

SUPPORTING LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

FEBRUARY 2016



Derek Fullerton
MHOA President

On behalf of MHOA,

I want to introduce myself to the membership. In January 2016, I became the President of our organization. The term is for two years. I previously served as V.P. for 2 years and prior as Secretary for 2 years. The last 4 years serving as an officer of the organization and as the MHOA Conference Chair, has been a great pleasure, has provided great personal and professional growth, and has been a great way to support and advocate for local public health alongside

dedicated colleagues in our profession! I want to personally thank **Frank Giacalone**, who served as the President for the last two years. Frank was dedicated to our organization and handled our meetings in a professional and pleasant manner. Thank you Frank!! I also want to welcome, **Sam Wong** into his new role as V.P. and Conference Chair. Anyone who knows Sam, knows we have a great and innovative leader in this position. I would also like to welcome **Sigalle Reiss** into the Secretary officer position; another leading public health professional we are excited about joining the officers.

About this Newsletter,,, My hope and our vision is MHOA will offer this newsletter to our membership and affiliates **quarterly**; within this

Newsletter will be information from our officers, staff, committee rep's, affiliate organizations, and agencies.

Kicking off 2016:

Our executive committee, comprised of more than 30 people started off the new year with some organization planning efforts that involve, but not limited to:

1. **Developing an Opioid Resource Toolkit for local public health departments across the Commonwealth**
2. **MHOA Quarterly Newsletter!**
3. **New Logo for MHOA; You'll see it next newsletter!!**
4. **Updating our Strategic Plan**

See Page 3 for President's message on the Public Health Opioid Epidemic!

MHOA REPRESENTATION

(CLICK NAME FOR EMAIL)

OFFICERS

[Derek Fullerton](#) - President
[Sam Wong](#) - Vice President
[Sigalle Reiss](#) - Secretary
[Steven Baccari](#) - Comptroller

STAFF

[Doug Halley](#) - Treasurer
[Kate Kokko](#) - Executive Administrator
[Ruth-Ellen Sandler](#) - Member Services
[Sarah McColgan](#) - Tobacco Control Director
[Greg Erickson](#) - Webmaster

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Regional Representatives
[Beverly Hirschhorn](#) - Region 1
[Stephanie Bacon](#) - Region 2
[Rae Dick](#) - Region 3
[Julia Junghanns](#) - Region 4A
[Matthew Brennan](#) - Region 4B
[Regina Hanson](#) - Region 4C
[Thomas McKean](#) - Region 5

AT LARGE

[Sandy Collins](#)
[Stacey Lane](#)
[Joanne Belanger](#)
[Catherine Cardinale](#)
[Dai Nguyen](#)
[John Coulon](#)
[Terri Khoury](#)
[Melissa Marinelli](#)

ACTIVE EX OFFICIO

[Frank Giacalone](#)
[Phyllis Boucher](#)
[Thomas Carbone](#)
[Robin Chapell](#)
[Ruth Clay](#)
[Richard Day](#)
[Terence Hayes](#)
[Kathleen MacVarish \(BU\)](#)
[Donna Moultrup](#) (Retired)
[J. David Naparstek](#) (Retired)
[Jennifer Sullivan](#) (Retired)

ACTIVE EX OFFICIO

[Claude-Alix Jacob](#) - Naccho/Saccho Rep

RECOGNIZING A COLLEAGUE



Doug Halley
MHOA Treasurer

At the January 2016 executive meeting, the board unanimously voted **Doug Halley into Emeritus status** of our organization for his dedicated service to MHOA and Public Health. Doug has been a Public Health professional for 28 years, a member of MHOA for 28 years, and our current treasurer on his 5 year!

LIKE US!

(Click image)



VISIT US!

WWW.MHOA.COM

JOIN US!

Become a member

www.mhoa.com/membership/

FROM OUR VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, EXEC ADMINISTRATOR, & MEMBER SERVICES COORDINATOR



Sam Wong
Vice President
Conference Chair

Along with being Vice President, Sam serves as the MHOA educational conference chair.

Annual Conference Update:

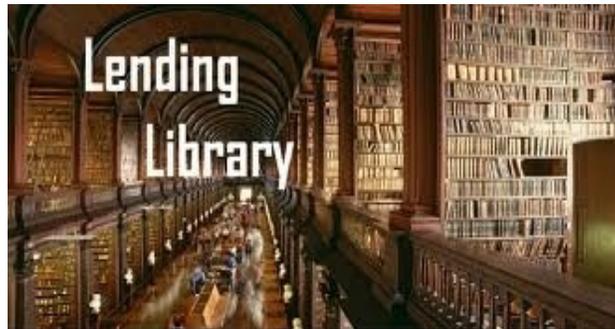
The MHOA Annual Educational Conference will be held from 10/26/2016 to 10/28/2016, at the Cape Codder Resort in Hyannis.

PAST PRESENTATIONS AND SLIDES FROM THE 2016 EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE CAN BE FOUND AT:
[CLICK HERE](#)



Sigalle Reiss
Secretary

I am excited about becoming an officer of MHOA and collaborating on statewide public health planning. After serving on the MHOA executive committee for years, I look forward to continued efforts to support local public health!



Katherine Kokko
MHOA Executive Administrator

Using FY2015 block grant funding from the MA Department of Public Health, MHOA has been able to assemble a lending library of reference materials for MHOA members! This library includes **key references** for environmental health law, engineering and practices, study guides for those pursuing their RS or CPFS, communicable disease control, pool and spa operation and healthy community design. Multiple copies of study guides are available to assure that we can meet demand for this cost-saving benefit. Since the library's implementation in November, four loans have been made to MHOA members. A listing of available books and their descriptions can be found at <http://www.mhoa.com/library/>. Books are available for renewable terms of three months. Rules for lending are also available on the MHOA Library website. Requests should be sent via email to MHOA.KatherineKokko@gmail.com Books are shipped via USPS and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return.



Ruth Ellen Sandler
MHOA Member Services Coordinator



MHOA welcomes the following new members to the organization!

- Matthew Bernard, City of Fitchburg
- Carol Bois, Town of Framingham
- Kathleen LaFavre, Town of Nantucket
- Aimee Petrosky, Town of East Longmeadow
- John Wierciszewski, City of Holyoke
- Rachel Massar, Town of Needham
- Michael Sarasin, Greater Lowell Technical High School

David Wolfram, Town of Deerfield

Jeffrey Zgodnik, Town of Hatfield

Total Members To Date: 530

Click here for membership [FORM!](#)

MASSACHUSETTS PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES ASSOCIATION



Terri Khoury
MAPHN Vice President
MHOA At Large Rep

MAPHN is celebrating its 20th Annual Conference on April 13-14th in Brewster, MA:
“Public Health looking Ahead”

On Wednesday the guest speaker is Christian Lanphere PhD, talking about “The Active Shooter”.

Thursday the topics include: tick-borne diseases, superbugs, hoarding, and Alzheimer’s Disease.

Visit www.maphn.org for more!



LOCAL STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Local State Advisory Committee (LSAC) is made up of local and state officials who are involved with Emergency Preparedness. It is this group that discusses how the CDC’s Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grants are to be used. In February of this year, CDC issued the Funding Opportunity Availability (FOA) for next grant year, and that is currently being reviewed. As it stands now, the various public health emergency preparedness regions will be asked to provide consensus votes by the end of March.

One issue that is taking up much of LSAC’s time is the formation of Health and Medical Coordinating Councils (HMCC). The process is at varying stages throughout the Commonwealth, with some areas having an easy time with the matter, while others running into problems. Local health officials are encouraged to take an active part in the HMCC formation to ensure that the public health issues are adequately addressed.



Tom Carbone
LSAC Chairman
MHOA Active Ex Officio

OPIOIDS

A PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIC! HOW ARE WE INVOLVED AS LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Having experienced opioid addiction with a family member and loss of a 26 year old cousin, to it, we must act!

