President's Message

Happy New Year!

I'm a big fan of January and new beginnings. UPHA has SO much growth potential this year! We are looking forward to the legislative session and weighing in on important bills related to public health. We are also very interested in your ideas on how to improve and make UPHA the best organization to serve YOU! Please send your suggestions and ideas to president@upha.org. We want to be there for YOU!

If you'd rather share your ideas in person, you're welcome to attend our next board meeting on January 28th at 11:30 AM. These meetings are held via Zoom, so are accessible to all. Please reach out to our UPHA secretary, Brett McIff at bmciff@utah.gov to receive a meeting invitation.

As we move forward with 2022, consider the words of Buddha, “No matter how hard the past, you can always begin again.”

Annual Conference Save the Date & Call for Abstracts

Interested in presenting at the 2022 Annual Utah Public Health Association Conference? We are accepting abstract applications for presentations and posters. This conference will be held virtually this year. Use this form to submit your presentation or poster abstract for the conference. Deadline to submit abstracts is February 1, 2022.

This year's conference theme is "Adapting to a New Public Health." This can include the following topics:
- Adapting to increases in funding
- Maintaining relevance
- Mental fatigue
- Workforce changes
- Flexibility in public health focus
- Misinformation battle and raising public perception/credibility/trust of public health
- Root causes and upstream factors

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**Fiscal Management Unit Vacancy**

The UPHA Fiscal Unit is looking to recruit an additional person to serve on the team. This is a board-level position* and will involve a commitment of 3-5 hours/month over the span of 3 years. It is the perfect position for a busy student or professional who has limited time available but wants to be more involved with UPHA.

The Fiscal Unit is responsible for auditing UPHA revenues and expenses, preparing the association budget, and identifying new and additional funding sources.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact the current Fiscal Unit Chair (Skyler Crouch) at skyler@upha.org.  
*Appointment to the position is dependent on a vote by the UPHA Board.

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**UPHA is seeking nominations for board members and elected offices**

Have you served in an elected office or as a board member? Are you interested? Would you like to have a voice in the important health issues in our state? If you have several hours a month to give to our professional public health organization, please submit your name or the name of a colleague!

The success of the Utah Public Health Association (UPHA) is dependent on the willingness of its diverse membership to serve in various offices and positions. All members are encouraged to serve in the association no matter your experience or background. Each year as part of the UPHA Annual Conference, new officers of the Association are elected by the membership to serve in the coming years. UPHA needs you, or someone you know!

We are actively seeking nominations for the following positions:

Vice-President - Officer (4-years)  
Communication Unit - Board Member (3-years)  
Fiscal Unit - Board Member (3-years)  
Advocacy Unit - Board Member (3-years)  
Membership Committee (3-years)  
Nominations Committee (3-years)  
Awards Committee (3-years)

For more information about board nominations, please refer to the bylaws, position descriptions and organizational structure. You may click on the link multiple times to submit nominations for multiple candidates.

Submit nominations here: https://forms.gle/EhKw6X9RsJedFCPj7

Questions: contact a member of the Nominations Committee  
Kelly Teemant 801-560-2324 Kelly.Teemant@hsc.utah.edu  
Ashley Yaugher 435-636-3276 ashley.yaugher@usu.edu  
Jesse Bush 801-395-8203 jbush@midtownchc.org
Join us Monday, January 31st from 10am-1pm for the UPHA/USOPHE Advocacy Academy and Day on the Hill! We will meet in the Aspen Room of the Senate Building at the State Capitol. The event will include an advocacy training, legislative overview, a panel with legislators, and an opportunity to meet with legislators. Come speak out for public health!

Register here

This is an in-person, mask-required event. We will send out additional instructions to help you find the Aspen room. See you on the Hill on Monday January 31st!

Feel free to reach out to the Advocacy Unit with any questions, policy@upha.org!

What Else You Need to Know

- APHA's ongoing webinar/event calendar
- Connect with UPHA on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn