



IN THIS EDITION: Encouraging messages from President, President-Elect Section Chairs, Award Nominations, Scholarship Availability and much more!

Registration Open! You're invited to the
**58th Annual Eastern District North Carolina
Public Health Association Conference**
"Public Health: Hands on Deck"



April 25-27, 2018 Doubletree by Hilton, Atlantic Beach, NC

I want to:

View Conference Agenda	Register for Conference	Become a Member
Explore Atlantic Beach	Share Conference Flyer	Share Membership Flyer



President's Message

Greetings! I am happy to share that the Spring Educational Conference planning is going very well. The conference theme, **Public Health: All Hands-on Deck**- is fitting for the work we do in Public Health. We need to join in with prevention professionals in public health, law enforcement, social services, mental health, and non-profit health agencies in protecting and promoting the health of Eastern North

Carolina. I am pleased that Dr. Betsey Tilson, State Health Director will join Danny Staley, NC Division of Public Health Deputy Director on the first day of the conference in welcoming all of you. Melissa and others have also lined up experts in the field of the Opioid Epidemic to give an update on how North Carolina and local health departments are working to prevent and reduce the impact on the public's health. Dr. Susan Kansagra, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Section Chief will present to the combined Health Education, Nursing and Communicable Disease Sections on Thursday for an update on the NC Opioid Action plan.

Thank you to Melissa Packer, President-Elect and Program Chair, along with all the Section Chairs and officers for working to plan an upbeat and exciting conference. Please reach out to your fellow Public Health professionals and encourage them to attend and join Eastern District NCPHA. Through EDNCPHA we can network and share funding opportunities to tackle public health problems together. We can share resources, prevention ideas and encourage each other.

We need to promote the hard work that goes on each day in public health in your counties. EDNCPHA is your association - please nominate deserving public health associates for their important work. Please also consider nominating a deserving student for an EDNCPHA Scholarship. *Award and Scholarship info and documents are linked below in this newsletter edition.*

Rhonda Ashby, Vice-President and Bylaws/Handbook Chair has worked hard with a committee in making necessary revisions to the Bylaws/Handbook. *Please read over the suggested edits and be ready to vote on Bylaw changes at the business meeting on April 25, 2018 at the Spring conference.* [Review By-Law Changes Here](#) I also want to thank Travis Greer for creating and editing the Newsletter. Please share it and encourage people to join EDNCPHA and attend the Spring conference. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President this year and I look forward to seeing you in April!

Julie Gooding Hasty, RHEd
President Eastern District NCPHA- 2017-2018

President Elect's Message

As stated in scriptures and lyrics, "To Everything There is a Season"; and I am glad to have a "turn, turn, turn" to serve as your President Elect this year. This year's conference theme

"Public Health: All Hands on Deck" touches on substance misuse and many other timely topics. To each discipline, the role of public health in addressing substance misuse takes on a different angle. For me, the theme means more than mere words can define. Nonetheless, I will make a poor attempt.



I grew up with only one sibling, a brother four years younger than I. He died at the age of forty-four; and more than half of those precious years he spent waging a war against drugs and alcohol. Some days, weeks, months and years were victorious; others were not. In the lowest of valleys, he always knew he could call on "Sister". It didn't matter what time of day or night; or how far "Sister" had to travel to reach him, I was there. Sometimes the trips were worth the while; other times I wished I had stayed home. I'll always love him with all of my heart. Day by day and drop by drop, I'm slowly pouring out the bottled up resentment. My family suffered for many years; still my brother's suffering was far worse. I've grown to understand that now. It has taken a long time for me to reach this milestone. My work in public health has helped significantly.

When I stepped into the role of President Elect, my Health Director (Bill Smith) came right out and asked, "Is this (EDNCPHA) going to cause you to re-live everything". I responded with "No, I already re-live everything, everyday". Honestly, every single day of my life I wonder what I could have done differently. I'm confident there were times when I did all that I could; still there were times when I could have done more.

This year EDNCPHA has allowed me to make up for missed opportunities. I've worked with a group of passionate people in planning a conference filled with experts in their professions who can impart to each of us the knowledge, wisdom, and the courage to do more.

That's all I could have ever hoped to accomplish. I thank everyone who has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring this conference to fruition; and to all attendees, may you be reminded there is "a time for peace...I swear it's not too late."

Sincerely,
Melissa Packer



EDNCPHA Awards Nomination Announcement
It's that time again! Please consider nominating a EDNCPHA member worthy of recognition during the Annual Educational Conference being held April 25-27, 2018 at the Atlantic Beach Double Tree.

EDNCPHA has three awards that will be presented this year at the awards luncheon Wednesday afternoon. There are many individuals and groups within the EDNCPHA membership family that deserve to be nominated. There is no greater achievement than to

be recognized by your peers for a job well done. We ask that you carefully consider potential candidates from your agency and submit a nomination. Do not miss an opportunity to appreciate those who have worked hard and achieved success, or those who have dedicated their lives to the success of public health. Thank you in advance for taking the time to nominate a deserving person or group.

The deadline for receiving nominations is March 16, 2018.

I want to:

[**Nominate & Learn More About Awards**](#)

[**View Award Ceremony Announcement**](#)

Scholarships Applications Open

EDNCPHA is again offering limited scholarships for continuing one's education. The scholarships will be available for the academic year 2018-19. One member and one child of member scholarship will be awarded in the following categories and amounts:

- **Graduate (Master's /Doctorate)**-Member \$500.00/Child of Member \$500.00
- **Undergraduate**- Member \$500.00/Child of Member \$500.00
- **Technical/Associate/Certificate**- Member \$250.00/Child of Member \$250.00

The deadline to apply is March 15, 2018.

I want to:

[**Read Notice of Scholarship Availability**](#)

[**Apply For Scholarships**](#)

Please Notice This



EDNCPHA Members: bylaw changes!

Please read over the suggested edits and be ready to vote on bylaw changes at the business meeting on April 25, 2018 at the spring conference.

[**Review Bylaw Changes Here**](#)



Door Prize's Knocking at Your Door!

The door prize committee request that all sections please provide a door prize, and that each county needs to donate a door prize as well.

Thank you,
Melanie Harper

Membership & Treasurer's Report as



of February 9, 2018

<u>Membership</u>
11 New Members
40 Renewal
51 Total Membership

<u>Account Balances</u>
Checking:
\$3,184.66
Savings: \$7180.58

Treasurer: Djuana Register

Section Updates

Communicable Disease Section News:

Preparations for the 58th annual EDNCPHA Conference are underway! The conference will be held at luxurious Atlantic Beach, April 25-27, 2018, at the Double Tree Inn. The Double Tree Inn is the old Sheraton. This year's theme is "Public Health: All Hands on Deck" and focuses on substance use.

The Communicable Disease Section is partnering with the Health Education and Nursing and Physician Extenders section this year in planning breakout sections that include the following topics: Opioid/Substance Abuse Epidemic in Western NC; Current Community Collaborations on Prevention; Opioid Crisis and Progress on NC Opioid Plan; What Public Health Can Do to Address Substance Misuse/Abuse "The Role of the Pharmacist"; and Project No Rest, Human Trafficking and Substance Abuse/Misuse.

The EDNCPHA Conference is a wonderful opportunity for you to learn about new trends in Public Health and network with your peers across the State. The Officers of the Communicable Disease Section encourage you to attend the conference and hope that you will share information about the Conference with others and encourage them to attend as well. We are looking forward to networking with you at our Section Meeting. See you in April!

Communicable Disease Section Officers are:

Chair: Bob Winstead
 Vice Chair: Sandra Smith
 Secretary/Treasurer: Brenda Judd
 Scholarship Rep: Rhonda Ashby
 Sergeant-at-Arms: Sandy White

Your Section Chair: Bob Winstead

Environmental Health Section

Join us for the 58th Annual Eastern District Education Conference in beautiful Atlantic Beach, NC from April 25-27, 2018. Our section will have riveting topics and discussions on today's environmental health issues including the issue on opioids and GenX. The meeting will also include regulatory updates on the pools, tattoos, and piercings rules, as well as general environmental health updates from the State. There will be a total of six continuing

education hours available in our section. *Did we mention there will be door prizes and a silent auction?!?* We hope to see you April!

Environmental Health Section Chair,
Glen Shoemaker

Health Directors Section

We look forward to seeing Health Directors and Public Health Leaders at EDNCPHA this year. Our section will begin the day by looking into the future with Beth Lovette, MPH, BSN, RN Deputy Director, Division of Public Health, who will be sharing information on Public Health 3.0 "From Then to Now, a Perspective of How Public Health is Evolving."

We will then have an interactive presentation by Stephen Eaton, Division Director of Public Health at Gaston County Health and Human Services and Dr. Velma Taormina, Medical Director at Gaston County Health & Human Services on planning an Opioid Response "How to Develop Action in the Opioid Crisis".

We finally will be hearing from Stacie Turpin Saunders, MPH Public Health Director, Alamance County Health Department and Lisa Macon Harrison, MPH on Innovative Ideas "Academic Health Departments, the Value Within."

Health Education Section

Health Educators! I hope you will consider joining me and your counterparts in NC at the EDNCPHA Educational Conference this year! We have a very attractive agenda this year with a heavy focus on substance abuse/misuse and the Opioid Epidemic. It will be well worth your time to come and learn, network, and maybe get some sand between your toes after this roller-coaster winter. Come get fed physically, mentally, and socially to fill your motivational tank up to go back into your communities to be a well informed, driven public health professional.

Health Education Section Chair,
Travis Greer
tgreer@co.cumberland.nc.us

Management Support Section

The Management Support Section has been busy preparing for our 58th annual Eastern District NC Public Health Association Conference. This year we have lined up informative speakers to give us updates on ways to reduce Medicaid denials and billing issues and updates. We have an exciting motivational speaker who will be speaking on Crucial Conversations in the workplace and building an "A" Team. Also, we have an update from the HIPAA Alliance Workgroup and will receive Best Practices for tracking Human Resources activities for Accreditation.

Please make plans to attend the 2018 EDNCPHA Conference in Atlantic Beach and support the Management Support Section. Hope to see everyone there!!

Your section chair,
Jenny McDuffie, Business Officer
Hoke County Health Department

Nursing and Physician Extenders Section

We look forward to having a great educational section this year! **Continuing Nursing Education Credits will be offered this year.** *The Public Health Nursing and Professional Development Unit, North Carolina Division of Public Health, is approved as a provider of continuing nursing education by the North Carolina Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.*



Leigh Cutler-Section Chair

Save the Date
April 23-26, 2019
59th Annual Eastern District
North Carolina Public Health Association Conference

