President’s Message from Dr. Cathy Taylor

In my last message, I challenged you to “imagine bigger” for TPHA’s next 75 years, and rising to the challenge, recent weeks have been marked with a swirl of planning activities for this year’s bigger Grand Division Meetings, bigger Public Health Week and a bigger Fall Conference. Coming up first, the Grand Division Meetings will focus on important local issues like substance abuse, suicide prevention and human trafficking. I know you will join me in thanking Crystal Manners, VP Middle TN, Marianne Sharp, VP East TN and Judy Martin, VP West TN and their committee members for planning these exciting events. Dates and locations are on page 4, and registration is open at tnpublichealth.org.

Dana Mulcahy and her committee have done a great job expanding TPHA’s continuing education credit (CEU) options at this year’s Grand Division meetings. CEUs will be available for nurses, dentists, dental hygienists, physicians, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, veterinarians and the following certifications: REHS/RS, CPH, CHES/MCHES. Please contact Dana or Kim Harrell if you need CEUs not currently offered by TPHA.

Next, Shannon Railling and her committee have done a tremendous job preparing us for Public Health Week, April 1-7, 2019. Their efforts on the selection process for the Visionary Awards and the Student Video Challenge have resulted in many qualified candidates under consideration. Thanks to everyone who submitted nominations. Winners will be announced at the Grand Division meetings. Continued on Page 3, see President

Greene County Health Department Community Naloxone Training Project

Submitted by Shaun Street, Greene County Director, and Jayne Harper, Northeast Region Assessment & Planning Coordinator

In response to the need to educate community residents about administering Naloxone (Narcan) in the event of an opioid overdose and to provide access to this life-saving medication, the Greene County Health Department began organizing training events for the community. Staff members of the GCHD Substance Abuse Primary Prevention Team have been coordinating with Greene County Anti-Drug Coalition, Sullivan County Anti-Drug Coalition and Greeneville Sun newspaper.

It was decided to begin holding training events monthly at the GCHD on the same nights as Late Clinics for WIC and Family Planning. Training begins at 5:30 pm and lasts for 60-75 minutes, Continued on Page 2, see Northeast

Greene County Health Dept. APN Tenicia Clark teaching on December 17, 2018
depending on the length of the Q&A session. The Naloxone Training Presentation was developed by TDH Central Office and facilitated by GCHD clinical staff or Regional Office medical staff. Sherry Barnett from the Sullivan County Anti-Drug Coalition speaks about harm reduction and provides one naloxone kit per household. Training events are advertised via flyers, *Greeneville Sun*, WGRV (local radio) and Community Channel 18 (local TV).

To date there have been four training events at GCHD and one in the community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Training Presenter</th>
<th>PPI Team Members Assisting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 19, 2018</td>
<td>31 (46 registered)</td>
<td>Dr. David Kirschke, MD</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 17, 2018</td>
<td>18 (30 registered)</td>
<td>Tenicia Clark, APN</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 10, 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sherry Barnett</td>
<td>1 (CEDS RN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 28, 2019</td>
<td>40 (46 registered)</td>
<td>Hollie Coates-Hensley, APN</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 25, 2019</td>
<td>18 (26 registered)</td>
<td>Tenicia Clark, APN</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part of the success of this program has been clearly outlined roles and responsibilities. Staff members of the GCHD Substance Abuse Primary Prevention Team make reminder phone calls from the registration list either the day before or day of training and ensure an email is sent to Greene County Anti-Drug Coalition members, Greene County Health Council Members and other community partners asking them to share/post flyer and promote the event. Sherry Barnett from Sullivan County Anti-Drug Coalition and GCHD clinicians plan to facilitate each session and GCHD staff are present to serve as greeters at the registration table and complete certificates for each participant.

A few lessons learned include: [a] Offering the training during 1st shift hours (late morning or early afternoon) since 5:30 pm is not going to work for everyone (2nd and 3rd shift workers, parents and grandparents raising children who cannot easily get back out once their at home with the kids); [b] Taking the training to other community locations (Ruritan Club buildings, churches, schools, etc.) knowing that transportation and the size of Greene County can be a barrier; and [c] Continuing to secure community partners to attend the trainings so they can set up informational booths in order to share resources and information that may be pertinent to those same people who are looking for information in dealing with substance abuse/misuse.
Looking ahead to September, Megan Quinn and the program committee are working hard to include something for everyone in this year’s Fall Conference program. Speakers and topics confirmed so far include:

◊ Dr. Tim Jones, state epidemiology updates
◊ Dr. Randy Wykoff, poverty and health
◊ Mary Rolando, Tennessee Department of Children’s Services update on Building Strong Brain Initiatives
◊ Dr. Cosby Stone, immunology and tick bites
◊ Laura Berlind, The Sycamore Institute, moving from awareness to action

Other topics include Hepatitis A; Incarceration and Health; Kids and Drugs; Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma-informed Care.

Many thanks to these and all the dedicated committee chairs and members whose tireless efforts enable TPHA to achieve its mission. For more information on upcoming events and deadlines, and announcements see page nine.

And finally, to honor our richest traditions, “imagine” a bigger and better TPHA and a healthier Tennessee, please share with me at cathy.taylor@belmont.edu or with Kim Harrell at khharrell@tnpublichealth.org:

1) A brief highlight from your career in public health and/or
2) A brief summary of your vision for the future of public health in Tennessee

Confident that preserving the past while looking ahead will contribute to a stronger future for public health in Tennessee, we look forward to sharing these with you later.

Warmest regards,
Cathy

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West Tennessee’s Breastfeeding Achievement

Submitted by Catherine Sedergren, West Region Assessment & Planning Coordinator

The West Tennessee Region is proud to announce that Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, McNairy, and Tipton Counties recently received the Gold Level WIC Loving Support Award of Excellence for exemplary breastfeeding support and practices. This prestigious award was established to recognize WIC agencies nationwide that have implemented and provided exceptional breastfeeding activities in their county. The main purpose of the award is to motivate local agencies to strengthen their breastfeeding promotion, increase rates of breastfeeding initiation, and increase rates of breastfeeding duration among WIC clients. Only 78 Gold Level Awards were presented across the United States this year, and we are proud to be able to say that five of them were awarded in West Tennessee!

From left to right: Mallory Pope, Breastfeeding Coordinator; Elise Gillespie, Hardeman County Director; Amy Riggins, Designated Breastfeeding Expert; Matt McDaniel, Fayette and Tipton County Director; Pattie Kiddy, McNairy and Hardin County Director

Please send newsletter comments, corrections, submissions, and queries to savannah.morrow@tn.gov
Upper Cumberland Communities Recognized for Healthier TN Distinctions

Submitted by Amanda Randolph, Upper Cumberland Region Assessment & Planning Coordinator

Three Upper Cumberland counties recently achieved all the requirements to become a Bronze Level Healthier Community through Healthier Tennessee. Clay, Fentress, and Pickett counties were recognized at the Healthier Tennessee Awards Gala on February 21, 2019 in Franklin. In addition to Bronze distinction, Fentress County was nominated for Healthier Tennessee Community of the Year. Fentress was one of eight nominations across the state for this category.

Team leaders of the FIT Fentress group accepting their Healthier Tennessee Community of the Year nomination are pictured L to R: Andy Langford, Fentress/Pickett County Health Department Director, Summer Matthews, Fentress/Pickett Health Educator, Mandy Lawson, HTC Regional Director, Sarah Upchurch Fentress County UT/TSU Extension Agent

Save the Date: Grand Division Meetings

WEST
May 17, 2019
Lane College
Jackson

MIDDLE
April 26, 2019
Wilson County Expo Center
Lebanon

EAST
May 3, 2019
Jubilee Banquet Facility
Knoxville

Register at tnpublichealth.org
Dr. Wendy Long appointed to Director of Health of Nashville

Submitted by Nashville Metro Health Department

The Metropolitan Board of Health of Nashville/Davidson County announced that Wendy Long, M.D., M.P.H. has been selected as the new Director of Health of Nashville.

Board of Health members, with direction and support from Metro HR, conducted a national search for Nashville's next Director of Health.

"I’m thrilled to have been selected to lead the health department team and look forward to the opportunity to work with health department staff and community stakeholders to make a positive difference in the lives Metro Nashville residents," said Dr. Long.

"Dr. Long will bring strong policy knowledge, organizational skills and years of valuable experience to her new position as Director of Health," said Mayor David Briley. “She has long been involved in managing high-performing healthcare systems in Tennessee, which will serve our city well. I look forward to working with her.”

Dr. Long currently serves as the Director of TennCare, the single largest health insurer in Tennessee, covering 20 percent of the state’s population and 50 percent of all births. TennCare is recognized nationally as a model for the delivery of high quality, cost effective care through an integrated managed care delivery system. Before becoming Director in 2016, Dr. Long held key executive management positions within TennCare including Deputy Director and Chief Medical Officer.

Prior to joining the team at TennCare, Dr. Long was an Assistant Commissioner at the Tennessee Department of Health where she oversaw all of the core public health programs administered by the Department as well as the operation of the rural regional and county health departments. She also worked closely with the six metro public health directors facilitating partnerships that supported statewide initiatives.

