



GPHA

JEKYLL ISLAND | 2023

**93rd Annual Meeting & Conference
May 3-5, 2023**

GEORGIA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION



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Public
Health
Association
Online
Auction**

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Creating a Healthy Georgia:
Conversations and Collaborations for Change

93RD GPHA ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

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“
**Creating
a Healthy
Georgia:**
”
Conversations and
Collaborations for Change





Dear GPHA Conference Attendees,

Welcome back to Jekyll Island! We are so pleased that you all decided to come back to our beautiful Golden Isles for the Georgia Public Health Association 2023 Annual Meeting and Conference.

“Creating a Healthy Georgia: Conversations & Collaborations for Change” is such a fitting theme for this year’s conference. What better place to share ideas and collaborate for positive change than at a gathering of some of the most committed public health advocates in the state.

Opportunities for networking and discussing best practices at the GPHA Annual Meeting and Conference only serve to strengthen our vast network of public health proponents. The stronger public health becomes, the better off all Georgians will be.

I hope this year’s conference is productive and that you continue to build off that productivity when you leave the coast to head back to your respective homes. I also hope that you’ll be able to take some time out of your busy schedules to enjoy some of the things our Island has to offer.

Thank you for your service to the residents of Georgia and enjoy your stay on Jekyll Island.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Jones Hooks".

C. Jones Hooks
Executive Director, Jekyll Island Authority



WELCOME

to the 93rd annual GPHA Conference



Dear Public Health Colleagues:

On behalf of the Georgia Public Health Association's (GPHA) executive board, welcome to our 93rd Annual Meeting and Conference! We're pleased you're here, and we're excited to share these next three days together on our beautiful Georgia coast.

Public health has long been a vital but often overlooked resource in our communities. However, the last three years of pandemic response have shone a bright light on the importance of our work. COVID-19 has been our biggest public health challenge in decades but has also yielded some of our biggest triumphs. For our public health veterans, we applaud your hard work and dedication, and we are tremendously grateful for your long-standing support of public health and GPHA.

Our future looks promising. We continue to attract new public health professionals who are smart, talented, creative, and passionate. For many of us, public health is much more than a job—it's a calling.

Over these next three days, career veterans and newcomers will share ideas and learn from one another during this state's largest gathering of students, employees, and community partners of public health. This year's conference theme is "Creating a Healthy Georgia: Conversations & Collaborations for Change." We've accomplished so much in public health, but we cannot simply look back. We need to look forward and determine how we, individually and collectively, can improve, advance, and build resiliency for the next challenge that will surely come.

This conference includes more than 75 educational sessions, three amazing plenary speakers, and countless opportunities to network with other professionals. I hope you take advantage of all GPHA has to offer, and you leave Jekyll Island with new ideas, some new contacts, and a renewed passion for public health.

It has been my honor to serve as president of GPHA over the last year. The experience has reaffirmed my belief that we can accomplish so much more when we work together, and that collaboration has never been more important. GPHA depends on you, and our communities depend on all of us. Thank you for answering the call.

Sincerely,

Saroyi Chandler Morris, DrPH, MHS

President, GPHA

About GPHA

The Georgia Public Health Association is a non-profit corporation and is organized for the purpose of promoting the public and personal health of the citizens of Georgia.

GPHA VISION STATEMENT

Healthy Georgians, Living in Healthy Communities

The premier association committed to excellence in public health practices throughout Georgia.



MISSION

- » To advocate for conditions in which all people and communities can be healthy.
- » To promote the scientific foundation of public health practice and policy.
- » To assure a continuous voice broadly representing public health in Georgia.

PRINCIPLES

Public health is what everyone in the community does to improve health.

WE BELIEVE IN:

- » Collaboration/partnership
- » National public health practice standards
- » Community development
- » Population-based practice
- » Cultural competency
- » Prevention/health promotion
- » Diversity and inclusivity
- » Science-based practice
- » Ethical behavior
- » Social justice
- » Membership development & Systems Thinking
- » Involvement
- » Workforce development

Bylaws

To see the proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Georgia Public Health Association, please scan the QR Code (right) or visit the conference page at www.gapha.org.



GPHA Leadership 2022–2023

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Executive Committee

Saroyi Morris, DrPH, MHS

President

Stephen Goggans, MD, MPH

President-Elect

Jimmie Smith, Jr., MD, MPH

Vice President

Cindi Hart, RN, MSN

Secretary

Morris Hutcheson, C.P.A.

Treasurer

Yvette Daniels, JD

Ex-Officio Parliamentarian

Officers

Colin Smith, DrPH, MS, CPH

APHA Representative

Jack Bernard

NALBOH Representative

Diane Weems, MD

Representative At-Large

Carla Coley, REHS

Representative At-Large

Chris Rustin, DrPH, MS, REHS

Immediate Past President

SECTION OFFICERS

Safety & Health Preparedness

Chairman Xavier Crockett

Vice-Chairman Todd Wyckoff

Secretary Sherry Richardson

Health Education & Promotion

Chairman Asanté Hilts

Vice-Chairman Cristina Pasa Gibson

Secretary Vacant

Environmental Health

Chairman Joseph Addison

Vice-Chairman Lauren Baker-Newton

Secretary Luella Owens

Career Development

Chairman James Thomas

Vice-Chairman Vacant

Secretary Vacant

Student Chair Bobbie Newell

Rural Health/Primary Care

Chairman Ursula Spence

Vice-Chairman Saroyi Morris

Secretary Charles Owens

Laboratory

Chairman James Hearn

Vice-Chairman Danielle Miller

Secretary LeAnn Burns

Epidemiology

Chairman Rachel Franklin

Vice-Chairman Skyler Brennan

Secretary Deanna Crosby

Administration

Chairman Treisha Johnson

Vice-Chairman Emily Eiseman

Secretary Teresa McDaniel

Maternal & Child Health

Chairman Jeannine Galloway

Vice-Chairman Joanne Chopak-Foss

Secretary Kiara Loud

Medical - Dental

Chairman Jorge Bernal

Vice-Chairman Vacant

Secretary Vacant

Nutrition

Chairman Cicely Thomas

Vice-Chairman Courtney Underwood

Secretary Gwenna Egart

Nursing Section

Chairman Whitney Goggans

Vice-Chairman Elin Brumbaugh

Secretary Cindi Hart

BOH

Chairman Jack Bernard

Vice-Chairman Peggy McGee

Secretary Connie Thrift

Academic

Chairman Bill Mase

Vice-Chairman Angie Peden

Secretary Yvette Daniels

Health Information Technology

Chairman Zynith Robinson

Vice-Chairman Betty McCall

Secretary Vacant

Communications

Chairman Sally Silbermann

Vice-Chairman Courtney Sheeley

Secretary Katie Hadden

GPHA Leadership 2022–2023

COMMITTEES

Awards

Tiffany Crowell RN, MSN/MBA

Career Development

James Thomas, BS, MPH, DrPH

DPH Liaison

Yvette Daniels, JD

Finance

Morris Hutcheson, C.P.A.

Historian

Vacant

Jim Alley Fund

Vacant

Legislator Educator

Scott Maxwell, ABJ

Marketing & Publicity

Courtney Sheeley, MPA

Membership

Sally Silbermann

Memorials

Patrina Bowles

Nominating

Stephen Goggans, MD, MPH

Policy & Advocacy

Diane Weems, MD
& Carla Coley, REHS

Sellers-McCroan

Stephen Goggans, MD, MPH

Silent Auction

Patrina Bowles

jGPHA

Raymona Lawrence, DrPH, MPH,
CDE®

Annual Conference Planning Committee

Jimmie Smith, Jr., MD, MPH

Angie Peden, MPH

Erin Shuman

Cindi Hart, RN, MSN

Sally Silbermann

Patrina Bowles

Courtney Sheeley, MPA

Tiffany Crowell, RN, MSN/MBA

Morris Hutcheson, C.P.A.

Saroyi Morris, DrPH, MHS

Graphic Design

Ashlyn Jeffcoat

Deborah Harvey

Organizational support helps
sustain the programs and services provided during the
Georgia Public Health Association's
93rd Annual Meeting and Conference



GPHA Past Presidents

1929	J. D. Applewhite	1966	William Johnson, DDS	2003	Paul J. Wiesner, MD
1930	H. L. Akridge	1967	Mark R. Harbison	2004	Lynne Feldman, MD, MPH
1931	G. T. Crozier	1968	Thomas F. Gibson	2005	William C. Fields, MBA
1932	Eugene E. Murphey	1969	Dixon R. Olive, Jr.	2006	William C. Fields, MBA
1933	V. B. Elmore, MD	1970	John E. McCroan, PhD	2007	J. Frederick Agel
1934	O. H. Cheek	1971	J. B. Eller	2008	W. Douglas Skelton, MD
1935	M. A. Fort	1972	Norman Pursley, MD	2009	Russ Toal, MPH
1936	Hugo Robinson	1973	David Wolf	2010	Alpha F. Bryan, MD
1937	Hugo Robinson	1974	Rufus Davis	2011	Alpha F. Bryan, MD
1938	C. O. Rainey	1975	Myrtle Tomlin	2012	Todd Jones
1939	W. W. Brown	1976	James F. O'Kelley	2013	Regina Abbott, MPA
1940	S. C. Rutland	1977	Earl E. Long	2014	Kathryn Martin, PhD, MPH
1941	W. H. Weir	1978	Eugenia (Mickie) Mobley	2015	Deborah Riner, CHT
1942	J. R. Evans	1979	Laura E. Bramblett	2016	Johanna Hinman, MPH, CHES
1943	J. E. Lester	1980	Thomas W. McKinley	2017	Selina A. Smith, PhD, MDiv
1944	J. E. Lester	1981	J. David Smith	2018	Dianne McWethy, MPA
1945	E. J. Sunkes	1982	E. Joseph Alderman, DDS	2019	Colin Smith, DrPH, MS, CPH
1946	E. J. Sunkes	1983	R. E. (Bodie) Adams	2020	Lawton Davis, MD
1947	Abe J. Davis	1984	W. Douglas Skelton, MD	2022	Chris Rustin, DrPH, MS, REHS
1948	M. E. Winchester	1985	James Mallory		
1949	C. A. Henderson	1986	James W. Alley, MD		
1950	J. A. Thrash	1987	Bill Mahaffey		
1951	C. D. Bowdoin	1988	Audrey Hollingsworth		
1952	Bessie F. Swan	1989	Bobby C. Robbins		
1953	Joel C. Beall	1990	Donald K. Speaks		
1954	C. S. Buchanan	1991	Janice Mooney		
1955	J. G. Williams	1992	Jane C. Carr		
1956	W. D. Lundquist, MD	1993	Mark Trail		
1957	L. G. Lenert	1994	Margaret Bean		
1958	Ernest B. Davis	1995	Virginia Galvin, MD		
1959	J. F. Hackney, MD	1996	Dee Cantrell, MD		
1960	C. Dexter Kimsey	1997	Kathleen Miner, PhD		
1961	T. O. Vinson, MD	1998	Susan Butler, EdD		
1962	Carl Fox	1999	Jannell Knight, MSA		
1963	Dorothy Barfield	2000	Ecleamus L. Ricks, MPH		
1964	A. Faegin Parrish	2001	J. Paul Newell, MD		
1965	Hart S. Odom, MD	2002	Lisa M. Carlson, MPH, CHES		



GPHA Honorary Members

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|
| 1950 | Dr. Guy S. Lunsford | 2002 | Marie Dobbs Barnes
RussToal, MPH |
| 1951 | Mildred Selman
Charles L. Tinsley | 2003 | Pamela K. Thompson
Kathy Miner |
| 1954 | Dr. Herbert G. Schenck | 2004 | Nova Jane McCombs, MSN
Carol C. Smith, RN, BSN |
| 1955 | Janie F. Morris | 2005 | J. Paul Newell, MD
Paul J. Wiesner, MD |
| 1961 | Louva G. Lenert | 2006 | Ted Holloway, MD
Rosemarie B. Newman |
| 1964 | Dr. Thomas F. Sellers, Sr | 2007 | William C. Fields, MBA
Michael E. Chaney |
| 1965 | Mayola S. Carter | 2008 | J. Ferrell Curlee
Lynne D. Feldman, MD, MPH |
| 1966 | Annie J. Taylor | 2009 | Janelle R. Knight, MSA
Kathleen E. Toomey, MD |
| 1975 | Dr. John Venable
Calvin Buchanan | 2011 | Gary Nelson, PhD |
| 1976 | Dr. T. O. Vinson
Dr. Robert J. Walker | 2012 | Regina Abbott, MPA
Robert V. Taylor |
| 1978 | A. Faegin Parrish
Laura E. Bramblett
Myrtle F. Tomlin
Dr. John E. McCroan, Jr. | 2013 | Christy Sims, RN, APRN, WHNP-BC |
| 1984 | David Clark | 2014 | Lisa Carlson, MPH, CHES
C. Todd Jones |
| 1984 | Louise Clark | 2015 | Governor Nathan Deal
Olivia Mallichek |
| 1985 | Dr. Wilbur D. Lundquist | 2017 | Diane Weems, MD
C. Wade Sellers, MD, MPH |
| 1986 | Dr. William A. Mason | 2020 | Ronald J. Boone |
| 1987 | Dr. Douglas Skelton | 2022 | David Harvey, MD |
| 1988 | Ruth B. Melber, MA. | | |
| 1989 | Maggie M. Kline, MA. | | |
| 1990 | Rex Poole | | |
| 1991 | Bill Mahaffey
Eugenia (Mickie) Mobley | | |
| 1992 | Harry L. Carr | | |
| 1993 | Dr. James C. Crutcher | | |
| 1994 | Dr. Norman B. Pursley
Audrey Hollingsworth | | |
| 1996 | Dr. Joseph Wilbur
Marie Edmondson | | |
| 1997 | Barbara Shurling | | |
| 1998 | E. Joseph Alderman, DDS
Dee Cantrell, PNC, PhD | | |
| 1999 | Ecleamus L. Ricks, MPH
Margaret J. Park | | |
| 2000 | Margaret Bean, BSN, MS, MN | | |
| 2001 | Patricia H. Southwell | | |



2023 Policy Positions

GPHA supports programs and funding to protect and promote the public’s health throughout the state, including:

- » Maintaining sufficient funding of county health departments through the Grants-to-Counties formula.
- » Salary enhancements to promote recruitment, retention and succession efforts for public health staff.
- » Financial incentives for primary care professionals to practice in Georgia, especially in rural areas.
- » Opposition to legislation that weakens food safety laws and DPH rules for restaurants and mobile food vehicles.
- » Support of telehealth, telemedicine and teledentistry initiatives that improve public health.
- » Support of adding a significant excise tax to the sale of tobacco products.
- » Support of legislation to revise the Smoke Free Air Act to include vaping.
- » Legislation updating the definition of sexually transmitted infection (STI) in Georgia law.

2023 Balance Sheet

	UNAUDITED June 30, 2022	AUDITED June 30, 2021
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking Accounts.....	\$ 137,569.00	\$ 28,274.00
Total Current Assets.....	\$ 137,569.00	\$ 28,274.00
Total Assets.....	\$ 137,569.00	\$ 28,274.00
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable.....	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total Current Liabilities.....	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted Net Assets.....	\$ 39,651.00	\$ (69,644.00)
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets.....	\$ 97,918.00	\$ 97,918.00
Total Liabilities and Net Assets.....	\$ 137,569.00	\$ 28,274.00



General Conference Information

PURPOSE OF THE ACTIVITY

The goal of the 2023 Georgia Public Health Association (GPHA) Annual Meeting & Conference is to assemble public health professionals, students, County Board of Health members, and stakeholders for networking and educational opportunities to support the mission and vision of GPHA: to advocate for conditions in which all people and communities can be healthy; to promote the scientific foundation of public health practice and policy; and to assure a continuous voice broadly representing public health in Georgia.

In particular, learners will gain knowledge of current research and practice from around the state of Georgia and will participate in discussions related to the conference theme, “Creating a Healthy Georgia: Conversations and Collaborations for Change”.

Participants will receive information, resources, and access to exhibitors to allow them to engage with others in the public health workforce, explore avenues to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities, promote efforts to achieve equity, and promote policies, systems, and overall community conditions that enable optimal health for all.

OBJECTIVES

Objective #1: Participants will examine methods for strengthening public health departments, programs, and community infrastructures to care for our citizens across Georgia.

Objective #2: Participants will have networking opportunities to engage in conversations to promote collaborations among key public health stakeholders.

Objective #3: Participants will be able to converse with researchers focused on public health concerns.

Objective #4: Participants will be able to describe lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and other emerging infections that can be applied to future pandemic responses.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The 2023 GPHA Annual Meeting & Conference targets all registered nurses, all physicians, all health educators, advanced practice registered nurses and all public health professions.

REGISTRATION

Registration is located at the Marshside Registration area of the Jekyll Island Convention Center. All conference participants are required to check in with GPHA staff to

receive a name badge and conference materials. ALL registrants must provide their own email address at check-in as part of the Continuing Education accreditation requirements regardless of their intent to apply for CEUs. Exhibitors will check-in at the Oceanside Registration area of the convention center.

