Public Health Happenings

National Public Health Week 2015: April 6-12, 2015
Theme: Healthiest Nation 2030

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FELLOWSHIP FUND MATCH EXTENDED
The MPH Alumni Board recently established the Joan Segal Fellowship Fund for Public Health to provide scholarship support for fellowship(s) for master’s or PhD students enrolled full or part-time in the Public Health Programs within the School of Medicine’s Department of Community Medicine and Health Care, with special consideration given to students with financial need and a high level of academic achievement.

Joan Segal’s donation initiated the fund and she agreed to match donations up to $25,000 through 2014. The UConn Foundation and the MPH Alumni Board have raised $11,000 to date.

Early this month, Joan generously offered to extend the match another year to encourage more support for the fund. Fundraising initiatives include contributions through the MPH reunion this spring, the White Coat Gala sponsorships, and private individual support. For more information or to
HEALTHCARE FELLOWSHIP
The Capital Area Health Consortium is seeking applications for the T. Stewart Hamilton, M.D. Fellowship in Healthcare Management. The fellowship is available to individuals engaged in post-graduate study in the field of healthcare such as management, medicine, nursing, and public health. Awards range from $1,000 to $2,000. Applicants must be employed full time in one of the seven member hospitals of the Capital Area Health Consortium. Employees of for-profit subsidiaries are not eligible to apply. Applications will be accepted no later than March 23, 2015. Additional information and application forms are available at UConn Health Dept. of Human Resources, the Consortium web site (www.cahc.org) or by calling Lory Gasper, Capital Area Health Consortium at 860-676-1110.

APHA FELLOWSHIP IN GOVERNMENT
The American Public Health Association (APHA) has announced a call for applications for the 2015-16 APHA Public Health Fellowship in Government. This is the eighth year APHA is offering this fellowship, which has been described as an “amazing” and “phenomenal” experience by previous fellows. Candidates must have strong public health credentials and be interested in spending one year in Washington, DC working in a congressional office on legislative and policy issues related to health, the environment or other public health concerns.

The fellowship will begin in September 2015 and continue through August 2016. This opportunity provides a unique learning experience and demonstrates the value and need for basing policy on sound science. Throughout the year, the fellow will gain practical knowledge of government and how the public policy process works.

All candidates must:
1. be an APHA member.
2. have a graduate degree in a public health or a related discipline.
3. have five years’ experience as a public health professional beyond graduate or medical training.

APHA will review applications and complete interviews of candidates in April 2015, and select one fellow who will begin the fellowship in September 2015. The fellow will receive a stipend of $60,000, health benefits, and travel expenses for assignment-related activities. The fellowship is available to APHA members only. For more information, please visit APHA’s website (www.apha.org) or contact Susan Polan, susan.polan@apha.org.

HEALTH AND EQUITY FELLOWSHIP
Human Impact Partners (HIP) is now accepting applications for its Health and Equity Fellowship Program. From June 2015 – May of 2016, HIP will host one Fellow focused on building his or her leadership and skills in the fields of Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Healthy Public Policy (HPP)/Health in All Policies (HiAP).

This full-time fellowship, based out of HIP’s office in Oakland, CA, includes training in the practice of Health Impact Assessment, and in the application of other approaches to integrate health and equity into public policy and planning decisions. Fellows will be provided with ongoing education and training throughout the program, as well as opportunities to interact and network with leaders from the fields of HIA, HPP/HiAP and beyond who have succeeded in encouraging the consideration of health and equity in decision-making processes.

Following an orientation to HIP’s work, the Fellow will initiate and lead his or her own project using Health Impact Assessment, Healthy Public Policy/Health in All Policies or another approach aimed to advance the consideration of health and equity amongst decision makers and other diverse stakeholders. The Fellow-led project will be conducted under the supervision and guidance of a mentor on HIP’s staff of experienced professionals. HIP staff will work with the selected Fellow to refine proposed ideas for the project. In addition to this project, the Fellow will also participate in the conduct of one of HIP’s HIA or HPP/HiAP projects as a part of a team of HIP staff.

