There is Still Time to Register for the 2017 Annual Conference!

This year’s theme is Celebrating Innovations in Board Governance: the Past, Present and Future. NALBOH is proud to celebrate its 25th Anniversary throughout the Conference! NALBOH leaders are looking forward to holding the 2017 conference in Ohio, where NALBOH’s history began, to celebrate the Past, Present and Future of the national voice for Boards of Health.

Conference Keynote Presentations
More information available at www.nalboh.org

Thursday, August 3 • 9:00-10:00 A.M.
Innovating Through Partnerships and Engagement
Thomas Quade, MA, MPH - President, American Public Health Association; Health Commissioner, Marion County Marion, OH

This presentation will address the evolving role of public health departments in the broader public health system and how that can be supported by an informed board of health that is strategically engaged. A focus on building functional relationships between the public and private sectors will be discussed. The session will also include information on the role of boards of health in not only pursuing accreditation but using accreditation status in communicating the value of public health within the community and to stakeholders.

Friday, August 4 • 8:15-9:15 A.M.
Building Relationships Between Health Departments and Hospitals to Successfully Assess Community Needs
Gary Edwards, MS - Executive Director Salt Lake County Health Department Salt Lake City, UT
Mikelle Moore, MS, FACHE - Vice President, Community Benefits Intermountain Healthcare Salt Lake City, UT

Many of Utah’s local health departments have successfully engaged with Intermountain Healthcare, the state’s largest non-profit healthcare system, to design a needs assessment that meets each organization’s objectives. This presentation will provide participants with a valuable toolkit to implement with their own organizations and a model for success in how to initiate and maintain relationships with healthcare systems. Don’t miss this enlightening presentation!

Friday, August 4 • 12:30-1:30 P.M.
Public Health 3.0: Building Stronger Communities
Karen DeSalvo, MD - Formerly - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Public Health 3.0 has been a new approach to public health. Released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), this call to action builds on the work of Healthy People 2020, which encourages collaborations across communities and sectors. Through this presentation, Dr. DeSalvo will discuss the broad determinants of health and identify the components of the Public Health 3.0 framework. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about the best practice models to build multi-sectorial collaborations to improve community health by addressing the social determinants of health.

THANK YOU to the Public Health Accreditation Board for sponsoring the Summer Quarterly Newsbrief
Summer 2017 President’s Message

Greetings,

Be sure to finish your PLANNING for your trip to Cleveland to attend our NALBOH Annual Conference—the 2017 PROGRAM provides an opportunity to perfect your own take on the Six Functions of Governance. There are opportunities to head to three different breakouts each round—you will not know which to choose from! I encourage you to visit our exhibitors, who have an opportunity to exhibit their products, programs, and services for us to see and be interested in purchasing and using for our health departments. You will meet new friends and discuss challenges.

Plan to come the extra day and register to attend the PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP, Wed. Aug. 2 from 1:30 – 4:30 PM. One of the founders of NALBOH and faculty member of the Gilling’s School of Public Health, University of North Carolina, Dr. Vaughn Upshaw, will be our facilitator for “How Can I be a Public Health Leader.” She has spent the past 15 years in the UNC-CH School of Government where she led workshops across NC for county commissioners and other county boards.

Summer often means our General Assemblies or Legislatures are meeting. We are advocating with them, I hope. Some have met and gone home. As of this writing, end of May, the National Congress is on another Recess. For some, it is a good time to meet them in their home districts and please do talk with them about your knowledge of public health issues. Try becoming a friend to them to the extent they will ask your opinions about public health issues—get to know them. You can become their expert by explaining reasons we need fluoridated water; maternal and child health home visits to new mothers; breastfeeding practices; antidotes to opioids; well inspections, needle exchanges, accreditation, child nutrition programs; redistricting...And the list could go on! You know your own issues. Please advocate.

I asked some of the county health department leaders to write short articles about “best practices identified.” Thank you to the North Carolina leaders for providing these stories in this issue—be sure to share yours with us as well! Accreditation—whether local or national, continues to be worth striving for—to continuously improve! Thank you to the Summer 2017 Newsbrief Sponsor—the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) for their generous support of this publication.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you very soon, to learn, connect, and celebrate the works of public health. Until then, stay healthy and enjoy the summer!

Barbara Ann Hughes

Pre-Conference Session

Wednesday, August 2 • 1:30–4:30 p.m.
How Can I be a Public Health Leader?