REGISTRATION HOURS

Wednesday, May 3 and Thursday, May 4: 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Friday, May 5: 7:30 AM - 11:00 AM

WORKSHOPS

The 2023 schedule is on pages 14-18. Detailed workshop session descriptions can be found on pages 25-55.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

For attendees interested in receiving CE, please visit the Marshside Registration Desk for instructions on obtaining CME, CNE, and CHES credit. All registrants will receive an email within a week after the conference with instructions for completing the CEU evaluation. The evaluation will be open for six weeks and is set to close on June 15th. The deadline will be clear in the instructions from the system. **NOTE:** CHES/MCHES requires the email address registered with NCHEC to match that given at check-in.

SECTION MEETINGS

GPHA Section Meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, May 3, 1:45 to 3:15 PM and 3:30 to 5:00 PM. Not sure which section you'd like to join? Attend a meeting of your choice!

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Poster Presentations are located in the Exhibit Hall. Authors will be available to answer questions during the President's Reception.

EXHIBITS

The GPHA Exhibit Hall is located in the Ballroom.

GPHA EXECUTIVE BOARD

The 2022-2023 GPHA Executive Board will hold its final meeting Wednesday, May 3 at 9:00 AM in Room 9. The first meeting of the 2023-2024 GPHA Executive Board will be Friday, May 5th at 1:15 PM in Room 2-3. **All board members, including newly elected officers and section chairs should plan to attend.**

Continuing Education

CONTINUING EDUCATION

How to Obtain CE Credit

Participants must attend the entire session and complete the evaluation online in order to earn credit hours and obtain a CE certificate. A link to the online evaluation system will be sent to all registered participants who attend the activity that will contain instructions and a personal ID number for access to the system. All online evaluations must be submitted by June 15th to receive continuing education credit for this activity.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENTS

Medicine (CME) Accreditation Statement

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of the American Public Health Association (APHA) and the Georgia Public Health Association. The APHA is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Designation Statement:

The APHA designates this live educational activity for a maximum of 11 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™].

Nursing (CNE) Accreditation Statement

This continuing nursing education activity was approved by the American Public Health Association's Public Health Nursing Section (APHA/PHN), an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Health Education (CHES) Statement

Sponsored by the American Public Health Association (APHA), a designated approver of continuing education contact hours (CECH) in health education by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. This program is designated for Certified Health Education Specialists (CHES[®]) to receive up to 11 total Category I contact education contact hours

DISCLOSURES

Policy on Disclosures to Learners

The Georgia Public Health Association strives to ensure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor in all of its educational programs. All planners,

faculty members, moderators, discussants, panelist and presenters participating in this program have been required to disclose any real or apparent conflict(s) of interest that may have a direct bearing on the subject matter of this program. This includes relationships with pharmaceutical companies, biomedical device manufacturers or other corporations whose products or services are related to the subject matter of the presentation topic. The intent of this policy is to identify openly any conflict of interest so that the attendees may form their own judgments about the presentation with full disclosure of the facts. In addition, faculty are expected to openly disclose any off-label, experimental and/or investigational uses of drugs or devices in their presentation. Disclosures, Conflict of Interest (COI) and Resolution of COI policies are available via the APHA's website and in the printed program.

Non-Endorsement of Products

As an Accredited Provider of Continuing Education (CE) Credits for Health Education (CHES), Nursing (CNE), Medicine (CME), and Public Health (CPH) the American Public Health Association Center for Professional Development (CPD) Unit and its respective Continuing Education accrediting organizations do not endorse any products or services that are displayed or referred to in conjunction with this activity and are not responsible for the actual presentation of content during scientific sessions.

Meeting Agenda

2
MAY

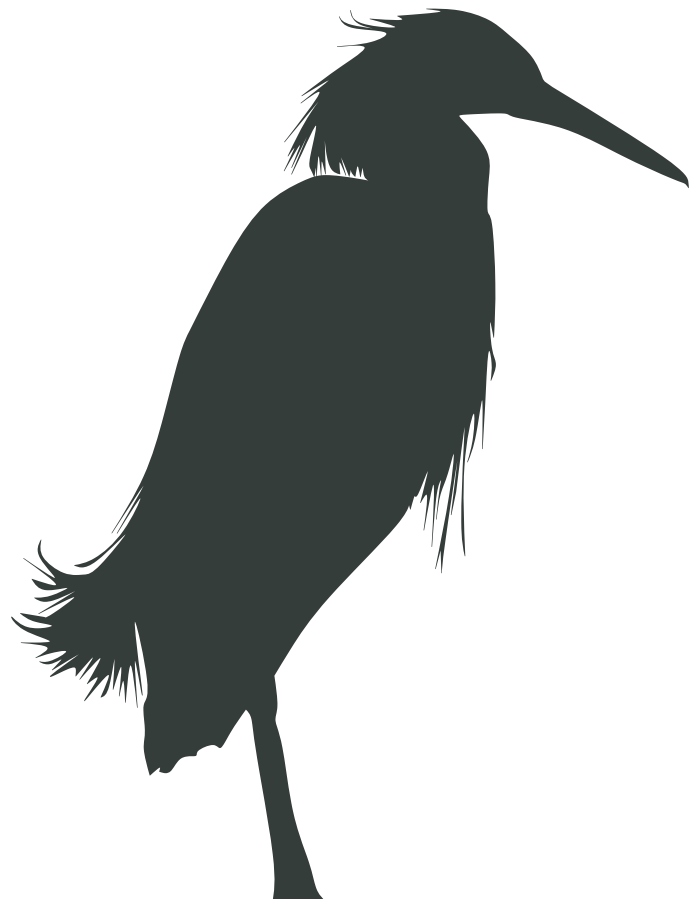
Tuesday, May 2, 2023

- 1:00 - 5:00 P.M. **Epidemiology and Environmental Health Pre-Conference Workshop*:**
“From the farm to the distributor to your table: How tracebacks uncover the secret travel history of food with a tabletop exercise.”
Room 9
*Pre-registration required.
- 1:00 - 4:00 P.M. **District Nursing Directors Meeting**
Room 5

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

- 8:00 A.M. **2-Mile Fun Walk/Run**
Picnic Pavilion/Beach Side of Convention Center
- 7:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Attendee Registration and Check-In Information**
Marshside Registration Desk
- Exhibitor & Sponsor Registration and Check-In Information**
Oceanside Registration Desk
- 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. **District Administrator & Program Manager Meeting**
Room 7
- 9:00 – 10:30 A.M. **GPHA Executive Board Meeting**
Room 9

MAY
3



12:00 – 1:30 P.M. Lunch / GPHA Business Meeting / Opening Plenary Session
Ballroom

INVOCATION

Debbie P. Hagins, MD, FAPCR, AAHIYS

*Medical Director Coastal CARE Clinics & Interim HIV Program Director,
Coastal Health District*

WELCOME

Noel Jensen

Deputy Executive Director, Jekyll Island Authority

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Glynn County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard

Made possible by Sheriff Neal Jump

Saroyi C. Morris, DrPH, MHS

*President, Georgia Public Health Association
Program Manager, Coastal Health District*

INTRODUCTION

Jimmie Smith, Jr., MD, MPH

*Vice-President, Georgia Public Health Association
Administrator, Macon Bibb County Health Department*

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Chris Chanyasulkit, PhD, MPH

*President, American Public Health Association
"Harnessing the Power of Public Health"*

1:30 – 1:45 P.M. Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 22-23

1:45 – 3:15 P.M. Section Meetings – Round 1
SECTION MEETINGS PG. 25-26

Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 22-23

3:15 – 3:30 P.M. Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 22-23

3:30 – 5:00 P.M. Section Meetings – Round 2
SECTION MEETINGS PG. 27-28

Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 22-23

5:00 – 5:15 P.M. Moderator Training
Room 2-3

**5:00 – 6:30 P.M. President's Reception
Exhibits / Posters* / Silent Auction
Student Poster Contest Winners Announced****
Exhibit Hall

**Authors are required to stand by their posters from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.*

***Contest sponsored by the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health
at Georgia Southern University*

Meeting Agenda



Thursday, May 4, 2023

- 7:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. **Attendee Registration and Check-In Information**
Marshside Registration Desk
- Exhibitor & Sponsor Registration & Check-In Information**
Oceanside Registration Desk
- 7:30 – 8:30 A.M. **Continental Breakfast**
Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction
Exhibit Hall
- 8:00 – 9:15 A.M. **General Plenary Session**
Ballroom
- INTRODUCTION**
Kenea King, MPH
Epidemiologist, North Central Health District
- KEYNOTE SPEAKER**
Priscilla Pemu, MD, MS, FACP
Associate Dean for Clinical Research & Director of the Clinical Research Center, Morehouse School of Medicine
“What Can the ‘All of Us Research Program’ Do for Public Health and Population Health and Research in Georgia?”
- 9:15 – 9:30 A.M. **Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction**
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 22-23
- 9:30 – 10:00 A.M. **Education Sessions – CONCURRENT SESSION 1A**
SEE PAGES 30-32 FOR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
- 10:00 – 10:10 A.M. **TRANSITION**
- 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. **Education Sessions – CONCURRENT SESSION 1B**
SEE PAGES 33-35 FOR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
- 10:40 – 10:55 A.M. **Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction**
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 22-23
- 10:55 – 11:25 A.M. **Education Sessions – CONCURRENT SESSION 2A**
SEE PAGES 35-37 FOR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
- 11:25 – 11:35 A.M. **TRANSITION**
- 11:35 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. **Education Sessions – CONCURRENT SESSION 2B**
SEE PAGES 38-40 FOR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
- 12:05 – 12:15 P.M. **TRANSITION**

Thursday, May 4, 2023 *Continued*

- 12:15 – 1:45 P.M. **Sellers-McCroan Lecture & Award Luncheon**
Ballroom
- INTRODUCTION**
Melissa “Moose” Alperin, EdD, MPH, MCHES
*Principal Investigator and Director, Region IV Public Health Training Center,
Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University*
- KEYNOTE SPEAKER**
Brian Castrucci, DrPH, MA
President and CEO, de Beaumont Foundation
**“Making the Invisible Visible: Critical Strategies, Moves, and
Resources to Improve the Health of the Public”**
Sponsored by the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University
- 1:45 – 2:00 P.M. **Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction**
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 22-23
- 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. **Education Sessions – CONCURRENT SESSION 3A**
SEE PAGE 41-43 FOR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
- 2:30 – 2:40 P.M. **TRANSITION**
- 2:40 – 3:10 P.M. **Education Sessions – CONCURRENT SESSION 3B**
SEE PAGES 44-46 FOR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
- 3:10 – 3:25 P.M. **Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction**
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 22-23
- 3:25 – 3:55 P.M. **Education Sessions – CONCURRENT SESSION 4A**
SEE PAGE 47-49 FOR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
- 3:55 – 4:05 P.M. **TRANSITION**
- 4:05 – 4:35 P.M. **Education Sessions – CONCURRENT SESSION 4B**
SEE PAGES 50-51 FOR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
- 4:35 – 5:30 P.M. **Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction**
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 22-23
- 4:45 P.M. **Beach Clean-up Service Activity**
Picnic Pavilion



Meeting Agenda

Friday, May 5, 2023

7:30 – 11:00 A.M. **Attendee Registration and Check-In Information**
Marshside Registration Desk

Exhibitor & Sponsor Registration & Check-In Information
Oceanside Registration Desk

8:00 – 8:30 A.M. **Premiere of Healthcare Georgia Foundation's
Documentary Film: “Journey Toward Equity: Creating a
Sustainable Model to Improve Health Outcomes, Economic
Access and Opportunity in Rural Communities”**
Ballroom

8:30 – 9:30 A.M. **Awards Breakfast**
Ballroom
Sponsored by Healthcare Georgia Foundation

9:30 – 9:45 A.M. **Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction**
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 23-24

9:45 – 10:45 A.M. **Education Sessions – CONCURRENT SESSION 5**
PAGES 52-53 FOR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

10:45 – 11:00 A.M. **Exhibits / Posters / Silent Auction**
Exhibit Hall POSTERS PG. 23-24

11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. **Education Sessions – CONCURRENT SESSION 6**
PAGES 54-55 FOR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

12:00 – 1:00 P.M. **Closing Business Meeting &
Passing of the Gavel**
Ballroom

NEW: ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS

On **Thursday, May 4, 2023**, each concurrent session will include a new **Roundtable Session** with three options! These engaging sessions will be a combination of presentation and group discussion.

FIND ROUNDTABLE SESSION DETAILS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES:

Session 1A 9:30 – 10:00 A.M. PAGE 32	Session 3A 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. PAGE 43
Session 1B 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. PAGE 35	Session 3B 2:40 – 3:10 P.M. PAGE 46
Session 2A 10:55 – 11:25 A.M. PAGE 37	Session 4A 3:25 – 3:55 P.M. PAGE 49
Session 2B 11:35 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. PAGE 40	Session 4B 4:05 – 4:35 P.M. PAGE 51

Keynote Speakers



Chris Chanyasulkit, PhD, MPH
President, American Public Health Association

Opening Plenary Session

Title: Harnessing the Power of Public Health

Wednesday, May 3 | 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Chris Chanyasulkit is grounded in a strong belief in eliminating the structural barriers to equity for marginalized populations. She holds leadership positions with local, state, regional and national governance and civic engagement organizations, working to promote racial, gender, and health equity. She served as a gubernatorial appointee to the Massachusetts Asian American Commission and the Commission on the Status of Women where she advocated for the needs of Asian Americans and Women throughout the Commonwealth.

Passionate about reproductive rights, she also served on the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts (PPLM) Advocacy Board of Directors from 2013-2019 and currently, serves on the PPLM Board of Directors for the medical center.

Dr. Chanyasulkit has served as a Human Services Specialist and Assistant Director of Diversity in the Massachusetts town of Brookline's Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Relations. She designed and delivered graduate public health courses at the Simmons University Department of Public Health. She also serves as an adjunct faculty member at Temple University, where she teaches Public Health Advocacy in the College of Public Health. Chris earned a BA in Biology and Art History from Boston University, an MPH (with a concentration in maternal and child health care) from the Boston University School of Public Health, and a PhD in Political Science from Northeastern University, where she conducted research on health disparities.

In addition to her advocacy and scholarly pursuits, Dr. Chanyasulkit is Immediate Past Chair of the Executive Board of the American Public Health Association (APHA), an elected Library Trustee of the Public Libraries of Brookline, a Brookline Town Meeting Member, a Brookline Community Emergency Response Team member, a Brookline Medical Reserve Corps member, a Brookline Community Foundation Board Member, and a Mentor Mom for Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center's Parent Connection Program. She lives in Brookline, Massachusetts with her husband, James, a software engineer, and their three children.



Priscilla Pemu, MD MS FACP
*Associate Dean for Clinical Research, Director of the Clinical Research Center,
Morehouse School of Medicine*

General Plenary Session

Title: What Can 'All of Us Research Program' Do for Public Health and Population Health and Research in Georgia?

Thursday, May 4 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

Dr. Priscilla Pemu is an internist whose goal is to improve the health of all patients similar to those that she encounters in her primary care practice. The complex interplay of patient, physician, practice setting, environmental and psychosocial factors in perpetuating disparities in health outcomes led to her interest and work with the Community Physicians

Network. In the past 15 years, we have developed a successful partnership based on a shared vision for improved care and outcomes among minority and underserved patients with community physicians who are part of the Morehouse Community Physicians Network (CPN). The overall focus has been on identifying gaps in treatment and outcomes and opportunities for improvement. As Medical Director of the Community Physicians' Network (CPN), she is responsible for planning and executing research and quality improvement initiatives. CPN established several disease specific registries for hypertension, diabetes, heart failure and metabolic syndrome of 6500 individual patients. These were used to support research and quality improvement initiatives. Dr. Pemu is the Morehouse site PI for the All of Us Health Provider Organization called SEEC.

Keynote Speakers

She leads the Morehouse Participant and Clinical Interactions unit (PCI) of the Georgia Clinical and Translational Science Award (GA-CTSA). In the role, she is directly involved in ensuring quality and efficiency of clinical research studies through training of staff, review and prioritization of resources for clinical projects and review of Data and Safety Monitoring reports as the chair of the Institutional Scientific Advisory Committee.

She is part of a team at Morehouse School of Medicine that developed a system and method for chronic illness care that empowers patients to change behaviors relevant to their health through improved knowledge, support for goal setting and accountability in sustaining behavior change. Dr. Pemu completed a residency with the TED organization in May 2019. As a participant in this highly selective incubator for breakthrough ideas, she introduced the concept of Culturally Congruent Coaching. Her TED Talk, featured as Editor's choice on TED.com, shared the results of 12 years of research observations about what predicts successful health behavior change. The talk brings attention to the impact of behavior on health and wellbeing among people living with chronic illnesses and the doctors who care for them. She also discussed Culturally Congruent Coaching; a high-tech, high-touch approach to support behavior change that has produced great results among diverse patient groups.

Priscilla Pemu is a Professor of Clinical Medicine; Associate Dean for Clinical Research and Director of the Clinical Research Center at Morehouse School of Medicine. She is also a proud mother of four; wife to Igbo of 27 years, a sister, friend and daughter.



Brian C. Castrucci, DrPH
President and CEO, de Beaumont Foundation

Sellers-McCroan Lecture

Title: Making the Invisible Visible: Critical Strategies, Moves, and Resources to Improve the Health of the Public

Thursday, May 4 | 12:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Brian C. Castrucci, DrPH, MA, is the president and chief executive officer of the de Beaumont Foundation. He has built the Foundation into a leading voice in health philanthropy and public health practice.

