco Free Florida AHEC Cessation & Training Program and the Health Insurance Marketplace Navigator program in North Central Florida. SRAHEC also offers Workplace Wellbeing programming for your employees allowing you to elevate health as a business priority. SRAHEC's Professional Education Department coordinates all aspects of conference planning and continuing education using our online learning center. Lastly, SRAHEC manages the Florida Rural Health Association.

Sarah Catalanotto, MPH, CTTS is the Executive Director of SRAHEC and will act as FPHA's Executive Director. Sarah Catalanotto has been with SRAHEC since 2011. In the role of Executive Director, she plans, organizes, directs, and evaluates the center's programming and day-to-day operations. In addition, Sarah assists with grant writing and the development and management of the organization's budgets. Prior to working at Suwannee River AHEC, she was a Tobacco Prevention Specialist within the Alachua County Health Department's Tobacco Prevention and Control Program, and served as a Community Coordinator for the Chronic Disease Program. Sarah received her Bachelor of Art in Political Science and Sociology from Flagler College. Following her passion in healthcare and access to care, she pursued a degree in Public Health from the University of Florida College of Public Health and Health Professions.

As the new association manager, SRAHEC will assist FPHA with fiscal responsibilities such as budgets and reporting, maintaining the membership database, and assisting with conference coordination.



MPH in Nutrition and Dietetics with Internship Opportunity at USF

An exciting, new nutrition and dietetics program at the University of South Florida is ready to accept its first group of students starting in summer 2017. This integrated MPH degree with dietetic internship program (DI-MPH) is offered by the Department of Community and Family Health (CFH), College of Public Health, at USF, which is the first full-time degree offering dietetic internship program in Tampa, Florida, and one of 6 full-time degree DI programs in the state. Aligning with the mission of CFH, “empowering families and communities to ensure optimal health and well-being through collaborative innovation in education, research, and community engagement,” this program will develop future leaders in public health nutrition and dietetics, contributing to improving the health and well-being of diverse communities.

The program is particularly for those who have completed a Didactic Program in Dietetics approved or accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and wish to apply for a dietetic internship as they pursue an MPH degree in nutrition and dietetics. Registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs) with two years of experience can also enroll in an MPH degree program in nutrition and dietetics. This is a great opportunity for RDNs to expand their knowledge and experience to broader public health perspectives.

The DI-MPH program is comprised of 42 credits over the 20-month period. Students begin to take MPH coursework in the summer semester (mid-May), with the internship beginning in the fall semester. All courses are online, allowing students to transition to the Tampa Bay area. The courses are only open to those enrolled in the DI-MPH program or RDNs enrolled in the MPH program with the nutrition and dietetic concentration. The USF dietetic internship is combined with the coursework and adheres to current accreditation standards of the ACEND, specialized in population health, leadership, and service, which can be applied in any major field of dietetics, and provides supervised practice in a variety of settings. Beginning in August, dietetic interns work 32 hours/week in various medical centers, public health agencies, private industries, food services, and schools in the Tampa Bay

area. The supervised practice experiences will meet entry-level competencies established by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. In addition to becoming registry eligible, interns will achieve competence in nutrition assessment, nutrition care planning, nutrition counseling and education, management and leadership, personnel management, problem-solving and decision-making, and professional growth and development.

USF faculty in nutrition and dietetics have extensive experiences in both practice and research, enabling them to provide students up-to-date, evidence-based knowledge on nutritional sciences as well as practical wisdom in dietetics. In addition, interns will have extensive dietetic experience in diverse sectors, including Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) agencies; All Children’s Kids Healthy Weight program; Feeding Tampa Bay; Tampa General Hospital; Moffitt Cancer Center; the USF Diabetes Center; the VA outpatient clinic; and more. During the second year of the internship, they will also have a unique, international experience as dietetics interns.

Once students complete the required courses and internship rotations, graduates will be eligible to take the Registration Examination for Dietitians. The DI-MPH program in nutrition and dietetics prepares graduates for evidence-based practice as entry-level registered dietitians and to take leadership roles in the communities they serve. They may develop careers in hospitals and clinical facilities, government and public health agencies, and national/regional nonprofit organizations.

The current tuition fee is \$467.34/hour for residents and \$913.08/hour for nonresidents. Estimated costs for tuition are \$19,638 for residents and \$38,349 for nonresidents. The internship program participates in the April (spring) D&D Digital (Ames, IA) dietetic internship matching cycle and accepts 6 interns per year. The DI participates in the Dietetic Internship Centralized Application System (DICAS), hosted by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Please refer to the DICAS applicant portal at <https://portal.dicas.org/> or the DICAS information page on the Academy’s website for guidance and deadlines. The applicant must complete and submit their application to our program using the DICAS by the DICAS deadline. In addition, students must apply to the USF MPH in Community and Family Health, Nutrition and Dietetics Program.

For more information, please contact Dietetic Internship Director Dr. Theresa Crocker at tcrocker@health.usf.edu or visit <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/apply/graduate-admissions/nutrition-and-dietetics-mph> and <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/cfh/usf-dietetic-internship/>.

Florida Planners4Health Project

The American Planning Association (APA), in collaboration with the American Public Health Association (APHA), has created a multi-year initiative to promote the integration of planning and public health. This effort is federally funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The project was originally called Plan4Health, and for the first two years had a purpose of place-making, or a project which capitalizes on local resources to promote public health in the built environment. In this third and final year the project is called Planners4Health and has a main focus of creating coalitions and building relationships between the two professions on a much larger scale. This year, the key is to lay the ground work for strengthening cross-sectional partnerships. This is the first year Florida or any community within has been a participant in this effort.

This project commenced in February with a strategic meeting held in Tampa of task force members from across the state and from varying backgrounds. These backgrounds include planning and public health, the aging population, transportation, and food systems. As a result of this meeting, the task force identified and defined the project, the audience, and the strategy. As part of the process, the task force decided to survey members of the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association and public health officials. The survey results will help us to realize our starting point, the level of understanding of each other's professions. With this information, we can begin to develop our project, which will be a web-based platform to introduce and educate each other regarding potential partnerships, funding opportunities, resources, and other information to help us both reach our common goals.

Please find the link here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TZHKJT8> We would appreciate your response no later than April 15, 2017.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Allara Mills-Gutcher, Project Manager, at 850.319.9180.

Legislative Update March 2017 Christopher L. Nuland, Esq.

March is in the books, but not before the Legislature had its most productive week of the 2017 Session, with more fireworks set for this week.

The tone for the week was set Monday, when the Senate Health Policy met a day earlier than usual to address a host of issues, including Newborn Screening Requirements, expanded access to Stroke Centers, elimination of duplicative regulation of Clinical Labs, and Overdose Reporting Requirements (which was amended to eliminate such reporting for non-EMS providers).

However, those developments paled in comparison to the House, where the Health Innovation Committee passed a proposed deregulation of the Trauma System and virtual ban on managed care Retroactive Denials (both bills still have more committee stops). The highlight of the week, however, was the full House passing its "Priority Package" of health-related issues Friday afternoon, including Direct Primary Care and Recovery Care Clinics.

All of THAT, however, pales in comparison to what the Senate will address on Monday, when the Senate Health Policy takes on MOC and Physician Assistant Regulation at the same time that the Banking and Insurance Committee addresses Workers Compensation, PIP, and Board of Medicine Office Surgery Rules.

CHRIS NULAND
nulandlaw@aol.com

If you are interested in joining the Legislative Committee please reach out to fpha@srahec.org

Tampa's Brown Bag Lunch

02/23/17

