

The Florida Public Health Advocate

A publication of the Florida Public Health Association

From the President's Desk...



"How can I learn leadership skills?" is the question I often hear from co-workers looking to build their career. It's a familiar problem that we have all come across. To move up you need experience, but you can't get experience until you move up. Fortunately, the FPHA provides leadership opportunities. How, you may ask? Have you checked out the Interest Groups lately?

The FPHA Interest Groups are an excellent way to provide members possibilities to grow in their professional development. Depending on your comfort level, you can participate as just an active group member or, if you are really motivated, there are a couple of openings for Chairpersons to lead an Interest Group*. On the navigation menu at the top of the fpha.org home page click on FPHA INTEREST GROUPS.

What if you just want to be more involved with FPHA? This year we are promoting projects for the Interest Groups. Let's face it; only having conference calls is boring. Instead, how about small projects that can get people working together and have something to show at the end? For instance, the Student Interest Group will be starting on a project to survey millennials to find out how to grow their membership in FPHA and what social and public health issues interest them the most. This promises to provide new skills; a valuable resource for FPHA; and who knows; maybe it will even lead to a white paper.

Or how about getting a little more experience and helping to organize a local event for FPHA. It could be something small such as a "meet up" or larger. Members are always asking to have a regional conference in their area. For more information on a recent one see the article in this newsletter on the Northwest Florida Regional Conference.

As we know just being a member of FPHA looks good on a résumé and any project activities would be a bonus. It shows that you have taken initiative and that is just what employers are looking for.

This year I'm hearing that members want to be more involved with FPHA and that is great news. Find the groups that interest you and let them know that you want to be a part and join the fun.

Dr. Rick France

FPHA President

*Need leaders for Community Health, Chronic & Communicable Disease Prevention, Health Informatics & Information Technology, and Public Health Leadership.



November 2016

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A note on membership...

As membership chair I would like to thank all of our members for being part of a great public health association. The membership committee need your support in maintaining a strong public health association and a voice for so many. You can do this by meeting, greeting, or spreading the word at various venues such as a brown bag lunch, or consider a social or networking "meet-up".

In addition, by reaching out to the various community partners, agencies, and/or universities that you work with. Let's "each one reach one" by spreading the word about the benefits of being a member of Florida Public Health Association.

Ethel Edwards, 2nd Vice President
Membership Chair



USF COPH ALUMNI SOCIETY

Help us honor alumni who have made significant contributions to advance the public's health.

In 2017, the USF College of Public Health will recognize exceptional alumni in the following areas:

- Leadership on public health
- Teaching, scholarship and mentorship of health professionals
- Research
- Impact on the community, college, university or society

Nominations must be submitted by midnight on

December 1, 2016

For more information, contact COPHAU-mAwards@health.usf.edu.

March of Dimes

On October 27, 2016, three of our FPHA Board members attended the March of Dimes 2016 Florida Prematurity Summit in Tampa, Florida. Ethel Edwards, Linda Lacomb-Williams, and Jennifer Waskovich represented our organization during this one-day action planning event. This Summit was an opportunity for varying organizations to collaborate in an effort to reduce prematurity rates to 8.1% by 2020. The day began with an overview of the day's purpose, the prematurity roadmap and strategic plan which were developed in November 2015. Reverend Tommy Rodgers of the NE Florida Healthy Start Coalition provided an inspirational talk on Prematurity and Collaborative Planning in High-Risk Communities. Our morning ended with the first steps of action planning, where our FPHA representatives worked with others to determine who else should be brought to the table in prematurity prevention strategies. The afternoon comprised of two more planning sessions. The first of which was a SWOT analysis. Each workgroup, determined by region in the state, listed strengths and weaknesses in their county/organization regarding prematurity prevention. The last session was entitled "Essentials for Success" where we developed a list of things we felt are necessary to be successful in our action plan. FPHA has a number of ways we can play a role, including advocacy and policy change. We will need to rise as once Public Health voice to help make change in the State of Florida. One voice to improve the pregnancy outcomes of our pregnant moms.

-Jennifer Waskovich



Jessica Weissman receiving APHA's Campus Liaison of the Year Award

FPHA members at APHA



Dr. McCoy, Jessica Weissman & Lori Jordahl



Jessica Weissman & Lori Jordahl

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You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **Fpha Foundation Inc** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.
- You can select a different charitable organization after signing in.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
 - Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com

The holidays are approaching and we will be busy shopping for gifts, decorations, and more. By shopping at smile.amazon.com, Fpha Foundation Inc can increase its AmazonSmile donations.

#StartWithaSmile at smile.amazon.com/ch/20-3357151 for your holiday gifts and Amazon donates to Fpha Foundation Inc.

Dear FPHA members,

I have recently begun my stewardship of the newsletter and in an effort to be inclusive and share more content, please feel free to reach out to me via email with event/member spotlights. I can be reached at Alyssa.Moffitt@flhealth.gov. Please address all emails as, "FPHA Newsletter."

Respectfully,

Alyssa Moffitt

Broward Area Member & Visitor Gathering

"What are YOU doing Friday, December 2nd at 5pm? Join FPHA at Bahama Breeze (2750 Sawgrass Mills Cir, Sunrise, FL 33323)! Network with FPHA members, share ideas, and learn how you can support Florida Public Health Association in making Florida the Healthiest State in the Nation!"

P.S. We will meet at a restaurant/bar but everyone is responsible for their own food and drink; and let us know so we can reserve enough seats. ;-)

For more information and to RSVP, email [Ethel Edwards](mailto:Ethel.Edwards@woly9848@gmail.com) at woly9848@gmail.com

FPHA Northwest Florida Regional Meeting a Great Success

Everyone who gathered in Tallahassee for the regional meeting left with high praise. The program was focused on strengthening collaboration between Primary Care and Public Health. The attendees came from private medical offices, FQHC's, CHD's, FSU College of Medicine, Health Planning Councils, etc. It was a great opportunity to network, hear about the issues directly from others, discuss ways to work together for a healthier patient and state. Additionally there were multiple poster presenters highlighting their collaborative efforts. Over 100 were in attendance. Because this program was so well received, the FPHA Annual Meeting Planning Committee is also planning to focus on Collaboration. So watch for that program coming out soon.



**Mark your calendars for the 2017 FPHA Annual Conference, July 26 - 28, 2017.
“The Power of Collaboration”**