

PUBLIC HEALTH HAPPENINGS

UCONN Program in Applied Public Health Sciences November, 2018

“I never get tired of being grateful”

Our September 20th community forum (Hurricane Maria – 365 days and Counting) proved to be informative and inspirational. Panelists representing the Family Life Education Center, El Instituto, UCONN, the State Office of Emergency Services, the Capitol Region Education Council and several regional NGOs (Catholic Charities, Junta for Progressive Action, Salvation Army and Hispanic Health Council) joined with several Merelys Torres Garcia, Ashlyn Gonzalez and Dalianys Mercado Vargas to discuss the challenges of persons displaced around Connecticut in the hurricane’s aftermath. Evidence of coordinated effort to address the immediate needs of these persons and strategies for improving responses to future environmental challenges were presented. We thank everyone for their generous contributions of time, talent and emotion to the program.

As a follow-up to the forum, our program faculty, students and community partners are undertaking a qualitative pilot study of the impact of resettlement on the physical, mental, social and economic well-being of individuals and households. Under leadership of Candida Flores, Executive Director of the Family Life Education Center, a cohort of community members will work with MPH students to design and implement qualitative assessment tools to explore the impact of resettlement on employment, healthcare, housing, social support, food security, public safety and domestic violence, substance use, child development, transportation, culture and community cohesion.

CPHA, APHA and AUCD Annual Meetings

The Connecticut Public Health Association is holding its annual meeting November 8, 2018 at the Sheraton Hotel Hartford South (100 Capital Blvd, Rocky Hill CT). This year’s conference focus, “Epidemics” will bring together leaders of Connecticut’s practice community. Our program will be well represented. Dr. Fawaitih Abouh will be speaking about SINA, her service project focused Arabic-speaking communities around Greater New Britain. Michal Klau-Stevens MSW, MPH(c) will be presenting on “Implementation of One Key Question Pregnancy Intention Screening into Seven Women and Children’s Residential Recovery Programs”. Daniel Davidson, MSW, MPH will present on “Improving HIV Prevention and Treatment Outcomes in CT and NE Through Evaluation and Research Partnerships”. Ashika Brinkley, MPH PhD will present on “Knowledge is Not enough; Work Stress in Community Health Workers”. Michael Pascucilla, MPH, Mark Cooper MPH and David Knauf MPH will present on “Microbial Source Tracking (MST) – An Analysis of Three CT Watersheds on Long Island Sound”. Cyndi Billian Stern MPH and Michael Pascucilla, MPH will participate in a panel discussion on “Speed Mentoring: Insights and Inroads to Kickstart your Career”. Tara Lutz, MPH, PhD has been appointed to the CPHA Board of Directors.

The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) holds its annual meeting (November 11-14, Washington DC). Dr. Mary Beth Bruder, is hosting pre-conference summit on early childhood: Developing Leadership Competencies for Early Childhood Workforce Development and Co-hosting meeting of Early Childhood Special Interest Group Dr. Tara Lutz is Co-hosting a meeting of the Disability Studies Special Interest Group (co-chair of group), presenting a poster (An Outcome Evaluation Study of the UConn online graduate Certificate of Interdisciplinary Disability Studies in Public Health) and participating in a panel discussion (Strategies for Providing Disability and Health Education across Varied Audiences and Settings). Katie Straka, MPH, PhD(c) is presenting a poster (Addressing Health and Healthcare Access Disparities

through Disability Health Needs Assessments: Review and Comparison with Recommendations for Implementation).

Professor Judy Lewis and Carolina Vicens-Cardona will be presenting a poster at the APHA Meeting (San Diego CA, November 10-14) on the Social Factors Influencing Family Planning Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices in the Ngäbe Population in Bocas del Toro, Panama. Professor Lewis with Dr. Bette Gebrien also will be presenting a poster on Breast Cancer Screening and Treatment in Rural Haiti.

Public Health as Social Action

The Trump Administration is considering a change in the definition and application of the term "Public Charge". The current definition reads "an individual who is likely to become primarily dependent on the government for subsistence, as demonstrated by either the receipt of public cash assistance for income maintenance or institutionalization for long-term care at government expense." The Secretary of Homeland Security proposed that immigrants who not "primarily dependent" on the government but receive food stamps (SNAP), WIC benefits, subsidized housing (Section 8) and/or Medicaid insurance will be deemed Public Charges and be ineligible to become permanent legal residents (i.e., green card holders). As such, this change will be unfairly force some to choose between needed health and human services and legal immigration status in the United States. A public comment period is underway online until December 10, 2018 at <https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=USCIS-2010-0012-0001>. Consider submitting a comment on your view of ethical and practical implications of this proposal.

