



# Tennessee Public Health Association Newsletter

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### Message from the President Marian Levy, Dr. P.H., RD President, 2011-2012

*"Skate where the puck is headed!"*

Wayne Gretzky had the right idea. In order for the Tennessee Public Health Association to meet the needs of our growing membership, as well as to advance the cause of public health across Tennessee, it's helpful to anticipate where the field of public health is headed... and then be at the forefront of that trend.

While no one has a crystal ball... there are some things we know. There is a national shortage of trained public health professionals. By the year 2020, 250,000 additional public health workers will be needed. It is essential that we engage bright young minds to enter public health, partner with the state's academic institutions to increase student participation in TPHA, and provide mentorship opportunities. Equally important, it points to the need to support advanced training of our current public health workforce via programs such as LIFEPAATH.

Another trend of public health is activism for eco-responsibility. It's time to work smart and live smart to protect our environment. Toward that end, our immediate Past-President, Robert Goff, is spearheading TPHA's effort to become more sustainable and even more vibrant. Robert's Public Policy Committee will take a fresh look at the organization of TPHA - not because it is broken, but rather to determine if there is a more efficient way of doing business. So look for updates on our website ([www.tnpublichealth.org](http://www.tnpublichealth.org)), Facebook and other forms of social media as we become more sustainable!

Finally, public health's vision is expanding to address social determinants that affect the health of communities. This includes factors such as education, housing, transportation, income, and neighborhood safety (all of which impact access to healthy food and physical activity.) As we expand our focus, public health must form new partnerships and relationships. This concept will be featured prominently at the 2012 TPHA conference set for September 12 - 14. Dr. David Brumley, Chair of the Program Committee, is already hard at work lining up nationally-renowned speakers reflecting the conference theme: **One Health, One Environment, One World**. And we are thrilled that the President of the American Public Health Association, Dr. Mel Shipp, will join us at the annual conference!

So join us as we skate into the future of public health... training new leaders, becoming more efficient, and expanding our reach to maximize the impact of public health in Tennessee.

In closing, let me say how much I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your President. It is an honor to work with you, your TPHA Board, and our Executive Director Doris Spain. Our future is bright, indeed!

## REFLECTIONS

Submitted by: **Robert Goff, Immediate Past President**



Thank you for a great year

When I accepted the gavel from Chris in September 2010, I knew that I had been given an opportunity by the membership that would be a fun and rewarding experience. When I passed the gavel to Marian in September 2011, I could not find the words to explain just what the experience had been. I spent twelve months surrounded by people who had a passion to improve public health in Tennessee, and it made me want to work harder at doing the same. The Board approved some new ideas – and even took some chances – to move TPHA forward. The conference was everything I hoped it would be, but more importantly, the members and other attendees reported that they felt energized. Thank you for allowing me to serve in the role for a few months. I look forward to serving under Marian, and I ask that each of you find a way to get involved as well. TPHA is one of the strongest public health associations in the nation. Let's make it even stronger.

### THANKS TO OUR SPONSORING AGENCY MEMBERS

#### GOLD AGENCY MEMBERSHIP

**Tennessee LIFEPAATH  
UnitedHealthcare Community Plan**

#### SILVER AGENCY MEMBERSHIP

**Amerigroup Community Care**

#### BRONZE AGENCY MEMBERSHIP

**Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Tennessee  
Delta Dental  
GlaxoSmithKline**

#### TPHA PATRON AGENCY MEMBERSHIP

**Tennessee Hospital Association  
Tennessee State Employees Association  
Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center  
West Tennessee Healthare**

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### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

#### Individual Membership

Active Members	849
Life Members	167
Total	1016

#### Agency Membership

126

All county health departments and regional health offices are 2011 agency members.

