March 2022 E-Newsletter

President's Message

I feel a tremendous amount of gratitude as I write this! This will be the last President’s Message that I share with all of you! During our annual business meeting held the first day of our conference this month, I will hand over the gavel (albeit virtually) to our competent President Elect, Jessica Strong.

I have learned and grown SO much over this past year! As I look back, I recognize the following changes that have happened in UPHA:

- We held our FIRST EVER virtual public health conference, which was a huge success!
- Our first Executive Director, Paul Wightman, retired after serving UPHA for nearly 40 years in various capacities.
- We chose an amazing new Executive Director, Carrie Butler, who brings unique skills to grow and move UPHA forward.
- We increased public health (and UPHA) visibility through multiple media opportunities.
- We received funding to grow and develop our Community Health Worker (CHW) Section.
- We hired three new employees to help create the soon to be Utah Community Health Workers Association (UCHWA).
- We moved through an extensive process to identify our brand soul, “Our Communities, Our Health.”
- We transitioned several board positions including moving through THREE treasurers!
- We developed an online bill tracker and continue to advocate for long awaited legislation. The following bills supported by UPHA passed and received funding:
  - Senate Bill 104 – Community Health Worker Certification Process
  - House Bill 80 – Diabetes Prevention Program
  - House Bill 176--Utah Health Workforce Act (pending)

As I look forward, I see tremendous opportunities for UPHA and all of you as members! I am grateful to continue serving UPHA in a new role as Immediate Past President for the next year. Let me know your professional development needs and how we can improve our membership offerings.

Through this experience, I have had the opportunity to work closely with many of you and form new professional relationships and friendships. THANK YOU for BEING the Utah Public Health Association!

2022 Public Health Conference for Utah

Join us virtually March 22-24! The conference gives participants the opportunity to network with peers, hear from prominent leaders, discuss current issues and practices, earn CEUs, and develop professional skills and knowledge. Click here to register today!

The Public Health Conference for Utah takes place March 22-24 and we couldn’t be more excited to offer a glimpse of what our keynote speaker, Terri Flint, has in store.

Keynote Speaker – Terri Flint

Resilience is not just bouncing back, it’s bouncing higher and stronger than before the challenge. By examining the lessons we’ve learned during these difficult times, we can incorporate them into our daily
lives, strengthening our confidence and competence. This also allows us to be better prepared for future trials, knowing that we’re capable of dealing whatever comes. In this keynote presentation, Terri Flint will discuss the meaning of resilience and how each of us can use crisis as an opportunity for growth and personal development. We’ll also practice skills that enhance our ability to bounce higher and to ultimately say to ourselves, “I’ve got this.”

Register today to make sure you don't miss Terri’s session and so much more! Take a few minutes to view the full conference agenda.

Proposed Changes to UPHA Bylaws

During the January UPHA Board Meeting the Board voted to recommend proposed amendments to the UPHA Bylaws to be discussed at the virtual UPHA Annual Meeting scheduled on Tuesday March 22, 2022 from 1-3pm. Other than various technical amendments, there are three significant proposed changes. You can review the changes and learn more about the UPHA bylaws on the UPHA website. If you have any questions, please contact UPHA Vice President Christy Cushing ccushing@utah.gov

Interesting in Proposing a UPHA Resolution

Any proposed resolutions must be submitted to Patty Cross for consideration by March 15.

Virtual Day on the Hill

Thanks to all who attended the Virtual Day on the Hill! As public health professionals, supporters and advocates we are inspired by you all! If you missed the Day on the Hill, please email Jessie Mandle for the recording.

Legislative Session Update

The legislative session ended at the stroke of midnight last night with legislators debating bills up until the very last minute. There will be a legislative update coming out next week straight to your inboxes, but for now, we want to congratulate some public health champions on their good work to improve disease prevention and access to medicine.

Representative Harrison worked tirelessly on a diabetes prevention which passed and will help expand access to this research based prevention program for our underserved populations. She also passed HB 114, School Nursing Services Amendments, which brings more nurses into local school districts.

Senator Escamilla passed the Community Health Workers Certification and worked very hard on a number of other legislative initiatives.

Representative Norm Thurston passed HB 176, Utah Health Workforce Act, which will create a task force to determine how to build up not only our clinical providers but our public health workforce in Utah.

UPHA had the opportunity to work on all of these good bills to help get them passed and ensure adequate funding was included in the budget. This was our inaugural year having a legislative tracker that was updated regularly. If you enjoyed this feature and are interested in helping shape it for next legislative session, please reach out at carrie@upha.org. An enormous thank you to Jennifer Specchiale for her efforts in keeping the tracker updated morning and evening! Stay tuned for the longer run down!
Move Utah Summit

Register now for Move Utah Summit 2022, the only event of its kind in Utah! Each year, hundreds of subject-matter experts, including planners, engineers and community leaders from across the state come together to discuss best practices for improving decision-making related to health, transportation and land use. How our communities grow directly affects our health and well-being. Move Utah Summit 2022 builds on the previous successful summits to provide expert panelists, virtual breakout sessions, compelling keynote speakers and in-person mobile tour options.

National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW) is March 20-26, 2022. The purpose of NPPW is to bring awareness to the dangers of poisoning and promote prevention tips and strategies in an effort to reduce poison exposures. Poisoning is the number one cause of unintentional injury death in the United States and in Utah and can happen at any age. Join Utah Poison Control Center (UPCC) in spreading poison prevention information. Order free materials to share with others, give a poison prevention lesson in your community, download activity sheets for kids and share 16 tips to prevent poisonings in people of all ages. Connect with the UPCC on social media @utahpoison to learn more during #NPPW22 and throughout the year. Program the poison help number (1-800-222-1222) into your phone today. Together we can make a difference! For questions contact Sherrie Pace, sherrie.pace@hsc.utah.edu

UPHA's 2022 Award Nominations due March 7

Please take a moment today to nominate an individual, group, or organization who has made a significant contribution to public health in Utah by Monday, March 7 at 5 p.m. For nomination information visit https://www.upha.org/get-involved/awards/