

Tennessee Public Health Association Newsletter

www.TNpublichealth.org



Karen Lynn
President, 2012-2013

*Message
from
the
President*

In this my 30th year of working for the Tennessee Department of Health, it seems there is a new excitement and energy in the air. Some of our regions/metros are working on accreditation. Others are working on certifications, such as Project Public Health Ready. Local health departments are busy, not only seeing patients in our clinics, but also on the Primary Prevention Initiative as they engage the community in working together to improve health. Baldrige and LEAN have become part of our vocabulary. Everywhere I look it seems like we are busier than ever!

TPHA is also busy right now. Our Vice Presidents are working with their committees to bring you three great regional meetings. The dates are set and the topics and speakers are, as usual, outstanding. I am looking forward to traveling across the state to meet with you at each of those meetings. The Program Committee, with the leadership

of Ami Mitchell, is also hard at work and I can tell you now that we are going to have a fantastic annual conference. As some of you have heard me say, one of the best things about being a member of TPHA is getting to know and network with people who are engaged in the work of public health across the state. The regional meetings and the annual conference give us a chance to learn together, share ideas, and, of course, have a little fun.

In addition to planning for our meetings, we are taking a look at our strategic plan and our section structure as we strive to not only stay viable, but to become stronger and a continued advocate for public health in Tennessee. All of the committees are busy, but I have to mention the Membership Committee, led by Chair, Glenn Czarnecki, and our "Drive for 12 in '13." We are on a mission to become the largest APHA affiliate in the country - last year we were 4th. Let's help the Membership Committee. If each one of us just recruits one new member, we would double in size! If you are a new member, then let me say welcome to TPHA and if you have been with us for a while, welcome back. We are glad to have all of you.

Sometimes in public health it is harder or takes longer to visualize the impact we make. In a hospital, a person may come in with an illness or surgical need, get it fixed, the staff can watch the person recover and send them off to home. The end result of the work that was done is often easy and quick to see. For us, it is a child who stays well and we see them in high school or as a young adult and think maybe they are healthy because of the vaccination we gave when they were a baby. Sometimes it is that percentage drop in the rate of diabetes, infant mortality, or obesity that may take two or three years for us to document. Sometimes it is adults exercising more, all ages learning to eat healthy, families making a preparedness plan, or people getting routine screening tests on time that shows we are making a difference in lives - all things that sometimes are difficult to measure. However, in the end, being busy in whatever sector of public health you work and being involved with TPHA bring a sense of satisfaction as we come together as a team to have a positive impact on the lives of Tennesseans.

Make plans now to join us at the regional meetings and at the annual conference. Volunteer to work on a committee. Find the section that interests you. Check out our website and our Facebook page. Celebrate National Public Health Week in April. Look for those signs that let you know that what you are doing matters, however long it seems to take. Thank you for all you do every day as we stay "busy" doing the work of public health.

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2013 Annual Educational Conference**“Navigating the Current: Partnering and Engaging to Improve Health”
September 11-13, 2013
Cool Springs Marriott, Franklin, TN**

Submitted by: Ami Mitchell, Chair, Program Committee

Program Committees from years gone by have left huge shoes to fill and our membership expects the best! And honestly, our membership is deserving of the best. For these reasons and many more, the Program Committee has been taking our job very seriously. Since a few days after the 2012 conference adjourned, we have been seeking out the best workshop and plenary presenters available. After a few months of hard work, the program grid is starting to fill in and we are growing confident that this year's lineup will not disappoint.

On February 27 we will be asking the Board of Directors to approve of our selected theme: “Navigating the Currents: Partnering and Engaging to Improve Health”. Under the umbrella of our theme, we will be able to continue to pursue vital partnerships and learn from experts in the area of global health and primary prevention. We will also continue on the path of exploration into One Health topics.