Derek Fullerton
MHOA
President

Perception is everything!? It’s perceived that with all the news and announced planning, that we as a state and nation have a handle on this epidemic; however, as each of us read the **local** newspaper each week, we read another obituary or statistic of losing someone to opioids. False perceptions, that we have a handle on this epidemic, is unfortunate. Perception isn’t everything but reading the statistics are!

Beyond serving as President of MHOA, I serve as a Public Health Director. **Everytime, I hear that we have a statewide public health epidemic related to opioids, I think “What are we doing as local public**

health”; since it’s a public health issue and we see it in each our communities. I bet many of you have **perceived** this same thing and have the same perception that the State Department of Public Health, the Governor, etc. are handling this! **Having experienced opioid addiction with a family member and losing a 26 year old cousin to it,, we must act** as public health professionals and be part of puzzle towards addressing this issue.

The MHOA executive committee unanimously voted to form a steering committee for 2016 that will plan and produce an opioid resource / toolkit for local

guideline to follow. This tool kit may suggest forming a substance abuse coalition and task force and how to form one; how to build a treatment and recovery resource guide for families to refer to; providing real statistics from MDPH related to evidence based recovery rates for **ALL** treatment types, programs, and facilities; (Request has been made to DPH for this); working with first responders for NARCAN training; sharing best practices from other communities, etc. If you would like to serve on this steering committee please **email** me! Stay tuned for the progress of this toolkit later throughout the year!



Alan Perry
MEHA President



The Massachusetts Environmental Health Association (MEHA) is a subsidiary of the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). MEHA's main concerns are the support, representation, and knowledge base training for the local environmental health professional in MA.

The MEHA executive board meets a minimum of 6 times annually and carries out a minimum of 3 education seminars/ membership meetings per year. MEHA also hosts the Yankee conference on environmental health representing all New England's states as well as NY and NJ.



Kathleen Macvarish
LPHI Director
MHOA Active Ex-Officio

Strengthening Local Public Health Through Training & Education

The mission of the Local Public Health Institute (Institute) is to improve public health and preparedness capabilities and the health of the residents of the Commonwealth by creating, implementing, and sustaining workforce development activities for local public health and other public health system partners. Local public health professionals are busier than ever, and their training needs are more complex. In order to make the training accessible statewide, the Institute leverages a variety of training delivery methods, including traditional classroom trainings, asynchronous online modules, live webinar sessions, and blended formats. For a full list of Institute offerings, please go to our [Training](#) page. In addition to training, the Institute also sponsors the following program to support public health workforce development. [Fellows of the Local Public Health Institute of MA](#) are selected for their demonstrated mastery of public health practice concepts, commitment to professional development, and willingness to act as stewards for public health practice in MA.

Did You Know?? There are over 40 online "On Your Time" training modules. Visit the LPHI online training website by clicking [here](#)

MHOA Education & Training

To Register click [here](#)

Medical Marijuana Update March 17- Dedham

Bryan and Kay will be giving an overview of the Medical Use of Marijuana Program, reviewing the current status of Registered Marijuana Dispensaries (RMD) selling product, providing an update on the ongoing RMD application process, and sharing information regarding the Program's Support Center and Compliance Unit.

The Annual MHOA / MassDEP

Winter Seminars

March 22 - Hyannis

March 24 - Devens

March 29 - Peabody

Community Sanitation

Spring Seminars

April 5-Devens

April 7-Hadley

April 12-Dedham

April 14-Hyannis

**America's first
public health museum!**



www.publichealthmuseum.org/



Tobacco Control & Prevention

Sarah's role as Tobacco Control Director of MHOA is to provide technical assistance and trainings for Boards of Health and assist with the development of training and education -related to tobacco control issues.

Below is an example of what Sarah did in the Month of January 2016.

