

Newsletter 2008

Public Health Pulse 

Message from the President...



Is UPHA's Cup Half Full or Half Empty?

I am now more than half way through my term as President and I can't help but reflect on what has been done lately to advance the association. As I ponder this time my attention is distracted to yet another campaign ad for a presidential candidate.

This time of year it's easy to get caught up in all of the coverage of the 2008 presidential campaigns. Will America "stay the course" or are we "ready for change" is quickly becoming a theme candidates are choosing sides around. This theme also leads me to consider the same for UPHA or on a scale of optimism one

might say ... "Is our cup half full or half empty?"

I'm positive I haven't been the only president who envisioned great things during their term but as the year went on quickly realized this could be a full time job and even then there is more to be accomplished than time allows. One item however I have had almost a daily role with this last eight months is the Capacity Building Initiative grant.



UPHA is at a crossroads of either continuing on with business as usual or utilizing this grant as a spring board to make the association the premiere group and voice of public health I have heard many members mention. Over the next three years of this grant I expect great things to occur.

Calendar of Events
April 4-8 National Public Health Week
May 19 UPHA Preconference
May 20-21 UPHA Annual Conference
October 25-29 APHA Annual Meeting San Diego, CA

Consider the following goals as a starter on how we take UPHA to a level only others have dreamed about:

- Expand membership three-fold or more by aggressively marketing to the over 1,000 public health workers in Utah.
- Hire an Executive Director that can direct the business of the association and can spend dedicated time toward establishing meaningful public and private partnerships that will allow increased advocacy for public health issues as well as secure increased funding to support the association.
- Work a strategic plan and business plan that involves all students and professional members meaningfully in the business of the association
- Move UPHA into a position in the "public eye" that when a crisis or outbreak occurs, the media looks to the association for a message and a public health voice.
- Plan, implement and evaluate an advocacy plan that leads efforts on public health policies.

In considering these goals I hope you become as excited as I am about the prospects and as such start to think about how you can become involved. Look for more information on two items that will kick off this movement.

Laurie Baksh will be sending out a membership survey to ask what benefits you would like to see offered through the association. Second a facilitator will soon be selected to lead the officers and board members through the development of a three year strategic plan. This plan once developed will be offered to all members for their feedback. Please watch for notification on the UPHA list serve.

Back to my comparison then between UPHA and the 2008 political campaigns. Is the grant an opportunity then for change or do we continue on the same path as we have been now for many years.

For UPHA I believe this is the time for change and I encourage everyone, members and non members, to get on board!

For more information on the grant and associated activities visit www.upha.gov



UPHA Committees Now Grouped Together -

UPHA operates through Committees. There are Standing Committees which have duties outlined in the Bylaws of the association and there are Special Committees which have duties beyond, but in concert with, the Standing Committees. In 2007 the Bylaws were changed to group committees into four Management Units - Policy, Communication, Members Services and Fiscal. Each Committee has a section of this Internet site dedicated to their use. The list below shows **ALL the committees, in the new Management Units** with links to individual committee pages.

Member Services - Chair: Kevin Condra;
Board: Brian Bennion, Linda Bogdanow

- [Executive](#)
- [Awards](#)
- [Program \(Conference\)](#)
- [Membership](#)
- [Nominating](#)
- [Professional Development](#)

Fiscal - Chair: Todd Barson; Board: Linda Bogdanow, Kathy Paras, Paul Wightman

- [Auditing](#)
- [Finance](#)

Policy - Chair: Sharon Talboys; Board: Joseph Jarvis, Audrey Stevenson,

- [Legislative](#)
- [Resolutions](#)
- [Policies, Procedures and Bylaws](#)
- [Strategic Planning](#)

Communication - Chair: Bucky Whitehouse;
Board: Steve McDonald, Joan Ware
[Community Outreach, Education & Media Relations](#)

2008 Legislative "Bill Watch"

[PDF](#) or [MS Word](#) Available

UPHA Awarded Funds to "Get Ready"

UPHA has new resources to promote preparedness among UPHA members, thanks to the APHA Kellogg Capacity Building grant for affiliates. The APHA launched the "Get Ready" campaign in October 2007, which includes a website, print materials, blog, and podcasts that can be used to further preparedness efforts in Utah. Is your family prepared? If not, the website features information on preparing a kit, family emergency plans, and a fun section just for kids.