An award-winning epidemiologist with 10 years of experience working in the health departments of Philadelphia, Texas, and Georgia, Brian brings a unique perspective to the philanthropic sector that allows him to shape and implement visionary and practical initiatives and partnerships and bring together research and practice to improve public health.

Under his leadership, the de Beaumont Foundation is advancing policy, building partnerships, and strengthening the public health system to create communities where people can achieve their best possible health.

Dr. Castrucci has published more than 100 articles in the areas of public health systems and services research, maternal and child health, health promotion, and chronic disease prevention. Dr. Castrucci earned his Doctorate in Public Health Leadership at the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from North Carolina State University and a Master of Arts degree in sociomedical sciences from Columbia University.



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GPHA Posters

No.	ABSTRACT TITLE	PRESENTER
1	Psychosocial predictors of substance use cravings in a rural population: An ecological momentary analysis	Saul G. Alamilla, PhD, MS, MA
2	Cyberthreats within rural hospitals: A survey	Taliyah Henderson, MIT
3	Evaluating the Efficacy of a Stakeholder Advisory Board in Pediatric Palliative Care Health Equity Research	Camille R. Murray, BSA, BA
4	Addressing Health Equity: Leveraging Partnerships and Meaningful Community Engagement to Increase COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence and Vaccine Uptake	Jacqueline Jenkins, MSPH
5	The effectiveness of the University System of Georgia's Tobacco-Free Policy: An Exploratory Study	Gene T. Smoak, BS
6	Inadequate Sleep and Depressive Disorder among United States Military Personnel	Raymond A. Sellitto, BS
7	Association Between COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy & Religiosity Among Elderly with Comorbidities	Kingsley A. Kalu, MD, MPH
8	Strengthening HPV Vaccination Recommendations During STI Screenings	Ashley Deverell, RN, BSN
9	The Barbershop-Beauty Shop Project: Creating Healthcare Advocates for Rural Georgia	Samantha Johnson, BA
10	Uncovering Geographic Health Disparities: A Secondary Analysis of the Commonwealth Fund International Health Policy Survey	Neil J. MacKinnon, BSc, MS, PhD, FCSHP, FNAP
11	The Future Public Health Workforce: Engaging Youth Through Boy Scouts of America	Sang Nguyen
12	Impact of Employment Status on Subjective Cognitive Decline Among Georgians 45 and Older	Kimberly Erukunuakpor, PhD, MPH
13	Perception of patients with multiple chronic conditions in the U.S. regarding their communication with healthcare providers	Yoonho Seol, PhD
14	Social Vulnerability as a Predictor of Farmer Stress	Chris Scoggins, MPH
15	Strengthening State Partnerships to Address Maternal Mortality, Nutrition Disparities, and Father Engagement	Latrice Rollins, PhD, MSW
16	Georgia Tobacco Quit Line Data Analysis for the North Central Health District amidst COVID-19, 2018-2021	Constantine H. Katsoudas, MPH
17	The Veiled Consequences of COVID-19 on Child Abuse Reporting in Georgia	Arianna M. Borges, BS
18	COVID-19 Deaths among People with HIV in Georgia, 2020-2021	Daniel Mauck, PhD, MPH, MS
19	Addressing Racial Inequities Using a Racial Equity Impact Assessment to Facilitate Systemic Change	Desiree Shantai Smith, MPH
20	Oh I.C.: A Retrospective Analysis for the use of ICARs in Long-Term Care Facilities	Deanna J. Crosby, MPH, CIC
21	A scoping review of community-based suicide interventions in rural United States	Kimberly B. Roth, PhD, MHS
22	Responding to Mpox using Program Collaboration & Service Integration (PCSI), District 5-2, GA	Mareike Haaren, MSPH
23	Keeping up with the times: A modernized approach to case investigation activities	Melissa Neufeld, MPH, CIC
24	Vista Forge: A Cross Collaboration for Radiological Disaster Response in Metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia 2022	Donald Porter, MPA, CEM
25	Crime, Dementia, and Caregivers	Lillian M. Morgado
26	Adverse Childhood Experiences: The Link Between Early Life Adversity with Poor Health Outcomes	Morgan McLendon
27	Overburdened and under-reported: A retrospective study of COVID-19 school reporting within District 5-2, Georgia	Janae Mitchell, MPH
28	Relationship Between Community Perception of Hospital COVID-19 Response and Future Use	Aishat Adewoye, MPH
29	Relationship between Physician Workforce Racial Diversity and Racial Disparities in County-Level Premature Deaths	Amanda L. Tomlinson
30	The Utilization of a Syringe Services Program in a High-Risk Homeless Community in Savannah, Georgia	Jimmy Nguyen, MS, BS
31	The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Animal Bite Incidences in Cobb & Douglas Counties	Sheena Norwood, MPH

No.	ABSTRACT TITLE	PRESENTER
32	Community-based Cancer Initiative on Factors That Affect Testing	Ara Idun, BA
33	Provider-Patient Communication and Pediatric Hospital Utilization	Samuel Anokye-Mensah
34	Telemedicine and Parental Frustration in Accessing Pediatrics Care	Aishat Adewoye, MPH
35	Suspected Tuberculosis Outbreak and Workplace Contact Investigation at Food Processing Plant in Northeast Georgia, 2022	Melinda Dolphyn, MPH
36	Keeping Score on the Sores: Analyzing Syphilis Trends in Middle Georgia	Jazmen Hudson, MPH
37	High Resolution Anoscopy Project in Rural HIV clinic	Jeffery Dockery, MD, DABFM, FAAFP, AAHIVMS
38	Assessing the Health Equity of the Coastal Georgia through COVID-19 Response Data	Beonca Brown, MPH
39	Fall Prevention Nature Walk: Addressing Falls Prevention Across the Lifespan	DeAndre Cain, MPH
40	Identifying DeKalb County's disparities in 2022 mpox cases versus vaccination rates to achieve vaccine equity	Lucas O'Reilly, MPH
41	Cross-sectional Associations between Civic Engagement and Voting Behavior in a Rural Setting	Alexis J. Smith, MPH
42	Identifying the Social Determinants and the Challenges of Viral Suppression Among Adults with HIV in Macon, Georgia	Jeremy Aguinaldo, MD, MPH, CPH, AAHIVS
43	Impact of COVID-19 on Reports of school ages Flu Activity in West Central Health District	Yidan Lou, MPH
44	Hospital-Community Engagement, Community Collective Efficacy and Rural Critical Access Hospital Reputation	Bettye A. Apenteng, PhD
45	Individual- and environmental-level determinants of fruit and vegetable intakes in rural Georgia	Cerra Antonacci, MHS, MBE
46	Collaboratively Integrating Resident Voice and Health Promotion through Health Action Plans in Affordable Housing Preservation	Taylor Williams, MPH
47	Comorbidities of Type 2 Diabetes: A study from Georgia Academic Health System.	Tran Nguyen, DrPH, MPH, MT(ASCP)SC
48	Autism Spectrum Disorder in Rural Georgia: Resources and Education	Sarah Rotschafer, PhD
49	Knowledge of Pregnancy and Postpartum Complications up to One Year Postpartum Compared by Rurality	Evelyn F. Fagan
50	Investing in Public Health: Cost-Benefit Analysis of VaxUp! Augusta COVID-19 Vaccination Initiative	Vahe Heboyan, PhD
51	Secondary analysis of PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis) and STI incidence trends among MSM locally and nationwide	Jalen M. Marshall, BS
52	"Jesus Left Every Decision Up to Us": Georgia Protestant Faith Communities' Attitudes on Abortion Bans	Hayley V. McMahon, MSPH, CPH
53	Mental Well-Being of Black, Latino, and Women Farmers in Georgia	Stephanie Basey, MSHS, PhD(c)
54	Assessing Active Managerial Control: Factors Influencing How EHS Mark Supervision Compliance Status	Lauren Baker-Newton, MPH, REHS
55	Collaboration on Health Promotion/Environmental Health Project to Reduce Period Poverty on a College Campus	Gabi Wiggill
56	Hospitalizations and Mortality with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Diagnosis in Georgia, 2020	Chloe Hale, MS, CHES
57	Unintentional injuries trends in Georgia 2010-2021.	Faith E. Luke
58	Suicide rates differences between rural and urban Georgia	Diana G. Ghebresadik, BS
59	Evaluation of the COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts with Structural Racism and Low Vaccination Rates	Biplav B. Tiwari, BPH
60	Characterization of snack servings in childcare programs from Southeast Georgia	Weston L. Oliver, BSPH
61	Hospital Pricing Transparency in Georgia	Foram Patel, MHA, BDS
62	Infectious Disease Training in the Agricultural Sector using a One Health Approach	Jill Johns, MS, CHES
63	EV Battery and Recycling	Sherone Lloyd

Section Meetings

GPHA Section Meetings will take place on **Wednesday, May 3, 2023**, and include section-specific awards, section speakers, business meeting, and the election of 2023-24 officers. Use the table below to determine the location of your section meeting. See pages 25-28 for Section Workshop Descriptions.

Not sure what section you belong to?
Check with the Marshside Registration Desk.

Not affiliated with a section? Drop in on a meeting or visit the Exhibit Hall!

ROOM	SECTION / TITLE	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
1:45 P.M. – 3:15 P.M.		
Rm 5	Administration The Frontline Advantage: Discovering and Developing a Frontline Clerical Workforce	Kimberly Lee, MHSA, David Bowen, Daniel Copas
Rm 9	Boards of Health The Role of Boards of Health in Public Health <i>*Not eligible for CE</i>	Andy Quarnstrom
Rm 2-3	Communications Georgia Open Records: The Law and Best Practices	Jasmin B. Hughes
Rm 7	Epidemiology Deep Dive into the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Routine Immunizations Across the Lifespan	Kathleen Holmes, MPH
Rm 4	Health Education and Promotion Distraction culture: The origin story of notification stress	Mari-Amanda Dyal, PhD, Amanda Redinger, MS, Kennedy Nelson, Benii Kalonda, Grace Stere
Rm 8	Health Information and Technology Ten Ways to Improve your Cyber Security	Barry L. Mathis, CCSFP, CCP, CDMS, CHQP
Rm 11	Laboratory	
Rm 10	Nursing The Public Health County Nurse Manager Journey Begins Here...	Cindi Hart, RN, MSN, Leighan Waters, BBA
3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.		
Rm 4	Academic Enhancing Academic-Public Health Partnerships in Georgia: Lessons Learned from Across the State	Amber Erickson, DrPH, MPH, Allison T. Chamberlain, PhD, MS, Rachel Franklin, MPH, Lisa Crossman, MS, Sarita Shah, MD, MPH, Sasha Smith, MPH
Rm 7	Career Development Improving the Built Environment in Rural Georgia: A Strategy to Increase Physical Activity	Morgan McLendon, Karen Ebey-Tessendorf, MPH
Rm 11	Environmental Health	
Rm 10	Maternal and Child Health Improving Black Maternal & Child Health Outcomes Through Culturally Reflective & Respectful Care	Kimberley Broomfield-Massey, PhD, Janina Daniels, Jemea Dorsey
Rm 5	Medical/Dental Statewide Community Outreach Approach to Address the Oral Health Needs of Georgia	Ketarya D. Hunt Bass, MPH, MCHES®
Rm 8	Nutrition A Public Health Food & Nutrition Intervention for Youth with Disabilities	Becky Larson, DrPH, MS, RD
Room 2-3	Rural Health Findings from a cross-site evaluation of a rural Georgia health equity initiative	April Hermstad, MPH, Regine Haardoerfer, PhD, MEd, Kimberly Jacob Arriola, PhD, MPH, Lauren Bigger, MPH, Ashley Woods, BS, Kristi Logue, MS, Ana Arana, MPH, Michelle Joseph, BS, Samantha Tucker, MPH, Michelle Kegler, DrPH, MPH
Rm 9	Safety and Health Preparedness First Responder Safety: Vaccine Program	Heather Holloway, David Newman

Section Meetings

Section Workshop Descriptions

May 3, 2023

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>SECTION MEETING</p> <p>90 minutes (speaker 60 min.)</p> <p>Administration</p> <p>1:45 – 3:15 P.M.</p> <p>Room 5</p>	<p>The Frontline Advantage: Discovering and Developing a Frontline Clerical Workforce</p> <p>In the ever-changing public health landscape, where organizations must do more with less, the need for a strong frontline clerical workforce is crucial for success. This program will help attendees to define core competencies for clerical staff and build training and professional development programs to ensure the identification, retention, and enhancement of the clerical workforce.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Develop a localized on-boarding, training, and retention process for their frontline clerical workforce. 	<p>Kimberly Lee, MHSA</p> <p>David Bowen</p> <p>Daniel Copas</p>
<p>SECTION MEETING</p> <p>90 minutes (speaker 60 min.)</p> <p>Boards of Health</p> <p>1:45 – 3:15 P.M.</p> <p>Room 9</p>	<p>The Role of Boards of Health in Public Health*</p> <p>The National Association of Local Boards of Health represents board of health members and local boards of health across the country. NALBOH provides advocacy, education, and the tools for board of health members to serve their communities. This presentation will provide an overview of the functions of governance and how it relates to the success of board of health members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Understand the roles and responsibilities of board of health members. <p>* Not eligible for CE</p>	<p>Andy Quarnstrom</p>
<p>SECTION MEETING</p> <p>90 minutes (speaker 60 min.)</p> <p>Communications</p> <p>1:45 – 3:15 P.M.</p> <p>Room 2-3</p>	<p>Georgia Open Records: The Law and Best Practices</p> <p>This presentation will focus on the Georgia Open Records Act and what to do when you receive a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. It will cover important sections of the statute for public health professionals, specifically related to what information is subject to disclosure. Attendees will learn how to process open records requests efficiently and communicate effectively with requestors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Evaluate your current process for open records and design an efficient system for handling requests. 	<p>Jasmin B. Hughes</p>
<p>SECTION MEETING</p> <p>90 minutes (speaker 60 min.)</p> <p>Epidemiology</p> <p>1:45 – 3:15 P.M.</p> <p>Room 7</p>	<p>Deep Dive into the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Routine Immunizations Across the Lifespan</p> <p>Kathleen Holmes, MPH is a senior public health analyst in the Immunization Services Division's Chief Medical Office. In this role, she coordinates the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's (CDC) effort to understand and address pandemic-related declines in routine immunizations. Her GPHA Epidemiology Section presentation will review the COVID-19 Pandemic and its impact on routine vaccinations across the lifespan in Georgia and the United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on routine vaccinations across the lifespan. » Highlight key findings concerning COVID-19 and vaccinations for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's latest data. » Detail short term actions for CDC's vaccination activities. 	<p>Kathleen Holmes, MPH</p>

SECTION MEETINGS 1:45 – 3:15 P.M.

Section Meetings

May 3, 2023

Section Workshop Descriptions

SECTION MEETINGS 1:45 – 3:15 P.M.

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>SECTION MEETING 90 minutes (speaker 60 min.) Health Education and Promotion 1:45 – 3:15 P.M. Room 4</p>	<p>Distraction Culture: The Origin Story of Notification Stress The presentation seeks to present technological notifications as a public health issue related to stress, health, and productivity. Presentation activities will provide participants with an experience that increases awareness and knowledge of this issue as well as skills to manage. This presentation sets the stage for further conversation around research and practice implications and directions. » Explain the role and impact of technological notifications on productivity and general health indicators.</p>	<p>Mari-Amanda A. Dyal, PhD Amanda Redinger, MS Kennedy Nelson Benii Kalonda Grace Stere</p>
<p>SECTION MEETING 90 minutes (speaker 60 min.) Health Information and Technology 1:45 – 3:15 P.M. Room 8</p>	<p>10 Ways to Improve Your Cyber Security The question of a cyber security attack or data breach is not “if,” but “when.” As more and more Bad Actors turn their sights on healthcare, there has never been a more urgent need to practice the basics and harden our resilience to cyber-attacks. Most breach occurs when systems and users fail to apply standard practices. In this exciting and fact filled presentation, 30-year veteran Barry Mathis will share 10 ways to Improve Your Cyber Security practices. Join us as Barry takes you through real life experiences and shows you how breaches can be avoided or mitigated through some basic and cost-effective tools. » Understand the importance of basic cyber security practices as well as how to improve or start an IT Risk Management Program</p>	<p>Barry L. Mathis, CCSFP, CCP, CDMS, CHQP</p>
<p>SECTION MEETING 90 minutes (speaker 60 min.) Nursing 1:45 – 3:15 P.M. Room 10</p>	<p>The Public Health County Nurse Manager Journey Begins Here... How the SEHD has prepared nurses with or without Public Health Nursing experience to be successful in the county nurse manager role. » Describe the 5-Day Nurse Manager Orientation program based on the 10 Essential Public Health Services (EPHS) framework.</p>	<p>Cindi Hart, RN, MSN Leighan Waters, BBA</p>

Section Meetings

Section Workshop Descriptions

May 3, 2023

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>SECTION MEETING 90 minutes (speaker 60 min.) Academic 3:30 – 5:00 P.M. Room 4</p>	<p>Enhancing Academic-Public Health Partnerships in Georgia: Lessons Learned from Across the State</p> <p>With 18 health districts and 7 accredited schools or programs of public health in Georgia, there are ample examples and opportunities for collaboration between academic public health and public health practice. This session will describe three collaborative relationships and generate discussion about how Georgia public health can benefit from stronger relationships between academics and public health practitioners.</p> <p>» Describe how to identify practice needs or goals for which academic engagement could facilitate achievement and understand how to cultivate more meaningful and mutually beneficial collaborations between academia and public health practice.</p>	<p>Amber Erickson, DrPH, MPH Allison T. Chamberlain, PhD, MS Rachel Franklin, MPH, CIC Lisa Crossman, MS Sarita Shah, MD, MPH Sasha Smith, MPH</p>
<p>SECTION MEETING 90 minutes (speaker 60 min.) Career Development 3:30 – 5:00 P.M. Room 7</p>	<p>Improving the Built Environment in Rural Georgia: A Strategy to Increase Physical Activity</p> <p>This presentation will describe implementing an equitable built environment approach to increase physical activity in a rural Georgia county. Collaboration with community leaders, stakeholders, and residents has led to the adoption of a Complete Streets Policy, master plans for two new parks, and improvements such as bike racks and new signage. The implementation process, barriers encountered, and successes will be discussed.</p> <p>» Describe the built environment approach as an evidence-based strategy to increase physical activity in a community.</p>	<p>Morgan McLendon Karen Ebey-Tessendorf, MPH</p>
<p>SECTION MEETING 90 minutes (speaker 60 min.) Maternal and Child Health 3:30 – 5:00 P.M. Room 10</p>	<p>Improving Black Maternal and Child Health Outcomes Through Culturally Reflective and Respectful Care</p> <p>This presentation will describe implementing an equitable built environment approach to increase physical activity in a rural Georgia county. Collaboration with community leaders, stakeholders, and residents has led to the adoption of a Complete Streets Policy, master plans for two new parks, and improvements such as bike racks and new signage. The implementation process, barriers encountered, and successes will be discussed.</p> <p>» Describe the services provided by a local program aimed at reducing disparities and improving Black maternal and infant health outcomes.</p>	<p>Kimberley Broomfield-Massey, PhD Janina Daniels Jemea Dorsey</p>
<p>SECTION MEETING 90 minutes (speaker 60 min.) Nutrition 3:30 – 5:00 P.M. Room 8</p>	<p>A Public Health Food & Nutrition Intervention for Youth with Disabilities</p> <p>This session will provide a review of the Food Skills & Nutrition Program at a summer camp for adolescents with disabilities in rural Georgia. Information about program planning, implementation, research, and outcomes will be shared.</p> <p>» Describe food skills and nutrition education components of a physical activity and life skills summer camp for adolescents with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).</p>	<p>Becky Larson, DrPH, MS, RD</p>

SECTION MEETINGS 3:30 – 5:00 P.M.