We are happy to announce that we already have commitments from many well renowned speakers who will be offering plenary sessions. On Wednesday September 11, our first keynote will be offered by Dr. Greg Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA. Dr. Gray is the Chair of the Department of Environmental and Global Health, College of Public Health and Health Professions at the University of Florida. He is a professor of infectious diseases and pathology and is a member of the One Health Initiative. His plenary session is titled, “One Health: a Promising Approach to Difficult Public Health Problems”

Following Dr. Gray on Wednesday will be Dr. Michael Miller, MC, FACC, FAHA, Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology and Public Health and Director of the Center for Preventive Cardiology at the University of Maryland. Dr. Miller will discuss primary prevention strategies.

On Thursday we have several speakers in the works for our awards luncheon. And, we have a keynote address scheduled by Dr. John Lacey about the Governor's Task Force on Health and Wellness. Also scheduled to give a plenary on the outdoors being a source for public health is Jonathon B. Jarvis. Mr. Jarvis is the Director of the National Parks Service.

The committee is also working to provide many excellent workshops offered by national and international experts. Some of these are: “Global Disease Detection and Partnering Internationally to Improve Health” offered by Dr. Fred Angulo; “Culture Independent Testing” by Dr. John Besser; and a look at the national trends for Neo-Natal Abstinence by Dr. Stephen Patrick, MD, MPH, MS. Immunization issues will be covered in separate workshops by Dr. Katherine Edwards, MD Vanderbilt Vaccine Research Program and Dr. Litjen Tan, MS, PhD, Co-Chair National Adult Immunization Summit and National Influenza Summit.

Workshops are also planned to cover topics such as the Affordable Care Act, national and local responses to the fungal meningitis outbreak of 2012. Some very popular speakers from the past will return this year. Dr. William Schaffner will offer a workshop on being a public health partner and Dr. Allen Craig and Dr. Randy Wykoff have also agreed to offer workshops.

There will be something, many things, for everyone. We will see you there.

Reserve Your Room Today at the Cool Springs Marriott

Simply cut and paste the link below and you will be directed to the property's home page with the code already entered in the appropriate field. Enter your arrival date to begin the reservation process.

[http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/bnacs-franklin-marriott-cool-springs/?
toDate=9/13/13&groupCode=PHAPHAA&stop_mobi=yes&fromDate=9/10/13&app=resvlink](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/bnacs-franklin-marriott-cool-springs/?toDate=9/13/13&groupCode=PHAPHAA&stop_mobi=yes&fromDate=9/10/13&app=resvlink)

You may also go online to the TPHA website and click “Annual Meeting” and then “Hotel Information.”

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Health Week 2013

Public Health Makes Cents: Save Lives Save Money

Submitted by: Shannon Railling, Chair, Public Health Week Committee

For this year's National Public Health Week, April 1-7, 2013, we are highlighting the connection between public health prevention efforts and the return on investment that those efforts bring. Supporting and sustaining evidence-based public health programs leads to healthier communities and reduced cost in treating disease. We are asking our committee members from across our rural and metro regions to plan events that will raise awareness of the vital role public health and prevention play in keeping our communities across the state of Tennessee safe and healthy.

This year will mark our 3rd Annual Public Health Week Visionary Awards. Do you know someone in your community who is a champion for public health? Someone who works to improve the health of community members in their home, school, workplace, or on the move? Nominate them for the 2013 Visionary Award. Three winners will be chosen, one from each grand division of the state, and will be presented their award at their grand division TPHA meeting this Spring. Nomination forms are available by contacting srailling@k12tn.net or contact your local TPHA Public Health Week Committee member.

Keep your eyes out for more information about this year's celebration of National Public Health Week on TPHA's Facebook and Twitter!

All Hands on Deck

Submitted by: Robert Goff and Paula Masters, Co-Chairs, Fun and Fitness Committee

Skipper and Gilligan. Julie and Captain Stubing. Gopher and Isaac. What do they all have in common? Besides being names completely unfamiliar to most anyone under the age of 40, they're duos made famous by their adventures – and misadventures – on the high seas. At this year's annual conference, another duo will have the task of making TPHA members famous. If you've ever attended a Fun & Fitness competition, you know there's always one team that stands out above the rest. This year, it could be yours. Paula Masters and Robert Goff (Mr. Roarke and Tattoo?) will be the co-captains of activities themed to good times on the Tennessee River and the open seas. Get your sea legs ready and come ready to sail to victory for the coveted Spirit Stick. Ahoy!