Winner of Rotating Trophy for Region with Greatest Increase in Membership

Shelby County Health Department



**Yvonne Madlock, Director of the Shelby County Health Department accepts the rotating trophy for the greatest increase in membership by a region.**



**Mark Houser presents the Lynn B. Hearn Memorial Environmentalist of the Year Award to Joe Ferguson.**



**Ashley Alexander is presented the Nursing Section Award by Tammy Mansfield.**

**SECTION  
AWARD  
WINNERS**



**The 2011 Emergency Preparedness Section Best Practice Award is presented to Karen Lynn by Lynn Burns.**



**Gene Barnett is presented a plaque recognizing his induction into the Environmental Hall of Fame.**

**The winner of the 2011 Health Educator of the Year Award is Barbara Kelley from the West Tennessee Region. Barbara was unable to attend the meeting.**

## 2011 AWARD RECIPIENTS

### R. H. HUTCHESON, SR. MD AWARD



**Becky Barnes**, Director of the Chattanooga/Hamilton County Regional Health Department, is the 2011 recipient of the R.H. Hutcheson, Sr., MD Award, the highest award given by TPHA. Becky has a public health career span of 31 years and has served as a staff nurse and nurse manager as well as Health Department Director. Locally, Becky is a member of the Women's Leadership Institute, Air Pollution Control Bureau, Family and Children Services Advisory Committee, Sigma Theta Tau and the Nursing Faculty Advisory Board.

With her staff, she is committed to CQI, evidence-based medicine and preventive methods, data procurement and analysis which has lead to a health plan for the county dedicated to health promotion of her staff, including providing healthy foods in vending machines, encouraging use of stairs and creation of a mini wellness center. Within Hamilton County, Becky has been instrumental in developing a nutrition movement known as "Step One", a project called "Safe Routes"

providing safe sidewalks, crosswalks, bike racks and traffic control and has been a strong supporter of tobacco prevention and infant mortality prevention programs.

Becky has served in many roles within TPHA, including serving as President. She is also active in APHA and SHA. Congratulations, Becky!!

### ALEX B. SHIPLEY, MD AWARD

**Debbie Johnson**, Regional Director for the Upper Cumberland Region is this year's winner of the Alex B. Shipley Award. Debbie has worked in many positions at the local, regional and state level serving as a social counselor, county director, program director and regional director.

Debbie secured funding for almost \$200,000 worth of durable medical equipment for the region and funds for partnerships with medical specialists. She has overseen renovation of eight local health Departments and the construction of three new facilities. She was also instrumental in the building of a new platinum LEED Certified Regional Office.

Debbie's work embodies the spirit of Dr. Shipley as her works, too, have contributed greatly to improving the health of our citizens and the building and improving of the infrastructure of local health departments.

Debbie is very involved in the community, serving as the Chair of a Regional Health Care Committee, and in her church, she serves as the youth choir director. Congratulations, Debbie!



### TPHA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



Becky Brumley is the recipient of the 2011 TPHA Distinguished Service Award. Becky has been involved in TPHA at almost every level for many years. She works tirelessly, not only on her committees, but is always available to help outside of that role. For the Middle TN Grand Division meeting, she is a key player in securing the venue, the caterer, and all the little details one needs to have a successful meeting. She will never say no when asked for advice, help or information. She worked side by side with David during his reign as TPHA President. The annual meeting runs very smoothly because of Becky - she works hard behind the scenes to secure the right person to do invocation, sing the anthem or entertain. And finally, ANYONE that could go through the by-laws and make sure that every word was correct, accurate, and readable, deserves more than a service award - they deserve a gold star - made of real gold and weighing at least 6 ounces. Becky is a hard working individual with a passion for TPHA, and it shows, not just at the big events such as Annual Meetings or Regional Meetings, but at every level, all year round as she works on committees, and strives to make each year even better.

## PUBLIC HEALTH WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD



The Public Health Worker of the Year Award goes to Mary Beth Davis from the Mid Cumberland Region. Mary Beth started her career in public health as a nurse practitioner in the primary care safety net program after an exemplary military career. She went above and beyond her normal job to obtain needed specialty care by submitting a proposal to the local United Way for funds. The program, entitled “We Care/We Help” was initially funded at \$5,000 and has now grown to \$28,000. Her number one concern is ensuring that the patient gets the needed care.

Mary Beth is also a member of the local Drug Task Force and is known locally as a public health leader who makes a difference in the lives of citizens in her community.

Congratulations, Mary Beth!

## PUBLIC HEALTH GROUP OF THE YEAR AWARD

The 2011 Public Health Group of the Year is staff of the Grundy County Health Department. The group truly recognizes that there is no “I” in “team.” As a very small staff, they are self-reliant and highly respected in their community.