Section Meetings

May 3, 2023

Section Workshop Descriptions

SECTION MEETINGS 3:30 – 5:00 P.M.

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>SECTION MEETING 90 minutes (speaker 60 min.) Medical/Dental 3:30 – 5:00 P.M. Room 5</p>	<p>Statewide Community Outreach Approach to Address the Oral Health Needs of Georgia</p> <p>The purpose of this project is to bring awareness and highlight the ongoing effort by The Dental College of Georgia address the oral health needs of Georgia's DHPSAs through statewide oral health workforce activities and collaborative partnerships. In 2006, the DCG was awarded a grant by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to implement a multi-faceted plan designed to address the oral health needs of Georgia's DHPSAs. Since then, a concerted effort has maintained workforce strategies that continue to improve access to care, while new opportunities develop to expand workforce, provide oral health education and services to underserved Georgians.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Identify strategies used to address the oral health needs in Georgia. » Recognize the value in collaborative partnership to address oral health for the state of Georgia. » Discuss the statewide outreach effort to improve oral health access and expand dental care in Dental HPSAs. 	<p>Ketarya D. Hunt Bass, MPH, MCHES®</p>
<p>SECTION MEETING 90 minutes (speaker 60 min.) Rural Health 3:30 – 5:00 P.M. Room 2-3</p>	<p>Findings from a Cross-Site Evaluation of a Rural Georgia Health Equity Initiative</p> <p>We conducted a comprehensive mixed-methods evaluation of a 5-year rural Georgia health equity initiative to understand and document rural health coalition processes and outcomes. Main evaluation findings will be shared, along with conclusions, lessons learned, and recommendations for implementers and evaluators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe coalition processes and outcomes as measured by a cross-site evaluation of a rural health equity initiative. » Apply lessons learned or key findings to their own work.. 	<p>April Hermstad, MPH Regine Haardoerfer, PhD, MEd Kimberly Jacob Arriola, PhD, MPH Lauren Bigger, MPH Ashley Woods, BS Kristi Logue, MS Ana Arana, MPH Michelle Joseph, BS Samantha Tucker, MPH Michelle Kegler, DrPH, MPH</p>
<p>SECTION MEETING 90 minutes (speaker 60 min.) Safety and Health Preparedness 3:30 – 5:00 P.M. Room 9</p>	<p>First Responder Safety: Vaccine Program</p> <p>Have you assumed the first responder community is covered by agency vaccination policies? Could Public Health have inadvertently contributed to any vaccine hesitancy on their part? Operational readiness is imperative for governmental, healthcare, and public safety agencies. Come learn methods for creating multi-agency relationships and leave with a toolkit of a sample policy and ideas to increase awareness for responder safety and pre-deployment vaccination need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Design and institute your own responder vaccine program after learning of the program and receiving our toolkit. 	<p>Heather S. Holloway David Newman</p>

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Concurrent Sessions

May 4, 2023 Session 1A

SESSION 1A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 9:30 - 10:00 A.M. Room 8	Development of a Tele-Community Health Worker Program for Sickle Cell Disease We will describe the development, implementation, and evaluation of community-based organization led community health worker (CHW) program to bridge gaps in healthcare services for individuals with sickle cell disease SCD. We trained CHWs to offer tele-health support, implemented a six-month CHW program with adults with SCD ages 18 and older, evaluated the impact of the program among participants and CHWs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the training process to prepare community health workers to work with individuals with sickle cell disease. » Discuss how community health workers can contribute to promote self-care for sickle cell disease and enhance health equity for this rare disease population. 	Tilicia L. Mayo-Gamble, PhD, MPH, MA, CHES® Mapillar Dahn, AAS Milline Nuahn Shyterria Johnson, BS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 9:30 - 10:00 A.M. Room 9	Promoting a Data Driven Approach to Public Health Evaluation, Improvement, and Planning State, district, and local public health practitioners in Georgia should use a data driven approach to evaluate all programs and services to identify best practices and opportunities for improvement, and to aid in program and service decision making and planning. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Discuss the importance of using data-driven approaches to evaluate, improve, and plan public health programs and services to increase best practices and opportunities for improvement identified and data informed public health plans. 	Miranda Helms, BS, LSSGB
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 9:30 - 10:00 A.M. Room 11	MRC and COVID-19 the AID for Response The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a national volunteer network, represented in Georgia with 21 local and statewide units. This program works with local partners to strengthen public health, reduce vulnerability, improve preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities. Volunteers across the state help build resilient communities through preparedness, planning, mitigation and facilitate the ongoing activities of recovery as needed.	Blanca M Lewis, MPH LaKieva Williams, MPA, MNM, EMHP
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 9:30 - 10:00 A.M. Room 4	Augusta University's Healthy Georgia Report: Creating a Document to Better Inform Georgia's Policymakers This workshop will describe the content and purpose of the Healthy Georgia report, share results from selected topics, and ask attendees for input on health measures to be included in future reports, suggestions for making the report more user-friendly, and the best approaches for disseminating the report to key stakeholders. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Discuss the purpose of and key findings from the Healthy Georgia report and the ways that these results may be disseminated to key stakeholders. 	J. Aaron Johnson, PhD Biplab Datta, PhD Lorriane Odhiambo, PhD Jennifer Jaremski, MPA Catherine Clary, JD Kit Wootten, MA

Concurrent Sessions

Session 1A

May 4, 2023

SESSION 1A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 9:30 - 10:00 A.M. Room 10</p>	<p>Medication and Care Adherence Strategies to Improve Patient Adherence in Rural HIV Care Settings</p> <p>Medication and care adherence in HIV care are critical for achieving positive health outcomes among patients. Numerous factors can contribute to inconsistency in care among patients living with HIV. This presentation will provide an overview of strategies implemented in rural HIV care settings to improve medication and care adherence and review how these strategies performed among the patient population.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the role of medication adherence and adherence to HIV care. » Describe medication adherence and care adherence strategies in HIV care. 	<p>Amanda Coffee, RN, BSN Tamaya Browder, MPH</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 9:30 - 10:00 A.M. Room 5</p>	<p>Introduction to the ASPECT (Advocacy, Support, Perspective, Empowerment, Communication, and Training) Patient Empowerment Program and the Vision Clinic Initiative of the Macon-Bibb County Health Department</p> <p>The ASPECT Program- Advocacy, Support, Perspective, Empowerment, Communication, and Training-seeks to strengthen patient empowerment efforts for vision by empowering individuals to be engaged in their eye health from every direction and in every way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the components of the ASPECT (Advocacy, Support, Perspective, Empowerment, Communication, and Training) Patient empowerment Program led by Prevent Blindness. » Identify key variables for consideration if interested in implementing a Vision Clinic at a local public health department on a quarterly basis. 	<p>Joy Knight Harris, MPH, MBA</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 9:30 - 10:00 A.M. Room 7</p>	<p>Evaluating the Outcomes and Impact of the Rollins COVID-19 Epidemiology Fellowship to Bolster Georgia's Workforce</p> <p>The Rollins COVID-19 Epidemiology Fellowship aims to enhance Georgia's state and local public health programs by training exceptional epidemiologists who passionately serve their communities through critical surveillance, outbreak response and general public health practice. This is a 2-year intensive training program with on-the-job training and supplemental professional development and mentorship programming. This session will present program evaluation metrics and outcomes from the first two cohorts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Determine evaluation measures for the process, outcome and impact of a workforce development program for local epidemiologists. 	<p>Shelby Rentmeester, MPH Jessica Pavlick, DrPH, MPH Amanda Jara, DVM, MPH Sydney Resler, MA Allison T. Chamberlain, PhD, MS Eve Rose, MSPH Cherie Drenzek, DVM</p>



Concurrent Sessions

May 4, 2023 Session 1A

SESSION 1A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
ROUNDTABLES 1A 30 minutes 9:30 - 10:00 A.M. Room 2-3	Comparing Stress, Coping Mechanisms, and Suicidal Ideation in Beginner and Experienced Farmers in Georgia TABLE 1 This cross-sectional study inventories mental well-being, stressors, and coping mechanisms for different types of farmers in Georgia (farm worker, farm supervisor, farm owner) and their experience status (beginner versus experienced farmers). Based on our study it became clear that beginner farmers experience more stress, most likely coming from financial worries. » Describe differences in stress and stressors between beginner and experienced farmers.	Anne Montgomery, PhD Stephanie Basey, MM, PhD Chris Scoggins, MPH Lily Baucom
	Housing as a Social Determinant of Health: The City of Atlanta's Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program TABLE 2 The City of Atlanta's Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) addresses the key social determinant of healthy living in the 29-county region identified as the City of Atlanta Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area. As HOPWA is the only federal program dedicated to the housing needs of people living with HIV/AIDS, this presentation will explain what HOPWA is, discuss eligibility, and identify resources for community partners. » Describe the purpose and eligibility of the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program in the 29-county metro region known as the City of Atlanta Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA). » Identify resources for community partners interested in addressing housing as a social determinant of health for low-income persons with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), or related diseases, and their families.	Nicole Barnes LMSW, MPH(c)
	Predictors for Reducing Mental Health Distress in Georgia: Evidence from 2022 County Health Rankings Data TABLE 3 In this presentation we define the major existing mental health issues that result in distress, we outline the existing services their benefits and needs, and we outline the newly suggested resources for better accessibility to mental health services. » Discuss the implications for increasing mental health services through telehealth services and training programs collaboration.	Jihene Ayadi, PhD, LPC, CPCS, NCC, ACS

Concurrent Sessions

Session 1B

May 4, 2023

SESSION 1B

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Room 8</p>	<p>A Movement Towards Justice: A Collaborative Approach to Addressing Violence in Georgia</p> <p>One Safe Place, an emerging Family Justice Center in Macon, Georgia, is working to collaboratively address violence in Central Georgia through the co-location of support services for victims of violence. Partnering with law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, advocates, therapists, civil attorneys, non-profits, community volunteers and more, One Safe Place will be one of the first Family Justice Centers to open in Georgia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the core elements of a Family Justice Center. » Name the various types of violence impacting Georgia. » Identify resources to support those experiencing various types of violence 	<p>Laura Ross, MSW Sarah Schanck, MEd Anne Montgomery, PhD</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Room 9</p>	<p>Fighting for the Public’s Health: Challenges and Opportunities to Reinvigorate Public Health Advocacy</p> <p>Learn about “Fighting for Public Health,” a report of the Network for Public Health Law which identified opportunities for strengthening public health advocacy at local, state, and national levels. Discover the six opportunities for action and how public health leaders in Georgia can engage in advocacy for public health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe challenges and opportunities for strengthening public health advocacy at local, state, and national levels. 	<p>Madeleine Frey, MPH Martha Katz, MPA Dawn Hunter, JD</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Room 11</p>	<p>The Golden Ray Incident: How Public Health Responded to a Maritime Disaster off Georgia’s Coast</p> <p>In September 2019, the cargo carrier ‘Golden Ray’ capsized off the coast of Georgia, endangering wildlife, the environment, and the people who use the beach and surrounding waters. See how the Coastal Health District’s Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Health, and Communications teams became part of the response led by Unified Command and worked to safeguard the health of the public during this multi-year event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the challenges of participating in a lengthy multi-agency emergency response and identify organizations that can be useful partners in responding to a maritime disaster. 	<p>Ginger Heidel Todd Wyckoff, MPA, CEM®, EMHP</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Room 4</p>	<p>Improving Employee Engagement in Rural Georgia Healthcare</p> <p>Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) are vital to the rural public health system, particularly in small rural counties where access is limited, making employee retention especially important for them. Employee engagement is increasingly viewed as vital to retention. This employee engagement program, implemented in four Georgia CAHS, involved pre-assessment, action plans, and post-assessment. Organizations saw improvement in employee engagement and outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the outcomes of an employee engagement program in 4 Georgia Critical Access Hospitals. 	<p>Linda Kimsey, PhD Bettye A. Apenteng, PhD Samuel T. Opopu, MBChB, PhD Charles Owens, MSA Angela Peden, MPH William A. Mase, DrPH</p>



Concurrent Sessions

May 4, 2023 Session 1B

SESSION 1B

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Room 10	Expanding Reach of Public Health: Lessons from a Pilot Project to Develop Remote Dementia Diagnostic Processes The Department of Public Health's Injury Prevention Program received a CDC Building Our Largest Dementia Infrastructure (BOLD) grant. BOLD builds an infrastructure that increases early detection and diagnosis, risk reduction, and supports caregiving. As part of early detection and diagnosis, local health department sites are piloting a remote dementia diagnostic process and procedure to provide rural Georgians access options to providers specializing in dementia diagnosis. » Assess local health department readiness for dementia-related work.	Chloe Hale, MS, CHES Jennifer Harrison, FNP-C
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Room 5	Staffing Up for a Pandemic and Beyond: Utilizing a PRN Nursing Pool District 2 (Gainesville) used PRN nurses to address understaffing in health departments resulting from emergent vaccination needs during COVID and mpox. This presentation will discuss use of PRN nurses for COVID and mpox vaccinations, online tools to assist with scheduling, administrative considerations for using PRN staff, and expectations of licenses and skills for PRN nurses. » Describe implementing a district PRN nurse pool to supplement public health staffing.	Leyna Mashburn RN, BSN James Watkins, BA
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Room 7	Bringing Data to Life Using Technology to Automate Data Visualization in District 5-2, Georgia This presentation will examine how the North Central Health District (NCHD) Epidemiology staff have utilized data visualization tools to transform data into graphical representations that are easy to understand in lieu of traditional reports. » Identify different ways in which reports can be modernized by utilizing new and existing data visualization programs. » Describe the benefits and advantages of using data visualization as a means of reporting outcomes.	Ramona Barnett, MPH Amber Erickson, DrPH, MPH

Concurrent Sessions

Session 1B – 2A

May 4, 2023

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
ROUNDTABLES 1B 30 minutes 10:10 – 10:40 A.M. Room 2-3	An Assessment of Healthcare Barriers and Health Needs for Rural Residents – Results from a Qualitative Approach TABLE 1 Rural residents face numerous healthcare barriers and challenges that impact their health status. These long-standing barriers have further been exacerbated by the recent COVID-19 pandemic. Mental health, chronic conditions, and transportation needs are discussed along with strategies to address these needs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Outline and discuss healthcare barriers and challenges experienced by rural communities. » List strategies for health improvements as suggested by community members. 	Blerta Shehaj, MPH Samuel Opoku, MBChB, PhD Bettye Apenteng, PhD Linda Kimsey, PhD Charles Owens, MSA Angela Peden, MPH
	An EPIC Mass Shelter Training for Public Health Nurses in Georgia to Improve Core Competencies in Disaster Preparedness TABLE 2 Research shows that nurses are often ill-prepared for disaster responses, this session provides a reproducible model for training a skilled public health nursing workforce who are ready and competent to respond to mass sheltering events. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Examine methods for strengthening public health nursing knowledge in responding to disaster response and mass sheltering events. 	Ashlie Pullen, DNP, APRN-BC Sonya Shinhoster, MSN, FNP-BC
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:55 – 11:25 A.M. Room 8	Marketing and Communicating Public Health Services: Optimizing Your Efforts When Funding is Limited This presentation will provide resources and strategies on how to market a health department's story, programs, and services in an easy, seamless, and affordable manner. By using several online resources including marketing and design tools, low-cost vendors, community partners, and creativity, Macon-Bibb County Health Department has increased strategic partnerships and seen an increase in utilization of our programs, services, and community inquiries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Identify multiple free and low-cost marketing tools to increase health department's reach. » Describe marketing and promotional tools that can be used to raise awareness of health department programs, services, and educate one's community on public health practice efforts. 	Amber Joseph, BA