Faculty News

We are sad to announce the death of Dr. Howard Bailit, Professor Emeritus. Howard's contributions to our program were numerous, as were his scholarly accomplishments on topics of health policy and economics. He was, since 1984, a member of the Institute of Medicine National Academy of Sciences, author of more than 200 papers, recipient of \$43 million in grants and a member of many national committees and editorial boards.

Professor Judy Lewis is being recognized at this year's APHA Annual Meeting (San Diego, CA November 10-14). She is recipient of The Carl Taylor Lifetime Achievement Award in International Health for her visionary leadership in shaping the direction of International Health within APHA. Her nomination for the award acknowledged her lifetime dedication to advancing global maternal and child health "through respectful, long-term interdisciplinary partnerships that address local (and locally identified) community health issues and priorities."

"Judy's approach has always centered on active listening and learning first. She believes that if we understand community members' perspective and beliefs, we can work with them to improve health.... She was doing 'service learning' before it had a working name."

Like the selection committee for the Carl Taylor Award, we are inspired by Professor Lewis' many accomplishments. Her contributions to the UCONN School of Medicine's Global Health Education Program and our MPH program are numerous. In Haiti, alone, she has worked with more than 50 students on projects to improve health care delivery and health outcomes. She was founder and current Chair of the Women, Children and Adolescent Workgroup of the World Federation of Public Health Associations and she helped create The Network: Toward Unity for Health; Women and Health Together for the Future (WHTF). She has been a member of APHA and the CT Public Health Association since the 1970s. **Congratulations!**

We are pleased to announce that Dr. T. Greg Rhee, Assistant Professor of Community Medicine, will be joining our program faculty on February 1, 2019. Dr. Rhee is leaving his Postdoctoral Fellow in Geriatric Clinical Epidemiology at Yale. He earned his baccalaureate degree at Emory University, an MSW From the University of Chicago and PhD from the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy. Greg's teaching and research interest include health services research and information technology. **Welcome Greg** to UCONN.

Alumni News

Christopher Steele, MD MPH('15) has returned to join UCONN Health's Internal Medicine/Primary Care services. Kate Robania MPH('11) will be attending the doctoral program in Population Health at the University of Auckland. Deepa Mavani, MPH ('14) is currently enrolled in the UCONN doctoral program in Public Health. Suleiman Adekemi (Kemi) Olaide, MD, MPH(c) will be attending the UCONN doctoral program in Public Health.

Student News



On Wednesday, October 17, our public health students and staff joined with University Health Professionals (UHP) as partners with End Hunger NE to package meals for distribution to many local programs.

Spring 2019 Course Offerings

Course #	Title	Location
Monday		
PUBH 5201-F40	Essentials of Social Inequality and Health Disparities	U3017A/B ^b
PUBH 5407-F40	Practicum in Public Health	Suite 2100, Large Conf. Room ^b
PUBH 5434-F40	Topics in Intermediate Biostatistics	Library CEC Classrooms 2 & 3 ^a
PUBH 5497-F42	Environmental Impacts on Children's Health	A1 ^a
PUBH 5497-F43	Public Health Interventions	U3017A/B ^b
Tuesday		
PUBH 5405-F40	Social & Behavioral Foundations of Public Health, Farmington	Patterson Auditorium ^a
PUBH 5405-001	Social & Behavioral Foundations of Public Health, Storrs	Rowe 320 ^d
PUBH 5436-F40	Intermediate Epidemiology	Suite 2100, Large Conf. Room ^b
PUBH 5462-F40	International Health	U3017A/B ^b
PUBH 5497-F40	Reproductive Ethics and Rights	U3017A/B ^b
Wednesday		
PUBH 5404-F40	Environmental Health, Farmington	Patterson Auditorium ^a
PUBH 5404-001	Environmental Health, Storrs	Rowe 320 ^d
PUBH 5468-F40	Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology	U3017A/B ^b
PUBH 5475-F40	Public Health and Policy in an Aging Society	ASB2 ^c
PUBH 5497-F41	Public Health Nutrition	U3017A/B ^b
Thursday		
PUBH 5409-F40	Introduction to Epidemiology & Biostatistics II, Farmington	Patterson Auditorium ^a
PUBH 5409-001	Introduction to Epidemiology & Biostatistics II, Storrs	Rowe 320 ^d
PUBH 5453-F40	Chronic Disease Control	U3017A/B ^b
PUBH 5463-F40	Comparative Health Systems	Suite 2100, Large Conf. Room ^b
PUBH 5497-F44	Transportation, Energy, Land Use and Public Health	U3017A/B ^b
Friday		
PUBH 5497	Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Seminar II	The Exchange
Variable Days		
PUBH 5495	Independent Study in Public Health	
PUBH 5498-F40	Field Experience in Public Health System	
PUBH 5499-F40	Capstone Project in Public Health	
PUBH 6490-F40	Public Health Seminar	

GRAD 5950	Master's Thesis Research
GRAD 5998-F40	Special Readings
GRAD 5999-F40	Thesis Research

Online

PUBH 5479-F40	Alcohol and Drug Policy Research
PUBH 5481-F40	Research Careers & the Responsible Conduct of Research in Alcohol & Addiction Science
PUBH 5501-F40	Foundations of Public Health and Disability
PUBH 5502-F40	Epidemiology of Disability
PUBH 5504-F40	Public Health Interventions in Disability

Public Health Practice Opportunities

Project Director for Drug Free Communities Grant, Wolcott Citizens Against Substance Abuse

Responsibilities (may include but not limited to the following):

- Participate in and assist in facilitation of local Coalition meetings
- Build relationships with representatives and members from all twelve community sectors and assist in recruiting new members
- Weave the five steps of the Strategic Prevention Framework – Assessment, Capacity Building, Planning, Implementation and Evaluation – into all Coalition and sector member prevention activities. Ensure ongoing assessment and capacity building activities as well as periodic plan reviews
- Manage project budget and collaborate with fiscal agent to produce budget reports for funding agencies
- In coordination with the coalition Executive Committee, oversee program implementation by all sector members to ensure coordination and collaboration and completion of the coalition action plan
- Oversee the project evaluator and ensure regular evaluation feedback is utilized to adjust and refine coalition activities to maximize outcomes
- Provide effective supervision and support to Program Assistant and contracted personnel
- Facilitate collaboration between sector members and the Coalition to accomplish the Coalition strategic plan,
- Responsible for all data collection and reporting
- Develop training materials, social media, and written materials for raising community awareness
- Provide presentations to the Coalition and the general public on issues related to youth substance abuse prevention
- Attend training, workshops, and statewide and national conferences relevant to the position

Job Type This is a full-time (40 hours per week) position with some evenings and weekends required (minimum of 2 evenings per month). Travel to at least two national conferences required; travel, lodging & food expenses are paid by the coalition in accordance with federal grant guidelines. Travel within the town to meet with our twelve sector partners. Occasional in-state workshops and conferences may also be required.

Salary \$52,000 - \$58,000. Salary commensurate with experience. Health benefits included.

This is a non-union, contracted position. Please email cover letter and resume to: katie812@sbcglobal.net.

Executive Director, CT Association of School Based Health Centers (CASBHC)

The CASBHC seeks a dynamic full-time Executive Director to lead Connecticut's network of over 100 school based health centers. Connecticut's School Based Health Centers (SBHCs) are comprehensive primary health care facilities licensed as outpatient clinics or as hospital satellites. The SBHCs are located within or on school grounds and serve students in grades pre-K-12. The Executive Director will lead CASBHC's advocacy on behalf of the entire network, as well as leading CASBHC's own fund development and overall management. The Executive Director must have excellent networking, communication and project implementation skills.

Key Responsibilities of the CASBHC Executive Director:

The new Executive Director will:

- Provide strategic leadership to drive organizational success and impact in an ever-changing environment.
- Support and build the CASBHC Board in its work to advance the organization's mission, assist with fundraising, and carry out its responsibilities for organizational oversight.
- Represent CASBHC in coalitions and on committees that impact child and adolescent health; use advocacy, collaboration and communication to expand support for the work and funding of school-based health centers.
- Initiate, organize and deliver CASBHC strategic initiatives, consistent with CASBHC's strategic plan.

- Oversee the conference and training functions delivered by CASBHC.
- Develop and deliver on CASBHC's communications plan.
- Manage a \$240,000 budget, working closely with CASBHC's accountant, and, through grant-writing and other activities, generate new and diversified fund sources.
- Manage a small group of staff, consultants, interns and volunteers, expanding operations as funds become available.
- Sustain CASBHC's non-profit fiscal, insurance, and compliance structures.