Dr. Long received her undergraduate and medical degrees from the Ohio State University and completed a Preventive Medicine residency and the Master of Public Health program at the University of South Carolina. She is a Nashville Health Care Council Fellow (class of 2015) and is a past president of the Tennessee Public Health Association. At the national level, she is involved in health policy through the efforts of several organizations including serving as a member of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Standards Committee and on the Health Advisory Panel of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).

The Metro Public Health Department, with a staff of more than 500 employees, serves a population estimated at 680,000, with a total budget of $46 million.

The mission of the Metro Public Health Department (MPHD) is to protect, improve, and sustain health and wellbeing for all people in Metropolitan Nashville. As Nashville’s Local Health Department, we provide and connect people to essential public health services, we enforce health regulations, and we lead and support collaborative efforts to create healthy conditions for everyone in Nashville.

National Public Health Week is April 1-7, 2019

For a list of activities in your area, check with local organizations for events or go to tnpublichealth.org/announcements
A Partnership with Impact
Submitted by Wanda Roberts, East Region Hospital Coordinator

Motivated by active shooter events throughout the U.S. and concerned that communities were not well prepared to address them on a local level, the East Tennessee Regional Health Office initiated the “Stop The Bleed” campaign. The STB campaign combines the resources and expertise of public health professionals and their partners into a comprehensive community project with long term opportunity for expansion. The campaign’s goal is to foster a culture that encourages conversations at the local level and brings partners together to create plans that effectively respond to, mitigate, and recover from an active shooter event. STB’s partners and their roles in the collaborative project are:

+ Tennessee Homeland Security District II retained subject matter experts to develop a school-specific active shooter training program designed to empower school personnel with tools to plan for and respond to events. District II gave $73,000 for training and training kits.
+ Tennessee Department of Education, School Safety Center provided guidance for training content to ensure it meet school needs.
+ University of Tennessee Medical Center Trauma Services conducted ‘train the trainer’ classes and support for community trainings.
+ Local Public Health recruited/prepared trainers for the county events.
+ East Region Public Health Emergency Preparedness Department supplied each health department with two STB kits and wall mount.
+ Local Emergency Management Agencies coordinated training with schools and area emergency response organizations to ensure local support.
+ Knoxville/East Tennessee Healthcare Coalition gave $122,000 to purchase STB kits for each school.

The STB pilot project outcomes are quite impressive. 2,664 individual STB kits (eight per school) have been distributed to schools in 16 East Tennessee counties. Specifically tailored active shooter presentations followed by STB training sessions for school staff audiences ranging in size from 70 to over 400 were conducted in all counties. Additionally, the School Safety Center has endorsed the Active Shooter presentation and plans to roll it out to the rest of Tennessee's schools, and the Tennessee County Services Association recently recognized STB as a statewide best practice 2018 County Success Story Awardees.

Indeed, STB is a partnership with impact. By working together, STB has expanded the footprint of public health and its partnering agencies, improved community and school preparedness, educated local citizens, and demonstrated how invaluable cohesive partnerships are to creating safer environments.
TPHA Executive Director Kim Harrell recently met with other health advocates and Congressman Jim Cooper to discuss ways to address the threats to the Clean Air Act at the federal level. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has proposed a number of rollbacks to standards including the Cleaner Car Standards, Clean Power Plan, Methane Rules, Carbon Rules, and, most recently, the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards. Each has significant health consequences. For instance, the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards are estimated to prevent 11,000 premature deaths, 4,700 heart attacks, 130,000 asthma attacks, and 5,700 hospital visits annually according to the American Lung Association.

Opposition to the rollbacks has broad bipartisan support in Congress including support from two of Tennessee’s distinguished statesmen. Congressman Cooper, who consistently votes in favor of environmental protections, is against the rollbacks. Senator Alexander has submitted many letters to the EPA asking them to reconsider, most recently on March 18 when he and Senator Tom Carper (D-Del) were lead authors on a bipartisan letter to the Trump Administration urging them to keep the Mercury Rule untouched. TPHA was cited as a supporting organization in the letter. Full text of the letter is online at tnpublichealth.org

Outdoor air pollution impacts our health. It is connected to cardiovascular disease, developmental harm, asthma, COPD, premature death, among others. It also impacts the health of our environment – our farmland, forests, wildlife and waterways. Although Tennessee has made significant progress over the past two decades to improve our air quality, we have much more to do. Rollbacks to current standards will simply make our jobs harder. Senator Alexander and Congressman Cooper are doing their part. It is up to us, the experts in public health, to help policy makers and citizens alike understand the far-reaching health consequences to these rollbacks, the resultant strain on limited resources and state budgets, and the eventual threat to our way of life here in Tennessee.
Quittin’ Time in Hickman County
Submitted by Brook Mitchell, South Central Region Assessment & Planning Coordinator

The Hickman County Health Department partnered with Healthier TN to host the third annual “Quittin’ Time in TN Celebration” at East Hickman Public Library on February 7, 2019. A promotional event was held prior to the celebration that encouraged adults who previously quit using tobacco to write a short essay about their journey. The participants, family, friends and the public were invited to attend. First, second, and third place winners were announced and participants read their essays. Winners also received an essay compilation booklet as a keepsake. These inspirational booklets will be provided free at both libraries in the county. The 1-800-Quit-Now information can be found in the back of each booklet.