The Fellow will be hired as an employee of HIP and will receive a salary of $60,000, as well as full health benefits. Travel expenses for assignment-related activities and professional development opportunities will also be covered.

Human Impact Partners seeks talented, self-motivated individuals committed to health and
equity for all who also meet the following requirements:

- Completion of a master’s degree, or equivalent experience;
- At least 2 years of relevant job experience;
- Strong research skills; and
- Strong writing skills.

Applicants should also demonstrate an interest in a career that aims to focus on addressing health and equity, and in HIP’s values of equity, community, justice, and inter-connectedness; sustained engagement with communities that are underrepresented in decision-making processes; the ability to work well with diverse groups; and strong personal initiative and motivation. Other experiences that would be an asset include experience conducting participatory research and community organizing, and mastery of at least one language commonly spoken in the U.S. in addition to English.

For more information about HIP and the fellowship, go to www.humanimpact.org. You can also learn more about the fellowship at an informational webinar on Thursday, February 12 at 10:00 a.m. PST. Register in advance for the webinar at: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/480015254830865665. The deadline to submit an application is 5:00 p.m. PST on Friday March 13, 2015. Completed applications should be emailed to hr@humanimpact.org.

CALL FOR ALUMNI NOMINATIONS
The achievements of UConn graduates positively impact the public health of our state and communities. So much is accomplished as we face a continuous list of new challenges. Please take a minute to reflect on those public health successes and the people that made them happen. At the center of these achievements there is often a UConn alumnus/alumna or a faculty member whose dedication and expertise contributed to public health in a meaningful way. The upcoming 2015 MPH Celebration/Reunion event will honor the first recipient of the MPH Alumni/Faculty Award.

This newly created annual honor was established by the MPH Alumni Board to recognize UConn Master of Public Health Alumni and/or Faculty who exemplify the following characteristics, as well as demonstrate active involvement and long-term support of the school and communities:

- Recognition by peers for significant contributions to the field of public health
- Loyalty and dedication to mission of the program and alumni
- Leadership in areas of public health including applied public health practice, academia, and research
- Professional and community leadership and service
- Exceptional representative and advocate for the UConn Master of Public Health program
- Recognition for continued contributions to the program

Nominees can come from areas of public health on the state (or federal) and local levels as well as from nonprofit, private sector or other organizations that contribute to public health.

To make a nomination for consideration by the awards committee, please send name and supporting documentation to Laureen Powers at ljpowers@comcast.net by Monday, February 9, 2015. Self-nominations are also encouraged.

The recipients will be honored on April 11, 2015 at the MPH Celebration/Reunion at Max Downtown, Hartford, CT. For more information on the Celebration/Reunion, please click here.

APHA CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
The American Public Health Association’s call for abstracts for the 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition is now open. The 2015 Annual Meeting will take place in Chicago on October 31-November 4. Abstracts can be submitted online between now and the second week of February. Deadlines vary from February 9 to February 13 depending on the Section, SPIG, Caucus or Forum to which you submit. Double check the individual deadlines for the component to which you wish to submit your abstract.

APHA welcomes abstracts related to all areas of public health, including those that coincide with the 2015 theme Health in All Policies. Detailed information on submissions can be found on the call for abstracts website. To view abstracts presented at the 2014 Annual Meeting and from previous years, go to our Online Program.

Visit the APHA website for more information about the 2015 APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition.
STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
UConn Health has a part-time student employment opportunity with the Connecticut Area Health Education Center (AHEC) at UConn Health for a minimum of two years. The position is mainly data entry, but also will support public health/community outreach programming. Examples of duties include "cleaning" and reformatting of data, creating and updating data spreadsheets, providing follow-up of data tracking initiatives, and providing general office support.
Requirements for the position include:
- Superior attention to detail
- Good communication skills
- Ability to work independently
- Experience in data manipulation (especially Excel)
- Advanced problem solving skills
- Ability to verify student status in a formal accredited program

To apply, go to the UConn Health Center Candidate Self-Service (CSS) online application (https://jobs.uchc.edu/CSS_External/CSSPage_JobDetail.ASP?T=201501300923148). The application deadline is February 11.

ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITY
Are you interested in policy and advocacy? The Connecticut Public Health Association’s Advocacy Committee is looking for students to serve on its Advocacy Committee during the spring 2015 state legislative session. If you are interested in serving on the committee or taking a leadership position, please contact Colleen O’Connor at caoconnor24@hotmail.com. Alumni and faculty are also invited to participate.

RESEARCH POSITIONS IN CT
Community Health Center's (CHC’s) Weitzman Institute in Middletown is seeking to fill the following positions.

Research Assistant (2 positions)
The research assistants will focus on the recruitment and enrollment of patients in clinical studies, data collection and management, and participant case management for the CHC primary care sites involved in the program. Requirements for the position include:

- Bachelor’s degree in a related discipline
- Minimum two years’ public health research experience
- Proven experience supporting research projects
- Experience with grant submission, reports, and updates
- Prior experience interviewing research subjects and obtaining informed consent
- Experience with IRB submission
- Knowledge of electronic health record systems
- Ability to follow procedures and protocols consistently
- Flexibility and attention to detail
- Demonstrated proficiency in MS Office and internet-related applications
- Current/valid driver's license

For further details and to apply online, go to https://jobs-chc1.icims.com/jobs/2605/research-assistant/job.

Research Associate/Biostatistician
The Research Associate/Biostatistician performs various types of statistical analyses for the entire research portfolio of the Weitzman Institute. The position will be responsible for assisting in the management of existing grant funded projects, preparing new grants and manuscripts as well as specific research tasks including tracking grant progress, data collection, informed consent, IRB applications and updates, data analysis, report running, coordination and other tasks as assigned.

Requirements for the position are:

- Bachelor’s degree in statistics or biostatistics (Master’s degree preferred)
- Proficient to expert knowledge of SPSS
- Ability to create, manipulate, and analyze large data sets
- Advanced knowledge of a variety of statistical techniques, including advanced regression analysis and hierarchical linear modeling (experience with psychometrics helpful but not required)
- Willingness to learn new statistical methods
- Proven experience supporting research projects
- Familiarity with standard concepts, practices, and procedures related to public
HEALTH EDUCATION POSITION
The American Lung Association of the Northeast (ALANE) seeks an Associate of Health Education to work out of the East Hartford, CT location. The person to hold this position will provide health education programs to health care professionals related to lung cancer, COPD, asthma, and tobacco cessation. The Associate will also be an active participant in the ALANE Health Education Team, as well as in local community coalitions and committees that relate to the association’s mission.

Applicants should have the following education and experience:

- Bachelor’s degree in Health Education required, Master’s degree and/or CHES preferred. Equivalent combination of education and experience considered.
- Minimum 2 years of health education experience
- Experience in the health-related non-profit sector
- Experience with committee/coalition coordination and facilitation
- Experience working with volunteers
- Experience with accreditation processes for continuing education (CEUs & CMEs)
- Grant writing and budget management experience helpful
- Experience working with the media.

Required skills include:

- Excellent organizational, interpersonal and written communication skills
- Self-directed and independent and at the same time be a supportive and contributing member of the Health Education Team
- Strategic thinker that is able to multi-task and attend to details
- Excellent presentation skills
- Grant writing and meeting facilitation skills
- Proficient in commonly used computer programs (Word, Excel, Power Point, etc.)

Interested candidates must submit cover letter with salary requirements and resume via email to jobs@lungne.org. Only candidates who submit cover letter and salary requirements will be considered.

COMMUNITY HEALTH OUTREACH COORDINATOR
The Wheeler Clinic in Bristol has an opening for a full-time Community Health Outreach Coordinator, who is charged with engaging the Southington community in services with a focus on mental health and substance abuse recovery and providing education, outreach and support to the community as well as individuals and families served.