Call for Posters

Submissions due by:

June 28, 2013

The Tennessee Public Health Association is currently accepting abstracts for poster presentations at the 2013 TPHA Annual Educational Conference, September 11-13 at the Cool Springs Conference Center in Franklin, Tennessee. We encourage abstracts in all areas of public health from all public health disciplines, including colleges and universities.

Abstracts on all topics related to public health in Tennessee are welcome. You do need to be a TPHA member to submit an abstract. If your poster is accepted for display, you may be asked to present at one of the workshops this year. You will need to register for the conference and plan to attend.

Abstracts must be typed and submitted in electronic format (Microsoft Word). Use 12-point font, double-spacing, and complete in 250 words or less. The word count excludes the title, authors, affiliations, and contact information. The abstract submission form can be found on the TPHA website (www.tnpublichealth.org).

Please email **Committee Chair, Paul Petersen** at paul.petersen@tn.gov with questions.

Scholarship Committee

Submitted by: Janet McAlister, Chair

- Do you have at least 3 years public health experience, and
- Have you been a member of TPHA for minimum of 1 year?
- Would you like to have some financial assistance with your education endeavors?

Then look no further than your Tennessee Public Health Association. The association raised over \$4,700 through the 2012 Silent Auction to help provide scholarships to its members. If you are interested in applying, you may download an application from the TPHA website www.tnpublichealth.org.

Scholarships shall be awarded to advance individual knowledge and competence in Public Health.

Awards for Public Health training shall be limited to programs which award college credit, continuing education units (CEU's), or certification through a nationally recognized accrediting body or educational institution. The deadline to submit an application is June 28!

If you have any questions, please contact Janet McAlister at janet.mcalister@tn.gov.

Award Nominations Sought

The TPHA Awards Committee for 2013 wants to remind everyone that we would like to see at least one nomination for each award from each region. The **deadline for submitting award applications will be June 28**. So, get with your region's representative and make plans to submit deserving public health workers.

The Drive for 12 in '13

Submitted by Glenn Czarnecki, Chair, Membership Committee

For years we at TPHA have boasted of being one of the largest public health associations in the nation. During a recent American Public Health Association meeting we got the real skinny about where we fall in the grand scheme of state associations. Our annual membership typically hovers around 1,050. There are three other state associations larger than ours but all are "within our sights". If we can increase our membership to 1,200 members we will become the largest state public health association in the United States. This will require a modest 15% increase to our overall membership.

Last month each regional director received a membership flyer detailing the Drive for 12 in '13 along with figures showing what each region will have to gain in membership to achieve that 15% increase. Many regions needed less than a dozen new members to achieve this goal. If you are not already seeing these flyers posted around your workplace please ask your Regional Director or Membership Committee member how many new members you need to help us reach the overall goal of 1,200 members in 2013. We also encourage our student membership and other dedicated members not working for state government to also spread the word about our efforts and help us reach these lofty heights! By working together we can be successful and finally be able to say with confidence that we are now not only the best but the biggest association in the land. Thanks much for all your recruiting efforts and we'll see you in September!

GRAND DIVISION MEETINGS

The East Tennessee Grand Division meeting is scheduled for March 22 at the Sevierville Campus of Walters State Community College. Theme for the meeting is "**Navigating the Health Challenges in East Tennessee Together.**" The agenda for the program and registration forms are available on the website at www.tnpublichealth.org. You may **register online with credit card payment or send your registration form and check for \$20 to:**

Mike Stoots
Box 70674
East Tennessee State University
Johnson City, TN 37614-1709

Mark your calendars and save the date. The 2013 **Middle Tennessee Grand Division** TPHA Meeting is set for April 19 at the Williamson County Ag Expo Center. The theme for this year's meeting is "**Taking Stock: Trends in Public Health.**"

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The agenda, which runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., includes a session of combined presentations on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, the substance abuse database, and a look at an outbreak associated with illicit drug use. We also are excited to have Dr. Lindy Fenlason, director of the Weight Management Clinic at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, speak on the subject of childhood obesity.