Dr. Vaughn Upshaw - University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

In this highly interactive, pre-conference workshop, participants will use appreciative inquiry (AI) to discover what leaders do when they are at their best. In their book, Appreciative Inquiry: A Positive Revolution in Change (2005), David Cooperrider and Diana Whitney describe how AI has flipped traditional approaches to change management upside down. Rather than using organizational change to identify and solve problems the AI approach sees change as a way for organizations (and communities) to find solutions that satisfy social needs. This simple reframing—moving away from asking “What are the problems we are trying to fix?” to “What solutions are we seeking?” has a powerful, psychological, effect. When we focus on problems, we become overwhelmed with the challenges. When we focus on solutions, we become energized with possibilities. By the end of the workshop, the full group will weave themes together and craft a positive and compelling description of what exemplary public health leaders looks like in practice.

Host your state meeting at the NALBOH Conference!

We have reserved the 4:00-5:00 p.m. time slot on August 3rd in the Conference schedule; don’t miss a chance to hold your meeting! Contact the NALBOH Office or Jamie Michael (jamie@badgerbay.co) for more information.

There is limited space available!

Board of Health Members Receive Scholarship to Attend 2017 Annual Conference

The NALBOH Endowment fund was implemented to provide leadership training to NALBOH members. The NALBOH Board of Directors has selected FIVE Scholarship winners as 2017 First Time Attendees.

The scholarship winners are:
• Susan Shepeard, Greendale Board of Health, WI
• Shanna Wheeler, Tri-County Board of Health, UT
• Trish Factor, Galion City Board of Health, OH
• Lisa McCafferty, Tioga Board of Health, NY
• Belinda Jones-Hill, Halifax County Board of Health, NC

We look forward to seeing all of these first time attendees and many of you in Cleveland!
Get to Know Your NALBOH Board Members!

**William O. Beeman, BBA, NREMT-P**  
**NALBOH Director at Large, Greene County Board of Health**  
*Xenia, OH*

Bill’s first exposure to Public Health was as a paramedic where he encountered people with various injuries, diseases and ailments. In the late 1990’s, Bill was appointed to the Board of Public Health – Greene County located in Xenia, OH. He is a Past President of the Board. Bill attended Ohio University and earned a BBA in Management and Marketing. He also attended Sinclair Community College, National Fire Academy and the Air Force Institute of Technology. On December 31, 2015, Bill retired from the Air Force. As a civilian employee for the Air Force Research Laboratory, Bill served 33 years. Upon retirement, Bill was awarded The Air Force Outstanding Civilian Career Service Award Medal.

Bill has been involved with his community as a Lieutenant-Fire Fighter Paramedic for 18 years. He still teaches CPR and First Aid classes and coordinates their blood drives. He has been a Boy Scout leader for 20 years. Bill has enjoyed the great experience leading the National Association of Local Boards of Health with many other local public health leaders!

**Diane Gerlach, DO, MHA**  
**NALBOH Director at Large, Kenosha County Board of Health**  
*Kenosha, WI*

Dr. Gerlach earned her DO at Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine and did Residency at East Carolina University. She recently earned her MHA at the University of Minnesota. She has been a pediatrician with Aurora Health Care for over 20 years and the Kenosha Community Health Center for 8 years. Her passion is serving the underserved and Foster Care Children. She is active in the community, collaborating with early childhood agencies on grants to fill gaps in community resources and improve awareness of the effects of trauma. She is working with the community engagement movement Strive Together to ensure kindergarten readiness for all children in her community. She is serving as Board President for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kenosha and Racine Counties, leading fundraising, and programming to support healthy, long lasting adult relationships for at risk children.

She is currently the Interim Medical Director for the Kenosha Community Health Center leading the startup of a Mobile Medical Unit for Racine and a new clinic in the county. She enjoys medical missions in Africa and precepting a variety of students in her clinic. Diane is an open minded, innovative thinker. She has helped develop e-visits and video-visits for her healthcare system. She is also part of the Aurora Children’s Health Counsel and Strategic Planning expanding Pediatric Specialty Care to the smaller communities of Eastern Wisconsin.

Diane hopes to use her experience and passion to engage local boards of health to train leaders and creative thinkers and as a new board member of NALBOH, looks forward to seeing everyone again this year in Ohio!

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**Board of Health Advocacy in Challenging Political Times**  
*Submitted by: Beth Lovette & Ken Richardson, Appalachian District Board of Health (NC)*

Appalachian District Board of Health serves Alleghany, Ashe and Watauga counties in the beautiful mountains of northwest North Carolina. I have worked with Appalachian District Health Department, (aka AppHealthCare) under the leadership of the Board of Health for the last 7 years. In that time, the commissioners have worked harmoniously and without partisanship for board of health appointments that they believe fairly represent their constituents.