**Sarah McColgan-MHOA
Tobacco Control Director**

ATTENDED

- Attended CAST meeting on 1/5
- Conference Call on 1/6 with MMA and other partners regarding Waltham
- Conference Call on E-Cigarette, Advertising & Youth on 1/12
- Monthly BOH/MTCP Conference Call on 1/13
- RDMS Vendor Procurement Meeting on 1/13
- Attended CAST Lite meeting on 1/19
- Attended MHOA Executive Committee meeting on 1/21. Discussed Tobacco Free Mass changes and dues; upcoming meeting with MTCP; update on tobacco related bills in the legislature
- Attended meeting with MHOA President and Past-President and MTCP Contract Manager on 1/25. Discussed increase need for legislative advocacy, link between nicotine and other substances, training of health department staff
- Conference Call on NATO letter re: Flavor Restriction on 1/27

PRESENTED

- Cohasset: Board met for final review of draft regulations. Provided technical assistance
- Hopedale: discussed model regulations at 1/21 BOH meeting

DEVELOPED, RESEARCHED OR DOCUMENTED

- Documented 50 FDA tobacco sales violations to 16 Funded Boards of Health, 8 Funded Collaboratives and 12 Unfunded Boards of Health
- Responded to BOH RFI with strategy to provide 1 year seed money for unfunded municipalities
- Provided MTCP minutes of 1/5 CAST meeting
- Documented results of evaluations of retail trainings in Holyoke, Burlington, Bellingham, Norwood/Walpole, and Metro West. Provided summaries to MTCP
- Developed training flyer for Marlborough retail training on 3/9
- Provided MTCP with feedback for BOH site visits
- Documented 39 FDA violations to 11 funded Boards of Health, 7 Collaboratives and 8 Unfunded Boards of Health
- Researched articles on connection between nicotine use and substance abuse for MHOA leadership
- Developed flyer for Fall River Retail Trainings

FOOD ESTABLISHMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FEAC)



**Rae Dick
MHOA Region 3 Rep
FEAC Representative**

I approached the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) and our regional rep from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) about adding the MHOA Conference to there training list for there FDA Retail Food Standard grants. They approved MHOA's conference as a possibility to apply for funding.

This only applies to communities that are enrolled in the FDA's [Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards](#) and if they apply for the annual Cat 3 training grant. (The MHOA Conference will be an additional training option to apply for)

There about 30 plus communities in Ma. Enrolled in [Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards](#)

AFDO supplies a list each year of possible trainings and seminars you can send you and your staff to each year with the grant money. The list includes FDA courses, seminars, conferences, the MA Food PHIT training course, etc. Now it will have the MHOA Conference as well.

Did You Know?? There are over 40 online "On Your Time" training modules. Visit the LPHI online training website by clicking [here](#)

NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

Our very own local health official will be the **President** of the National Association of County and City Health Officials! Congratulations to Claude-Alix Jacob!!

Claude has been the health officer in Cambridge since 2007 and a member of the NACCHO board since 2010. During his time, he served as the NACCHO Region I Representative for four years and a member of the Executive Committee since 2014.

A message from Claude:

My one-year term as the national President will begin July 1, 2016 and I am honored to represent MHOA and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in this capacity.

As John C Maxwell quoted, “Leaders become great, not because of their power but because of their ability to empower others.”

On behalf of MHOA, we congratulate you and thank you for leading us! -DJ



Claude-Alix Jacob
NACCHO Region Rep for MHOA
Upcoming NACCHO PRESIDENT
July 1, 2016

NACCHO has released its [2015 Annual Report](#), which focuses on the association's considerable accomplishments last year. Among its achievements, NACCHO increased membership, expanded program funding, and advocated vigorously on behalf of its members. A total of 86 visits to Capitol Hill by members and 21 new or updated policy statements rounded out NACCHO's growing footprint, both in Washington, DC, and around the country. NACCHO's work informs, supports, and gives voice to its local health department members, who serve their communities with increasing skill and breadth of services. Together, NACCHO and its members are advancing local public health across the nation.



John Coulon
MHOA Representative for the
Massachusetts Food Safety
Education Partnership



The mission of the [Massachusetts Partnership for Food Safety Education](#) (MPFSE) is to provide food workers and consumers with easy access to food safety information, education and training through collaboration and communication among partners, and coordination of resources and services, thus ensuring the safety of our food supply.

The Partnership, aka MPFSE, represents over 5,000 food and regulatory members who serve and support consumers, regulators and food workers in food production, processing, food service and retail establishments to reduce food-borne illness in Massachusetts by improving food safety knowledge and skills.