The new Executive Director must have a health-related background, degree or experience. Candidates must provide a cover letter describing their interest in and qualifications for the position and résumé. Applications should be sent by email to Hiring@ctschoolhealth.org. CASBHC also welcomes your suggestions of possible candidates for the position. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Torrington Area Health District, W.I.C. Program Nutritionist

The W.I.C. Program Nutritionist shall be responsible for the nutrition and breastfeeding promotion and support services component of the TAHD WIC Program along with administrative duties as assigned by the W.I.C. Coordinator. The Program Nutritionist is the WIC service area "nutrition team lead" and must be present at least eight (8) hours per month at each permanent site. Duties of the position include:

- Develops the nutrition and breastfeeding promotion and support services component of the annual local agency plan. Ensures compliance with Federal and State regulations and guidelines. Encouraged to work with the Site Nutritionist and/or local agency Breastfeeding Coordinator
- Participates in the development of the nutrition and breastfeeding promotion and support services budget.
- Implements the nutrition and breastfeeding promotion and support services component of the local agency plan
- Assures proper certification of eligible applicants
- As a Competent Professional Authority (CPA) on the staff of the local program, conducts a complete WIC nutrition assessment, determines and documents nutritional risk of WIC participants, as appropriate develops and follow-up on care plans for high-risk participants
- Is responsible for the appropriate assignment and tailoring of WIC food packages for participants
- Other duties as assigned

Education and Experience requirements:

- A Master's degree from an accredited institution in nutritional sciences, community nutrition, clinical nutrition, dietetics, public health nutrition, home economics with a major in foods and nutrition and one year of responsible experience in nutrition in a health agency or health care facility, OR
- A Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a major in foods and nutrition, community nutrition, nutrition education, or nutritional sciences and two years of responsible experience in nutrition in a health agency or health care facility.
- Successful completion of a Commission on Accreditation/Approval of Dietetics Education (CAADE) accredited/approved supervised practice program (e.g., a Coordinated Program, Dietetic Internship or Approved Pre-Professional Practice/AP4 Program) or a Master's degree in nutrition education can qualify for one year of work experience. Persons with a Master's degree in nutrition who do not have a Bachelor's degree in foods and nutrition must have successfully completed the equivalent subject matter at the graduate level to compensate for any courses not completed at the undergraduate level.

Submit cover letter and resume to Jacqueline Zaklukiewicz, W.I.C. Program Coordinator 350 Main Street Torrington, CT 06790 or by email to JZaklukiewicz@tahd.org.

Chatham Health District, Sanitarian

The Chatham Health District is seeking an Environmental Health Sanitarian for full time employment (35 hours/week). The position is responsible for enforcing the State of Connecticut Public Health Code as well as local regulations. Duties include food service inspections, subsurface sewage inspections, complaint investigations and other health code related inspections. A Bachelor's Degree with a minimum of 30 semester hours in physical or biological science or public health is required. A Connecticut certification in food service inspection is required. The successful candidate must hold a valid Connecticut driver's license. It is preferred that the candidate have at least two years of professional experience, although others will be considered. This position is non-supervisory and is

non-exempt; a Registered Sanitarian or Registered Environmental Health Specialist is preferred. Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume and completed application to tina.lanzi@chathamhealth.org.

Town of Essex, Environmental Health Inspector

The town is accepting applications for a part-time (10 hours per week) position of an Environment Health Inspector in the Health Department. Individual must be flexible in their schedule and be able to work some weekends and evenings as attendance at Town meetings or as projects require. Candidate must be able to perform inspections, reviews and enforcement duties in administering the Connecticut Public Health Code and Town Ordinances under the direct supervision of the Direct of Health / Sanitarian. Candidates require a valid CT Motor Vehicle Operator's License, the ability to apply common sense understanding to carry out instructions that are furnished in written, oral and diagrammatic, or schedule form, A Bachelor's Degree in Health Education, Public Health, Environmental Sciences, or other health related field, a State of Connecticut Subsurface Sewage System Phase I Certification, State of Connecticut Certified Food Inspector as required by the new FDA Food Code, A Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) certification is preferred, and a Lead Inspector/Risk Assessor Certification is preferred, but not required. An application may be obtained in the Selectmen's Office Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm or on the Town of Essex website www.essexct.gov under employment opportunities. All applications will be considered until the position is filled.

Keep in touch

Our program is adopting a new central phone number, **860-679-5470**. You can still reach the program director directly at 860-679-5480 (gregorio@uchc.edu) or Barbara Case at 860-679-1503 (bcase@uchc.edu). You can visit our program website at: <https://health.uconn.edu/community-medicine/m-p-h-program/> or the department of Community Medicine at: <https://health.uconn.edu/community-medicine/>.