One project they have undertaken is the Mountain Tops and Bottoms Program. In 2008, Darryl Adams, Nurse Practitioner, saw a patient at the Grundy County Health Department who was seeking help for the first time with an advanced case of breast cancer. The patient had no medical insurance and very little money, which is why she had not sought medical care earlier. Although Susan Merrell, with the Breast & Cervical Screening Program, and Darryl worked together to help this patient obtain TennCare, the patient did not survive. Ms. Adams and the rest of the Grundy staff decided it was time to do something to help uninsured women in their county get the preventative healthcare they needed. They started Mountain Tops and Bottoms to educate women about breast exams, Pap smears, mammograms, and resources available for uninsured or underinsured women. The entire staff participates in an annual event held after work hours providing outreach and education regarding breast and cervical cancer. The staff furnishes refreshments for participants from their own pockets. To make it fun, as well as educational, they obtain door prizes from businesses in the community. Their mission is to see that no one else in their community would ever again be diagnosed with advanced breast or cervical cancer due to lack of resources for health care.



## PARTNERS AND LEADERSHIP (PAL) INDIVIDUAL AWARD

The 2011 recipient of the PAL Award is Keela Dement, BSN, EMT-IV, Life Flight Nurse, Vanderbilt.

Keela is described as highly skilled, committed, competent and a wonderful resource for public health. She serves on four child fatality review teams on her own personal time from a distance, often after working all night as a flight nurse for Vanderbilt. She is a highly skilled trauma nurse and provides needed insight and knowledge to the team which has improved the team’s ability. She is often seen assisting in gathering records for the reviews.

Keela truly has made a significant contribution on behalf of public health that is extraordinary and sets an example for others. Congratulations, Keela and thank you for your support of public health!!

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## PARTNERS AND LEADERSHIP (PAL) GROUP AWARD



President Robert Goff presents the PAL Group Award to Stephen Canfield, Joseph McVeigh and Jordan Cleek from Tennessee Tech.

The 2011 recipient of the PAL Group Award is from the Upper Cumberland Region—the Early Intervention and Mechanical Engineering Project at Tennessee Tech. This group has been an outstanding partner with CSS for the past 11 years. Over 300 engineering students have participated in the project which is dedicated to providing innovative engineered products, free of charge, to children with special needs and their families while offering valuable real world design experience to engineering students. The group takes referrals at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters each year and serves approximately three CSS families each semester.

Some examples of their work include construction of a playground for a child with special needs, walkers and wheelchairs, construction of adaptive seating system, designing and constructing tricycles, beds, PT equipment and toys.

The work of this group is improving the quality of life for Tennessee children and their families and they are a shining example for others in our state.

TPHA is proud to present the PAL Group Award to such a deserving group - congratulations!!

## TPHA STUDENT SECTION

The Student Section elected three regional representatives at the annual meeting. These student reps will be involved in planning the grand division meetings and will work to strengthen the Student Section through recruitment and communication.



In the photo from left to right are:

Manuel Gonzalez  
East region representative  
East Tennessee State University

Sarakay Johnson  
Student Section Chair  
East Tennessee State University

Heather Snell  
Central region representative  
Meharry Medical College

The representative not pictured is Danielle Owen, the western region representative from the University of Memphis.

Sarakay Johnson, Student Section Chair made the following statement:

"My name is Sarakay Johnson and I am a student in the College of Public Health at East Tennessee State University. I am double-majoring in public health, with a concentration in healthcare administration, and business management. I am so thankful to have the opportunity to serve as Student Section Chair for TPHA. I'm excited to be working with you all as we make

efforts to promote both TPHA and public health, and I'm looking forward to many great accomplishments this year!"

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION COMMITTEE

Vincent Pinkney, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, announced the following election results at the closing session held on Friday, September 16, 2011.

**President - Elect**

**Vice President - East**

**Vice President - Middle**

**Vice President - West**

**Board Representatives - Middle**

**Karen Lynn**

**Paula Campbell**

**Janet McAlister**

**Judy Martin**

**Ami Mitchell**

**Chris Taylor**



Left to right: Robert Goff, Outgoing President; Janet McAlister, Vice President/Middle TN; Chris Taylor, Board Rep/Middle TN; President Marian Levy; President-Elect Karen Lynn; Judy Martin, Vice President/West TN .



Outgoing President Robert Goff passes the gavel to Marian Levy, Incoming TPHA

## REPORT FROM THE FUN AND FITNESS COMMITTEE



least), we are very proud of Robert Goff and greatly appreciate the hard work and dedication he has shown over the last year as President of TPHA.”

Glenn Czarnecki, Regional Director, Southeast Region and the regional Fun and Fitness team show their excitement over winning the “coveted” Spirit Stick!!

Glenn had the following comments regarding the region’s success: “During this year’s annual TPHA meeting, the Southeast Region was very excited to win the Spirit Stick. All of the employees enjoyed the camaraderie and fun of the scavenger hunt and the talent contest. Carol Henson made a beautiful quilt to represent the region, many donated auction items and other employees competed in smaller events. The Spirit Stick represents our unity and firm resolution to be the best that we can be.”

He went on to say “Lastly (and definitely not

# PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AWARDS



President Robert Goff presents 30 year service awards to Rubelyn Mays and Becky Brumley.



20 year service awards are presented by President Robert Goff to Mitzi Wyrick, Jill Mount, Beth Hamilton, Melissa Blair, Frances Reece and Janie Melton.



Robert Goff presents a 40 year service award plaque to Tommy Smith



Rena Mills receives her plaque for 50 years of public health service from Robert Goff, TPHA President



Glenn Czarnecki, Membership Chair, presents a Lifetime Membership certificate to Chris Freeman.



President Robert Goff, presents a Lifetime Membership certificate to Donna Gibbs.

## RESOLUTIONS Passed at the Annual Meeting

The following resolutions were adopted by the TPHA membership at the annual business meeting on September 16:

Resolution Regarding the Obesity Epidemic in Tennessee  
Resolution Regarding Preventive Health Services  
(The resolutions in their entirety may be viewed at  
[www.tnpublichealth.org](http://www.tnpublichealth.org))

### MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS:

Dr. Eugene W. Fowinkle, Commissioner, Tennessee Dept. of Health and Environment, retired 1983, died Aug. 26, 2011

William H. Wirsing, Public Health Administrator, Tennessee Department of Health, retired 2002, died Nov. 17, 2010

Jackie Ivie, retired, Nurse, Quality Management, Tennessee Department of Health, died 05/15/11

Barbara Beard, retired, Nurse Practitioner, South Central Region, died 05/19/11

Teresa Williamson, Director, Coordinated School Health, Giles County, died 03/13/11

Barbara Allen, County Director, Robertson and Cheatham County Health Departments, retired 2005, died 07/06/11

Helen Booth, retired, Director of Nursing, South Central Region, died 03/16/11

### RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS:

Jo Ann Armbrister, Dental Hygienist, East TN Region, retired August, 2011 with 40 years service

Joan Biddle, Nurse, Knox CHD, retired May, 2011 with 32 years service

Rebecca Collins, Administrative Services Assistant 2, West TN Regional Office, retired June, 2011 with 34 years service.

Carole Dunifer, Nurse Supervisor, Claiborne CHD, retired April, 2011 with 24 years service

Kay Elkins, Nurse Practitioner, Hawkins CHD, retired June, 2011 with 36 years service

Melva Green, Nurse Supervisor, McMinn CHD, retired May, 2011 with 46 years service

Lawrence Moffatt, MD, Physician, Washington CHD, retired October, 2010 with 40 years service

Bart Perkey, Director, Community Health Bureau, Metro Public Health Department, retired January, 2011 with 30 years service

Faye Spence, Nurse Practitioner, Jackson-Madison Regional Health Department, retired June, 2011 with 24 years service

Dick Swiggart, County Director, West TN Region, retired January, 2008, with 43 years service

Linda Swink, Health Educator, Wilson CHD, retired February, 2011, with 22 years service

Robert Taylor, Epidemiologist, Central Office, Department of Health, retired July, 2011 with 28 years service

