Dear Colleagues,

I hope that you are all doing well and that you are having a safe winter season. We have begun another year with many public health challenges and work ahead of us. As a public health director and President of the Missouri Public Health Association, I have encountered many challenges over the past several years and have had my share of both successes and setbacks. Some recent disappointments have resulted in a deeper level of introspection than usual. Our failures cause us to think, refine our strategies and to become better. As Winston Churchill once said, “Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.”

Public health work will continue and new challenges will present themselves. Solutions to these challenges are rarely easy. Problem solving, working to better the community, helping others and having a positive impact on the community provide motivation to prepare to face the next challenge. Disappointments cause us to pause and question where we have fallen short. The key is to maintain a positive outlook and to embrace the lessons learned as opportunities to innovate and improve.

We must remember that our work in public health is critical. We help people, improve lives and make our communities better on a daily basis. We save lives. If we fail, there are real consequences to the communities we serve. There is no option but to learn from our setbacks and continue to work toward finding solutions to the challenges that we face. I am looking forward to the future with new knowledge acquired from my recent experiences.

Ultimately, I am encouraged. I am excited by the progress being made by the Transforming the Future of Public Health in Missouri project. I am reinvigorated by the MPH interns who are inquisitive and full of new ideas and recommendations. I am heartened by new public health leaders who are coming forward to advance the field of public health in Missouri. I am refreshed by public health partners who are recognizing the value of public health and are bringing new resources to help address problems in our communities. I am grateful for the efforts of local and state public health professionals who are dedicated to their work and their communities. Overall, I am optimistic for the potential future of public health in Missouri.

Respectfully,

Robert Niezgoda,
President, Missouri Public Health Association
APHA Urges Congress to Increase Public Health Funding Following Spending Deal

Statement from Georges C. Benjamin, MD, Executive Director, American Public Health Association

"The budget deal reached by Congress and signed by the president this morning increased nondefense discretionary funding, giving Congress the opportunity to increase funding for critical public health agencies and lay the groundwork for a healthier nation.

"The American Public Health Association is pleased to see that the budget deal included multi-year funding for the Children’s Health Insurance Program, community health centers and National Health Service Corps.

"Congress also raised the nondefense discretionary caps for two years. We urge Congress to ensure that an adequate amount of these additional resources available in FY 2018 are directed to increased funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Health Resources and Services Administration. An increased investment in these agencies is critical to maintaining and improving public health and safety.

"APHA is deeply disappointed that the spending deal cuts $1.35 billion from the Prevention and Public Health Fund over the next 10 years. This funding is a critical component of CDC’s budget, supporting programs in childhood lead poisoning prevention, vaccinations and other important public health activities. Congress should repeal these cuts and restore the Prevention Fund to prior funding levels.

"We are hopeful that this budget deal will prevent public health agencies and professionals from the extreme fiscal uncertainty that Congress has fostered since September 2017. Shutdowns and repeated continuing resolutions hamper public health professionals' ability to do their job.

"When the government invests in public health over the long-term, the public health community can concentrate on the work ahead of us and make progress in our goal of creating the healthiest nation in one generation. We look forward to working with Congress as they finalize appropriations for FY 2018 to create new investments in public health. " to working with Congress as they finalize appropriations for FY 2018 to create new investments in public health."

The American Public Health Association champions the health of all people and all communities. We are the only organization that influences federal policy, has a nearly 150-year perspective and brings together members from all fields of public health. Learn more at www.apha.org.
Funding the Missouri State Quitline
The toll of tobacco use in Missouri is a large financial burden to all taxpayers with $3.03 billion in annual health care costs in our state and $644.3 million in Medicaid costs attributed to smoking. Tobacco prevention programs are a smart and reliable investment for the state of Missouri. Missouri’s Quitline (1-800-QUITNOW), the telephone counseling quit service run by the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services and currently funded via federal grant, served 6,326 callers in FY 2017 saving $22,434 per quitter in lifetime savings in tobacco-related expenditures. For every $1 spent on the Quitline, Missourians saved $8.45 in medical expenses, lost productivity and other tobacco use related costs. Investing in our state Quitline will improve Missouri’s bottom line by reducing taxpayer burden and increasing productivity through less tobacco use. Tobacco Free Missouri continues to educate decision makers and the public on the return on investment and health benefits of supporting the Missouri Quitline.