Guest speakers at the celebration included TNSTRONG youth who educated attendees about “Juuling” and addiction among youth. Local city and county mayors provided brief remarks to the crowd. Live music was provided as entertainment. Health department staff who assisted with the event were Public Health Educator Teresa Gregory, Nursing Supervisor Brittan Kilpatrick, RN and Public Health Office Assistant Jessica Dobek. “Cold Turkey” sandwiches and cupcakes were served to the forty community members who attended.

Girl's on the Run is so much fun in Polk County!
Submitted by Amanda Goodhard, Southeast Region Assessment & Coordinator

Girls on the Run has been a hit in Polk County! The 10 week program integrates running into a curriculum that inspires girls from 3rd to 5th grade to be joyful, healthy, and confident and culminates in a Girls on the Run 5K. In addition to preparing girls for the 5K, the lessons encourage participants to discuss experiences and challenges, develop strategies and skills to navigate life experiences, and help them understand the importance of teamwork and healthy relationships.

Over the past few years this program has grown in Polk County and with new grant opportunities, it has no intention of slowing down. In the past, coaches noticed that some of the girls didn't have good running shoes but thanks to some newly available grant funding, that's about to change. Polk County is going to be using some new grant money to provide running shoes and other gear for girls that need it so they can fully participate in this unique and rewarding program.

Get a gift you can't return?
Have a gift card you won't use?

DONATE IT TO THE TPHA SILENT AUCTION!

Contact Tatum Johnson at Tatum.H.Johnson@tn.gov to donate or join the Silent Auction Committee.

All money raised from the Annual Silent Auction goes to the scholarship fund.
Announcements

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
The Scholarship Committee is currently accepting applications for the Evelyn Vaillencourt Memorial Scholarship and TPHA General Scholarships. Eligibility requirements for both scholarship programs and downloadable applications can be found at tnpublichealth.org/resources-2/scholarships/
Deadline to submit applications is May 10. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Thomas at Carrie.Thomas@knoxcounty.org

SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD OFFICERS
The Nomination and Election Committee is currently accepting nominations for the slate of officer candidates in TPHA's 2019 election. If you are interested in being a candidate or know someone who is qualified, please contact Rebekah English at Rebekah.English@tn.gov. Deadline to submit nominations is April 30.
Nominations are needed for the following positions:

President-elect
The person elected to this position serves on TPHA's board of directors for three years: 1st year as president-elect, 2nd year as president, 3rd year as past-president. This year's candidates are from the West Grand Division. Qualifications include proven leadership and networking skills, experience hiring and managing staff/teams, and working knowledge of strategic planning, advocacy, and fundraising. Experience serving on nonprofit boards preferred.

Vice Presidents from East, Middle, and West
The person elected to this position will serve as a voting member of TPHA's board of directors for one year. Qualifications include proven leadership skills, organizing and managing teams, and experience planning events, workshops and/or large-scale meetings. Experience serving on nonprofit boards preferred. Eligible candidates are from the district to which they are applying.

Board Representatives East Grand Division (two positions)
The two people elected to this position will serve as voting members of TPHA's board of directors for three-year terms. Eligible candidates are from the East Grand Division. Qualifications include a working knowledge of public health issues and strong network of organizations doing public health work throughout the eastern portion of Tennessee.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

The College of Public Health at East Tennessee State University has hosted the Leading Voices in Public Health lecture series since 2007.
This premier series of lectures brings internationally respected thought leaders to the community to speak on issues of key importance to the public's welfare. Topics are purposely diverse, reflecting the broad interests and impact of public health. Most of the lectures are available by Live Stream and for later viewing online. Go to etsu.edu/cph/lvph.php for more information.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville offers a Graduate Certificate in Food Safety.
The thirteen credit-hour Certificate can be earned completely online or in-person in three to four semesters.
The Certificate Program is designed for the working professional as well as current students. The program provides Public Health and food industry leaders, researchers, educators, and practitioners practical knowledge and skills to enhance food safety and prevent food-related disease.
Interested persons must hold an undergraduate degree and be admitted into the University of Tennessee Graduate School gradschool.utk.edu/admissions/.
For more information, please visit publichealth.utk.edu/certificates/food-safety/ OR contact Dr. Kathy Brown at publichealth@utk.edu