Kimberly Villegas, Administrative Assistant, East TN Regional Health Office, retired October, 2010, with 34 years service

Janice Webster, Office Supervisor, Sevier CHD, retired April, 2011, with 33 years service

Jannie Williams, Executive Assistant to the Director of Health, Metro Public Health Department, retired January, 2011, with 34 years service

## REGIONAL NEWS

### Southeast Region: We Are Proud

The Southeast Region has implemented a vision planning process where ideas on how to improve processes or programs are developed. Staff members from across the region meet regularly and discuss ideas to enhance improvement in four different focus areas. These are: Communication; Staff Satisfaction; Patient/Customer Satisfaction, and Utilization/Productivity. As a result, action plans have been set in motion that are positively affecting our region. One of those outcomes includes a new patient satisfaction survey the Southeast Region is currently piloting. Ideas on improving the patient satisfaction survey process were shared with Quality Improvement in Central Office and they have worked closely with us to create and implement this process. The new patient satisfaction survey is more user-friendly and we are hoping it captures a more accurate account of how patients feel about their health department experience. Another advantage of the new survey is that the results can be tabulated by computer greatly enhancing efficiency and diminishing the staff time spent. As importantly, it will also reduce the margin for error. The 2011 patient satisfaction survey was administered October 17 through November 18 and returned to the regional office by Wednesday, November 23rd.

## News from the Tennessee Men's Health Network - Jackson Symposium on Men's Health

On September 30, the Tennessee Men's Health Network (TMHN) along with state Representative Jimmy Eldridge hosted the Jackson Symposium on Men's Health. The event took place at the Jackson-Madison County Regional Health Department and included presentations from state and local healthcare leaders, including an hour long presentation on prostate cancer from Dr. Tim Davenport, a urologist from The Jackson Clinic.

The Jackson Symposium on Men's Health was a highlight of a month long prostate cancer awareness campaign hosted by the Tennessee Men's Health Network in conjunction with National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month (September). TMHN would like to thank Dr. Tony Emison, Director, Jackson-Madison County Regional Health Department, Shelia Ward, and Chelsea Brandon who all assisted in making the Symposium a success. TMHN and Rep. Jimmy Eldridge would like to host another Jackson Symposium on Men's Health sometime in the near future.

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## **Shelby County Health Department Test Emergency Response with Drive-Through Vaccination Clinic**

On Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> the Shelby County Health Department's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program held their second Drive-Through Flu Vaccination Clinic to test their emergency response capabilities by opening a Point of Dispensing (POD) site at Kirby High School in Memphis. The seasonal flu vaccination was offered to the entire public free of charge for their participation in the exercise. In just four hours, nearly 600 people passed through the clinic and received their complimentary shot.

Cars entered the Kirby High School campus where they stopped at a forms distribution tent to pick up their necessary paperwork. They then traveled along the route to the forms review tent where nurses reviewed their medical history to ensure there would be no safety concerns after they received the shot. Once they were cleared, participants drove up to the dispensing tents, turned off their cars, and received their flu shot while they sat in the car.

As a convenience to both the public and to the staff running the POD, cars with more than four people wishing to receive the shot were sent to a separate area where they were asked to park their car and walk up to our nurses' station. By doing this, participants, mainly those with kids, were given more attention by the nurses and were allowed more time to comfort any kids that may be nervous or uncomfortable about receiving the vaccination.

Overall, the Health Department received positive feedback from participants as they passed through the POD line and most were very appreciative of the opportunity provided to them. "We are so thankful for the folks that were able to take advantage of this affordable, quick and easy way to protect themselves and their families from the flu," said Yvonne Madlock, Director of the Shelby County Health Department. "Our response plans were tested, and judging by the attitude of the public and the success of the event, our plans are working and we are improving."

Should Shelby County ever experience a public health emergency requiring a mass prophylaxis of the public, a POD site would be used. Through exercises like the Drive-Through Flu Clinic, the Health Department is able to simulate a response to a real event. "We know that in the case of an actual public health emergency, the public may not be able to remain as calm as they were during our flu clinic, but through practice, our staff will become more comfortable with their response and that, in turn, will help to calm the public," said Kasia Smith-Alexander, Emergency Response Coordinator for the Health Department's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program. "Although we hope to never have to activate a POD site, we take our plans and exercises seriously because we know the health and safety of the public depends on our ability to respond quickly and effectively."