The District Board of Health has the same governance and rule-making authority as any single county Board of Health in NC, but has the additional challenge of complete fiscal responsibility for the work of Appalachian District Health department. Believe me, when you are responsible for a district health department with no ability to raise revenue beyond asking for county dollars or finding revenue through grants and fee for service, advocacy around funding becomes job #1!

In the past few years this board has adopted resolutions encouraging increasing the tobacco tax, supporting Medicaid expansion, educating federal officials about the danger of inadvertently losing the federal Public Health Prevention Fund with the repeal of the Affordable Care Act and other items. I appreciate the board’s desire to be informed so that they can interact as individuals regarding important public health concerns if they choose.

I heard at a recent conference: “If our elected officials fail to read all of the details of the many pages of legislation they are voting on, shame on them. But if they haven’t heard from public health about our concerns, shame on us!”
Judith Sartucci (CT)

“Accreditation is a great accomplishment. Board members take away the satisfaction of knowing that they are serving their community well.”

What are some of the greatest benefits national accreditation brings to your communities?

Accreditation greatly improves the health department services provided by our employees due to asking them to obligate themselves to a higher standard of performance. Thus, our constituents are able to benefit from the health department's commitment to accreditation.

Some health departments are concerned with the expenses related to accreditation. What would you say to those that are not pursuing accreditation due to costs?

Employee production is extremely enhanced through achieving accreditation. Thus, for every dollar spent on accreditation, a higher level of service is provided. Employee production can recoup accreditation expenses in a short amount of time. Salaries are always the most expensive part of operating any type of business, thus production must be at its best in order to get the most bang for the buck. We must, as public servants, spend every taxpayer dollar provided us as wisely as possible.

The Honorable Henry W. Bertram (KY)

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Boards of health need to weigh the costs versus the benefits of seeking accreditation, not just in the immediate future, but long term. However, it is important to recognize that what public health accreditation asks of an agency is not exotic. It does not contain unusual standards or measures that are out of the ordinary. It does not go into foreign territory. Rather it addresses processes and tools that have long been part of public health. It’s about good management and good public health practice. Some of the early findings from accredited agencies report more opportunities for funding opening for these agencies.

I think that it is the journey towards accreditation, not just the final designation, that is important. I am impressed with the remarkable changes in public health agencies – their functioning, focus, staff enthusiasm, problem-solving -- that occurs over time as they commit to and begin down this road. A transformation happens over time and can lead to better efficiencies in management and service delivery; better health outcomes for their communities; and better problem-solving in using the resources they have, including seeking new revenue streams and funding.

What does a board of health member or elected official get out of working with their health department on accreditation?

Whether elected or appointed, board of health members are based in the communities they represent and serve. Most take this obligation very seriously and look for ways where their service can make a difference. Accreditation is a great accomplishment. Board members take away the satisfaction of knowing that they are serving their community well through an agency that is serving its community well and making a difference.
“What does accreditation cost? It’s not a cost, it’s an investment — an investment in production. I ran my own business for 30 years. I wanted my employees to know they were being held accountable for the work they were doing. I was also a County Judge Executive, and in Kentucky that means I was an administrator. I was responsible for tax dollars from the public, and I was held accountable as to how I spent those tax dollars. With accreditation, I can say that those tax dollars spent in the health department were utilized in the best way possible. Plus, accreditation brings about pride in their work from employees. Our board fully supported Three Rivers District Health Department in this effort. Boards should include accreditation in planning and budgeting before anything else. The atmosphere that accreditation creates is just phenomenal.”

— Judge Henry Bertram, member, Pendleton County (Ky.) Local Board of Health (commenting on accreditation at NALBOH’s 2015 Annual Conference in Louisville, Ky.)

“Accreditation is not just another program you complete in order to get a plaque and then it’s over. Accreditation is a process — or ‘playbook’ — for operating a health department. A health department operating by accreditation standards can handle anything that comes its way, and that’s what it’s all about.”

— Georgia Heise, DrPH, District Director, Three Rivers District Health Department (commenting on accreditation at NALBOH’s 2015 Annual Conference in Louisville, Ky.)

Ensure your health department meets your community’s needs. Make national public health department accreditation a strategic goal for your local health department! The support of the Board of Health is essential to the achievement of national accreditation.

The benefits national accreditation brings to communities include:

- **Demonstrated accountability and improved quality.** Nationally, public health accreditation means that people across the country can expect the same quality of public health programs and services no matter where they live.

- **Performance feedback and quality improvement.** The accreditation process provides valuable feedback to health departments about their strengths and areas for improvement, laying the foundation for improved protection, promotion and preservation of their community’s health.

- **Accountability and credibility.** Accreditation is a way for health departments to show how effectively they are allocating resources. Achieving accreditation demonstrates accountability to elected officials and communities, resulting in increased credibility for public health departments.

- **Staff morale and visibility.** The recognition of excellence that comes with meeting accreditation standards positively impacts staff morale and enhances the visibility of the health departments in their communities, enabling them to compete successfully for additional resources.

Accreditation also encourages public health departments to continuously improve the quality of their public health services. Strong health departments, engaged in effective community partnerships, can help make all of our communities healthier places to live, work, learn, and play.

Learn more about the Public Health Accreditation Board at [www.phaboard.org](http://www.phaboard.org)
Achieving Racial Equity to Improve Outcomes for All
Submitted by: Helene Edwards, Hoke County (NC)

For the last eighteen months, Durham County Department of Public Health has begun a courageous journey to include a wide range of partners representing multiple sectors to discuss racial equity in Durham County. Almost 500 individuals representing community, public health, social services, faith and community-based organizations, university, law enforcement, education, transportation, housing, recreation, finance, state government, business, criminal and juvenile justice participated in Durham County Department of Public Health-sponsored racial equity training sessions. Through training, we received an introductory analysis of racism and its cultural and historical roots to begin the work of intentionally creating racially equitable organizations and systems.

From our collective learning, we now know that racial inequities are not random and have been created and sustained over time. Deeply racialized systems are costly and affect outcomes and life opportunities for all groups particularly in communities where there is concentrated poverty and communities of color. When racial equity is not explicitly brought into decision-making, racial inequities are likely to be perpetuated.

Our overarching goal is to increase success for everyone and continue dialogue to close the gap in Durham with an understanding that strategies must be directed based on the needs and voices of our community. We are on this journey to consciously integrate racial equity in decisions, including policies, practices, programs, and budgets. We are building relationships and working alongside community to ensure we create a different narrative to achieve different results.
Hoke County Health Department Partners with DayMark
Submitted by: Joanne F. Pierce, Durham County (NC)

In September 2016, the Hoke County HD and DayMark Recovery Services piloted a new program to deliver behavioral health services to the citizens of Hoke County. The Hoke County Board of Health and the Hoke County Commissioners unanimously supported this initiative and the funding was made possible by Sandhills Center Mental Health Services. Ms. Avis Johnson, MA, LPC, a DayMark Recovery Services Counselor, provides clinical screening of all patients referred for potential Mental Health and Substance Abuse issues. The consumers are seen at the Hoke County Health Department for the mental health assessments and initial therapies.

Due to the success during the first year, Sandhills Center Mental Health Services has continued to fund the partnership between the Hoke County Health Department and the DayMark Recovery Services during the FY 2017-2018.

Guilford County’s Public-Private Health Center Partnership
Submitted by: Merle Green, Guilford County (NC)

Guilford County Department of Public Health is in its 7th year of a very successful public-private partnership to provide primary care services to local adults. Adults who are uninsured, low income or underinsured now have a medical home that is making a huge difference in southeast Greensboro.

The center is named the Evans-Blount Community Health Center, and is named after two local and prominent African American doctors who dedicated their medical practices to servicing underserved communities in Guilford County. Dr. Evans and Dr. Blount were trailblazers in the Guilford medical community.

Prior to the opening of the clinic, the target area documented high incidences of undiagnosed and untreated chronic conditions, inappropriate usage of the local hospital emergency departments, and death rates higher than the national average. They knew that their zip code was more critical than their genetic code.

One of the most widely promoted patient success stories was the patient who lost over 100 pounds, and was able to discontinue her hypertension and diabetes medication; her message to the community was “without this clinic and the help of the doctor, I was destined for an early grave.”

Cumberland County Department of Public Health’s Restaurant Inspection Scores are now on Yelp
Submitted by: Marika Hoeckmann, Cumberland County (NC)

The Environmental Health division of the Cumberland County Department of Public Health has partnered with Yelp in order to allow restaurant inspection scores to be available online on Yelp, a website already used by residents and visitors looking for dining information. This is part of Yelp’s LIVES open data program, which stands for Local Inspector Value Entry Specification. It allows consumers to see inspection data before eating at a restaurant. By clicking on a restaurant listing, the results of the restaurant’s latest health safety inspection will be available, along with customer reviews, price range and restaurant information. “Environmental Health is very excited to post our inspection grades on Yelp,” Environmental Health Director Daniel Ortiz said. “We want to ensure the public is able to review our inspection results with ease and Environmental Health believes this availability will raise public awareness of food safety.”

This change is innovative and beneficial to the public because previously, the scores were only available posted on the wall of the establishment, filed at the Health Department, or made available on the county website. This increase of access to inspection scores on Yelp provides a valuable resource to the community.

County & Community Partners Secure Environmental Supports for Physical Activity for County Employees
Submitted by: LeighAnn Creson, Person County (NC)

Person County Government purchased property, with buildings that once housed a private gym, along with other businesses in December 2016. The sale of the property came with a fully outfitted gym, with state-of-the-art, commercial-use equipment. The County soon entered into a lease agreement with the Person County Senior Center which, as of May 2017, occupies the various buildings.

As of July 1, 2017, Person County employees will have a unique opportunity unlike many of their counterparts in other counties. They will have access to the fitness facility at the county’s new Senior Center for the extremely low fee of $50 for the entire fiscal year. The team was charged with everything from ensuring that a waiver and guidelines for utilization were in place to setting the annual fee, promoting the new facility, and enrolling employees in memberships during annual benefit meetings. Additionally, PCHD’s Health Educator worked with county administration, the Senior Center’s Executive Director, and a private fitness equipment company to establish a preventive maintenance agreement to ensure regular assessment of the equipment.

This project falls on the heels of another initiative to provide environmental supports for physical activity for county employees. PCHD’s Health Educator continuously strives to align county wellness efforts with the Health Department’s mission of “promoting, protecting, and nurturing the health of our community”.
InALBOH Works to Move towards a Healthier State

Submitted by: Harley Robinson, Indiana Association of Local Boards of Health President (IN)

The spring of 2017 in Indiana offered a variety of conferences on public health issues. I attended 3 such symposiums, two in Indianapolis and one at Purdue University. The following is a recap of the topics discussed.

In March the Indiana State Department of Health held its Spring Symposium. Gov. Holcomb’s 5 pillars were outlined: Economy, Workforce, Opioid crisis, Roads and infrastructure, Government services. We learned that in 2015 Indiana lead the nation in pharmacy robberies. From 1991 to 2015 unintentional poisonings (mostly opiates) increased 771%. The governor has established an office of Prevention, Treatment and Recovery to work on the opioid crisis. A startup company has introduced an interesting device called a Neuro-stem System Bridge to eliminate/reduce the opioid craving during detox. It is worn for 5 days. They claim that the psychological component of opioid addiction is greatly underestimated and their device addresses this issue.

Most recently I attended a meeting entitled “Striving for Healthy Communities”, sponsored by the Indiana Healthy Weight Initiative. The keynote speaker was Dr. Jane Ellery, PhD, the coordinator of the graduate program, Wellness Management, at Ball State University. She described wellness management as “helping people function optimally in their environment.” Wellness management is to well-being as healthcare is to health. Her booklet that she distributed called “Placemaking” depicts the connection between placemaking and healthy living and shows the difference between space which is described physically and place which has an emotional attachment.

Finally, I regret to report that the “cigarette tax” failed once again in the 2017 state legislative session. A new group has formed called the Alliance for a Healthier Indiana with some high-profile members from schools of public health and state hospital associations. We will watch their work throughout 2017 to see if they can have an impact on state legislators.

2017 NALBOH Annual Business Meeting

ALL Members Invited!

The NALBOH Annual Business Meeting will be held in conjunction with the 2017 NALBOH Annual Conference on Thursday, August 3rd from 12-1 P.M. at the Westin Cleveland Downtown in Ohio. Lunch will be available. ALL MEMBERS of NALBOH are invited to attend. This is an opportunity to hear more about what the organization is doing internally and externally.

Join us to:
• Present the 2018 NALBOH Board of Directors
• Review 2017 NALBOH Successes
• Discuss new partnerships and future planning

We look forward to your participation and feedback to take NALBOH to the next level!

2017 NALBOH Election – Watch for Information to Vote for your Next Board Members!

Watch your emails for information for the 2017 Board of Directors’ Election. Each organizational member of NALBOH receives one vote. The last day to vote is Monday, July 31st. Please contact the NALBOH Office if you are unsure whether your board of health has voted.

NALBOH’s Mission

The mission of NALBOH is to strengthen and improve public health governance.

Visit NALBOH online at: www.nalboh.org

The vision of NALBOH is boards of health that are:
• Appointed as a result of a well-informed selection process.
• Comprised of individuals who have demonstrated the knowledge, skills, and abilities to effectively represent and serve.
• Well-connected to other stakeholders in public health and government.
• Effectively and competently serving the public health needs of their community in accordance with the core functions and essential public health services.
• Aware of NALBOH’s resources and actively engaged in its success.