SESSION 1B

SESSION 2A

Concurrent Sessions

May 4, 2023 Session 2A

SESSION 2A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:55 - 11:25 A.M. Room 9	Georgia Project Firstline Infection prevention is everyone's responsibility. The pandemic clearly showed us infection prevention knowledge and practice gaps across the nation. Georgia Project Firstline partnered with the CDC to address frontline healthcare worker's infection prevention learning needs. CDC approved training is accessible on the CDC's website and it is designed with bite-sized infection prevention education for staff on the go. Georgia Department of Public Health and Georgia Hospital Association collaborated to increase infection prevention knowledge in Georgia. Learn what free infection prevention resources are available to health department nurses and MPH. » Identify two free infection prevention resources. *Not eligible for CE	Peggy McGee, BSN, RN, CIC
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:55 - 11:25 A.M. Room 11	Data to Action: What Does it Mean? How Do We Do It? This presentation will show participants how to implement the "data to action" approach in a public health setting and its benefits. Using the Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences: Data to Action project as an example, we will emphasize how data can create sustainable change in public health programs. » Define what data to action means in the context of public health programming. » Describe the advantages and best practices of the data to action program approach.	Grace Morrow, MPH Elizabeth Otwell, MSPH
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:55 - 11:25 A.M. Room 10	Stress and Suicidal Ideation Among First-Generation Farmers: A Cross-Sectional Study with 1,288 Farmers in GA This cross-sectional study inventories mental well-being, stressors, and coping mechanisms for different types of farmers in GA (farm worker, farm supervisor, farm owner) and their generational status (first-generation versus generational farmers). Based on our study it became clear that first-generation farmers experience more stress and exhibit more risk factors than generational farmers. » Describe differences in stress and suicidal ideation between first-generation and generational farmers.	Anne Montgomery, PhD Stephanie Basey, PhD Chris Scoggins, MPH Lily Baucom
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:55 - 11:25 A.M. Room 5	Maximizing 340B Income to Improve Patient Outcomes Public health entities are accustomed to finding creative ways to stretch resources to meet the needs of the populations they serve; this presentation focuses on how a rural HIV clinic utilizes income from their participation in HRSA's 340B Program to improve health outcomes among people living with HIV in rural Georgia. » Identify ways to utilize available resources to assist in eliminating barriers to care for people living with HIV thus resulting in improved health outcomes for individuals and communities.	Shelby Freeman, MPH, LMSW Jenna Harris, MPH

Concurrent Sessions

Session 2A

May 4, 2023

SESSION 2A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 10:55 - 11:25 A.M. Room 7</p>	<p>Clean Water, Healthy Minds: The Importance of Identifying and Eliminating Lead in Drinking Water</p> <p>Reducing exposure to lead protects children’s health. Learn more about lead in drinking water, the effect of lead on children’s lifelong learning and health, and actions that can reduce exposure. See results from water testing in schools and childcare facilities. Discuss collaborations for testing and action around lead in water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Name actions that can reduce exposure to lead from drinking water. 	<p>Jennifer Haponick Redmon, MSES, MPA, CHMM AJ Kondash, PhD Erica Wood, MSPH Crystal Lee Pow Jackson, PhD</p>
<p>ROUNDTABLES 2A 30 minutes 10:55 - 11:25 A.M. Room 2-3</p>	<p>Using a Visionary Strategy for Public Health: Collaborating with Community Partners to Improve Community Health TABLE 1</p> <p>Public health serves by listening, understanding, and responding to the needs of our community. One significant need of individuals seeking services is needing a referral to an outside provider or service to provide continuity of care. To address this need public health leaders and community partners developed a Community Foundation to provide financial assistance to those in need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » List key considerations necessary to develop an independent, community-based Community Foundation and advisory board to support local clients seeking care from public health. 	<p>Gina Richardson, BSN, RN Barbara Ann Hammett, MSN, FNP-BC</p>
	<p>Creating a Collaborative Structure to Improve Management of Sickle Cell Disease toward Improved Health Outcomes TABLE 2</p> <p>This session will describe the process used to create a collaborative network of organizations in high SCD prevalence areas of the state. The presentation will demonstrate how the collaborative supports and enhances the Sickle Cell Foundation of Georgia’s Georgia Community Connections access to care program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the process used to create a collaborative network in the state to expand access to appropriate care for sickle cell disease. 	<p>Jeanette H Nu'Man, MEd</p>
	<p>Smoked Butts and Football Players. A review of a Gastrointestinal Outbreak Linked to Homemade BBQ. TABLE 3</p> <p>This presentation will examine the steps taken by local Epidemiology and Environmental Health staff to investigate complaints of Gastrointestinal Illness amongst a local high school football team. The investigations identified that inappropriately prepared BBQ was the likely cause of illness and shows the need for proper food preparation education for booster organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the steps of an investigation needed for a GI outbreak. » Describe how public health surge staff were utilized to assist and the benefits of their availability. » Discuss the skills needed for Environmental Health to conduct on site inspections. 	<p>Amber Erickson, DrPH, MPH Jocelyn Love, MPH Sarah Kent Sharon Pettit, MPH</p>

Concurrent Sessions

May 4, 2023 Session 2B

SESSION 2B

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 11:35 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. Room 8	School Health Programs: Building Capacity through Collaborative Partnerships This session will describe the implementation of a collaborative services model between the local public health district and K-12 schools. The purpose of the program is to support and augment school health services for students and their families. The presenters will provide an overview of program development, services provided, lessons learned, and sustainability. » Describe the benefits of implementing and sustaining a local Public Health school health program to meet the ongoing needs of the school-aged population.	Binal Patel, MPH Jennifer Poole Ross, MPH, BSN, RN
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 11:35 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. Room 9	Interactive Engagement: Bridging the Gap between Communities and Healthcare Possibilities* In this interactive session, we will review short-form standout stories that use different interactive engagement strategies (e.g., community perception surveys, digital channels, etc.) to discover the keys to bridging the gap between Black and Brown communities and access to healthcare. » The importance of appropriate audience segmentation for communication and healthcare program planning. » The basic principles of engaging in interactive/two-way dialogue with multicultural and Black and Brown communities. » Best practices for ensuring authenticity through communication programs. *Not eligible for CE	Elizabeth M'balu Oke, MSc
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 11:35 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. Room 11	The Need for a Revised Employee Health Policy for Public Health, District 5-2, Georgia This presentation will give an overview of the need for public health employee health policy updates to include exclusion criteria. By updating the policy, it increases workplace safety for employees and ensures the health and wellness of the community looking to the department for healthcare needs. » Describe the importance of exclusion criteria for healthcare workers. » Outline the process of health policy updates. » Utilize the concept of process improvement for other public health procedures.	Kenea Andrews, MPH Judy McChargue, BSN Amber Erickson, DrPH, MPH

Concurrent Sessions

Session 2B

May 4, 2023

SESSION 2B

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes</p> <p>11:35 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. Room 4</p>	<p>Preceptor Bites: A Georgia Statewide AHEC Preceptor Development Series</p> <p>The Georgia Statewide AHEC Network is hosting a series of webinars for faculty development. This initiative is a result of feedback from some of the most renowned healthcare professionals in the state, who participate in the Primary Care Summit. This webinar series focuses on topics that preceptors throughout Georgia have concluded are imperative to teaching the next generation of key healthcare professionals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the role that preceptors play in the state of our future healthcare workforce. » Explain the need for community-based faculty development programs and support. 	<p>Alyssa Ruffa, MPH Erin Mundy, MPA</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes</p> <p>11:35 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. Room 10</p>	<p>Improving Outcomes Through Collaboration in Rural Georgia</p> <p>This presentation will provide the audience with an overview of how one Georgia public health district has leveraged resources and reach through the development of a nonprofit agency, creating a public-private partnership to achieve public health goals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Explain the advantages of maximizing public-private partnerships through creating a nonprofit. 	<p>Barbara A. Bruno, MA Derek Jones</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes</p> <p>11:35 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. Room 5</p>	<p>Utilization of a Flow Nurse in a Rural Ryan White Clinic</p> <p>The flow nurse is responsible for directing clinic's flow thereby enhancing the patients' experience by limiting patients' time in the clinic, ensuring safety while educating, and providing quality care. The flow nurse assists in multiple client visits, focusing on providing informative and respectful services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Discuss the benefits of a flow nurse in a busy clinic that can potentially decrease the length of stay while optimizing patient time spent in the clinic. 	<p>Kristian Kirkland, RN, BSN Sabrina Sheppard, RN, BSN</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes</p> <p>11:35 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. Room 7</p>	<p>Development of Flexible Monitoring System for Diseases and Incidents</p> <p>This presentation will describe the new flexible monitoring system developed in the State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (SendSS) by the Georgia Department of Public Health to increase the timeliness and effectiveness of active monitoring for close contacts of highly infectious diseases or travelers from impacted areas of highly infectious diseases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Explain the flexibility of the general monitoring system and the projected benefits for conducting active monitoring. 	<p>Jessica Pavlick, DrPH, MPH Hope Dishman, MPH</p>

Concurrent Sessions

May 4, 2023 Session 2B

SESSION 2B

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
ROUNDTABLES 2B 30 minutes 11:35 A.M. – 12:05 P.M. Room 2-3	Leveraging Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Education to Bolster Risk Reduction for Brain Health TABLE 1 <p>Risk reduction can be more comprehensively achieved by leveraging shared risk and protective factors in adult populations, to provide valuable prevention education. The Department of Public Health's Injury Prevention Program received a CDC Building Our Largest Dementia Infrastructure (BOLD) grant. The BOLD team will discuss including brain health/dementia risk reduction as part of existing educational outreach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Understand adult health shared risk and protective factors.» Incorporate brain health messaging into existing educational programs.» Demonstrate existing materials that compliment other mechanisms of injury/disease.	Elizabeth N. Head, MPH
	Empowerment Through Education: The Promise of Self-Advocacy for Reducing Maternal Health Disparities among Black Women TABLE 2 <p>Empowerment Through Education is an innovative program for perinatal Black women developed in collaboration with clinicians, community health workers, and clients. The virtual program integrates ACOG guidelines, BMMA's priorities for holistic maternal care, and the Black Birthing Bill of Rights to educate women on perinatal standards of care, empower women to expect and demand respectful care, and ultimately improve birth outcomes for Black women.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Describe the organic, iterative, and intentional process of developing a program aimed at empowering and educating under-resourced Black birthing women.	Kimberley Broomfield-Massey, PhD Asha Immanuelle Tosi Adeniyi-Miller Tracie Cooley Amy Gaynor Janina Daniels Catrina Williams April Reid Morgan Barnes Jemea Dorsey
	A Scoping Review of Technology Applications in Evidence-Based Programs for Child Maltreatment Pre- and Post-COVID-19 TABLE 3 <p>This presentation will review the use and effects of technology in evidence-based programs for child maltreatment in addressing sequelae among children pre- and post-COVID-19 onset.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Examine the use of technology in evidence-based programs pre/post COVID-19 onset in improving sequelae in children who have experienced child maltreatment.	Rushan Momin, BBA Sadhana Durbha, BA Vanessa Emery, MPH Ashwini Tiwari, PhD

Concurrent Sessions

Session 3A

May 4, 2023

SESSION 3A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. Room 8</p>	<p>Training Georgia Black Barbers to be Mental Health Advocates: Pilot Study of The Confess Project</p> <p>To meet the growing need for a culturally-appropriate mental health (MH) promotion program targeting Black men, The Confess Project (TCP) was created to train Black barbers to be MH advocates for their clients and communities. A mixed methods pilot study examined the feasibility and acceptability of TCP and assessed whether trainings held in Georgia resulted in changes in barber knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs regarding MH..</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the challenges, opportunities, and potential impact of training Black barbers to be mental health advocates for their clients and in their communities. 	<p>Natasha De Veause Brown, PhD, MPH</p> <p>Shannon Self-Brown, PhD Brian Barger, PhD Ashley Salmon, MPH Jamani Garner, MS Jamaica Hill, MS Ursula Berger</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. Room 9</p>	<p>Using an Academic Health Department Framework to Address Challenges and Extend Applied Learning Experiences to Promote Public Health Practice</p> <p>Using a collaborative model to address challenges at the local health department, the Macon-Bibb County Health Department formed an Academic Health Department partnership with the Mercer University, College of Health Professions, to provide applied learning experiences (A.L.E.) to address them. This discussion describes the Academic Health Department model and explores if other partnerships could use this model to promote public health practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Discuss the Academic Health Department model as a possibility for collaborating with an academic institution that trains future health professionals. » Describe AHD projects and applied learning experiences collaboratively developed to address public health challenges within the North Central Health District and Macon-Bibb County Health Department, 2012 to present. » Identify local public health practice challenges or concerns that may benefit from the assistance of an academic institution, in-person or remotely. 	<p>Faith Luke, MPH(c)</p> <p>Diana G. Ghebrezadik, BS Jimmie Smith, Jr., MD, MPH</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. Room 11</p>	<p>FCBOH Customer Service Ambassador Program: Re-Establishing Customer Service Excellence in Clinical and Non-Clinical Settings</p> <p>The Fulton County Board of Health initiated a quality improvement project focused on customer service. The Health District used this opportunity to re-establish our Customer Service Ambassador program at two pilot clinic locations. The program was designed to improve survey completion rates, engage employees to adopt service excellence principles, and establish a standard of practice to collect and monitor client feedback to enhance client experiences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Identify key strategies to enhance client experiences. 	<p>Felicia Mobley, PhD</p> <p>Debra Jennings Elaine Derrico</p>

Concurrent Sessions

May 4, 2023 Session 3A

SESSION 3A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. Room 4	Nutrition and Exercise Knowledge During Pregnancy: Public Health Implications High maternal mortality and poor maternal outcomes continue to challenge public health professionals. Exercise and better nutritional practices during pregnancy can combat this. This research measured exercise and nutritional knowledge during pregnancy among adults in Georgia. Health professionals could empower people through education on pregnancy behaviors to create a healthier Georgia. » Evaluate potential impact areas within exercise and nutritional domains during pregnancy that would contribute to positive changes in maternal/ infant outcomes of Georgia.	Ariel Alston, MPH Helen Bland, PhD Ana Palacios, MA, MD, PhD Evelyn Fagan
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. Room 10	Combating Staffing Shortages: Strategies for Hiring Spanish-Speaking Staff at Georgia’s HIV/AIDS Clinics and Health Departments Recent increases in HIV among Hispanic/Latino populations in Georgia prompted an investigation into barriers to care. When a lack of Spanish-speaking staff was named a top barrier, the Georgia Department of Public Health interviewed subject matter experts about strategies for increasing hiring. We share detailed best practices and memorable stories that clinics and health departments can learn from to curb staffing shortages. » Name at least four strategies for hiring more Spanish-speaking staff at clinics and health departments in Georgia.	Eleanor Garlow, MPH Jose Adame, MPH Pascale Wortley, MD, MPH Cherie Drenzek, DVM, MS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. Room 5	Development and Implementation of the Intergenerational Cancer Prevention Project through Breastfeeding Among African American Women African American women are at increased risk of breast cancer and have the lowest rates of breastfeeding initiation and duration. A peer education support program was developed after a qualitative needs assessment ascertaining women’s knowledge about breastfeeding and breast and ovarian cancer risk and methods for improving breastfeeding rates. We will present qualitative data, program development, and pilot implementation results. » Describe the importance of breastfeeding to reducing women’s cumulative cancer risk and identify populations most at risk of disparities.	Marlo Vernon, PhD, MPH Elnita Pollard, BS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. Room 7	Please Romaine Calm! A Multi-Disciplinary Investigation of a Cyclospora Outbreak Among Hospital Employees This presentation will examine the steps taken by local Epidemiology and Environmental Health staff to investigate a Cyclospora outbreak in a hospital setting. A review of the extensive partnerships with state public health Epidemiology and Laboratory as well as the Georgia Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. » Describe the steps of an investigation needed for a Cyclospora outbreak. » List partners necessary for a multi-agency investigation and describe each partner’s purpose. » Discuss the skills needed for Environmental Health to conduct on site inspections.	Jocelyn Love, MPH Amber Erickson, DrPH, MPH Hope Dishman, MPH Carla Coley, BS, REHS

