Annual Report 2017
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President’s Letter

“When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’” - Mister Rodgers

I love this quote from the soft-spoken man in a red sweater. I’ve brought it to mind a lot lately when I consider the incredible challenges — and opportunities — that face us in the public health community. Yes, there are real threats to the important work we all do. The affronts to our funding, environmental protections, civil rights, the field of science, and the very health of our communities seem constant. Yet it is precisely this difficulty that has galvanized one of the most impressive movements in history. A determined effort fueled by immense energy and relentless optimism has emerged. Those who have fought tirelessly for decades are leading a new generation of public health and social justice champions; a new generation of helpers.

The Colorado Public Health Association is grateful to be a part of this community. It is inspiring to witness the gracious contributions of so many of our members and partners over this past year that I’ve served as CPHA President. Our strategy has been multifaceted and the accomplishments led by our Board of Directors, various committees, and individual members demonstrate a tremendous commitment to health.

On the heels of the biggest Public Health in the Rockies conference ever, CPHA kicked off the year with ambition and enthusiasm. It was particularly exciting to see the Board of Directors commit to the mantra for our health equity work, “Don’t just talk about it, be about it.” Among other things, we adopted a health equity work plan for the Board; launched a collaborative health equity webinar series with the Society for Public Health Education; continued our commitment to Explore Public Health; served as lead organization for the health equity-focused Culture of Data Conference; signed on with the Colorado Coalition for Immigrant Health; and vocally advocated for health in all policies with a goal of eliminating disparities.

The enthusiasm and action carried over to all aspects of CPHA’s work. We expanded our presence at the State Legislature, hosting the largest ever Public Health Day at the Capitol and successfully advancing important legislation in the areas of school health, mental health and substance use, criminal justice and environmental health. At the federal level, CPHA stood in solidarity with our partners against the repeal of the Affordable Care Act and the Prevention and Public Health Fund, and worked to activate direct lobbying efforts with Colorado’s Congressional delegation.

To better connect with and meet our members’ needs, we expanded our communications channels and the very look of our communications materials. We re-toolled our member benefits and expanded our footprint at both individual and organizational levels. New, non-traditional partners are joining our ranks and, together with our partners we spearheaded one of the most successful National Public Health Weeks ever. As a non-profit organization, CPHA’s financials are strong and we are planning for a robust future with creative strategies for sustainability (but your donations are still welcome!).

In short, and in the words of my predecessor Burke Fishburn, I am pleased to report that the state of the Colorado Public Health Association is healthy and happy.

Please read this Annual Report to learn more about CPHA’s great work this past year. But also, importantly, please think about how we can be better and how you can help make that happen. We are in this together and need your help! Run for the Board, join a committee, come to events, respond to action alerts, and contribute whatever you can.

Thank you all for the work you do. Being an advocate for public health has never been easy, but the payoff is worth it. Stay positive, stay grateful, and stay focused.

With gratitude,
Brian Turner, MPH
Secretary Report

CPHA Board Meetings: Formal motions passed during 2016-17

Secretary: Cassidy Smith

CPHA Annual Association Meeting, September 15, 2016, Breckenridge
CPHA Board Elections Results (conducted by Civica Management)
Treasurer: Micaela Cohen Kirschy
Membership: Adam Anderson
Professional Education Junior Director: Sophia Yager
Communications Director: Gwendolyn West
Student Director: William Mundo
At-large: Kelly Conroy

Motion to approve 2015 annual association minutes
Moved by: Jeannie Nicholson
Seconded by: Kathy Isabell
Status: Approved, carried by voice vote

CPHA Board Retreat / Meeting Saturday, October 15, 2016
Motion to enter into one-year agreement with YM to operate job board on CPHA website
Moved by: Kim Boyd
Seconded by: Burke Fishburn
Status: Approved, carried by voice vote
Suzuho Shimasaki was elected to President-Elect by the membership via special election.
Elizabeth Kudron and Jason Vitello were appointed as Student Co-Director and an At-Large Member

CPHA Board Meeting Friday, December 2, 2016
Motion to approve Frontline Public Affairs Consulting contract
Moved by: Amy Winterfeld
Seconded by: Kim Boyd
Status: Approved, carried by voice vote