For more information about the Drive-Through Flu Vaccination Clinic or other activities, please call the Shelby County Health Department's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program at (901) 379-7155 Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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## **Northeast Tennessee Region**

Child Health Week was celebrated by many programs in each health department the first week in October. Community partners assisted with events in all counties. While every activity cannot be mentioned in this article, a highlight from each county is listed below:

**Carter:** Health department staff, Carter County School System, Carter County Coordinated School Health and Volunteer State Health partnered to implement the *Health U* program through the physical education classes at several schools during the week. Each class started with 15 minutes of nutrition and obesity discussions, followed by the "exercise boot camp". Students participated in an array of exercises ranging from warm-up stretches to running laps to calisthenics, with a cool down lap concluding the session.

**Greene:** Throughout the week, youth ages 7 – 11 attending the local Boys and Girls Club participated in a series of presentations and activities focusing on nutrition and physical activity. On Monday, Masters Gardeners from UT provided learning activities about the nutritional value of fruits and vegetables. On Tuesday, an instructor from the Greeneville Fitness Center provided Zumba instruction. On Wednesday, a nutrition educator from UT's Extension Office provided information and examples of My Plate. On Thursday, the youth were brought in groups to the Greene CHD where the nutrition educator provided education and examples of healthy snacks. The week's activities concluded on Friday, with the youth participating in Olympic style games.

**Hancock:** *National Walk to School Day* was observed on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at Hancock County Elementary School. A total of three hundred thirty-two (332) students, parents, grandparents and volunteers braved the cool temperatures to participate. Participants walked from the intersection of Livesay and Court Streets to the elementary school. Each student received a certificate, healthy snack and incentives. The event was sponsored by the Hancock County Health Council Adolescent Subcommittee, Hancock County School Based Health Centers, Coordinated School Health and United Healthcare.

**Hawkins:** October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 the health educator conducted a Child Health Week activity with students at the Surgoinsville-Head Start. Students participated in Get Fit Kids physical activity that encouraged them to develop activities of their own creation. There were four classes with a total of 68 students and 12 staff members.

**Johnson:** A day long workshop for those with diabetes or their care takers with emphasis on adults was offered to the community. The workshop included presenters speaking about Diabetes management, treatment and complications. Partners for this event included: ETSU College of Nursing, Johnson CHD, Johnson County Diabetes Coalition, Johnson County Schools, and local providers.

**Unicoi:** The Unicoi CHD partnered with the YMCA ZumbAtomic children's exercise program to present a program on childhood obesity for the parents covering the scope of the obesity problem facing the country. The causes of childhood obesity, diseases which can result in childhood due to obesity, ways to help prevent obesity in children and healthier eating habits were discussed.

**Washington:** The Washington County Health Department and the Washington County Health Council Adolescent Subcommittee partnered with the sheriff's department, Earth Fare, Food City, and United Healthcare to plan and implement *National Walk to School* activities at Lamar Elementary School. Parents, grandparents, health council members and others walked with the students from the designated drop-off area to the school.

## WHO'S WHO IN TPHA FOR 2010-2011

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marian Levy, (President & Representative to APHA)  
 Robert Goff (Immediate Past President)  
 Karen Lynn (President-Elect)  
 Tammy Burke (Representative to SHA)  
 Paula Campbell (Vice President/East TN)  
 Janet McAlister (Vice President/Middle TN)  
 Judy Martin (Vice President/West N)  
 Alisa Cade (Board Representative/East TN)  
 Art Miller (Board Representative/East TN)  
 Ami Mitchell (Board Representative/Middle TN)  
 Chris Taylor (Board Representative/Middle TN)  
 Matt McDaniel (Board Representative/West TN & EP Section Rep)  
 Jill Mount (Board Representative/West TN)  
 Sandy Hayes (Health Administration Section)  
 Valerie Dangerfield (Case Management Section)  
 David Brumley, DDS (Communicable Disease Section)  
 Lanora Bryant, DDS (Dental Section)  
 Eric Coffey (Environmental Section)  
 Alicia Mastronardi (Epidemiology & Biostatistics Section)  
 Suzee Sanders (Health Promotion Section)  
 Melissa Davis (Management Support Section)  
 Nancy Brookshire (Nursing Section)  
 Phyllis Hall (Nutrition Section)  
 Lorraine MacDonald, MD (Physicians Section)  
 Sarakay Johnson (Student Section)  
 Doris Spain (ex-officio member)