Concurrent Sessions

Session 3A

May 4, 2023

SESSION 3A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
ROUNDTABLES 3A 30 minutes 2:00 - 2:30 P.M. Room 2-3	Replacing Stigma with Education: Opioid Epidemic in Public Health TABLE 1 This workshop was created to break down barriers within the community and public health professionals in regards to opioid addiction as well as create a best practice standard for reducing stigmas attached to addiction. This program will also provide a basic guideline for framework for reducing stigmas and reaching all ages. This workshop will also include strategies and education regarding programs that provide a database for overdoses. » Provide community education at any age range on Opioid Addiction as well as gain resources for community partnerships for harm reduction.	Beverly Brown
	Mixed Methods Approach to Evaluating a Community Based Interventions TABLE 2 What are the components of an effective evaluation of a public health campaign to increase health literacy and decrease vaccine hesitancy? The evaluation must capture both measurable outcomes as well as delivery of program, breadth, depth, and range of activities. In this session we will share findings and lessons learned from a mixed methods evaluation of a public health campaign that includes quantitative and qualitative components. » Identify components of an effective mixed methods evaluation of a public health initiative that includes both qualitative and qualitative components.	Janani Thapa, PhD Tatiana Y Woldman Heather Padilla, PhD Jacob Matta Grayson Waits Wanda Allen, PhD AntaSha Jones, PhD
	Addressing Rural Health Challenges in Georgia and Scotland: A Framework for International Collaboration TABLE 3 CONVERGE is a collaboration between four universities in Georgia and Scotland to improve rural health through education and workforce preparation. This qualitative study of individual interviews and focus groups identified the contributing factors and barriers towards international rural health collaboration. The findings may be helpful to others seeking to collaborate internationally on rural health or other wicked health challenges. » Describe a new framework for international collaboration to improve rural health that is being used by four universities in Georgia and Scotland.	Neil J. MacKinnon, BSc(Pharm.), MS (Pharm.), PhD, FCSHP, FNAP Preshit Ambade, DrPH Vanessa Emery Melissa Powell-Williams Puja Punukollu Merry Chen

Concurrent Sessions

May 4, 2023 Session 3B

SESSION 3B

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:40 - 3:10 P.M. Room 8	Promoting Health Equity and COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake Through Collaboration, Outreach, Education & Engagement The COVID-19 Health Equity Navigator Program encourages healthy changes in the community through outreach and engagement. The program was formed to address the needs of communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19 by focusing on populations that are underserved, at higher risk and rural communities. The program provides education on vaccine hesitancy, testing, and other resources and addresses challenges communities face in navigating the vaccine process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Define COVID-19 Health Equity program goals and objectives. » Identify potential community partners and stakeholders to advance equity in communities. » Discuss strategies to sustain partnerships. » Increase vaccination and testing and promote equity. 	Alicia Wright, MPH Litty Varghese, MPH Kristine Garner Karen Ebey-Tessendorf, MPH
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:40 - 3:10 P.M. Room 9	Keeping Families Covered: Understanding Implications of the Medicaid Unwinding and the Pathways to Coverage Implementation* In 2023, Georgia faces two unprecedented healthcare events: the Medicaid unwinding and a partial expansion of Medicaid through the Pathways to Coverage program. This interactive presentation will update attendees on seismic shifts in access to healthcare coverage over the next year and highlight implications for Georgia's public health system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Identify at least one way in which shifts in health care coverage during 2023 will impact the public health system in Georgia. <p><i>*Not eligible for CE</i></p>	C. Leah Chan, MPH Whitney Griggs, MPH
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:40 - 3:10 P.M. Room 11	Metrics Reporting - Power BI The metrics reporting will allow individuals to review electronic records for data entry quality to ensure timely record entry, completeness of the record, and accuracy of data. Individuals can compile Environmental Health reports and identify trends, emerging issues, forecasting resource needs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Have knowledge of the Power BI program. 	Crystal Hillman
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:40 - 3:10 P.M. Room 4	Improving Health Outcomes through Data Collection and Visualization: Building Healthy Rural Communities in Georgia The Public Health Accreditation Board defines community health needs assessment as a systematic examination of the health indicators of a given population that is designed with the purpose of identifying key problems and assets in a given community. In this presentation we will describe numerous health indicators, data sources and ways in which this information can be used to improve health outcomes and design community health interventions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Explain the steps, health indicators, and social determinants of health included in a community health needs assessment. 	Blerta Shehaj, MPH Linda Kimsey, PhD Bettye Apenteng, PhD Samuel Opoku, MBChB, PhD Charles Owens, MSA Angela Peden, MPH

Concurrent Sessions

Session 3B

May 4, 2023

SESSION 3B

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:40 – 3:10 P.M. Room 10</p>	<p>Innovations in STI Prevention: Mail-Order Condoms and At-Home HIV Testing Opportunities in Rural Georgia</p> <p>This presentation will provide an overview of non-traditional outreach methods used to increase the availability and accessibility of condoms and HIV test kits within the rural Southeast Health District. Presenters will discuss the successes, challenges, and opportunities of each program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe two non-clinical programs used to increase accessibility of condoms and at-home HIV testing in the Southeast Health District. » Discuss barriers and challenges in implementing new programs in a rural area. 	<p>Ingrid Mateo-Anderson, MPH, CHES Victoria Bennett, MPH, CHES Sa'Sha Moody, MPH, CHES Trevor Thomas, MPH</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:40 – 3:10 P.M. Room 5</p>	<p>The Lifecourse Perspective Theory as a Strategy for Improving Maternal Mortality in Georgia</p> <p>Maternal mortality and morbidity outcomes in Georgia are among the lowest in the United States, with women of color experiencing higher rates of morbidity and mortality compared to their White counterparts. Using the Lifecourse Theory Perspective/Theory, the presenters will share how interventions at various stages would improve maternal health outcomes, specifically reducing maternal mortality in Georgia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Explain the Lifecourse theory and current maternal health policy and its impact on maternal health outcomes in Georgia. 	<p>Joanne Chopak-Foss, PhD Alisha Riggins, MPH</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 30 minutes 2:40 – 3:10 P.M. Room 7</p>	<p>Southeastern Provider Knowledge Gaps in Rabies Education, Management, and Treatment</p> <p>Advanced practice providers work in settings where they may be required to treat patients who have experienced an animal bite. With rabies being nearly 100% fatal, it is important to understand whether providers feel they were adequately educated on rabies and whether they know how to treat and manage potential rabies exposures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Discuss whether advanced practice providers are adequately trained on how to manage potential rabies exposures. » Describe key areas of rabies knowledge that medical providers may need education on. 	<p>Joseph Addison, DHS, REHS, CHES Jeffrey Alexander, PhD, FAACVPR, ACSM-CEP</p>

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May 4, 2023

Session 3B

SESSION 3B

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
ROUNDTABLES 3B 30 minutes 2:40 - 3:10 P.M. Room 2-3	Colorectal Cancer Screening Behaviors Among Smoking and Non-Smoking Public Housing Residents in Georgia TABLE 1 This presentation will consider the differences in the frequencies of colorectal cancer screening, colonoscopy, in patients who smoke versus patients who do not smoke. The study was conducted in a predominately African American community as this population is at an increased risk for colorectal cancer. » Assess the need for increased colorectal screening in patients who smoke and/or use tobacco.	Shakirah Clarke, BS Marlo Vernon, PhD, MPH Ara Idun Samantha Jones, PhD Stephen Coughlin, PhD, MPH Martha Tingen, PhD, RN, FAAN
	All Things Connect: Youth and Young Adults Violence Prevention, A Public Health Approach TABLE 2 All forms of violence are connected. No matter the form violence takes, each is interconnected and are a result of the same causes. These causes are present at the individual, family, community, and societal levels. In this workshop, participants will explore the shared risk and protective factors of violence that affects youth, the prevention strategies and examine the impact of the trauma caused by violence. » Recognize shared risk and protective factors between multiple forms of violence including child abuse and neglect, gang violence and dating violence. » Compare prevention strategies that address multiple forms of violence affecting youth at the community and societal level. » Identify potential areas of collaboration within local communities that address the linkages between risk and protective factors and the likelihood of children, youth and families experiencing violence and negative health outcomes.	Nykita Howell, MPH, CP
	Housing Needs of Georgians with Developmental Disabilities: A Statewide Assessment of Opportunities and Barriers to Community Housing TABLE 3 Given the limited data available to adequately describe the prevalence or severity of housing issues that Georgians with developmental disabilities (DD) face, this community-based participatory research study included a disability advocate-led assessment of the housing opportunities and barriers in Georgia to inform policymakers, advocates, families, and partner organizations about recommendations for systemic changes to adequately address housing needs among this population. » Describe the opportunities and barriers to safe, affordable, and accessible housing for Georgians with DD, and actionable recommendations for key decision-makers.	Whitney Griggs, MPH Jessica Franks, MPH, CHES

Concurrent Sessions

Session 4A May 4, 2023

SESSION 4A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 3:25 – 3:55 P.M. Room 8	How Internal and External Collaborations Launched a System-wide Social Health Screening and Referral Initiative This presentation will describe how the Grady Health System utilized innovative internal and external collaboration strategies in the implementation of a system-wide social health screening and care coordination/referral process. » Identify effective collaboration strategies in the implementation of a system-wide initiative.	Chelsea Greer MEd, CHES®
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 3:25 – 3:55 P.M. Room 11	Evolving Roles and Responsibilities of Public Health How has public health changed over the past six years? Join this session to hear results of a study on the roles and responsibilities of the public health workforce and how COVID has impacted the evolving training needs of the workforce. » Understand the JTA process and how it reflects the current public health workforce.	Allison Foster, MBA, CAE
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 3:25 – 3:55 P.M. Room 4	Connecting and Collaborating with our Community Leaders and Individuals: Understanding Changes in Healthcare After Pandemics Promoting health and wellbeing by preventing disease, injury, and disability requires knowledge and innovation with community partners to continually strive for excellence. Serving our community means continual understanding and listening to needs. However, sustainable changes in healthcare after the pandemic requires public health leaders to engage with community leaders and individuals to listen, understand, and respond to the evolving changes of our communities. » Describe the needs and barriers faced by local communities seeking healthcare services and resources after a prolonged pandemic.	Kathy Linebarger, MSN, FNP, BC Kimberly Allen, PhD, RN
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 3:25 – 3:55 P.M. Room 10	A Collaborative Framework to Address the Deficiencies in Oral Healthcare Access in Public Health Departments Using a collaborative model to address oral healthcare access through public health practices and expand learning opportunities for dental hygiene and dental students, the Macon-Bibb County Health Department partnered with the Central Georgia Technical College and the Dental College of Georgia to address two of the U.S. Surgeon General's priorities for Oral Health- 1) Change Perceptions of Oral Health and 2) Increase Collaborations. » Discuss the collaborative process used to develop external rotations for dental hygiene and dental students at local public health practice sites in central Georgia. » Identify key variables for discussions and that should be incorporated in a memorandum of understanding between collaborative partners.	Jimmie Smith, Jr., MD, MPH Tarem E. Hendricks, DMD Ketarya Hunt Bass, MPH, MCHES Kelly Scruggs, RDH

Concurrent Sessions

May 4, 2023 Session 4A

SESSION 4A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 3:25 – 3:55 P.M. Room 5	Associations Between Child Maltreatment Intake Call Rates and COVID-19 Vaccinations and Outcomes in Georgia The goal of this study is to examine associations between child maltreatment (CM) intake call rates in Georgia and COVID-19 health outcomes (vaccination, infection, and mortality rates). Results will examine trends during the pandemic and future implications for interventions among this high-risk population. » Discuss the COVID-19 behaviors among high-risk parents for child maltreatment.	Sadhana Durbha, BA Ashwini Tiwari, PhD Nisha Kashyap, BS Justin Moore, PhD
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 3:25 – 3:55 P.M. Room 7	Increases in Fatal Drug Overdoses Among Adolescents in Georgia Adolescent deaths in Georgia involving fentanyl increased by 800% from 2019 to 2020. These deaths were examined, and it was found that many of the decedents encountered professionals that had an opportunity to educate them about the dangers of fentanyl. These opportunities for intervention can be used to inform targeted education and prevention efforts that can lead to a decrease in fentanyl-involved deaths among adolescents. » Describe the circumstances surrounding fatal drug overdoses among adolescents in GA.	Haley Hirsh, MPH Rebecca Brownlee Kathleen Kassa, MPH
WORKSHOP 70 minutes 3:25 – 4:35 P.M. Room 9	Review of 2023 Georgia Legislative Session* Participants will be guided through a slide presentation listing legislative initiatives impacting public health practice and parameters that passed through the Georgia General Assembly during the 2023 legislative session. Bills that were voted down or will be carried over to the following year will be covered as well, as will state budget increases/decreases. » Discuss newly passed state laws impacting the practice of public health. *Not eligible for CE	Scott Maxwell, ABJ

Concurrent Sessions

Session 4A

May 4, 2023

SESSION 4A

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
ROUNDTABLES 4A 30 minutes 3:25 - 3:55 P.M. Room 2-3	STDs: An Epidemic Amidst a Pandemic- Whitfield County, Georgia, 2017-2022 TABLE 1 STD case rates have risen for over a decade; how has COVID-19 affected this epidemic? The Hispanic population in Whitfield County has suffered a 319% syphilis case rate increase since the start of the pandemic. Chlamydia case rates have doubled, and gonorrhea case rates have quadrupled during the pandemic. Improving healthcare access among the Hispanic population is crucial to bring health equity to North Georgia. » Discuss the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the burden of disease of STDs including Syphilis, Gonorrhea, and Chlamydia, particularly among Hispanic communities.	Bridget Walsh, MPH
	Oral Health Management for the HIV/AIDS Patient TABLE 2 This presentation will increase public health practitioners' knowledge in the following competency area: Chronic disease management and prevention. At the end of this presentation, learners will be able to explain the overall health benefits related to receiving oral health care, and the risks associated with failure to manage oral conditions and/or disease. HIV/AIDS-Positive individuals are medically-complex and their health status can change rapidly. Individuals with HIV/AIDS are susceptible to oral and dental problems that can delay their progress in managing their HIV. Introducing a Dental Case Manager (DCM) to the clinic-setting can be the missing link between the Healthcare Provider and Dental Provider. The DCM's goal is to be a patient advocate and a resource to managing the patient's disease symptoms and conditions. » Recognize possible indicators of oral manifestations related to HIV/AIDS, and therefore increase the likelihood of managing their disease.	Lindsey Sapp, CDA Mia Redick
	Smokers' Willingness to Get the COVID-19 Vaccine and Key Factors Associated with Their Views on Getting the Vaccine TABLE 3 In this presentation I will highlight findings from qualitative interviews conducted with smokers living in rural South Georgia about their views on the COVID-19 vaccines, their vaccination status, the social influences and community norms around the vaccines, and the barriers and facilitators around getting vaccinated. I will discuss ways that this type of information can inform strategies to address vaccine hesitancy and increase vaccine confidence in this vulnerable population. » Discuss the social influences, community norms and the barriers and facilitators that may impact vaccine acceptance or hesitancy among smokers in rural South Georgia communities.	Helen Harber Singer, MPH Shadé O. Owolabi, MS Michelle C. Kegler, DrPH, MPH Katherine Reilly Lucja T Bundy, MA-EdM

Concurrent Sessions

May 4, 2023 Session 4B

SESSION 4B

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 4:05 - 4:35 P.M. Room 8	Opioid Overdose and Substance Misuse Harm Reduction Attendees will gain or expand their knowledge as it relates to the opioid epidemic and substance misuse. Specific pathways to recovery will be of primary focus as they relate to at-risk populations within the community. A community systems approach toward harm reduction mortality and morbidity will be presented in this session. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Articulate specific vulnerable subpopulations for substance misuse and overdose within your service delivery area. » Summarize 3-5 pathways to recovery and/or harm reduction strategies for at-risk populations. » Identify 1-2 harm reduction partnership opportunities within your service delivery area. 	William A. Mase, DrPH, MPH, MA Bret Frazier, MBA Catherine Tootle, CPS-AD
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 4:05 - 4:35 P.M. Room 11	Older Driver Safety in the State of Georgia – Today’s Picture and Programs to Improve Tomorrow An overview of Georgia Traffic Safety Facts: Older drivers, describing areas of concern and the programmatic efforts of the 55+ Driver Safety Program to improve safe driving for aging Georgians. The 55+ Driver Safety Program is engaged in data driven interventions that make transportation safer for all Georgians. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Identify the areas of concern in older driver safety, resources, and what programmatic efforts are underway to improve those areas. 	Denise Yeager Jim Kelly Patricia Daniel Lila Ralston
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 4:05 - 4:35 P.M. Room 4	Georgia Mental Health Provider Access: Assessing the Need for New Providers Mental health access is a rising public health issue that needs addressing to improve the lives of all. Both state and county leaders frequently utilize mental health outcomes to identify counties in need of additional funding for mental healthcare programs. How effective are these measures at identifying counties in need? Join us to examine associations between mental health outcomes and provider ratios across Georgia. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe why leaders and politicians must use more than one mental health outcome measure to identify Georgia counties in need of more mental healthcare access. 	Aubrey R.D. Kehoe, MPH Brandon Wilcher, DrPH Kristie Waterfield, DrPH Jing Kersey, DrPH Desjane Smith
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 4:05 - 4:35 P.M. Room 10	GRIN: A Health Equity-Centered Oral Health Training for Community Health Workers The Guardians Receiving Information through Navigators (GRIN) training for community health workers (CHWs) aimed to increase CHWs’ knowledge, self-efficacy, and intentions to conduct oral health care outreach to low-resource Black guardians. This presentation will discuss oral health disparities, the GRIN training program evaluation outcomes, and the impact of CHW training programs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Explain the oral health disparities between Black children and children of other races and how the GRIN training program impacts oral health equity. 	Morgan L. Fleming, MPH Dexter L. Cooper, MPH Kristen D. Holtz, PhD Andrew Simkus, MSc Nicole I. Wanty, MA
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 4:05 - 4:35 P.M. Room 5	Intimate Partner Violence and Maternal Mental Health: An Analysis of the Georgia 2016-2020 PRAMS Data In a bid to create a healthy Georgia, this study delves into a grey area with the Georgia PRAMS 2016-2020 to understand the risk factors for maternal mental health. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Identify the risk factors of maternal mental health of pregnant women who experience intimate partner violence before and during pregnancy. 	Tobi F. Oloyede Sarah Sejoro, MS Marieke Van Willigen, PhD