CPHA Board Meeting Friday, January 6, 2017
Motion to approve Civica Management contract
Moved by: Burke Fishburn
Seconded by: Kim Boyd
Status: Approved, carried by voice vote

CPHA Board Meeting Friday, May 5, 2017
Motion: Motion to approve CPHA document retention and destruction policy
Moved by: Amy Winterfeld
Seconded by: Gwendolyn West
Status: Approved, carried by voice vote
CPHA 2017 Policy Actions via Urgent Protocol

On September 7, 2017, the CPHA Board enacted its urgent protocol to sign on to the CHIP Coalition letter urging Congress to support continued funding for the Children’s Health Insurance Program.

On May 4, 2017, the CPHA Board enacted its urgent protocol to oppose American Health Care Act.

On April 23, 2017, the CPHA Board enacted its urgent protocol to officially sign on to APHA letter in support of strong funding allocation for the FY 2018 Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. This bill provides the annual funding levels for CDC, HRSA, AHRQ and most other federal public health agencies. A strong allocation is essential to ensure the Appropriations Committees has the resources they need to adequately fund ALL of the important federal health agencies and programs.

On April 9, 2017, the CPHA Board enacted its urgent protocol to establish a position of “support” for the following bill: HB17-1306 - Directs the department of public health and environment to establish a grant program to test for lead in public schools’ drinking water.

On March 21, 2017, the CPHA Board enacted its urgent protocol to officially sign on to CDC Coalition’s and other supporting organization’s FY 2018 letter to House and Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee chairs and ranking members to support CDC funding including through continuation of the prevention and public health fund.

On March 21, 2017, the CPHA Board enacted its urgent protocol to establish positions on the following bills:

**Oppose**
- SB17-027 – Increase Penalty Texting While Driving
- SB17-068 – School Counselors Early Support Students - grant programs to provide school counselors in all grades
- SB17-074 – Create Medication-assisted Treatment Pilot Program - creates pilot program for grants to areas of state with high levels of opioid addiction to increase access to treatment (Pueblo and Routt counties)
- SB17 091 – Allow Medicaid Home Health Services in Community - allows Medicaid home health services to be provided in community settings not limited to individual patients’ homes.
- HB17-1001 - Employee (unpaid) Leave Attend Child’s Academic Activities
- HB17-1042 - Increase Funding for Full-day Kindergarten
- HB17-1122 - Gender identification on birth certificates

**Support**
- SB17-116 – Concealed Carry Handgun Without a Permit
- SB17-1242 – Create November 2017 ballot question be submitted requesting voters provide specific allocations for public transit, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.
- HB17-1256 –School perimeter- clarifying that the 1000 foot distancing requirement for oil and gas operations from school grounds applies to the perimeter of the school campus, not just to the school building. Public and private school and child care facilities are included.

On March 16, 2017, the CPHA Board enacted its urgent protocol to officially sign on to Joint Budget Committee advocating to preserve funding for Healthy Kids Colorado Survey.

On March 1, 2017, the CPHA Board enacted its urgent protocol to establish positions on the following bills:

**Monitor**
- SB17-106 - Sunset Registration of Naturopathic Doctors – Continues regulation of naturopaths by state

On February 27, 2017, the CPHA Board enacted its urgent protocol to officially sign on in support of “I Drive Colorado,” a campaign to address increasing barriers for immigrants without documentation to obtain driver’s licenses in Colorado.
Treasurer Report

In late 2016, CPHA decided to change its fiscal year to the calendar year. This means that we filed two 990’s in 2016: one for the year ended June 30th, 2016 as well as one for the year ended December 31st, 2016. This will help CPHA with budgeting because, in prior years, Public Health in the Rockies income has crossed two fiscal years. Moving forward, most income and expenses should be received and paid in the current year.

In 2016, we submitted information to Community First Foundation so that we could participate in Colorado Gives Day. This process was time consuming but successful. Information that had to be gathered and submitted for acceptance included financial information, 990’s, budgets and actual financial data, board member lists, policies and procedures, educational opportunities provided, and overall general organization information. The association earned $911.33 from its participation.