Higginsville goes Smokefree
The Higginsville city council unanimously passed a clean indoor air ordinance to go into effect May 1, 2018. This is the 36th community with a comprehensive ordinance, bringing the percent of state population residing in smokefree communities to 31.3%.

Oak Grove passes Tobacco21
By a 5 to 1 vote, the Oak Grove city council approved a Tobacco21 ordinance to go into effect April 1, 2018. There are now 15 communities in Missouri with T21 ordinances representing 37.7% of the state’s population.

NEW!
Master of Public Health Program
Veterinary Public Health Emphasis Area (MPH)
University of Missouri-Columbia
The Missouri Public Health Association is proud to share some news about an exciting opportunity for our colleagues in the veterinary field. The Master of Public Health Program at the University of MO has been in existence since 2007, training graduate level students in one of two areas of emphasis: Health Promotion and Policy (HPP) and Veterinary Public Health (VPH). MPHA is pleased to share that beginning with the Fall Semester 2018 the Veterinary Public Health Emphasis Area (MPH) will be available to distance students in an entirely online format. This is the first and only such program in the nation.

The University expects this program to be of great interest to veterinarians and other veterinary health professionals seeking to further their training and expand their career opportunities while meeting the public health needs of our communities and nation. More information about the MU MPH program can be found at https://healthprofessions.missouri.edu/mph/ as well as information about the online program at https://online.missouri.edu/vph. MPHA is proud to endorse this effort to increase the scope of public health practice and the availability of such learning! Please inform your community partners and those who may have interest in such a program.
Nominations Sought for Public Health Transformation Initiative Advisory Council

Jaci McReynolds, MHA
Communications Coordinator, Transforming the Future of Public Health in Missouri

The #HealthierMO initiative to transform the future of public health in Missouri is now accepting nominations for candidates to serve on its Advisory Council. The Council will set the vision for change, prioritize topics for study, and create a transformation action plan.

Based on feedback from the Stakeholder Convening Session held in early March, the Advisory Council will be comprised of a diverse, invested group of professionals who are visionary team players, committed to transforming the future of public health in Missouri. Nominees should have an intimate knowledge of Missouri’s public health system, experience working within the system, and a familiarity with evidence-based change models.

Visit www.HealthierMO.org to nominate qualified individuals. Self-nominations are accepted. Nominations will remain open until March 23, 2018. Questions or comments about the Advisory Council nomination process can be directed to Project Manager Casey Parnell at cparnell@healthiermo.org.

The #HealthierMO grassroots initiative seeks to engage stakeholders from across the state in positively impacting the health of Missouri residents by transforming the current public health system into a stronger, more sustainable, culturally relevant and responsive system that can meet the challenges of Missouri’s diverse communities. The initiative does not propose a quick fix, but rather, advocates for long-term, system-wide change. The Missouri Public Health Association is leading the initiative in partnership with Support KC. Funding for phase one of this multi-phase project has been provided by Missouri Foundation for Health and the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City.

To learn more about the initiative and find out how you can get involved, visit HealthierMO.org or Facebook @HealthierMO.
APHA annual meeting highlights
Atlanta was a wonderful host city for the APHA Annual Meeting. It was very walkable and accommodating. The theme of Climate Change Impacts Health was the platform for highlighting health related challenges related to the environment.

- **Governing Council** meetings were information packed with passionate public health people from affiliates and sections across the country. All participants coming together to address public health topics important to the world. KPHA’s Eldonna Chesnut was elected to the APHA Executive Board.

- **Council of Affiliates’ Affiliate Day** was a great discussion about public health education and the importance of participation. The Puerto Rico Public Health Association (PRPHA) affiliate was able to attend through the generous donation of several ARGC’s. PRPHA shared photos about the disastrous conditions after the hurricane.

- **IPHA** received an award for the advocacy work they do. Deb VanderPlas, IPHA accepted the award at the Council of Affiliates Award Reception. Jeanene Moody, IPHA Executive Director, leads their advocacy efforts.