Concurrent Sessions

Session 4B

May 4, 2023

SESSION 4B

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 30 minutes 4:05 - 4:35 P.M. Room 7	Are Comorbid Obesity and Type 2 Diabetes Priorities in Federally-Funded Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials? Prostate cancer (PCa) in African American (AA) men is more likely to be adversely affected if obesity and/or type 2 diabetes (T2D) are concurrently diagnosed. To determine if interventions conducted in federally funded PCa clinical trials controlled for T2D and obesity we examined these clinical trials and found that those that included AA men did not use methods to control for obesity and T2D. » Analyze the research related inequities present in U.S. federally funded prostate cancer clinical research trials as they relate to the unique health disparities African American endure when comorbidly diagnosed with prostate cancer and obesity and/or type 2 diabetes.	Desiree Shantai Smith, MPH David Ombengi, PharmD Lolade Ayedun, BS Diana G. Ghebrezadik, BS Faith E. Luke, BS JaNee L. Demery, MPH Chris Thomas Scoggins, MPH Dawood H. Sultan, PhD
ROUNDTABLES 4B 30 minutes 4:05 - 4:35 P.M. Room 2-3	Tetracycline Resistant Bacteria Occurrence Before and After Treating Wastewater Effluents with Algal Turf Scrubbers TABLE 1 Many communities in rural Georgia depend on fish as their major resource. Contaminants coming from WWTP may bioaccumulate in the fish tissues and impact human health. Because they can be hotspots for antibiotic resistant bacteria. Algal treatment has been shown to be an effective method to remove excessive nutrients from the WWTPs. An algal turf scrubber (ATS) is a sustainable treatment method to reduce antibiotic resistant bacteria » Evaluate ATS performance to understand factors that optimize productivity and emerging contaminant removal while minimizing treatment costs.	Victoria Clower, MPH Asli Aslan, PhD Anthony Siccardi, PhD
	An Outbreak of Salmonella Enteritidis: A Brief Epidemiological and Environmental Health Investigation, Georgia 2022 TABLE 2 This presentation details the collaborative efforts of epidemiologists and environmental health specialists in the investigation and public health intervention of a restaurant-based Salmonella outbreak. Through these combined efforts, public health intervention was executed which effectively ended the outbreak. » Demonstrate the needs for joint efforts between Epidemiology and Environmental health teams to provide public health intervention to local food outlets. Through these efforts, Epidemiology and Environmental Health assisted with ensuring food outlets adhered to the guidelines and food safety protocols implemented by their local health department..	Alexia Lewis, MPH Anna Genetti, MPH Marcie Mitchell Hope Dishman, MPH Lana Jones, MPH Sasha Smith, MPH Brandon Leftwich, MPH, DRPH Lynn Paxton, MD, MPH Dr. Cherie Drenezk, DVM, MS
	The Importance of Local Level Data During the 2022 Mpox Outbreak TABLE 3 The Importance of Local Level Data During the 2022 Mpox Outbreak will highlight how vital the use of local level data is in responding to emerging public health threats such as the mpox outbreak. In response to community requests, our jurisdiction focused on providing this data in a public facing report using data visualization to better understand disease burden and target mitigation efforts. » Explain the importance of publishing local-level data and data visualization as a tool in public health response.	Mallory Hazell, MPH Sasha Smith, MPH Jessica Lopes da Rosa-Spiegler, PhD, MPH David P. Holland, MD, MHS Lynn Paxton, MD, MPH

Concurrent Sessions

May 5, 2023 Session 5

SESSION 5

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 60 minutes 9:45 - 10:45 A.M. Room 8	Prioritizing Brain Health: Building Infrastructure and Community Partnerships to Improve Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Care Protecting and improving brain health is critical to managing the care of individuals and families living with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD). A robust infrastructure and strong community partnerships are essential to promoting brain health and improving outcomes among individuals and families with ADRD. Thus, our community-based project focused on identifying, collaborating, and strengthening community partnerships and developing a rural health network. » Describe how a rural county health department developed community partnerships and a rural health network for brain health and Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD).	Jennifer F. Harrison, MSN, FNP-C Connie Colston, RN
WORKSHOP 60 minutes 9:45 - 10:45 A.M. Room 9	Creating a Healthy Georgia: Conversations and Collaborations for Change This presentation will provide the audience with details on the use of Ryan White HIV/AIDS funds, Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) funds, and income generated from the 340B Drug Pricing Program are used as part of a Treatment as Prevention model to keep clients with HIV engaged in care, thus contributing to viral load suppression and ultimately reducing the spread of HIV. » Explore the system of client assistance supports used to reduce known barriers to care for clients with HIV in rural Georgia.	Sandra Jenkins, EdD Letitia Sweet, BS
WORKSHOP 60 minutes 9:45 - 10:45 A.M. Room 11	Youth Violence Prevention: A Call to Action for Public Health Violence and particularly youth violence is an urgent public health problem causing significant mortality and persistent physical, emotional, economic and multi-generational consequences. This session will discuss a public health approach to violence prevention, including research and resources from the CDC Division of Violence Prevention and their 2020-2024 strategic priorities. » Apply public health principles to the prevention of violence and integrate prevention strategies proven to reduce violence into public health practice.	Laura F. Searcy MN, APRN, PPCNP-BC
WORKSHOP 60 minutes 9:45 - 10:45 A.M. Room 4	Region IV Public Health Training Center: A Partner in Workforce Development The Region IV Public Health Training Center offers trainings that help PH professionals build core skills and competencies to address PH challenges. This presentation will explore the role of the R-IV PHTC in meeting training needs in Georgia and the southeast. The session will have an interactive component to allow participants to identify and discuss their own professional training needs. » Describe the Region IV Public Health Training Center's role in providing training needed to address current and emerging public health challenges. » Identify professional training needs. » Locate trainings and resources available to meet identified training needs.	Melissa (Moose) Alperin, EdD, MPH, MCHES Laura Lloyd, MPH, MCHES

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Session 5 May 5, 2023

SESSION 5

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>WORKSHOP 60 minutes 9:45 - 10:45 A.M. Room 10</p>	<p>Connecting and Collaborating with our Local Health Departments to Better Serve Our Communities</p> <p>Applying the best knowledge available to improve outcomes and using innovative strategies is how public health strives for excellence in promoting health and wellbeing thus preventing disease. Local entities in the Georgia Department of Public Health (GA DPH) often have content experts and innovative, creative strategies to improve healthcare, resources, and services needed within a community. The clinical managers of each county within our district participated in an exchange program allowing each manager to observe and discuss changes and additions to improve the quality of care provided to clients within public health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the barriers and strategies to improve quality care provided in health departments from an operational perspective. 	<p>Rebecca Kershner, MSN, WHNP-BC Shalonna Stewart, MSN, FNP-C Kimberly Allen, PhD, RN</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 60 minutes 9:45 - 10:45 A.M. Room 5</p>	<p>Barriers to Diagnosing Tuberculosis and Performing Contact Investigations Amongst the Uninsured and Non-English Speaking populations</p> <p>Using a case study, this presentation will take a retrospective look at the complexities of serving uninsured, non-English speaking tuberculosis patients. This case was a mother of two, undocumented, and a self-pay patient, which delayed her care and diagnosis. The contact investigation was extensive and complicated, requiring flexibility of both staff and contacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Identify and list some of the many complexities in TB diagnosis, treatment, and contact investigations amongst uninsured, non-English speaking populations in Southeast Georgia. 	<p>Grace Greene, MPH, BSN, RN</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 60 minutes 9:45 - 10:45 A.M. Room 7</p>	<p>Health Equity to Address the Health of All Georgians – Georgia Department of Public Health Epidemiology Section</p> <p>Health equity is achieved when everyone has a fair opportunity to attain their full potential for health and well-being. This presentation will discuss the importance of health equity, and provide the steps taken and lessons learned thus far by the Georgia Department of Public Health Epi Section to establish health equity as the foundation for all aspects of EPI work to address the underlying/ root causes of HE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe the process by which GA DPH EPI identified and began systematically working on health equity related activities. 	<p>Walaa Elbedewy MBCh, MPH, MPA John Olmstead, MPH Ashley E. Moore, MPH, MS Ami P. Gandhi, MPH Amanda Feldpausch, DVM, MPH Jessica Pavlick, DrPH, MPH Melissa Tobin-D'Angelo, MD, MPH Cherie L. Drenzek, DVM, MS</p>

Concurrent Sessions

May 5, 2023 Session 6

SESSION 6

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
WORKSHOP 60 minutes 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Room 8	Productive Partnerships: Nurturing Collaborations to Attain Meaningful and Best Practice Programming – Examples from Rural Georgia. Community programs can contain vibrant networks and wide-ranging, meaningful engagement opportunities. Harnessing those opportunities requires thoughtful and intentional approaches. Collaboration begins with partner perspective, then incorporates evidence-based program building, and variation at local levels. Cooperative efforts engage various partnership levels to expand organizational capacity, reach, and funding potential. Thought-partnership, support, and guidance can increase capacity and paths to quality care and enhance synergy. » Discuss methods for expanding, supporting, and guiding partnerships for evidence based best practice programming.	April-Spring May Wood, MA Anita M. Reina, PhD Hannah Huff, BS Jenay M. Beer, PhD Lisa M. Renzi-Hammond, PhD
WORKSHOP 60 minutes 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Room 9	Innovations in Cross Sector Funding of New and Renovated Facilities in a Georgia Public Health District Responsibility for health department facilities in Georgia, lies with county governments. Boards of health are challenged by eroding infrastructure, poor maintenance, and inability to make changes. North Central Health District's Special Projects office collaborated with thirteen county governments and found funding for renovation/building projects of thirteen of its fourteen public health clinics materially affecting the client experience. » Collaborate and engage county governments in obtaining facility resources.	Morris Hutcheson, CPA
WORKSHOP 60 minutes 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Room 4	The Learning Agenda 2.0: An Approach to Facilitate Systems Change Existing PH workforce development models focus largely on improving individual competency, but individual competency alone cannot address current complex challenges occurring at the individual, organizational, community, and systems levels. The PH Learning Agenda for Systems Change (PHLASC) helps organizations use transformative learning as a driver for systems change. This workshop will introduce the PHLASC and provide an opportunity to practice using the Learning Agenda Toolkit. » Describe the Learning Agenda Toolkit and its pilot test evaluation findings. » Demonstrate the use of the Learning Agenda Toolkit.	Laura Lloyd, MPH, MCHES Melissa (Moose) Alperin, EdD, MPH, MCHES
WORKSHOP 60 minutes 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Room 10	Using Telemedicine and Telehealth to Extend Services in HIV Care During the COVID-19 pandemic, aspects of HIV care became much more complicated. Social distancing and isolation became barriers for immunocompromised patients and COVID diagnosis and exposure resulted in mandatory isolation causing staffing shortages. By using Telemedicine/Telehealth the Ryan White Centers in the Southeast Health District were able to maintain quality care and viral suppression with clients able to see providers, case managers and nutrition professionals. » Describe Telehealth interventions for HIV care.	Jeffery Dockery, MD, DABFM, FAAFP, AAHIVMS Heather Peebles, MPH, RD, LD

Concurrent Sessions

Session 6

May 5, 2023

SESSION 6

TIME PLACE	TITLE DESCRIPTIONS OBJECTIVES	LEAD PRESENTER & CO-AUTHORS
<p>WORKSHOP 60 minutes</p> <p>11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Room 5</p>	<p>School Quality and COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy: Linkages, Potential Consequences, and Future Questions</p> <p>Through examining the relationship between educational quality and vaccine hesitancy in southern Georgia using spatial clustering, ordinary least squares regression, and spatial regression, we discovered a positive relationship between educational quality and vaccine hesitancy. This program will discuss policy implications in addition to study limitations and future research to improve education and health for all rural Georgians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Investigate the relationship between vaccine hesitancy and school quality, recommend interventions for school leaders, be able to evaluate vaccine hesitancy in their own communities, and verify findings. 	<p>Bridget Hamilton, BSN, MPH Ingrid Luffman PhD Vallire Hooper PhD, RN, CPAN, FASPAN, FAAN</p>
<p>WORKSHOP 60 minutes</p> <p>11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Room 7</p>	<p>Syphilis Staging and Getting It Wrong—Trends Across the SEHD</p> <p>Syphilis testing, lab interpretation, staging, and treatment can present significant challenges to providers and public health professionals alike. In this presentation we discuss syphilis epidemiology, pathogenesis and clinical manifestations, as well as trends and partner services issues across the Southeast Health District that illustrate appropriate staging and how infected individuals meet and connect through interactive scenarios.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Describe syphilis trends and partner services issues in rural Southeast Georgia as well as differentiate the various stages of syphilis. 	<p>Victoria Bennett, MPH, CHES Trevor Thomas, MPH Ingrid Mateo-Anderson, MPH, CHES Elizabeth Melson Sa'sha Moody, MPH, CHES</p>

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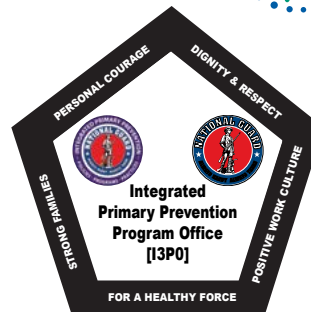
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Awards

AWARD TITLE	NAME
Sellers-McCroan Award	Rachel Franklin, MPH, CIC Dr. Christopher Gulledege Savannah Hardin, MPH, CIC
Fred Agel Governance Award	Lisa Cupid, JD, MPA
Administration Outstanding Service Award	Valerie Prince, BA
Applied Epidemiologist of the Year Award	Jocelyn Love, MPH
Stancliff Boone Communicable Disease Specialist Award	Frank Grier, MPH
Maggie Kline Nursing Award	Joy Langely, RN, BSN
Lillian D. Wald Public Health Nursing Award	Teresa Hritz, RN
Ruth B. Freeman Nursing Award for Population Health Practice	Pepa Koleva, MSN, APRN, FNP-C
Barfield Nursing Award	Kimberly Allen, PhD, RN
Georgia Dental Award of Merit	Tarem Hendricks, DMD
Jules S. Terry Memorial Award	Eleanor Garlow, MPH
Al Dohany Community Service Award	Lisa Crossman, MS
Larry W. Miller Health Information Specialist Award	Unsona Tate, MBA
Environmental Health Specialist of the Year Award	Terry Ferrell, BS, RS
Environmental Health Innovations Award	Tim Callahan, MPH
J. Patrick O’Neal Safety and Health Preparedness Award	Shalonna Stewart, MSN, FNP-C
Academic Section Award	Raymona Lawrence, DrPH, MPH, CDE®
Nutrition Outstanding Leadership Award	Kayla Mathis, MS
Rosemarie B. Newman Nutrition Extra Mile Award	Kenya Owens, MEd, RDN, LDN, CLC
2023 GPHA Honorary Member	Lawton Davis, MD



Please join us

Friday, May 5th at 8:00 a.m.

in the Ballroom for the premier of the documentary film
***“Journey Toward Equity: Creating a Sustainable Model to Improve Health Outcomes,
 Economic Access and Opportunity in Rural Communities”***

Our sincere gratitude to the 11 rural counties, and hundreds of coalition members, public health officials and key partners who co-created and continue to sustain the work of the Two Georgias Initiative. We are so proud to be able to tell your stories and honor your work.



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Award Biographies

SELLERS-MCCROAN AWARD

Rachel Franklin, MPH, CIC
Dr. Christopher Gullede, and
Savannah Hardin, MPH, CIC



Rachel Franklin is the Director of Epidemiology & Infectious Disease at Cobb & Douglas Public Health (CDPH). In this role, Rachel oversees the district's Acute Disease Epidemiology, STI Epidemiology and Tuberculosis programs, which are responsible for all notifiable disease surveillance activities. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, she has been leading the case investigation and contact tracing response for the district. Rachel also serves on several local and state public health committees and work groups, including CDPH's Leadership, Emergency Preparedness (DHEART) and accreditation teams; Georgia Department of Public Health's BioWatch/Health Advisory Committee, Hepatitis Elimination Committee, and Healthcare Associated Infections Advisory Committee; and is currently the Chair of Georgia Public Health Association's Epidemiology Section. Rachel received her Master of Public Health degree in Epidemiology/ International Health & Global Studies at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr. Christopher Gullede completed pathology residency training at the University of North Carolina Hospital in Chapel Hill and his fellowship training in forensic pathology at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Chapel Hill, NC. He then practiced forensic pathology in Charlotte, NC prior to joining the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in Decatur, GA. Dr. Gullede was hired by Cobb County as the Chief Medical Examiner starting March of 2015.

Savannah Hardin graduated from Young Harris College in 2019 with Bachelor of Science degrees in Biology

and Chemistry. She then attended and graduated from Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health in 2021 with a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology and a certificate in Genetics and Molecular Epidemiology. She has research experience in catalytic chemistry, analytic chemistry, metabolomics, genetics, and epidemiology. She has been working with Georgia Department of Public Health for nearly 3 years, with 2 of those years as a Cobb & Douglas Public Health Epidemiologist stationed at the Cobb County Medical Examiner's Office to conduct CSTE grant-funded work on post-mortem respiratory virus and COVID-19 testing on decedents.

FRED AGEL GOVERNANCE AWARD

Lisa Cupid, JD, MPA



Lisa Cupid is the Chairwoman of Cobb County's Board of Commissioners. She has served on the Cobb Board of Commissioners since 2013. Some of her accomplishments include expanding transit service, improving citizen education and engagement, and advocating for enhanced

public safety measures, including using license plate readers, additional body cameras, and implementing a public safety nuisance abatement program. Cupid is known as a strong advocate for the fair treatment of all of Cobb's residents and stakeholders regardless of geographic, demographic, or economic standing.

In her role as Chairwoman, Cupid plans to be "all-in" to help ensure Cobb maintains its strength as a premiere county without leaving areas or populations of the county behind. This is through a foundation of Integrity, Inclusiveness, Intelligent decision-making, Innovation and Investing in Cobb's residents, infrastructure and future.

Cupid is an attorney and former mediator, policy analyst and manufacturing process engineer. She resides in Smyrna with her two children and husband, who is also an attorney, law partner, and former electrical engineer. Both are graduates of Georgia Tech and Georgia State Law and are followers of the Christian faith.

Award Biographies

ADMINISTRATION OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Valerie Prince, BA



Valerie Prince joined Cobb & Douglas Public Health (CDPH) in 2013. She serves as the District Administrator and Chief Financial Officer for CDPH; an agency responsible for the health and wellbeing of over 900,000 residents in two counties. In this role she

leads the financial and administrative functions for the district which includes the creation and management of an operating budget of over \$40,000,000 annually, as well as the oversight of approximately 35 employees.

Valerie is a proud veteran of the United States Army, serving four years in Military Intelligence.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Georgia (UGA), is a graduate of UGA's Carl Vinson Institute of Government Management Development Program and completed the Certified Local Government Finance Officers Level I & II training. Valerie is a member of the Cobb Chamber of Commerce Leadership Cobb 2018 class and a graduate of the Government Finance Officer Association Leadership Academy in 2021.

Valerie and her husband Ronnie have three children between them. Valerie enjoys reading, bike-riding, and all things Star Wars.

APPLIED EPIDEMIOLOGIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

Jocelyn Love, MPH



California-born, Jocelyn moved with her mom to North Carolina. After high school, she earned an Associates degree from Caldwell Community College. Having developed an interest in infectious diseases, she attended East Tennessee State University (ETSU) and earned a BS in microbiology. She met her

husband while attending ETSU. She discovered an interest in epidemiology and earned her MPH at ETSU. The COVID-19 pandemic occurred while she attended graduate school and was the topic of her field study. In graduate school she gave birth to a perfect daughter, Emma. After earning her MPH, she was employed by the North Central Health District in Macon. Her interests are video games (especially those that require strategy and thought) and cooking. She is a home body and loves to spend time with her family. Her goals are currently to become an epi2, possibly working outbreaks at the state level. She is very goal-oriented and loves lists and spreadsheets to attain her goals.

STANCLIFF BOONE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SPECIALIST AWARD

Frank Grier, MPH



Frank Grier currently serves as our Communicable Disease Specialist Supervisor, where he is responsible for the coordination and management of the communicable disease program. He graduated from Armstrong Atlantic State University with his undergraduate degree in

public health, and continued on to complete his master's

Award Biographies

degree in public health. Frank has worked with East Central Health district since 2014. Prior to working as a communicable Disease specialist, Frank worked with the GCAPP (Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential) program, as the Teen health educator. Frank has over 15 years of experience working within public health. Driven by a desire to facilitate change and motivate healthy lifestyles, he has a passion for public health and its values. Frank has a wife and three beautiful boys. He enjoys his free time working out and playing with his children. Frank desires to continue working to aid the community however possible, to ensure well-being for all.

MAGGIE KLINE NURSING AWARD

Joy Langley, RN, BSN



Joy Langley is the County Nurse Manager of Glascock, Lincoln, and Warren counties in the East Central Health District (6). For most of her life, she lived in Athens, GA (Go Dawgs!) and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of Georgia in 1998. Ms. Langley moved to the

Augusta area in 2000 to attend the Medical College of Georgia's School of Nursing. During her 20 plus years of working in the nursing field, she has worn many hats and has worked in many settings including the ICU, ER, Telemetry, Burn Unit, and Home Health.

Ms. Langley and her husband Keith are about to celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary. They have 3 teenagers, Matthew, Katie, and Jack, who certainly keep things interesting around the house. For peace and quiet, she can be found on the couch reading a good book. Something that most people don't know about her is that she is a childhood cancer survivor! Ms. Langley was diagnosed at the age of two with retinoblastoma and has no doubt that all that time spent in hospitals and doctors' offices at such an early age lead her to her eventual professional calling - Nursing.

LILLIAN D. WALD PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING AWARD

Teresa Hritz, RN



Teresa Hritz, RN, serves as the South Health District Infectious Disease Program Coordinator and has 28 years of experience as a Public Health Nurse, specifically with 26 years in Infectious Diseases.

In her role as the Infectious Disease Coordinator, Ms. Hritz manages the Sexually

Transmitted Infection Program, Tuberculosis Program, Ryan White Program and oversees the management of the HIV Prevention and HOPWA Programs. In addition, she is an accomplished grant writer and has 15 years of experience writing the annual Ryan White Part B, Ryan White Part C, and supplemental grants. Prior to joining the South Health District, Ms. Hritz worked as a Registered Nurse at Colquitt Regional Medical Center Birthing Center.

She earned her Associate Degree in Nursing from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in 1994.'

RUTH B. FREEMAN NURSING AWARD FOR POPULATION HEALTH PRACTICE

Pepa Koleva, MSN, APRN, FNP-C



Pepa Koleva is an APRN at Cobb & Douglas Public Health in Marietta. She has practiced as an RN since graduating from Kennesaw State University in 2013. Since joining CDPH in 2014, Pepa earned her Masters in Nursing and is a licensed Family Nurse Practitioner. She shares expertise, leading her team and

treating clients in the Adult Health Clinic. Pepa hails from Bulgaria and shares her culture with teammates by preparing beautiful, delicious sweets. Pepa lives in Acworth, GA with her husband and two children.

Award Biographies

BARFIELD NURSING AWARD

Kimberly Allen, PhD, RN



Kimberly Allen completed her Associates Degree in Nursing in 2003, her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing in 2005, her Master's Degree in Nursing with a specialty in Adult Acute and Critical Care, her

Doctorate of Philosophy in 2012, and her post-doctoral fellowship in 2014.

Dr. Allen has experience in emergency and intensive care of adults and pediatrics, research, disaster response, and education among all levels. She began her career in public health in 2020 in Children's Medical Services, transitioned to the district mobile team, and now serves as the Special Projects Coordinator for East Central Health District 6.

GEORGIA DENTAL AWARD OF MERIT

Tarem Hendricks, DMD



Dr. Tarem Hendricks was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico to Theodore and Angelina Hendricks. As the youngest of seven, he grew up in Trenton, New Jersey. He graduated from the University of Maryland with a bachelor's degree in Economics. He attended Fort Valley State University for his post-baccalaureate

studies before attending Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry. Upon graduating in 2001, he worked as an associate in private and corporate offices.

He built his own private practice, East West Family Dental, in Austell, GA, and operated it for 11 years.

He joined the Department of Public Health in Houston County in 2017.

He serves as Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. He is an active member and has served in several leadership positions of the Georgia Dental Society, National Dental Society, Student National Dental Association, and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. He also serves as an adjunct professor at the Dental College of Georgia.

He loves to read, play golf, and travel. He is married to Chantel and has two daughters, Aubri and Zora.

JULES S. TERRY MEMORIAL AWARD

Eleanor Garlow, MPH



Eleanor (Nellie) Garlow is the HIV Core Surveillance Epidemiologist for the Georgia Department of Public Health. She received her Master of Public Health degree in Epidemiology from Emory University and her Bachelor of Arts in Public Health degree from Franklin & Marshall College.

Eleanor has served in the public health field for the past eight years, working in areas from infectious disease to maternal-child health to substance use disorder. In her current role at Georgia DPH, she monitors emerging trends in new HIV cases and tracks care measurements among the 60,000 residents living with HIV/AIDS in Georgia. She currently collaborates with federal & local partners on projects aimed at understanding barriers & facilitators to HIV care among Hispanic/Latino populations. Eleanor also runs an internship program for MPH students, speaks at universities about careers in state epidemiology, and is an active member of the Council for State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Prior to joining Georgia DPH, she worked for a healthcare policy research firm where she managed multi-million-dollar federal contracts & conducted program evaluations. In 2021, Eleanor received the "Heart of Emory" award for her work in expanding voter access, an honor given to six students at the university who created a legacy through their social justice leadership.

Award Biographies

AL DOHANY COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Lisa Crossman, MS



Lisa has been with CDPH since 1997 and is responsible for developing partnerships and resources to fulfill the CDPH strategic plan and the Cobb2020 and Live Healthy Douglas community health improvement plans. She and her team serve the community through the agency's Community Health programs, Opioid Response,

Government Relations, Strategic Planning, Performance Management, and Development Office. Lisa and the CDPH staff have been on the front lines since February 2020 working 24/7 dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, through testing, disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, contact tracing, community education and vaccinations. Lisa is also the Executive Director of the CDPH nonprofit affiliate, the Cobb & Douglas Health Foundation.

Lisa has been helping residents reach optimal health through individual wellness, physical rehabilitation, and health policy efforts since 1982. She established several hospital and corporate-based wellness and rehabilitation centers in Florida and Georgia over the past 35+ years, including WellStar's Health Place, where she served as the inaugural Director from 1985-1997.

Lisa is very active in the community and in addition to her work, she serves on the Cobb Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Douglas Chamber of Commerce, the Cobb County Safety Village Foundation, Kiwanis Club of Marietta, Leadership Cobb, Leadership Douglas, The Earl and Rachel Smith Strand Theatre, Georgia Metropolitan Dance Theatre and North Metro Church. She is married to Christopher, and they have two adult daughters.

LARRY W. MILLER HEALTH INFORMATION SPECIALIST AWARD

Unsona Tate, MBA



Unsona Tate is constantly working towards deepening her knowledge of the ever-evolving field of information technology and stays informed of the latest IT news to help proactively manage technologies to best serve the needs of DPH. Joining the DPH team in 2009, Unsona has managed several projects, deployed several applications, supported several database

applications with the Department of Public Health, reviewed business operation to implement improved processes to make the day-to-day operation more efficient. She was chosen to participate on the Request for Review committee for the Department of Public Health to provide feedback and recommendations as it relates to the new electronic health record for the State of Georgia. Unsona has been a highly dependable member of the team, going above and beyond to help during sheltering for Hurricane Matthew, Irma, and Dorian and throughout DPH's COVID-19 response. She is currently supporting the training of another District in learning the current Electronic Health Record for the District.

When not at the office, Unsona enjoys spending time with family and friends, and shopping.

Award Biographies

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

Terry Ferrell, BS, RS



Terry began his public health career at the Glynn County Health Department in 2005, primarily as a food safety inspector. He has served as the Environmental Health manager for Camden County since 2008. As supervisor of a small county office, Terry is directly involved with all program areas ranging from

restaurant inspections to monitoring on-site sewage management systems to emergency preparedness.

Terry received a BS in Biology from the University of North Florida. In 2011, he completed a one-year fellowship through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Environmental Public Health Leadership Institute (EPHLI). He is a Registered Sanitarian through the Georgia Board of Registered Environmental Health Professionals and the Georgia Environmental Health Association.

Terry lives in St. Mary's with his wife Cheryl and two sons, Joshua age 15 and Benjamin age 11. He enjoys spending time with his family and helping with Boy Scouts and his church.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INNOVATIONS AWARD

Tim Callahan, MPH



Tim Callahan has worked over 30 years in various roles of Environmental Health, including seven years with the U.S. Army, some time in industrial hygiene in the private sector, and 12 years as an Environmental Health Specialist in Hall County, Georgia. The last 15 years have been in pursuit of a

statewide data system that supports all environmental health field operations and general policy and resource decisions. He completed his fellowship in the CDC's Environmental Public Health Leadership Institute in 2009 and earned his MPH from Augusta University. Tim is also an active member of GPHA, GEHA, and NEHA where he co-chairs the Informatics Committee. Tim is an occasional woodworker and model rocket enthusiast and can be found doing rocket surgery in his free time.

J. PATRICK O'NEAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AWARD

Shalonna Stewart, MSN, FNP-C



Shalonna Stewart was born in Germany to a military family and spent a good amount of her childhood in Europe and Asia. She was afforded the opportunity to travel to many countries while being stationed overseas. She returned to the United States and graduated high school in Fayetteville, NC. She

attended a North Carolina Central University and graduated with a Bachelor of Nursing in 2006. She started her nursing career on a general pediatric floor at UNC Chapel Hill and later moved to Atlanta where she worked at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA) on a surgical and implant floor.

She met her husband a year later and moved to Augusta, Georgia. During this time, she has completed her Master of Science in Nursing at Frontier Nursing University in 2014. She started working with the Department of Public Health in 2016 as an Advance Practice Public Health Nurse. She became the clinical lead at the Richmond County South Augusta Clinic within 6 months. She then applied and became the Prenatal Nurse Practitioner. She helped start the Centering Pregnancy Program at the Richmond County Health Department. In the fall 2019, she became the LARC (Long-Acting Reversible Coordinator) and Prenatal Coordinator. She provided LARC services all over district 6 and help trained more nurse practitioners to provide the same services. She continued to see

Award Biographies

patients in the prenatal program. In 2020, she assisted with the COVID efforts by managing multiple mass testing site. In December of 2021 she was a part of the management team who set up a large drive-thru vaccination site. She currently holds the title of the Assistant District Nursing Director and Women Health/STD Coordinator.

ACADEMIC SECTION AWARD

Raymona Lawrence, DrPH, MPH, CDE®



Dr. Raymona H. Lawrence is an Associate Professor of Health Policy & Community Health in the Jiann Ping Hsu College of Public Health at Georgia Southern University.

Her main research focus is community engagement in rural, hard to reach populations-especially

those with Sickle Cell Disease. Dr. Lawrence has been an investigator on numerous rural health and sickle cell disease-related grants.

Dr. Lawrence is currently a dual principal investigator with Dr. Ify Osunkwo on a \$9.7 million Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) grant entitled, Comparative effectiveness of peer mentoring versus structured education based transition programming for the management of care transitions in emerging adults with sickle cell disease.

Dr. Lawrence is committed to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and holds the distinction of Certified Diversity Executive®. She also serves as the Director of Research for the Sickle Cell Community Consortium and as the Editor in Chief of the Journal of the Georgia Public Health Association.

NUTRITION OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD

Kayla Mathis, MS



Kayla Mathis is a WIC Strategic Planner in the North Central Health District 5-2.

She strives to serve underserved communities in a way that makes a difference.

In February, 2022, Kayla earned her Master of Science in Human and Social Services degree. In November, 2022, she was awarded the Quality Improvement Innovator of the Quarter for her implementation of a WIC mass-messaging system in the North Central Health District.

ROSEMARIE B. NEWMAN NUTRITION EXTRA MILE AWARD

Kenya Owens, MEd, RDN, LDN, CLC



To go the extra mile, a person must walk with a purpose. Kenya McCant Owens has found her purpose in nutrition with the Georgia Department of Public Health. A graduate of Fort Valley State University, step one began in 1997 as a nutritionist with the WIC Program in Macon, Georgia.

After completing the Georgia Department of Public Health's Dietetic Internship Program, Mrs. Owens stepped into the role as a Registered Dietitian. She has served as a dietitian with the Ryan White Clinic, Babies Can't Wait and Children's Medical Services. Working with individuals with special needs is a passion for her. It has taught her that dietitians in public health can not only provide WIC services, but other services in public health as well. The experience and knowledge that she gained has helped her serve children, youth and families for over 25 years.

Award Biographies

Another purposeful step came in October 2012. After hearing about a national program that would benefit breastfeeding mothers, Mrs. Owens and her director started North Central Health District's first breastfeeding peer counselor program. Under Mrs. Owens's leadership, North Central Health District has won the Loving Support Award of Excellence twice.

Currently, Mrs. Owens serves as Nutrition Manager and Breastfeeding Coordinator with North Central Health District. Mrs. Owens tenets are leadership, partnership, and mentorship.

2023 GPHA HONORARY MEMBER

Dr. Lawton Davis



Lawton C. Davis, M.D., practiced internal medicine for 13 years and worked full-time as an emergency room physician before becoming part of public health in 1998 as District Health Director for the South Central Health District.

In 2016, he moved to Savannah to lead the Coastal Health District before retiring in 2022.

Dr. Davis served on the boards of multiple organizations throughout his career, including GPHA. He was GPHA President in 2020 at the start of the COVID pandemic. Although the conference had to be canceled that year, Dr. Davis helped spearhead the virtual conference in 2021 which was a huge success and helped reinvigorate the organization after that first devastating year of the pandemic. He did this while continuing to work tirelessly as a District Health Director, serving as a COVID subject matter expert for community leaders, boards of health, and the public in the Coastal Health District.

Dr. Davis earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Furman University and a medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia. He and his wife, Diane, live in Savannah and have three grown children.

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