**NOTE: Each Section Chair also serves as the Section Rep to the Board of Directors.**

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EACH OF THE BOARD MEMBERS IS AVAILABLE ON THE TPHA WEBSITE: [www.tnpublichealth.org](http://www.tnpublichealth.org)**

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Arrangements	Becky Brumley
Audit & Finance	Sandy Hayes
Awards	Ami Mitchell
Constitution & Bylaws	Kevin Morris
Continuing Education	Karen Lynn
Exhibits/Sponsors	Lanora Bryant
Fun and Fitness	Cathy Cowart
Legislative	Alisa Haushalter
Membership	Matt McDaniel
Nominations & Elections	Glenn Czarnecki
Poster Session	Tyler Zerwekh
Program	David Brumley
Public Health Week	Shannon Railling
Public Relations	Andrea Taylor and Heather Reynolds
Public Policy	Robert Goff
Registration	Vanessa Watkins
Resolutions	Lorraine MacDonald
Scholarship	Paula Masters and Chris Taylor
Silent Auction	Evelyn Vaillencourt

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EACH OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIRS IS AVAILABLE ON THE TPHA WEBSITE: [www.tnpublichealth.org](http://www.tnpublichealth.org)**

## News from the Southern Health Association

Submitted by: Tammy Burke

### Annual Meeting Notes:

Charlotte was the site of the 2011 joint SHA/NCPHA meeting, September 21-23, 2011 and commemorated the first NCPHA Annual Meeting which was held in Charlotte. The theme of the meeting was "Learning from our Past, Leading for the Future" and over 400 were in attendance. Lisa Friend Waddell, MD, MPH, Deputy Commissioner for Health Services with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, was the opening keynote speaker and spoke about the changing landscape of public health. There was also a most informative session with a multi-

state panel speaking on the topic of Enhanced Surveillance Systems for Large Sporting Events, Gatherings, Conferences and Conventions. Workshops were organized by membership sections and included information on everything from Centering Healthcare to Utilizing Evidence Based Strategies in Public Health Practice.

The 2012 SHA joint annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the Kentucky Public Health Association and will be held March 27 – 30, 2012, at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Association Notes:**

SHA is working to have on-line payment of membership dues available soon. Also, follow us on FaceBook and Twitter!

**Selected State Report Information:**

Alabama: The AL Public Health Association has recently hired a new Executive Assistant, Shelia Puckett. Alabama recently passed the toughest immigration law in the nation, making it a crime to be in Alabama without possessing proper identification. The Alabama Department of Health continues to research how this will impact the services they provide to the community through the Local Health Departments and Restaurant Inspections.

North Carolina: UNC School of Public Health, Institute for Public Health is collaborating with the Association of North Carolina Boards of Health on providing a structured training program for local boards of health to meet NC Public Health Accreditation Standards and requirements for local health departments. Over 60 of the 85 local health departments are now accredited. David Stone who headed the NC Public health Accreditation program has stepped down due to being appointed to the Public health Accreditation Board as the Director of Education.

Kentucky: Dudley Conner, long time Executive Director of the KY Public Health Association is retiring and the association is in the process of interviewing potential replacement candidates. KPHA Board approved a new class of membership. Local Boards of Health were added to the Governing Agency category. One membership fee of \$150.00 covers the Board. The KY Health Department Association is again working to get a mandatory accreditation for local health departments Act passed. The Act asks for \$500,000 appropriation for each of the next two fiscal years starting in 2012.

**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.TNPUBLICHEALTH.ORG](http://WWW.TNPUBLICHEALTH.ORG) TO VIEW THE FOLLOWING:**

- 1. COLOR VERSION OF THE NEWSLETTER**
- 2. POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS AND PHOTOS FROM THE 2011 TPHA ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE**