

February 10, 2024



News and Views from the New Jersey Local Boards of Health Association

Saturday, March 9, 2024 NJLBHA Board Meeting 10:00 AM EST

Meeting Details

Current Articles and Requests for Participation



Local Health Input is Needed for the New Jersey Rural Health Council

Health Officers:

The NJ State Office of Rural Health runs the NJ Rural Health Council/Migrant Coalition, an organizational body, comprised of 180 members from different organizations. They have members from federal/state agencies, academia, CBOs, health providers, and advocacy groups. The Council is a 2-year term and meets every quarter via Zoom. They discuss different health topics, funding opportunities, resources available to rural communities, projects, and initiatives. They also conduct a general session and breakout sessions to allow members to have discussions, network and collaborate.

A few Health Officers do participate, but the NJ Rural Health Council/Migrant Coalition is seeking additional local health department participation. The next meeting is on March 19th, 10:30-12PM and agenda is attached.

If you serve rural communities, please consider joining the NJ Rural Health Council/Migrant Coalition. One representative per LHD may be accepted. Please contact marisol.meyer@doh.nj.gov if interested in participating.

Thank you,

Jamie Weller, MSN, RN (she/her)

Deputy Director, Office of Local Public Health NJ Department of Health Phone: (609) 571-8321

Text Link









President and Dean, Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine Pediatric Infectious Diseases Specialist, Joseph M. Sanzari Children's Hospital

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FUNDING OUR FUTURES: Navigating State and Federal Grants

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR COMMUNITY PROJECTS!

Are you concerned about environmental justice issues in your community? Do you have projects or initiatives you are trying to fund? Do you want to meet others doing this work across New Jersey?

JOIN US AT A FULL DAY EVENT TO LEARN DIRECTLY FROM DEP, EPA, AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Gain insights and strategies for securing funding and managing federal resources for environmental justice initiatives. Topics will include key funding sources, water infrastructure projects, parks and open space funding, and clean air and energy initiatives.

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For more information, email EnvironmentalJustice@dep.nj.gov or call 609-433-6044.

To learn more about how the DEP is working toward Environmental Justice, visit nj.gov/dep/ej/





HIGHLIGHTS FROM The NATION'S HEALTH A PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Thanks to eligibility expansion in almost all states and new policies on its use, Medicaid is protecting and improving health in new ways. Check out these recent Medicaid-related stories from *The Nation's Health*.

States using Medicaid funds for firearm violence prevention

As gun violence increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Biden administration in 2021 made it easier for states to use Medicaid funds to invest in violence prevention.

States embrace move to cover Medicaid users for a year after childbirth

In rare agreement on a public health issue that has reached crisis levels, nearly two-thirds of U.S. states have extended Medicaid coverage for a full year postpartum.

<u>Community health worker funding drying up, but Medicaid</u> reimbursement offers hope

After a hiring burst during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, community health workers are getting laid off as federal funding ends. Medicaid reimbursement could be a way to save jobs.









Read the March Issue

March 2024

NEW APPROACHES TO INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERS

Town Hall Wednesday, March 13 3-4 p.m. FT





Dear Paul,

Join us on Wednesday, March 13, from 3-4 p.m. EDT for our free town hall on "New Approaches to Investing in the Next Generation of Public Health Leaders."

Our expert panel will explore how the public health workforce has changed since the start of the pandemic, what we've learned, and how we can ensure an equitable and optimal workforce for the future. Get ready to join these leaders in the discussion!

- Mandy Cohen, MD, MPH, director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- AJ Pearlman, JD, director, Public Health AmeriCorps
- Nadine Gracia, MD, MSCE, president and CEO, Trust for America's Health
- Judy Monroe, MD, president and CEO, CDC Foundation
- Pam Pontones, MA, deputy health commissioner of local health services, Indiana Department of Health
- Orlando Reboredo, senior director of service programs, Community Health Care Association of New York State
- Brandi Roberts, EdD, senior director for national service, Baltimore Corps
- Andrea Young, PhD, acting director, Division of Workforce Development, CDC Public Health Infrastructure Center
- Susan Polan, PhD, associate executive director for public affairs and advocacy, APHA

Register now to learn about initiatives these leaders are working on — and what's possible with long-term continued investment.



Recordings Now Available for All Previous Webinars



Be inspired.

Following the event, this webinar will be available within a few days on APHA Now, APHA's digital library of events, CE offerings and more. Learn more and browse recordings.

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If you are not a member of APHA yet, consider joining to receive full access to AJPH, 30% off on books at APHA Press, discounts on Policy Action Institute and the Annual Meeting, and many other member perks.

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Registered Environmental Health Specialists – Town of Kearny

The Town of Kearny is accepting applications for Registered Environmental Health Specialists (REHS). Under direction of the Health Officer, responsibilities include, but are not limited to: sanitary inspections for compliance with applicable public and environmental health regulations, investigations of nuisance complaints and violations of applicable public health laws and ordinance, educational outreach activities, maintenance of accurate paper and electronic records of surveys, investigations, and inspections performed, lead inspections of rental dwelling units, and other duties or special projects as required or as assigned. The position may require periodic evening and/or weekend activities. Must possess an active Registered Environmental Health Specialist License issued by the NJ Department of Health. Lead Inspector/Risk Assessor permit issued by the NJ Department of Health preferred but not required. Appointees will be required to possess a current driver's license valid in New Jersey. Starting salary is \$58,528.



To Apply: https://www.kearny nj.org/jobopportunities/

Deadline to apply: 3/28/2024

Public Health Newswire

The NATION'S HEALTH



Stay up on what's happening with Public Health Newswire from The Nation's Health. Read our recent stories:

Educating Americans can restore trust in science and vaccinations

Rising measles cases are a powerful reminder of how misinformation undermines public health, says Georges Benjamin, MD, APHA's executive director.

APHA condemns gun violence, calls for action

Recent mass shootings lead APHA to call on Congress to take up legislation to end gun violence.

Health workers experiencing high levels of burnout

Even as many of the intense pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic receded, high stress levels among U.S. health workers did not, recent research finds.

US homelessness hits record levels

Challenges in the rental market and an end to eviction protections helped drive U.S. homelessness to record levels last year, a recent federal report finds.

Photo by Andreswd, courtesy iStockphoto

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

RESPIRATORY VIRUS UPDATES

February 16, 2024 This message includes updates on respiratory viruses from CDC.



Vaccine Effectiveness and COVID-19

New data from CDC show that the updated (2023-2024) COVID-19 vaccines were effective against COVID-19 during September 2023 – January 2024, including against variants from the XBB lineage, which is included in the updated vaccine, and JN.1, a new variant that has become dominant in recent weeks. To estimate <u>vaccine effectiveness</u> of the updated COVID-19 vaccine, CDC analyzed data from the <u>Increasing</u> <u>Community Access to Testing (ICATT)</u> COVID-19 pharmacy testing program. The protection provided by the updated vaccine was compared to not receiving an updated vaccine, regardless of a person's infection history or the number of previous COVID-19 vaccines received.

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