Due to a short year, we finished 2016 with a net loss of $7,737.85. This was expected as the registration for the 2016 Public Health in the Rockies Conference was opened in May of 2016, and therefore, income was received in the prior fiscal year. The 2017 budget is balanced and we do expect to finish as budgeted or better, as membership dues and Public Health in the Rockies registrations are both ahead of expectations at this time.

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Cash Assets as of 12/31/2016: $68,695.95

Current Assets as of 8/31/2017: $231,831.26
This past year, the CPHA Membership Committee has focused on increasing value to the membership in attempts to recruit new members and maintain its current individual and organizational members. This value proposition was focused on collaboration with the Communications Director and Professional Education Senior Director.

- Starting in April 2017, CPHA released its new newsletter format focusing the content on engaging the membership and utilizing the newsletter as a tool to communicate with members around the state. Each newsletter highlights the work of an agency, a person, and/or a program around the state. In addition, our organizational members are able to use the newsletter to reach out to our membership through articles and announcements.

- Professional education opportunities were expanded through the Culture of Data Conference and the monthly webinar series.

- Monthly outdoor networking opportunities continued through this year and served as great ways for members to meet new people and explore new parts of Colorado. Events included snowshoeing, hiking, biking, and rock climbing.

- Membership cycles were changed in May to a rolling renewal rather than the traditional fixed cycle, allowing members to renew based on their membership anniversary and receive membership benefits for a full 12 months.

- Revised CPHA branded material for a more professional appearance.

As of September 2017

563 Individual Members
95 Students Members
15 Organizational Members

Goals for 2017-2018

- There is continued need to engage areas outside the Front Range region of Colorado and membership focus will be made in serving public health professionals in all other areas of the state.

- There is continued need to grow organizational membership and value proposition for current and prospective organizational members.

- Understand the professional needs of our membership and continue to develop strategies for CPHA to assist in that professional development.

- Develop ways to collect data and information from our membership to improve organizational decision-making.

Colorado Public Health Mentoring Program (CPHMP)

Started by CPHA in 2012, CPHMP has expanded and refined over the last 5 years and collaboration among CPHA and:

- Colorado Environmental Health Association
- Colorado School of Public Health
- Colorado Society for Public Health Education
- Public Health Nurses Association

CPHMP’s Vision is “To contribute to an engaged, connected, competent public health workforce in Colorado that effectively prevents, promotes, and protects the health of Coloradans.” A Steering Committee with representation from all collaborating entities manages and supports the matching and on-going needs of the cohort annually. Highlights from the 2017 CPHMP Cohort include:

- Matching, monitoring, and supporting 36 mentor-mentee pairs from all over the state of Colorado and a wide variety of professional experience and disciplines.
- New newsletter format with information and highlights throughout the year
- Kick-Off Session with a StrengthsFinder Workshop and Mentoring Training
- Celebration Session with “Everyday Coaching” Workshop and Mentoring Feedback
Communications Report

Communications Director: Gwendolyn West

The goal of the CPHA Communications Committee is and has been to increase CPHA’s visibility with its internal and external audience, and promote networking, awareness, and dialogue among members. To do this, the Communications Director worked closely with the Public Policy and Membership Directors to increase the volume and diversity of communications coming from the CPHA Board of Directors. Toward this end, the CPHA Communications Committee focused on engaging members and public health leaders in the state to share their stories, and on heightening the visibility of work being done by public health partners across Colorado’s communities. Additionally, the committee played a pivotal role in communicating action alerts and increasing awareness of impactful policy changes on the national stage. As a result of these efforts over the past year, CPHA and the Communications team have:

- Launched a revamped newsletter, with the help of and in coordination with the Membership Director, in spring 2017. The new newsletter features enhanced graphics and content including more profiles of people, agencies, and programs than ever before.

- Updated and relaunched the CPHA website with a special members-only area, more professional graphics and layout, and new content.

- CPHA has increased our outreach via action alerts and PhotoVoice challenges ways to engage members as current events take place, including alerts about Prevention and Public Health Funding, ACA Repeal and Replace Legislation, DACA, and others.

- As an APHA affiliate, CPHA has increased social media engagement with other affiliates and partners through Twitter Chats and live “tweeting”/“Facebooking.”

- In the past year, CPHA’s Facebook likes have gone up 23%, Twitter followers are up 34%, and our new Instagram page, which was created in late 2016, has a growing following of 79 accounts.

Goals for CPHA Communications in 2017-2018 Term

- Increase member and local public health agency engagement through social media, the newsletter, and the website
- Demonstrate increased attendance at CPHA events and increased membership due to enhanced media outreach
- Improve board- and organization-wide participation in CPHA’s media channels
In 2017 CPHA formally announced our commitment to Health Equity.

- CPHA appointed its first At-Large Board Member with a specific focus on health equity.
- CPHA, in partnership with COSOPHE, launched the Colorado Public Health Webinar Series to highlight pressing health equity issues and feature a range of experts from across Colorado. Topics included behavioral health, transgender health outcomes, racial equality, climate change, criminal justice, and the built environment.

CPHA has defined Health Equity to be the active assurance that everyone is afforded the opportunities essential to attaining their highest level of health. CPHA believes:

- All individuals and populations are equally valuable.
- Health equity is more than access to medical care alone and more than assisting individuals in adapting to or navigating unjust or inequitable systems.
- True health equity requires systems change and the dismantling of barriers such as poverty, inadequate housing, racial discrimination and other non-health sector determinants.
- Health inequities will decrease when living wages, affordable housing, healthcare, quality education, nutritious food, safe places to be physically active, and other systemic privileges are accessible to all.
- There are entities with entrenched power which profit greatly from the status quo — who do not wish to see systemic changes.
- Our success will require increased awareness, strategic partnerships across sectors, collaboration across struggles, advocacy, and civically engaged and empowered communities.

**Health Equity Plan**

CPHA has completed a Health Equity Plan which will include opportunities for advancement and development in the following areas:

**Institutional:** As an organization, CPHA will establish Goals and Priorities and formalize Policies and Procedures related to Health Equity. We will communicate our progress in these areas to our membership on an ongoing basis. We will also create a committee wholly devoted to the development and execution of these efforts.

**Personal/Professional:** Through webinars, trainings, brown bag discussions, learning circles, book/video clubs, cultural sharing and more, CPHA will provide opportunities to improve skills and increase knowledge of the social determinants of health, resources which assist individuals, families and communities in reaching their health potential and in understanding the lived experience of our community members.

**Community:** CPHA will engage the community through attendance, participation and presentations at community centers, places of worship, job sites and cultural events. We will also align efforts with community based initiatives, health centers, grantees and their clients. We will actively seek community input through surveys, community forums, and focus groups. We will promote community involvement in decision-making through community advisory committees, advocacy and opportunities for civic engagement.

**Explore Public Health**

From 2012-2015, CPHA promoted Explore Public Health, a leadership program which encouraged people of color ages 18-24 to pursue educational programs and/or careers in public health. In the fall of 2016, four alums from this program started graduate school programs in public health fields. With this exciting transition, a graduate student support program was created where alums of Explore Public Health who were in programs across the US could virtually connect with each other or to a mentor for support or to discuss common experiences. A social networking event was also held this summer for all alums of Explore Public Health, and future plans of the program include offering professional development workshops to alums who are transitioning into the workplace and/or graduate school. CPHA will launch a fourth cohort of Explore Public Health in 2018.

To realize these goals in 2018 and beyond will require a team of committed individuals. Efforts are currently underway to recruit from within our board, our membership, and the greater Colorado public health community to establish our Health Equity Committee.
Professional Education/Development Report

Professional Education Senior Director: Meghan Prentiss

Public Health in the Rockies 2017
The main objective of CPHA’s professional education committee is planning and executing the annual Public Health in the Rockies (PHiR) Conference each year and other professional education opportunities for our membership. Planning for the 2017 PHiR Conference, Unlocking the Future: Embracing Innovation and Inclusiveness, began in November 2016 with a large and enthusiastic planning committee. This year’s affiliate partners and planning committee members worked tirelessly and many took on extra responsibilities in order to ensure our biggest, and most collaborative conference yet! We hope our members enjoy networking, learning, and recreating in Keystone.

- More than 600 participants registered - our biggest conference ever!
- Partnership with the Wyoming Public Health Association to expand the reach and offer unique networking opportunities
- Partnership with the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA)
- Eight students and early career professionals received scholarships to PHiR 2017 thanks to generous sponsors and 2016 silent auction proceeds
- 44 sponsors and exhibitors supported this conference
- 196 showcase, skills-building, and poster sessions on a range of relevant public health topics
- The APHA President joined the conference to speak about national level public health

Culture of Data 2017
This year, CPHA was proud to usher in a new era for the Culture of Data (CoD) conference as the primary fiduciary and project administrator. The purpose of this conference is to connect community with data, particularly the underserved, communities of color, and other marginalized groups who disproportionately face inequities. CoD was held at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities. Learn more about the conference on the conference website. The CoD Planning Committee is already getting started on planning for CoD 2018 for next spring, so stay tuned!

- Developed structures and processes to align with the Public Health in the Rockies conference
- Over 258 attendees and 10 sponsors/exhibitors joined us at the conference
- Incredible planning committee with many members who have planned the conference since 2002!
- Generated $11,813.13 in profit to be rolled into the CoD budget for next year
Public Health Policy Report

Policy Update / Overview

In 2017 CPHA expanded the organizational “road map” for policy priorities to focus on a wider array of public health-related issues. CPHA members completed an annual policy priority survey and members of CPHA’s Policy Committee affirmed the following issues as policy priorities:

- Support healthy eating and active living
- Eliminate health disparities
- Improve access to comprehensive healthcare
- Increase access to mental health services and integrated care
- Support tobacco prevention and cessation
- Expand substance abuse prevention and treatment services
- Support gun violence prevention research
- Support infectious disease prevention and vaccination
- Improve access to comprehensive healthcare
- Support affordable housing
- Environmental issues of air, water, and climate change

In addition to pursuing this overall legislative policy strategy at the state and federal level, CPHA also planned to:

- Continue Colorado public health day at the capitol
- Encourage greater member engagement in the policy committee
- Strengthen calls for member participation in policy advocacy, through email blasts, social media and other mechanisms
- Partner with complementary public health organizations in policy education and advocacy
- Host policy education events for CPHA members and public health students
Policy Committee membership increased in 2017 to 43 members.

Policy Committee Member events in 2017 included:
- CPHA Early Session Legislative Briefing at CSPH-February 2017.
- Policy Director Presentation at Public Health Student Committee event at CU Denver.

Policy Action Alerts were sent to all CPHA members asking them to contact members of Congress to:
- Oppose multiple efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA);
- Support DREAMers by opposing administration efforts to rescind DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) and urging Congress to swiftly enact the Dream Act of 2017, which would allow these young people to earn lawful permanent residence and create a pathway to citizenship for longtime residents who came to the U.S. as children.
- Support continued funding for the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).
- Oppose removal of the U.S. from the Paris Agreement on Climate Action.

- CPHA participated in APHA Coalition fly-in visit to Colorado U.S. Senators offices to oppose 30% reduction in funding for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Graham-Cassidy ACA repeal bill.
- CO bill on testing for lead in school water (HB17-1306) that CPHA testified for in both the Colorado House and Colorado Senate committees
- SB 207, Strengthen Colorado Behavioral Health Crisis System
- Legislative Advocacy 101 webinar that was presented by Diana Protopapa of Frontline Public Affairs in January 2017

CPHA participated in coalition efforts in the 2017 Colorado Legislative Session to:
- Continue funding for the Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS).
- Continue funding for the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS).
- Continue funding for Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives (LARC).
- Support multiple bills to improve integrated mental health care and care access in Colorado, and assistance to released mentally ill offenders.
- Support funding and a new program to test for lead in school drinking water.
- Continue funding for School Based Health Centers (SBHCs).
- Support issuance of birth certificates in accord with gender identity for transgender Coloradans.
- Support employee (unpaid) leave to attend child’s academic activities.
- Increase funding for full day kindergarten.
- Support transparency in direct pay health care prices.
- Oppose repeal of Colorado Health Benefit Exchange.
- Support grant program for school counselors to provide early support for students.
- Support increase penalty for texting while driving.
- Support creation of medication-assisted treatment pilot program for opioid addiction.
- Oppose concealed carry of handguns without a permit and repeal of ammunition magazine prohibition.

Plan for 2017-2018
- Build on successes from this year in communications and action alerts, as well as on national campaigns like APHA’s National Public Health Week, Get Ready and Public Health Action Campaign.
- Develop a strong policy agenda that expands our partnerships with organizations addressing social determinants of health to advance health equity.
- Coordinate policy related activities throughout the year to increase civic engagement among our membership and strengthen foundational collaborations for advancing CPHA policy priorities.
- Expand interdisciplinary representation and engagement on our Policy Committee.
The goal of the CPHA Student Action Committee (SAC) is to increase membership and participation in CPHA activities while ensuring that the student voice is integrated into all aspects of CPHA. Over the past year, most efforts were focused internally to create a stronger and sustainable student committee.

This past year both Student Co-Directors Elizabeth Kudron and William Mundo were instrumental in developing the first Student Guiding Document with clear responsibilities and objectives to drive further student engagement. The new committee called the CPHA SAC will provide an informative session at PHIR 2017 about the current public health landscape in Colorado followed by an action plan for the 2017-2018 academic year. Students will have an opportunity to take on leadership roles to be the driving force of public health efforts in the workforce, educational institutions, and in communities across Colorado.

After having a successful welcome meeting early in the academic year, SAC has developed a student contact list to make communication easier. The committee also collaborated with the CU Denver Writing Center to hold an annual abstract writing workshop to help students prepare for the PHIR Conference. The student committee tabled at the CU Anschutz Welcome Wednesday and the CU Anschutz Block Party for the first time and will expand efforts to table at schools all over Colorado. The goal for the upcoming academic year is to create a sustainable committee and increase the representation of students in the public health field.

**Plan**
- Successfully transitioning directors and consider setting up quarterly meetings with new student directors to help establish leadership among the student committee and subcommittees.
- Developing interest in public health for students by teaching them about public health, promoting service learning, helping students gain networking opportunities, and to inform them about careers in public health.
Affiliate Representative to the Governing Council (ARGC) Report

Affiliate Representative to the Governing Council: Kim Boyd

CPHA is one of the 54 Affiliates of APHA's Governing Council. In addition to serving on the CPHA Board as an Officer, the ARGC represents CPHA on APHA's Governing Council, which is the legislative body of APHA. In November of 2016, the ARGC attended Governing Council at APHA's Annual Meeting and the APHA Mid-Year Governing Council Meeting in June 2017 representing CPHA. Throughout the year, the ARGC assisted CPHA's President and Board to support and stimulate the APHA/Affiliate relationship in the following ways:

• Being informed and prepared with the policy direction of CPHA in order to effectively represent CPHA within the APHA Governing Council.

• Assisting APHA, in cooperation with the CPHA president and Policy Director, with legislative advocacy. In 2017, this has included numerous advocacy efforts related to opposing congressional ACA Repeal efforts, in addition to developing CPHA responses to national policy directions such as the White House travel ban, and removal of the US from the Paris Agreement on Climate Action.

• Working with the CPHA President to ensure affiliate requirements are met, such as reviewing and submitting the APHA-CPHA Memorandum of Understanding, timely payment of the annual APHA dues assessment, and Completion of the Annual Policy Assessment.

• Maintaining an ongoing communication and liaison with the ARGC's of other affiliates, including quarterly meetings with Region VIII Affiliates.

National Public Health Week

Coordinating CPHA's sponsorship of National Public Health Week activities in Colorado, including:

Public Health Day at the Capitol
Public Health Advocacy Talks
Colorado Public Health Networking Event
Participation in APHA's 1 Billion Steps Challenge
Social Media Challenge… “What’s your #PictureofCOPH?”
VISION: Create the healthiest Colorado for everyone
MISSION: Educate, empower and develop the Colorado public health community