The registration fee is just \$15, which includes lunch. Please check the TPHA website at www.tnpublichealth.org for complete registration details.

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“Up the Creek with a Paddle” is the theme of the **West Tennessee Grand Division** meeting which will be held April 26 in the J. Walter Barnes Conference Room at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital. Additional information will be available on the TPHA website as the program is finalized.

FOCUS ON PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES

ETSU, Sullivan County Health Department Form Unique Partnership

The East Tennessee State University College of Public Health, the statewide public health training center housed within the college and the Sullivan County Regional Health Department have formed a unique partnership to raise the levels of public health practice, workforce training and research throughout the region.

Local and state health officials joined representatives from ETSU, the health department and the ETSU-based public health training center known as LIFEPATH to announce details of the new Sullivan County Academic Health Department (SCAHD) during a news conference Friday, Jan. 18, at the Sullivan County Regional Health Department.

This new partnership essentially unites the expertise of public health academia with the expertise of public health practice. Each brings something different and essential to the table to form SCAHD.

Through SCAHD, the College of Public Health and LIFEPATH gain opportunities for students to receive hands-on training. And, in turn, the health department gains greater access to the research and program assessment tools available at ETSU.

Though academic health departments have been established elsewhere, SCAHD is believed to be the first in the nation where a doctoral student serves in the leadership role as coordinator. The doctoral student serving as coordinator at SCAHD, Christian Williams, is in her second year in the college's doctor of public health degree program, and she plans a career in public health department leadership.

Gary Mayes, director of the Sullivan County Regional Health Department, said this bridge between academic public health and public health practice will benefit residents throughout Northeast Tennessee.

“This is a win-win for our citizens and promotes our mission at the Sullivan County Regional Health Department,” Mayes said.

Paula Masters is executive director of LIFEPATH, the Volunteer State's only federally-funded public health training center. The creation of SCAHD, Masters said, dovetails with its mission to provide training opportunities for the public health workforce in Tennessee and Southwest Virginia.

Masters pointed out that the national percentage of public health workers who will be eligible for retirement will rise from 18 percent in 2010 to 27 percent by 2014. Around that same time, 30 to 40 percent of employees working in Tennessee's health departments will be eligible to retire.

“It's important that we provide training resources for today's public health workers, while also preparing today's students to be tomorrow's practitioners,” Masters said. “Our region's first academic health department will provide the Sullivan County Regional Health Department with resources to advance evidence-based practices and initiatives, and our students will receive true, hands-on practice and leadership experiences.”

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Dr. Wilsie Bishop, ETSU's vice president for Health Affairs and university chief operating officer, said the school is excited to partner with an organization that will benefit the community.

"Interprofessional collaboration is an integral thread in the fabric of health care teaching and learning at ETSU," Bishop said. "The Sullivan County Academic Health Department will serve as another testament to the power of interprofessional collaboration, to its power to raise the level of health care we deliver and, ultimately, the overall health of the people we serve."

Dr. John Dreyzehner, Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Health, expects to see more academic health departments in the future. ETSU and LIFEPATH have indeed begun discussions with the Northeast Regional Health Office to form another such department.

"Public health is a team sport, but too often practitioners and academics are playing on different fields," Dreyzehner said. "Academic health departments create an opportunity for academics and practitioners to move the population health improvement ball together in a way that is a triple win for departments, for academics and their students and for the health and prosperity of Tennessee.

"We are delighted that Sullivan County and the ETSU College of Public Health have partnered and we look forward to more such opportunities."

Be Prepared!

Tips from TPHA's Emergency Preparedness Section
Food Safety after an Extended Power Outage
Submitted by: Matt McDaniel, Shelby County Health Department

As severe weather events loom on the horizon, it is always a smart bet to check your own disaster preparedness kit to see what needs replacing or updating. It is also smart to plan exactly what you will do after the immediate threat has passed. As Hurricane Sandy ripped through the Eastern Seaboard, it left millions without power for an extended period of time. These extended outages in any situation can leave us with fridges and freezers full of potentially ruined food. With that, the EP Section would like to share valuable information on how to handle your refrigerated food stores after the lights come back on. Remember, this a general list, so **when in doubt, throw it out!**

FOOD

Any Meat, Poultry, or Seafood
 Soft, Shredded, or Low-Fat Cheeses
 Hard or Processed Cheeses
 Any Dairy EXCEPT Butter or Margarine
 Butter or Margarine
 Eggs, Egg-Based Products
 Casseroles, Soups, or Stews
 Fresh Fruits, Cut
 Canned, Dried, or Uncut Fresh Fruits
 Jelly, Relish, Mustard, Ketchup, Pickles
 Worcestershire, Soy, BarBQ, Hoisin Sauces
 Fish sauces, Opened spaghetti sauce
 Breads, Rolls, Cakes, Muffins, Tortillas
 Fridge Biscuits or Rolls, Cookie dough
 Fresh Mushrooms, Herbs, Spices
 Raw Vegetables
 All other refrigerated vegetable products

IF HELD OVER 40°F FOR 2+ HOURS

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List adapted from "Keeping Food Safe During an Emergency" (USDA)

REGIONAL REPORTS

SHELBY COUNTY

NATIONAL FOUNDATION HONORS LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMPLOYEE

The 2012 Wavemaker Award from the Campaign for Public Health (CPH) Foundation was presented to Matt McDaniel on Tuesday, Dec. 4, in Washington, D.C.

McDaniel, the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Coordinator for the Shelby County Health Department's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program, was recognized for his work across traditional public health lines to improve preparedness and response programs in the three state Memphis metropolitan area.

McDaniel's implementation programs have significantly improved the region's preparedness and response plans. During his tenure, the readiness score, issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, increased from 63 to 93 (out of a possible 100) within three years, and he also devised a system to distribute medications to more than 1.2 million people within 48 hours. Additionally, McDaniel established and maintained strong working relationships with emergency management personnel, the health-care provider community and individuals within the private sector.

"Matt has clearly demonstrated sound decisions and problem-solving skills in his work within the CRI program," said Kasia Smith-Alexander, manager of the Shelby County Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program. "He has shown a tremendous amount of initiative in conducting trainings for the benefits of our Health Department and regional partners, as well as contacting external trainers as needed. He is an asset to both our department and region."

The CPH Foundation, organized in February 2009 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a national nonprofit organization working to help fill the

critical need for more non-partisan and broad-based educational outreach regarding the important discipline of public health. The Foundation is committed to researching ways for limited funds to be best utilized while working to educate Americans about the value of our nation's public health infrastructure.

For more information about the CPH Foundation, go to www.cphfoundation.org.



UPPER CUMBERLAND REGION

Upper Cumberland Department of Health staff partnered with the Chambers of Commerce in four counties, Jackson, Overton, Putnam and White, to complete another successful Get Fit Highlands Challenge. The three month fall competition had 58 teams with a total of 548 participants. Two health department teams placed in the top 10 winners. Jackson County Health Department Team earned third place and Overton County earned seventh place.

Tennessee Tech University, one of the community partners, again conducted a post challenge survey. Results of the survey were:



- 45% of participants lost weight
- 89% reported feeling better
- 87% were motivated with Get Fit
- 93% reported they would participate in future challenges

The Get Fit Highlands Committee is in the process of planning a 6 month challenge for 2013.

WEST TENNESSEE REGION

West Tennessee Staff Selected for National Survive and Thrive Workshop

Submitted by: Elna Blankenship, Community Services Director, West TN Region

West Regional Director Marilyn Barnes has been selected as a coach for the 2013 Survive and Thrive Workshop. Survive and Thrive is sponsored by the National Association of County and City Officials. Survive and Thrive: Roadmap for New Local Health Officials is a 12-month learning opportunity designed to enhance the skills