Qualifications include:

- BA/BS degree plus 3 years of related experience or MA/MS degree plus 1 year of related experience in community organizing, social work, prevention/health promotion or other social service field
- Ability to work on a team to ensure program goals are met, and to communicate effectively verbally and in writing
- Committed to personal and program growth
- Ability to manage time effectively
- Ability to represent the Clinic in a professional manner

Essential duties and responsibilities are:

- Participate in the planning, coordination, and implementation of community engagement, education, outreach and support activities
designed to enhance access to behavioral health and primary care (including prevention, health promotion, and wellness training events and programs; behavioral health screening events; recovery support services; mutual support groups; and referrals to other community resources.

- Facilitate community training events and programs as appropriate.
- Convene and provide staff support to a standing care coalition comprised of community stakeholders including behavioral health and social service providers, municipal leaders, public health officials, educators, prevention experts, community and faith-based groups, and others.
- Strengthen existing collaborations and establish new partnerships and referral sources in the community.
- Plan and participate in community events, committees, planning initiatives and other activities to enhance community and individual behavioral health outcomes; and represent Wheeler Health & Wellness in the community as needed.
- Create and disseminate an electronic and print resource directory for behavioral health services available to the Southington community.
- Coordinate access to resources, including referral to specialty services and assistance in accessing insurance coverage and pharmacy patient assistance programs, and advocate for individuals and families as needed.
- Maintain records of coordination of care, outreach, client support and/or case management activities for reporting and tracking purposes and complete all documentation for client and program records in accordance with documentation timelines and in compliance with Medicaid, licensing and other regulatory requirements/agencies as defined by program.
- Support daily program-specific operational functions as required. May transport clients to appointments or linkages as appropriate.
- Attend and be prepared for scheduled supervision, team meetings, staff meetings or rounds; seek additional supervision or consultation as needed and follow through with supervisory directives.
- Demonstrate clear, concise, professional writing and oral reporting skills.
- Work effectively as a member of a multi-disciplinary team by communicating appropriately and positively with colleagues, families, internal and external service providers, administrative staff and actively prepare for and participate in team meetings.
- Continue to develop knowledge and understanding about the history, traditions, values, family systems, and artistic expression of groups served as well as use appropriate methodological approaches, skills, and techniques that reflect an understanding of culture.

To get further details and apply online, go to https://www.healthcaresource.com/wheelerclinic/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.jobDetails&template=ds_job_details.cfm&cJobId=100056

USDA FOREIGN SERVICE POSITIONS
The US Drug Administration (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) is now accepting applications from US citizens interested in becoming Foreign Service Officers. For more information about the Foreign Service selection process and life in the Foreign Service, a Guide is available on the FAS website at http://www.fas.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2015-01/2015_guide_to_the_fs_selection_process.pdf. For the vacancy announcement, go to https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/393116300. Applications are currently being accepted; the closing date is February 17th. For more information, contact Kathy Besser at 612-336-3352 or Kathy.L.Besser@aphis.usda.gov.

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT
There is an opening for a Research Assistant (RA) to work on a maternal health project with the “Anthropology of Public Health in South Asia’” Research Group at the Centre for Modern
Indian Studies at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen in Germany. The RA is expected to help implement and manage a qualitative study of Maternal and Neonatal Health (MNH) outcomes in relation to quality of and access to Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC). The RA will be based at the University of Göttingen, but required to conduct extensive fieldwork in the Ladakh region of the Indian Himalaya on MNH indicators and outcomes in two adjacent districts. The RA will be responsible for managing the research project and team in Ladakh, as well as teaching and administration duties at the Centre for Modern Indian Studies. The Centre is seeking a self-motivated MPH student who can work with minimal supervision in the field with laypeople seeking health services and healthcare staff/officials in rural India.

The successful candidate will have the following qualifications:

- An MPH (Masters in Public Health) with a concentration in RH, SRH, or Socio-Medical Sciences from USA, Europe, or India (Medical Anthropology background also valid)
- Experience working in India, ideally in MNCH, RH, social medicine, or at the health systems level
- Solid qualitative skills; some quantitative or data analysis skills (e.g. SPSS, SAS, STATA or NVivo); and health systems research skills
- Teaching assistant experience
- Excellent verbal and written English; Hindi or Ladakhi preferred (German not required)
- Ability to work at high altitudes (above 3000 meters) in remote, rural areas, requiring travel on foot and flexibility.

Please send a cover letter and CV (as one PDF document) by 15 March 2015 to Professor Kim Gutschow, e-mail: kim.gutschow@sowi.uni-goettingen.de. If you have any questions, please contact Professor Gutschow (phone: 0551-39-20246, e-mail: kim.gutschow@sowi.uni-goettingen.de. For more information see Professor Kim Gutschow’s website: http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/184980.html.

**PART-TIME DATA COORDINATOR**
The Coalition for New Britain’s Children is seeking a part-time Data/Accountability Coordinator.

The Coordinator will inventory community data, assist the Coalition in its use of the Results Scorecard web-based data system, gather and compile raw data to create dashboards and reports, build and maintain strategic relationships, and assist the partnership in using data to improve the way it serves children and youth.

Qualifications and competencies include:

- Advanced degree (preferred) with 5 or more years of relevant work experience in research, qualitative and quantitative data management and analysis, preferably in the education and/or social sector
- Knowledge in education and children and youth well-being, ages 0 to 21 preferred
- Knowledge of New Britain or similar urban setting preferred; experience with multicultural/multilingual communities a plus
- Able to work with minimal supervision
- Ability to work flexible hours and attend on-site meetings
- Ability to maintain timelines and plan objectives
- Exceptional communication skills; able to communicate effectively and articulately in writing and orally
- Solid management skills enhancing relations between and among external community partners
- Advanced evaluation knowledge and experience with current data analysis, techniques and technology (SPSS, SAS, STATA), with demonstrated success in qualitative and quantitative data collection and methods
- Ability to understand and use the Results Based Accountability (RBA) process (web-based Results Scorecard a plus)
- Ability to work with and train partners to develop a comprehensive community accountability system that incorporates data across the “cradle to career” continuum.

The deadline for application is Friday, February 20. To apply, submit resume and cover letter to David Radcliffe, Coalition for New Britain’s Youth, david@coalitionnbc.org or at 74A Vine Street, New Britain, CT 06052. For further details, go to: www.ctclearinghouse.org/Files/customer-files/1274-Coalitiondatastaff.pdf, www.ctclearinghouse.org/files/customer-files/1274-Coalitiondatastaff.pdf.
PART-TIME PROJECT COORDINATOR
The Southwest Regional Mental Health Board, Inc. seeks a dynamic project coordinator with excellent management, social marketing, and communication skills for the Young Adult E-Engagement project (“YA Project”). This project’s goal is to support teens and young people in their search for mental wellness through a website and associated social media providing information and advice, videos, and peer support. The position is part-time (15 hours per week) through the end of September 2015 and is based in Norwalk, CT.

Duties include:
- Organizing and participating in project meetings with steering committee and advisory group
- Coordinating work and communications with project staff and contractors
- Communicating with and presenting to colleges and other target markets to promote the website
- Planning and managing social marketing campaigns aimed at increasing traffic to the website
- Identifying ways to ensure optimization of the website, including writing and editing
- Serving as an active social media moderator and member of the discussion forum
- Preparing monthly reports
- Performing additional communication and/or administrative activities, as needed

Qualifications for the position are:
- Demonstrated organizational/project coordination skills
- Demonstrated success with social marketing (increase traffic, page rankings)
- Ability to set priorities and meet deadlines
- Strong writing and interpersonal skills
- Experience and/or education in young adult behavioral health strongly preferred
- Own transportation – occasional travel to other parts of the state

To view the website, go to www.TurningPointCT.org. To apply for the position, email resume and cover letter to Margaret Watt at mwatt@swrmhb.org (no phone calls please).

MINORITY HEALTH WEBCAST
A broadcast of the 15th Annual William T. Small, Jr. Keynote Lecture, being held in conjunction with the 36th Annual Minority Health Conference presented by the Minority Student Caucus, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, will be shown at the Connecticut Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, on Friday, February 27, 2015, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Founded in 1977, the Minority Health Conference aims to raise awareness of health disparities and mobilize students, academics, researchers, and community members to take action for change. This year’s theme will focus on research and interventions that focus on the impact of socioeconomic factors on minority health, with a particular focus on health disparities in the aftermath of the recession.

If you would like to attend this video conference in Hartford at DPH, please RSVP to Angela Jimenez at angela.jimenez@ct.gov by February 24. The broadcast also will be recorded. Register to view the webcast from your computer at http://goo.gl/forms/0jOAYpVjZB (by February 18 to receive the test link).

GLOBAL HEALTH CONFERENCE
Unite for Sight, a nonprofit global health delivery organization, will present the 12th Annual Global Health and Innovations Conference at Yale University on March 28-29, 2015. This conference features 250 speakers on global health and social entrepreneurship, with 2,200 professionals and students from all 50 states and more than 55 countries in attendance. To see the program, register, or apply to present at the conference, to http://www.uniteforsight.org/conference/.

NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK 2015
This year, National Public Health Week will be celebrated from April 6 through April 12, 2015. The theme, Healthiest Nation 2030, focuses on creative ways everyone can assist in making the United States the Healthiest Nation in One Generation. The American Public Health Association (APHA) is challenging all public health advocates to sign a pledge to help create the Healthiest Nation in One Generation: “Through our collective efforts and leadership, we can make a difference and inspire others to join us in taking small steps toward our shared goal.” The pledge, accessed online at the National Public Health Week Website (http://www.nphw.org/2015), demonstrates commitment to healthier choices and lifestyles.
In the coming weeks, the National Public Health Week website will also feature factsheets, downloadable materials and a toolkit. The 2015 toolkit will offer concrete steps and a checklist for anyone wanting to attend a National Public Health Week event, host an event, organize on-campus activities or help promote National Public Health Week in his or her community. The toolkit also explains how public health advocates can partner with health departments, community groups, and other organizations to maximize their impact.

Visit the Public Health Week website shown above to sign the pledge, to download the 2015 brochure, and to receive updates. And check the website often as many resources will become available in the coming weeks.

TRAIN-CT WEBSITE
The Public Health Foundation’s “TrainingFinder Real-time Affiliate Integrated Network” (TRAIN) is a free, online learning management system designed for members of the public health workforce. The Connecticut Department of Public Health is a state affiliate and has access to its own unique Connecticut portal. Membership is free and open, but registration is required. See the TRAIN-CT website for registration and membership details: https://ct.train.org/.

TRAIN-CT makes available a broad range of free courses to anyone who has registered. The following “courses,” which address important topics of health equity and the social determinants of health, are currently available via TRAIN-CT and are recommended:


For both of these offerings, each episode is listed as a separate course on TRAIN-CT. Search for the film series by typing the course title into the TRAIN-CT “search box.”

STUDENT NEWS
Doctoral student Ailton Coleman has passed the Certified in Public Health (CPH) exam (his eligibility to sit for the exam was based on a prior MPH degree from Arizona) and he invites UConn students scheduled to take the exam in February to contact him if they have any questions.

ALUMNI NEWS
Patricia Beckenhaupt RN, MS, MPH (1999), Public Health Analyst, Immunization Services Division, Vaccine Supply & Assurance Branch of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is planning on retiring and returning to Connecticut in late spring. We look forward to welcoming her back to the state and the public health community here.

Betty Joseph, RRT, MBA, MPH (2010) has been appointed Clinical Instructor at Naugatuck Valley Community College.

David Mack, JD/MPH (2000), has left the private practice of law and joined Hartford HealthCare as Deputy General Counsel. Prior to his new position he was a partner at Shipman & Goodwin LLP.

Prakrity Silwal, MPH (2012) has a new position as Advocate for Women Empowerment and Human Justice, a nonprofit organization in Newton Highlands, MA.

Katy Zito, MPH (2006), has taken a new position as Strategic Policy Lead for Government Programs at Humana, which is headquartered in Louisville. She expects to be moving to Kentucky in June.

Our sincere condolences to Marilyn Glenn, MPH (1993). We were so saddened to hear about the recent death of her daughter.