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Did you know
that I was
the nation's
first Health
Officer!

-Paul Revere-



Sandy Collins
CLPH Rep for MHOA
MHOA At Large Rep

Coalition for Local Public Health

The Coalition for Local Public Health, formed in 2002, represents the 5 statewide public health organizations (MHOA, MAPHN, MEHA, MPHA, MAHB). Leadership of each of the organization meets monthly to identify issues and strategies to best advocate, promote and strengthen local health within MA. Collectively we represent over 3000 members. MHOA has participated in the Coalition since the group formed.

2015-2016

We began this year holding multiple strategic planning sessions to update our major goals and objectives for the year aimed at ways to better provide support and resources to local public health. Ideas that were generated from these sessions have been driving the work of the CLPH this year. Some of the priorities we are working on include:

Orientation Process For New Public Health Staff And Board Members

After identifying inconsistencies that exist on how new public health staff become oriented in MA, the CLPH organizations are working collectively to produce a pilot, 1 day orientation program which will be offered in June. The 6 hour standard training will be offered to all new staff, emphasizing core functions, essential services, legal responsibilities and existing resources. It will also make them aware of what is available to them through the CLPH organizations, DPH, DEP and others. Support for the project is being offered from MDPH and BU. Our hope is that this will fill an identified gap.

Assisting DPH in developing the Scope and work of the Office For Local Health (OLRH)

The CLPH has been working with DPH to support them in establishing the OLRH. DPH has been supporting our efforts and provided continued financial support for each of the 5 organizations and assistance with obtaining an administrative support person for the CLPH. We are also working with the Office for Local and Regional Health to develop a system and process to keep contact lists of local public health department staff current, to help improve communication between local health, DPH and others.

Legislative Advocacy For Various Bill Impacting Public Health

CLPH's policy subcommittee continues to review and provide input and advocacy for numerous legislative bills impacting local health. Support for passage of bills impacting local health is promoted through all 5 CLPH organizations

CLPH re-filed the MRC Liability Protection bill through Senator Moore and Representative Garlick and continued to assess the scope of the problem and protections which currently exist. We also determined the perception which MRC units have on the impact that not having a specific state bill for MRC protection has on the ability for MRC's to recruit and retain new members. A survey was developed and sent out to all MRC leaders and info obtained was evaluated.

Some of the other bills which we have either been tracking or advocating for include: promoting the expansion of housing courts, promoting funding for DPH budgets including support for MA in Motion, and a tracking a number of bills circulating which could if passed, preempt Boards from regulating certain public health concerns on the local level.

Trainings

CLPH organizations continue to promote workforce development through numerous trainings held throughout the year.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Massachusetts Health Officers Association (MHOA) was formed to meet a local need. The foundations of MHOA began in 1950, when a group of health officials from cities and towns north of Boston began meeting together several times a year on a voluntary basis for the purpose of contributing their experiences for a better understanding and servicing of local health department practice and administration. This group became known as the North Metropolitan Health Officers and Agents Association. State Health Department officials took an interest and attended their meetings.

Mission

The mission of the Massachusetts Health Officers Association is to assist and support staff of local health departments in meeting their statutory responsibilities to the public through programs of education, technical assistance, representation, and resource development, and by providing educational and informational programs to the general public on public health topics.

Goals

To be recognized as and regarded by members and other agencies as an effective professional group representing and advocating for local public and environmental health

To promote and foster high standards of professionalism among local health department staff

To work closely with national, state, local, and environmental health agencies to improve public health practice

Objectives

To keep members abreast of new and current public and environmental health topics and issues
To maintain a Resource Lending Library

To maintain an internet and email site on the world wide web

To monitor and advocate for legislation affecting health and environmental issues

To offer an annual scholarship to a member or member's family embarking on or enhancing a career in public or environmental health

To present annual awards for outstanding leadership, extraordinary service, and distinguished contributions to local health practice

To promote student internship opportunities

To provide timely, pertinent and cost-effective educational programs

To serve on national and state committees that foster collaboration for the promotion of our ideals

SUPPORTING LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH