



Public Health Accreditation Board
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Accreditation to be Spotlighted at APHA's 143rd Annual Meeting, Oct. 31-Nov. 4 in Chicago

Alexandria, VA, October 29, 2015 — With nearly 121 million U.S. residents now reaping the benefits of being served by an accredited health department, national public health department accreditation will be much in the spotlight at the American Public Health Association's 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition in Chicago. Public health practitioners will be able to attend a range of sessions tied to accreditation and quality and performance improvement during the Oct. 31-Nov. 4 event. In addition to the sessions, the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) will again sponsor a booth during the meeting's Public Health Expo. Conference attendees are encouraged to stop by Booth 840 at McCormick Place Convention Center for information and PHAB-related materials.

On **Monday, Nov. 2**, conference-goers will be able to attend back-to-back accreditation-related sessions starting at 12:30 p.m. at McCormick Place Convention Center. From 12:30-2 p.m., APHA's Council of Affiliates will sponsor "Progress on Health Improvement and Accreditation: APHA Affiliates Partnering with State and Local Health Departments" (session 3231.0, McCormick Place, Room W181a). To be moderated by Liza Corso, MPA, and Nancy Shapiro, MA, RN, the 90-minute session will look at the progress made by several of APHA's affiliated state and regional public health associations after receiving grants from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to assist health departments on their journeys toward accreditation. The grants support APHA affiliates' efforts to advance the accreditation readiness of state, local, Tribal, and territorial health departments.

At 2:30 p.m. on **Monday, Nov. 2**, immediately following the Council of Affiliates' session, PHAB will offer "Accreditation as a Means to Transform Public Health" (session 3332.0, McCormick Place, Room W175a). PHAB President and CEO Kaye Bender, PhD, RN, FAAN, will moderate the session. Presenters will include Liza Corso, MPA, Senior Advisor for Public Health Practice and Accreditation in the Division of Public Health Performance Improvement at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Office for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support; and Jessica Kronstadt, MPP, PHAB Director of Research and Evaluation. During the 90-minute session, panelists will share lessons learned from PHAB's evaluation that are informing the development of new accreditation-related products and services; discuss how health departments have changed as a result of preparing for and achieving accreditation; and explore transformative public health issues and national initiatives that will inform public health department accreditation in the future. This interactive session will engage the audience in a feedback loop on future accreditation transformation ideas being explored.

On **Tuesday, November 3**, at 8:30 a.m., attendees will hear findings from the National Public Health Improvement Initiative (NPHII) at a session titled "Collaborative Efforts in Health Administration: Challenges and Opportunities" (session 4038.0). Through the NPHII program, CDC awarded \$141 million to 73 state, local, Tribal, and territorial public health agencies to support quality improvement (QI), accreditation readiness, and performance management activities. Speakers will include Cassandra M. Frazier, MPH, Health Scientist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Accreditation-related sessions will continue on **Wednesday, Nov. 4** at 8:30 a.m. with "Forces that Affect Health Equity: Conducting Community Health Assessments with a Social Justice Frame" (session 5030.0, McCormick Place, Room W175a). Tiffany Huang, MPH, Program Analyst at the National Association of County and City Health Officials, will describe a social justice approach to the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) process and discuss how a community health improvement process can inform a health department's approach to improving population health. Also on hand will be staff from the PHAB-accredited Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) in Oak Forest, Illinois, who will discuss their experience using the MAPP framework. Additionally, CCDPH staff will discuss how they used a health equity lens to conduct one of their assessments, including results, challenges, and lessons learned.

Other sessions tied to accreditation readiness, performance management, and quality improvement at APHA's 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition in Chicago include (see program book for room locations):

Monday, Nov. 2, 2015

Session 3011.0—Navigating the Seas of Public Health Workforce Development: What Every Practitioner Needs to Know, 8:30 – 10 a.m.

Session 3128.0—Re-Visioning the Nation's Public Health Training System, 10:30 a.m. – noon.

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2015

Session 4007.0—National Consortium for Public Health Workforce Development: A Call to Action, 8:30 - 10 a.m.

Session 4040.0—Roundtable Presentations: Hot Topics for Health Administrators, 8:30 –10 a.m.

Session 4241.0—Training, Human Resource Development, and Workforce Issues, 12:30 – 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2015

Session 5050.0—Challenges and Opportunities to Working Across Sectors to Improve Health, 8:30 – 10 a.m.

Session 5149.0—Supporting Local Environmental Health Departments, 12:30 – 2 p.m.

For more information about PHAB, visit www.phaboard.org or contact PHAB Communications Manager Teddi Nicolaus at 703-778-4549, x118 or via email at tnicolaus@phaboard.org. For information about APHA's 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition, visit www.apha.org/events-and-meetings/annual.

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About the Public Health Accreditation Board

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) was created to serve as the national public health accrediting body and is jointly funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The development of national public health accreditation has involved, and is supported by, public health leaders and practitioners from the national, tribal, state, local, and territorial levels. Learn more about PHAB or sign up for the PHAB e-newsletter by visiting www.phaboard.org.