"With the increasing threat of a flu pandemic, the general public must be equipped with the necessary resources to protect themselves," said Georges C. Benjamin MD, FACP, executive director of the American Public Health Association. "Unlike many other efforts using technical language and lengthy articles, APHA's Get Ready campaign will provide straightforward information and tools that are crafted for and relevant to all Americans."

UPHA will partner with the UDOH Preparedness Program and local health department emergency response coordinators to incorporate these resources into existing efforts, such as the "Be Ready Utah" campaign, and local risk communication efforts. For more information about this national campaign, check out: www.getreadyforflu.org. For information about Utah's efforts, go to www.pandemicflu.utah.gov.

Public Health Pulse



The Nominations Committee wants you!

We are looking for public health aficionados who are looking for a chance to improve their leadership skills, network with other leaders, and generally have a really good time. Positions are open on the Board, the Nominations Committee, or as an officer.? Please contact LaDene Larsen at llarsen@aol.com by April 7th to let her know that you are ready to sign up to improve public health in Utah.?

UPHA AWARDS

Have you decided who to nominate for an award this year? If you have, get the award criteria and write up the nomination. If you haven't, don't worry it's not too late to start the process. Just keep in mind, nominations are due by March 31, 2008. Members can submit nominations for the following three award categories:

Beatty Award -This award is considered the association's most distinguished award. It is presented to a member who is in good standing, and who has made a significant contribution to public health in Utah.

Rising Star - The association's newest award. It was developed to recognize an individual who demonstrates leadership, and who has made an important contribution to the advancement of health, or to the knowledge and practice in the public health field.

Youth Award - This award is presented to a youth group that has made a significant contribution to address a serious public health problem.

Nomination criteria for these awards can be found on the UPHA website, www.upha.org. After accessing the site select "committees", select "Awards" then proceed with the following steps to submit a nomination: (1) Choose the award of interest, (2) Download the PDF file, (3) Follow the nomination instructions and complete the form, (4) Submit the nomination form via mail, email, or fax to Terri Sory (See contact info on left margin.)

This is a great opportunity to recognize one of many worthy individuals and Programs whose diligent efforts are making a difference in improving the health of our communities.

UPHA / University of Utah

Graduate Student Endowed Scholarship Fund

UPHA established an Endowed Scholarship fund to be awarded to a member of UPHA, who is also a fully matriculated graduate student in the Public Health Program at the University of Utah in 2006. This scholarship is a joint effort of UPHA and the Public Health Program at the University of Utah. The intent of the partners is to grow the endowment to \$20,000, allowing for two \$500 scholarships to be awarded annually. Recipient(s) of the Scholarship will be determined on an annual basis by a Selection Committee.

Those interested in applying for the graduate school and scholarship opportunities should contact the Public Health Program at the University of Utah, through Laurie Johnson Laurie.Johnson@hsc.utah.edu.



Save the Date!!!

2008 UPHA Conference
"Public Health- I t's No Accident!"



May 19—21, 2008

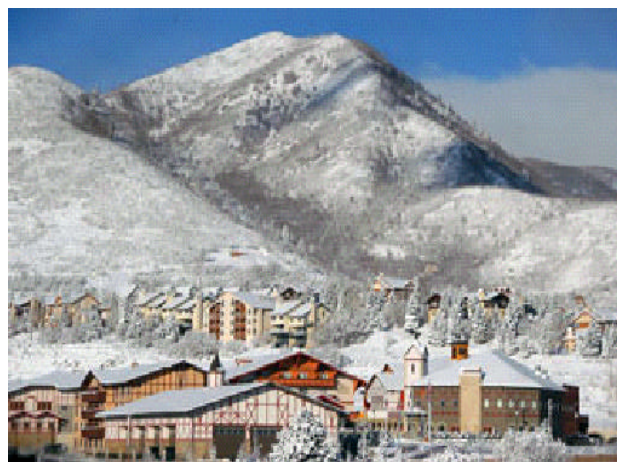
Located at the Zermatt Resort in Midway, Utah.