of new and aspiring local health officials, the top executives at local health departments. Coaches are veteran public health leaders who will serve as mentors to Survive and Thrive fellows. Christopher Morris, County Health Director for Fayette, Hardeman and McNairy counties was selected as a Survive and Thrive fellow. As Survive and Thrive fellows, they will gain practical tools and tactics to help engage elected officials and community partners; best manage strategic planning and human, financial and information resources; and bolster their ability to resolve challenges unique to their roles at a local health department. Pictured are Chris Morris, Survive and Thrive fellow and Marilyn Barnes, Coach, with other members of the "Top D.A.W.G.S." team. The team name stands for **D**reamers, **A**chievers, **W**inners, **G**o-getters, and **S**urvivors. Rounding

out the team are Mary Elbell, South East TN region and Local Health Officials from Florida, Kentucky and South Carolina Departments of Health. Participants in the 2013 workshops include 139 fellows and 23 coaches representing public health across our nation.

West TN Regional Office in Jackson is "Walking the Talk"



On January 9th, staff formed a **WALK to Work** Club. To date, 16 staff members have taken the pledge to **WALK to Work** using the building walking track at least 1 morning every week or any time throughout the day. Group walks are available at 7:30 am and 7:45 am each morning. 10 laps around the upstairs track equals 1 mile. To help keep up with the number of laps walked, some members pre-count paper clips and drop one each time they pass their starting point. See attached picture.

SOUTHEAST REGION

The Southeast Region Addresses Obesity by Addressing Food Insecurity

Submitted by: Beth Delaney, Community Development Director/PIO

According to the Food Research and Action Center, food insecure and low-income people are especially vulnerable to obesity. Since obesity leads to many chronic health conditions, the Southeast Region is seeking to address the availability of healthy, affordable food for local residents. Staff at the Bledsoe County Health Department organized a food drive in the county to restock the food pantry. Health Department staff member Jan Frechette designed flyers to advertise the program. The Health Department gave reminders to all the local businesses, decorated boxes to put the food in, and delivered them to all the businesses. They also gave an award to the organization that donated the most pounds of food. Bledsoe County Health Department donated 87 pounds of food as well as organizing the food drive. The grand total for the food drive was 832 pounds of food and the top donor was First National Bank. Health Department staff members Golie Isleman Frady, Theresa Ruiz, Barbara Rood, and Heather Roberson picked up all the food and delivered it to the food pantry.

Another way the Southeast Region is addressing the availability of food among low-income residents is through education. Three counties in the Southeast Region have received Appalachian Diabetes Control and Translation Project grants from the Office of Rural Health at Marshall University. This project is funded by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and Bristol-Meyers Squibb. The goal of the grants is to prevent and control diabetes. A mini-grant for the Shopping Matters program that was available along with the larger diabetes grant will teach participants how to purchase healthy food at the best possible price.

Shopping Matters participants will go through a grocery store tour where they compare unit prices while considering some of the nutrition content of foods. While funding with the mini-grant is available, each participant will be given a \$10 shopping challenge at the end of the tour. At the end of the tour, all of the participants will be given the opportunity to put together the healthiest meal they can possibly put together within a \$10 limit and will be able to purchase the meal.

This mini-grant offers many opportunities for our region and has been adopted by health department staff as a Primary Prevention Initiative project. Participants in Chronic Disease Self-Management class can be offered a Shopping Matters tour to help them better afford the extra fruits and vegetables they may have committed to as part of their action plan. WIC clients can learn how to make their vouchers stretch further. County residents who receive assistance from their local food bank can participate to learn how to stretch the limited food dollars that they do have.

Three to four health department staff members from Grundy, Meigs, and McMinn Counties were trained at the end of January to lead Shopping Matters tours. Staff members were from various disciplines including Public Health Office Assistants, Nutritionists, Nursing Assistants, and Health Educators. Shopping Matters tours will begin in February. The Southeast Region is excited about these opportunities to help local residents address food insecurity.

Northeast Tennessee Region

Submitted by Dr. David Kirschke and Dr. Donna Robbins

The Northeast Tennessee Regional Health Office, Tennessee Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have been investigating reports of a serious blood disorder (thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura or TTP) related to intravenous abuse of Opana ER, an opioid pain medication. Opana ER is a recently reformulated version of oxymorphone and is intended for oral use only. Injection of any pain medication made for oral use presents a risk of fatal overdose and infections, but injection of Opana ER appears to present an additional increased risk of developing this serious blood disorder. A total of fifteen cases were identified and investigated by Dr. David Kirschke, Dr. Donna Robbins and the regional CEDS staff.

Opana ER is meant to be taken orally and should only be taken when prescribed and as directed; injection of reformulated Opana ER presents an increased risk for a serious blood disorder (TTP), in addition to previously known risks for infections and overdose when injecting any oral pain medication. Healthcare providers should ask patients with TTP-like illness of unknown etiology about injection-drug abuse.

EAST REGION

Submitted by: Jack Cochran

The annual ETRO / KCHD Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) training and functional exercise was provided by TN SNS Coordinator Paul Petersen and other central office EP staff on February 7th. This training targeted the ETR and KCHD lead positions assigned to the receive, stage, and store (RSS) functions of the ETR / Knox County Strategic National Stockpile Disaster Operations Guide and addressed the following objectives:

- Objective 1: Review the processes to receive stage and store (RSS) Strategic National Stockpile assets.
- Objective 2: Review the RSS positions, their functions and train personnel in performing related activities.
- Objective 3: Evaluate the interdependencies, processes and job functions of the RSS Warehouse positions

The training and exercise agenda included an SNS overview, a review of RSS positions, training on the use of the Tennessee Countermeasure Resources Network (TNCRN), and the RSS functional exercise including receiving, inventory control, picking, quality assurance, and distribution.

The training and exercise was deemed a success where strengths, successes, and areas for improvement were realized which will be further addressed in future exercises and in the ETR and KCHD multi-year training and exercise plan and considered in EP workplace development planning.

The ETR / KCHD RSS operation is just one of several examples of the excellent and efficient public health team work between the Knox County Health Department and the East TN Regional Office in achieving the mission of protect, promote, and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee.

SOUTH CENTRAL

Amazing Family Fun Night! Coffee County

Submitted by: Janet McAlister, Assistant Regional Director

“Amazing Family Fun Night” was organized through a partnership with the Coffee County Health Department, Coffee County Health Council and the Coffee County and Manchester City Coordinated School Health. The goal of this event is to offer families increased opportunities to become physically active together. It also offers parents a chance to meet with community agencies and learn about local resources in Coffee County. This organized effort has been made possible through the Eat Well/Play More Tennessee grant funding.

The Manchester Recreation Center opens its facility from 7:00pm-9:00pm on Family Fun Night to all families. The only requirement is for a parent to attend with their child or children. All participants gather in the gym at 7:00 pm for information/demonstrations on physical activity, nutrition, or safety. The education component varies each month. A registered dietician offers interactive cooking demonstration and the health educator offers tobacco prevention education as well as a physical activity component. The Recreation Staff offer an additional program on water safety.

After the education component, families can swim, walk the track, get health screenings (height, weight, blood pressure, BMI) as well as play games in the gym, led by certified fitness instructors. Games played in the gym can also be played at home with little or no equipment, such as “win it in a minute,” jump rope and four square. In November, the youth fitness room was opened. This room offers age appropriate fitness equipment, a playground and a climbing wall for ages 3-9. Healthy snacks are also provided at each Family Fun Night. The snacks are prepared and served by volunteers from the high school culinary arts class.

Attendance began slowly with 50 participants, but grew to 250 by the end of the previous year. Support through community partnerships has contributed to the huge success of the event. January 2013 kicked off the year with record attendance with over 470 community members in attendance. Coffee County Health Department nurses Reda Lawson, RN and Shannon Titus, RN offered free flu shots and Susan Minger, RN arranged for a give-a-way drawing of footballs and basketballs. Katie McMinn, Health Educator, set up a display of “Go, Slow and Whoa” foods encouraging foods to eat daily and those to eat occasionally. Food models were also displayed to promote serving sizes and “Choose my Plate”. On January 18, Dr. Michael Warren and Melissa Blair visited the Manchester Recreation Center to see first-hand the facility and hear about the success of the program.

MID CUMBERLAND REGION

Understanding Human Trafficking in Tennessee

Tennessee currently has four state laws that pertain to the human trafficking - the forced, coerced, or involuntary sale of humans for commercial sex or labor (T.C.A. 39-12307-311); however, many state agencies, community organizations, religious organizations and citizens are not aware of the prevalence of human trafficking within their own counties. As health professionals, we are often the most frequent point of contact for persons being trafficked, so recognizing the signs of potential victims is of supreme importance. Some victims of human trafficking are provided health services as many as three times before they are recognized or happen to escape their involuntary servitude. Rutherford County Director, Dana Garrett, has taken the initiative to educate the general public on the dangers and prevalence of human trafficking within our communities and to connect them with statewide/local human trafficking prevention resources. In addition to being County Director, Dana is a ‘leader’ within the organization, End Slavery Tennessee. Dana has presented this information to the Mid-Cumberland Regional Council as well as various local health councils throughout Mid-Cumberland, and has provided other community presentations as a human trafficking prevention resource. To understand the burden of the human trafficking problem, in 2011, eleven of twelve counties within the Mid-Cumberland region reported at least one case of human trafficking.

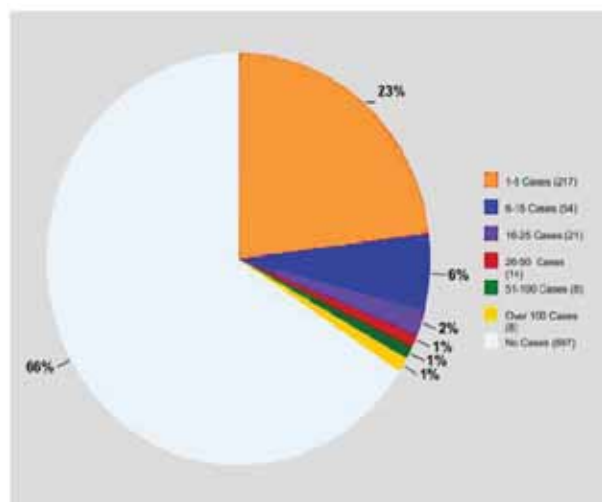
For more information on recognizing the signs of human trafficking, visit:
<http://www.endslaverytn.org>.

For a complete report on Tennessee’s statistics from the TBI, visit: <http://www.tbi.state.tn.us/documents/FINALTNHumanSexTraffickingStudyColorrev2.pdf>



State Map—Minor Trafficking

Sixty-eight counties representing 72% of the total counties in the state reported at least one case of minor human sex trafficking. The following four counties reported more than 100 cases a) Shelby, b) Davidson, c) Coffee, and d) Knox.



Minor Cases of Human Sex Trafficking

Minor human sex trafficking is present in Tennessee. Thirty-five percent of the entities reporting state that they have reported or investigated minor human sex trafficking over the last 24 months. There were 16 entities that actually had in excess of 50 cases and eight reported over 100 cases.

Note: A case may and often does include multiple persons.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE EVENTS**(For complete information and registration, go to www.tnpublichealth.org)**

Tennessee Public Health Association
Annual Educational Conference

“Navigating the Currents: Partnering and Engaging to Improve Health”

September 11-13, 2013

Cool Springs Marriott Hotel and Convention Center
Franklin, TN

East Tennessee Meeting
March 22, 2013

“Navigating the Health Challenges in East Tennessee Together”

Walters State Community College, Sevierville Campus
1720 Old Newport Highway
Sevierville, TN 37876

Middle Tennessee Meeting
April 19, 2013

“Taking Stock: Trends in Public Health”

Williamson County Agricultural Expo Center
4215 Long Lane
Franklin, TN

West Tennessee Meeting
April 26, 2013

“Up The Creek With a Paddle”

J. Walter Barnes Conference Room
Jackson-Madison County General Hospital

American Public Health Association
November 2 - 6, 2013

**“Think Global: Act Local
Best Practices Around the World”**

Boston Convention and Exposition Center
415 Summer Street
Boston, MA