**National Public Health Week -April 2-8, 2018**
- The theme for NPHW is Healthiest Nation 2030, Changing Our Future Together. APHA has opportunities to get involved in National Public Health Week 2018:
  - Sign APHA’s pledge to help create the healthiest nation
  - Become an NPHW partner by signing up at [www.nphw.org](http://www.nphw.org) and linking to the site
  - Visit [www.nphw.org](http://www.nphw.org) to download materials and find out more about this year’s daily themes and activities
  - Advocacy for public health funding continues to be a focus

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Strehlow
Dsl9171@bjc.org and 314-580-8713

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**Other updates**

**MINK (Region VII) Updates**
- **Iowa** is the host state for the MINK 2018 Regional meeting. Planning continues on this effort to secure funding, a location and finalize the dates.
- **Deb VanderPlas’ term** as the Iowa ARGC ends January 31. The new Iowa ARGC has limited experience at the national level. Iowa has asked for another ARGC to represent the region. Nebraska is in the process of changing their ARGC and Kansas has a new ARGC. As of February 1,
Join Missouri Public Health Association

Are you a member of APHA but not currently a member of MPHA? We need your membership to further the message of public health in Missouri.

The benefits of being a member of MPHA include:
- Three newsletters a year filled with up-to-date information
- Legislative updates on Missouri issues as well as national topics impacting Missourians
- Annual meeting with other public health professionals
- Statewide network of public health professionals

If you are interested in membership in MPHA, please contact Dan Luebbert, Platte County Health Department, 816-858-2412, Dan.luebbert@plattehealth.com or complete the membership form and return it to the MPHA office.

NEW MPHA MEMBERS

Dr. Josh Frankum, Frankum Chiropractic
Sherifa Iqbal, MD
Simone Taylor, Kansas City Health Dept.
Laura Naught, PhD, MODHSS
Mike Massman, MODHSS
Sara Amini-Rad, CHES, A.T. Still University
Becky Harshaw, MPH Graduate Student
Chaney Cooper, Truman State University
Takako Tagami, MODHSS
Glenn Studebaker, MODHSS

Heather Davenport, MODHSS
Jessi Kempker, MODHSS
Carolyn Cordle, Kansas City Health Dept.
Mitchell Schroeder, Truman State University
H. Denny Donnell, Retired
Tonda Dampier, Camden County Health Dept.
Dawn Vader, Hickory County Health Dept.
Cindy Mense, Trailnet
Ashley Thornton, Franklin County Health Dept.

Joint Annual Conference
September 24-26, 2018

Holiday Inn Executive Center
2200 I-70 SW, Columbia, MO 65203
Dear MPHA members,

We are doing great work at the local, state and federal level to improve the lives of people every day. The time is now for us to collaborate, motivate and educate people in our communities about public health.

Here are some opportunities to get involved:
• Promote public health to the community—not only during National Public Health Week
• Educate leaders about public health and what it means every day and everyone’s life
• Select an activity to share your skills either for MPHA or APHA

⇒ MPHA-Education committee, Advocacy committee, conference planning and newsletter are great opportunities
⇒ APHA-Awards Committee, Joint Policy Committee, Committee on Health Equity among many other opportunities

The opportunities are endless! Contact Denise Strehlow for additional information on how to get Involved today!

Thank you for all you do.
Denise Strehlow, ARGC, 314-580-8713 and strehlowdr@gmail.com

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University of Missouri

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Missouri Public Health Association
“Conflict Resolution”
Thursday, April 19, 2018
Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center
2601 S. Providence Road
Columbia, MO 65203

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

9:00 am 
Registration
Foyer

9:30 am 
Welcome
Salon C

10:00 - 12 noon 
Conflict Resolution
Salon C
The training session will focus on how professionals in the public health field can better understand and manage the conflicts they experience in their work. Topics addressed will include the following:
- The causes and dynamics of conflict;
- The role of perceptions and needs in conflict;
- Understanding and managing emotions in conflict;
- De-escalating emotions in conflict;
- Conflict styles and their role in interactions;
- Strategies for managing conflicts effectively;
- The use of mediation and conflict coaching in conflict management.
The training will include interactive activities to engage learners in the material, including large group discussion, small group work, role play, and/or fishbowl demonstrations
Speaker: Dr. Charlene Berquist, Director, Center for Dispute Resolution, Professor, Department of Communication, Missouri State University; Heather Blades, Associate Director, Center for Dispute Resolution

12 - 12:30 pm 
Lunch

12:30 - 3:30 pm 
Conflict Resolution continued

3:30 pm 
Closing Remarks

Dr. Charlene Berquist is the Director of the Center for Dispute Resolution and a professor in the Department of Communication at Missouri State University. Dr. Berquist teaches graduate-level courses in a number of areas, including conflict, mediation, family communication, and research methods. She is also an experienced mediator, facilitator, conflict coach, trainer, and presenter. She works extensively with students as the program director for the conflict certificate programs, coordinating internship experiences for students through the CDR, and advising practicums and theses. She also maintains the CDR's collaborative partnerships with community organizations and institutions, supervises the training and support of volunteers, and oversees the research work of the CDR.

Heather Blades is the Associate Director of the CDR. She works full time at the CDR and has been with the Center since 2006. Ms. Blades holds a master's degree in professional writing and a graduate certificate in conflict and dispute resolution. Ms. Blades is an experienced conflict coach, presenter/trainer, and family group conference facilitator. She oversees the day to day operations at the CDR and works closely with students and community volunteers. Additionally, Ms. Blades teaches in the conflict certificate programs.
Missouri Public Health Association
“Conflict Resolution”

Pre-registration is required – Registration deadline is April 12, 2018

Name
Agency
Address
City, State Zip
Phone Email

REGISTRATION FEES
☐ MPHA Members $85.00
☐ Non-Members + MPHA Membership $135.00
☐ Student/Retirees $35.00
☐ Non-Members $145.00

Total Amount Enclosed/Due $ ______________

PAYMENT OPTIONS
Payment must accompany the registration form

☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit Card (see below) ☐ Invoice

Credit Card Payment Options: ☐ MasterCard / ☐ Visa / ☐ Discover / ☐ American Express
Credit Card #: Exp. Date: CVV Code:

Detach and mail payment to:
MPHA
PO Box 126
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: 573-634-7977
Fax: 573-635-7823
Email: sboeckman@mophamorgan.org

Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center has a block of rooms reserved at a special rate of $99.00 for single or double occupancy until April 4, 2018.

Call 800-659-2220 for reservations and ask for the MPHA Special Rate.
**Call for Articles**

As a member of the Missouri Public Health Association, you are invited to submit articles for our newsletter. We welcome submissions on any public health related topic.

Please include the following information with your article submission:
- Name
- Professional Affiliation or Academic Institution (if a student)
- Title of Article
- Reference List
- A Headshot or Photo of You Doing Public Health Work

Please keep your article within 300-500 words. Articles from members will be reviewed by the Missouri Public Health Association Board and the Newsletter Editor. Please email your articles and any questions to Lisa Marshall at lisa.marshall@lpha.mo.gov or Sandy Boeckman at sboeckman@mopha.org.

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**2017 Newsletter Schedule**

- **February Newsletter** — Article submissions are due by February 1, 2018
- **June Newsletter** — Article submissions are due by June 1, 2018
- **October Newsletter** — Article submissions are due by October 1, 2018

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**MPHA Members,**

Now in existence since 1925, the Missouri Public Health Association (MPHA) continues to strive to expand our services to meet the needs of public health across Missouri. We hope that you took part in one or more of the many events that we offered in 2015. Check out the 2016 calendar!

It is our mission to be the voice of public health in Missouri through advocacy, membership services and our Education Foundation. In order to meet our mission and provide services in our state, MPHA relies on the generosity of individuals and organizations for support. Without the investment of members like you, MPHA wouldn't be able to continue to be the voice for public health across Missouri.

We are asking you to help us continue the public health message by a donation to MPHA Education Foundation. Every dollar counts in the advancement of public health. If each member would make a donation, imagine the progress and impact we could make in Missouri. Your generosity will make a difference in the future of MPHA by allowing us to continue in our work advancing public health in Missouri. **The MPHA Education Foundation is a 501(c)3 corporation which means that donations to the Foundation are tax deductible.**

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Linda Cooperstock, MPHA Foundation Chair

*Donating is easier now more than ever. Visit www.mopha.org and click on the Scholarship/Awards tab. Your generous donations will help support educational opportunities for public health professionals and students and promote quality public health for Missouri.*
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NEWSLETTER
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MPHA MEMBERSHIP

I want to help fulfill MPHA’s mission to promote health in the State of Missouri

☐ Regular Membership $60.00
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I’d Like to make a donation to the MPHA Educational Foundation $__________

Name ____________________________________________
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Areas of Professional Interest

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☐ Health Promotion
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☐ Other: ______________________
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☐ Chronic Diseases

I’d like to serve on the following committees:

☐ Education
☐ Membership
☐ Annual Meeting
☐ Resolutions & Bylaws
☐ Advocacy & Public Policy
☐ Public Health Week
☐ History

PAYMENT OPTIONS

☐ Check enclosed
☐ Master Card/VISA/Discover/American Express

Card # ___________________________________________ Exp. Date ________________________

Mail completed form to MPHA, 722 E. Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, MO 65101.
If you have questions call 573-634-7977.