The UPHA Conference Planning committee is excited to announce the 2008 Public Health Conference to be held at the Zermatt Resort in beautiful Midway Utah.

The theme of this year's conference is "Public Health- I t's no accident!". A great variety of topics and expert speakers will be included to meet the interests of UPHA's diverse professional membership. Conference topics will include: leadership, management, clinical, eating disorders, global warming, cancer, cryptosporidium, recycling, hazardous waste, policy, floods, media/ public health messaging, air quality, energy drinks, weather, how to give effective presentations, legislation, obesity, Provo River restoration project/field visit, emerging pathogens, ... **and MUCH MORE!**

Keynote speakers include:

- David Sundwall, M.D.** — Utah Department of Health
 - Craig Lefebvre, PhD** — Population Services International
 - Michael Beach, M.D.** — Centers for Disease Control
 - Nicole Hawkins, PhD** — Center for Change
 - John Rice, PhD** — Mitigation Commission
 - Gary Edwards, M.S.** — Salt Lake Valley Health Department
- And more!



as

Come and join public health professionals from all over the state we learn how our efforts will ensure that public health is truly no accident!

For details visit: www.upha.org

[Looking for a premier learning resource for public health?](#)

Check out



www.utah.train.org

[Start your personal training](#)



Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP)

UPP (pronounced “up”) helps working individuals and families pay their monthly health insurance premiums. If an employee’s company offers health insurance, qualified individuals and families will receive monthly reimbursements for the cost of their employer-sponsored health insurance coverage. If qualified, UPP will pay up to \$150 per adult and up to \$100 per child each month. In order to qualify for UPP, individuals must:

- **Not currently have health insurance**
- **Be able to enroll in an employer’s health plan**
- **Be a U.S. citizen or legal resident**
- **Meet specific household income guidelines**

To learn more about UPP, visit www.health.utah.gov/upp or call 1-888-222-2542.



The mission of the Utah Environmental Public Health Tracking Network (EPHT) program is to provide information from a nationwide network of integrated health and environmental data that drives actions to improve the health of communities.

The Program will develop a tracking system that integrates data about environmental hazards and exposures with data about diseases that are possibly linked to the environment. This tracking system will allow federal, state, and local agencies and others to:

- Monitor and distribute information on occurrence and trends among environmental hazards, exposures, and health effects;
- Advance research on possible associations among environmental health effects that are linked to exposure to environmental hazards; and
- Develop, implement, and evaluate regulatory and public health actions to prevent or control exposure to environmentally related hazards.



WHO'S WHO IN UPHA OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES 2008

OFFICERS

President: Kevin Condra
UDOH (801) 538-6183

President –Elect: Laurie Baksh
UDOH (801) 538-9146

Vice President: Brian Bennion
(801)-468-2750

Past President: Ilene Risk
SLVHD (801) 534-4638

Secretary: Betsi Patino
UDOH (801) 538-6593

Treasurer: Paul Wightman
UDOH (801) 538-6335

APHA Affiliate: Dan Kinnersley
SLVHD (801) 468-2739

Board Members

Todd Barson, BRHD

Linda Bogdanow, SLVHD

Joseph Jarvis, UHPP

Steve McDonald, March of
Dimes

Kathy Paras, UDOH

Audrey Stevenson, SLVHD

Sharon Talboys, UDOH

Bucky Whitehouse, TCHD

Newsletter Editor
Bucky Whitehouse
(435) 277-2459

Standing Committees Chairs

Audit

David Rabiger UDOH

Awards

Teri Sory, SLVHD

Nominations

Ladene Larsen

Finance

Ivy-Melton Sales, DCHD

Legislative

Myron Bateman, TCHD

Executive

Kevin Condra, UDOH

Policies, Procedures & Bylaws

Dan Kinnersley, SLVHD

Internet/Data Management

Paul Wightman, UDOH

Public Health History

Joyce Gaufin, GBPHLI