Saturday, April 13, 2024
NJLBHA Board Meeting
10:00 AM EST

Current Articles and Requests for Participation

Please keep an eye out for delivery of your 2024 NJLBHA Invoice!


“This long-awaited report is essential reading for every local board member, health department staffers, legislators, legislative staffs, and other government and public officials at every level. This report will be the object of close scrutiny at various levels and its findings and recommendations are critical to our ongoing advocacy for additional permanent sustainable funding for the foundational services necessary to fully meet New Jersey’s practice standards for local boards of health.” - Paul David Roman, President, NJLBHA
News and Resources from Health Equity Initiative!

Check out the latest Community Leaders Forum on Mental Health Equity

**Mental Health Equity: Strategies for Community Engagement and Policy Change** is now available on Health Equity Initiative’s website and on Soundcloud! We are thankful for the group of community leaders who joined us on Friday, January 19th, 2024 to discuss the current challenges we are facing in the mental health field, and more specifically, the inequities occurring amongst marginalized groups.

This forum was designed, organized, and hosted by Health Equity Initiative to capture the perspectives of community leaders promoting mental health equity within their work. The forum was moderated by Health Equity Initiative’s Founder, Dr. Renata Schiavo, and focused on:
Chris Merkel, president of the New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials and head of Monmouth County’s public health department, said the “neglect, panic, repeat” pattern outlined in Zoubek’s report puts the public in danger. “Continuing down this path will cause more chaos and deaths the next time around,” he said.

Murphy signed an order earlier this month that created a task force of state officials who will now
review Zoubek’s 33 recommendations and codify changes to make New Jersey better prepared. But Murphy warned, “Public health infrastructure is a huge lift, financially and otherwise,” in an interview with WNYC radio following the report’s release.

The $56 billion budget proposal Murphy outlined in February — which lawmakers use as a starting point to a final spending plan by July 1 — allocates tens of millions of state and federal dollars for public health programs. Ewais said this includes nearly $19 million in state money for investigating lead poisoning in children and controlling infectious disease. But Murphy’s plan does not include any additional, unrestricted funding for local public health work.

**Happy National Public Health Week!**

"Happy Public Health Week Everyone! I dedicate these sentiments to all of you for your hard work for the public we serve, heroic actions during COVID, and your strong public health spirit. I'm grateful for all you do.

To the Heroes of Public Health:

It takes special human beings to work in the field of public health. We are here to serve. We are a humble bunch. We are not looking for awards or rewards. At times, we are self-deprecating because, well, you have to laugh. It is not glamorous work. We work as a team and self-promotion is not allowed. The work is just pure and simple public service for the greater good.

Our reach is broad. We work hard to improve health, prevent disease, and promote good health for all people.

In 2020, we were tested. We were pushed beyond our limits, and we graciously fought the battle against COVID. I called our newfound duties the 6 phases of COVID, and they included: 1) setting up widespread partner communications so that the county stayed informed through all phases; 2) distributing personal protective equipment (PPE) to the community; 3) performing contact tracing on anyone infected; 4) setting up COVID testing sites; 5) performing community compliance of COVID guidelines; and 6) holding mass vaccination clinics. Those who worked in public health at the time, will remember. Those who were yet to come, have heard. No matter what, we all stood up like champions and kept all Health Department operations running through it all. For this, I am grateful, and I ask the question, if not us, then who?

If Not Us, Then Who?

We have taken on the noble task
This work in Public Health
It's not the money but the mission
That brings our greatest wealth.

We’re not resting on our laurels
Or looking for a vote
We’re just pushing the core functions
PREVENT, PROTECT, PROMOTE.

Working from the front end
In order to PREVENT
Surveilling all conditions
To avoid the next event.

There are fundamental guidelines
To ensure that we PROTECT
The health and the well-being
Of the public we respect.

Improving health and safety
This we must PROMOTE
Taking action, changing laws
Are important things to note.

Then along came the pandemic
Right out of the blue
So we stepped out of our comfort zones
And did what heroes do.

We stood up to that monster
As we were deemed essential
And that sly, deceitful enemy
Took us past our full potential.

It’s not something we can soon forget
But it bonded us together
It’s chiseled in our memories
And will likely last forever.

This work is not just something
That anyone can do
Which brings us to the question
If not us, then who?
Beyond Barriers
Charting the Course for Immunizations in a Changing Landscape

Wed., May 22, 2024
7:30 am - 3:30 pm
The Palace at Somerset Park
333 Davidson Ave, Somerset, NJ 08873

Presented by the New Jersey Department of Health, Vaccine Preventable Disease Program, and Rutgers School of Public Health

The New Jersey Department of Health, Vaccine Preventable Disease Program and Rutgers School of Public Health are pleased to present the 2024 New Jersey Immunization Conference, "Beyond Barriers Charting the Course for Immunization in a Changing Landscape."

This program aims to raise awareness among various Public Health professionals about the significance of timely immunization for adolescents, teens, and adults. Expert leaders will discuss best practices for immunization and vaccine updates, foster connections between immigrant and migrant communities and available resources, provide crucial updates on the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program and compliance regulations, and examine the impact of AI on public health. This year’s conference will be held in person and public health and health education contact hours will be provided for this event.

Register at https://go.rutgers.edu/2024NJIC

New Jersey State Nurses Association Accreditation Statement:
HRET is approved as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by New Jersey State Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

Provider Number P-131-3/2024. This educational activity awards a maximum of _4_ nursing contact hours.

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