



The Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health in Mandan was an exciting event. The days were filled with information, ideas, networking, camaraderie, education and laughter.

I would like to thank Debbie Swanson of Grand Forks Public Health Department for her efforts and time spent to further the goals of NDPHA. She has skillfully moved NDPHA forward with advocacy at the forefront.

I would like to commend the Conference Task Force for all their hard work and creative ideas to put together a great Conference. A special thanks to Theresa Knox of Grand Forks Public Health Department for representing NDPHA.

After many years of service as historian, Carlotta Ehlis from the Southwestern District Health Unit in Dickinson is handing over her duties. We appreciate your many years of preserving NDPHA's history. Carlotta is so conscientious; she even found her own replacement in Maureen Roden also from the Southwestern District Health Unit, better known as "Moe the PIO." I noticed Maureen is taking her work quite seriously and already photographing people and events at the Conference.

The nursing section had a change in leadership. Thank you, Ruth Bachmeier of Fargo Cass Public Health, for guiding this section. Welcome, Nancy Bryn of First District Health Unit, McHenry County.

I would also like to welcome Sue Brandvold of First District Health Unit, Bottineau County, as the new vice president.

The Governing Council recommended Debbie Swanson continue as our Affiliate Representative to the Governing Council (ARGC) of the American Public Health Association (APHA). This was ratified at our annual meeting. APHA has requested that it be a 3 year term to improve the knowledge and involvement needed in such a position.

Some very exciting news is that we have a new section of NDPHA, a Tobacco Prevention section which is being chaired by Lori Brierley from First District Health Unit, Minot. We welcome the new section to NDPHA. I believe it is good that NDPHA can be fluid to change with the needs of our membership.

NDPHA is a vital organization to those interested in the health and welfare of the public. Join us next year, March 25th from 8:30 to 11:30 AM at the Ramada Plaza in Fargo. Note that you do not have to register for the Dakota Conference to participate in the NDPHA annual meeting. We welcome your presence and ideas.

Danell Eklund, President



2007 Governing Council Members

Danell Eklund, President
Karen Volk, President Elect
Sue Brandvold, Vice President
Nikki Medalen, Secretary/Treasurer
Debbie Swanson, Past President
Theresa Knox, Conference Planning Liaison
Paula Flanders, Health Policy, Section Chair
Maureen Roden, Historian
Nancy Bryn, Nursing Section Chair
Lori Brierley, Tobacco Prevention Section Chair

Please consider serving on one of the NDPHA Committees. Information about these committees is available on our website:

www.health.state.nd.us/ndpha

North Dakota Public Health Association Outstanding Service Award



Kathleen Mangskau

Kathleen was one of the pioneers for developing the *North Dakota Plan for a Tobacco Free State in 1986*. She contributed to this comprehensive study which calculated the overall impact of tobacco in our state. Her work led to the formation of Tobacco Free North Dakota which was the first statewide group organized specifically for passing policy.

In 2001, she became Director of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Division. Her leadership skills were essential during this time of tremendous growth in tobacco prevention at the state and local level. Kathleen's political astuteness, her drive to decrease the impact of tobacco on health, and her grant management/financial skills were keys to the success of the program over the past few years. She insisted on evidence based practices and through her leadership garnered support for a strong tobacco prevention program for state government, policy makers, health organizations, and volunteer agencies. Kathleen worked diligently to create North Dakota's Quitline system. She had the foresight and strategic vision to prepare the state for its successful passage of a fairly comprehensive smoke-free law in the 2005 Legislative Session. This law resulted in a tremendous increase in protection of North Dakotans from exposure to deadly secondhand smoke.

Kathy has earned the respect of the Local Public Health Administrators and Directors of Nursing across the state with her energy and dedication to work towards a tobacco free North Dakota. Her greatest asset as a public health professional is the moral courage that she demonstrated during times of significant political pressure. She always kept the public health agenda and the science of our profession as a top priority.



North Dakota Public Health Association Public Health Worker of the Year Award

Carrie Kaltenberg

Carrie has worked in the tobacco prevention program at the Grand Forks Public Health Department for 5 years, serving as the chair of the Grand Forks Tobacco Free Coalition. During that time she has assumed leadership positions to promote smoke free ordinances on the local level and statewide smoke free legislation. Saving lives through tobacco control is all about effective advocacy and Carrie has demonstrated powerful advocacy skills. Carrie mobilized community members in Grand Forks to influence the City Council to pass a smoke free ordinance in 2005. She

has been involved with the implementation of this initiative through citizen input, business education and enforcement efforts.

Carrie demonstrated exemplary standards of integrity and professionalism as she tactfully turned back multiple direct threats to the effectiveness of the task force's critical work. It takes courage and perseverance to stand firm in the face of political pressure to compromise science-based practices. Carrie has proven both her mettle and her abiding dedication to promoting the public's health through successful disease-prevention strategies.



North Dakota Receives Award at National Immunization Conference

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health received an award at the National Immunization Conference held in March for being one of three states with the most improved immunization rates since 2002 for six routinely recommended vaccines, according to Molly Sander, Immunization Program Manager.

The six recommended vaccines on which the award was based prevent against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, *Haemophilus influenzae* type B, polio and chickenpox. In 2002, the immunization rate for North Dakota children ages 19 months to 35 months was 56.3 percent. In 2005, the North Dakota immunization rate for the same vaccines was 78.7 percent, an increase of 22.4 percent since 2002.

“Local public health units, physicians, parents, the state health department and all their partners have worked hard to achieve this success for our children,” said Gov. John Hoeven. “Because of their commitment to good public health, a generation of North Dakota children is growing up protected from diseases that in the past have been a source of great concern to parents, schools and communities. We congratulate them, and thank them for their dedication and their service.”

The following health-care providers and local public health units achieved 85 percent coverage or better in 2006 for children younger than 2. (It is important to note that not all providers in the state are assessed each year.)

- Q&R Clinic Mandan East – Mandan
- Dickinson Clinic/Medcenter One Health Systems – Dickinson
- Mid Dakota Clinic Kirkwood – Bismarck

- Grafton Family Clinic – Grafton
- Altru Health Clinic Pediatrics – Grand Forks
- Altru Health Clinic Family Medicine – Grand Forks
- Grand Forks Family Residency Clinic – Grand Forks
- Meritcare Medical Group – Fargo
- MeritCare Southwest Pediatrics – Fargo
- MeritCare Clinic Jamestown – Jamestown
- MeritCare Clinic Valley City – Valley City
- MeritCare Clinic West Fargo – West Fargo
- Medcenter One Q&R Pediatrics – Bismarck
- Cavalier County Health District – Langdon
- Lake Region District Health Unit Ramsey County – Devils Lake
- Ransom County Public Health Department – Lisbon
- Central Valley Health District – Jamestown
- Upper Missouri District Health Unit – Williston
- Spirit Lake Health Center – Ft. Totten

For more information, contact Molly Sander, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.4556 or msander@nd.gov.



Conference Planning Committee Needs Your Involvement

Theresa Knox, MPH, RN

It's not too early to start planning for the Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health, in Fargo, March 25-28, 2008.

Since 2005, NDPHA has been able to “hand-pick” seven speakers for the annual Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health, (5 concurrent session speakers, 1 2-hour intensive session speaker (or speakers) and 1 keynote speaker).

The annual call for presentations goes out to solicit abstracts sometime in August. In order to allow the conference planners to search for speakers that won't duplicate topics and will provide a well rounded experience for participants, NDPHA needs

to have selected the topics and speakers of our choice before then.

The Conference Task Force needs your ideas for speakers that represent the interests of our state association and its membership. Maybe you have been to a conference recently and have heard an excellent speaker or perhaps you simply know someone from your area. Please take the time to make this important contribution to the success of the conference experience. Contact one of your representatives today!

2007 Task Force Representatives

Theresa Knox: tknox@grandforkgov.com

Kelly Nagel: kinagel@nd.gov

Let's make this year's conference the best yet!
Send us your innovative ideas today.

Healthy North Dakota Funding Task Force Outcomes

Task Force Members: Julie Ferry, Terry Dwelle, Debbie Swanson, Duane Houdek, Mike Melius, Kelly Nagel, JoAnne Hoesel, John Joyce, Arvy Smith, Dave Glatt and Melissa Olson.

The Task Force met August 25 and October 9, 2006.

The HND Funding Task Force identified the following three problem statements:

1. Conditions upon which corporate and private sources are accepted as funding for HND.
2. Process for communication from HND to its stakeholders.
3. The actions of one HND member reflect on the other members and partners.

To address Problem Statement #1, the following criteria were identified for guiding future HND funding application opportunities:

1. Corporate funding source be judged on whether they have earned their funds legally and not whether we make a moral judgment about the funding
2. Understand how the funding provider or the funding receiver will use the fact that funding was accepted
3. There would be no conditions or restrictions that would conflict with the vision, mission and goals of HND.
4. Does not jeopardize receipt of other funding sources in excess of the corporate grant
5. Are not expressly prohibited by other grant sources

6. Develop criteria to establish funders as direct (acceptable) or indirect (unacceptable). Establish an entity that breaks the tie to the unacceptable.
7. Approval by the HND committee that will be applying or working on the project
8. Consider other national organization's consensus regarding funding sources
9. Based on the purpose of the funding and not who the funder is

The HND Funding Task Force identified the following structure for voting on funding issues:

Key organizations and agencies that are involved in HND should be involved and will be represented in a task force. Controversial issues will be decided upon through a joint effort of the HND Advisory Committee and the HND Coordinating Committee.

The HND Funding Task Force identified the following implementation plan for its recommendations:

- Create communication piece that summarizes the 9 criteria discussed and disseminate to HND committees.
- The structure that the HND Funding Task Force agreed upon will make the final decisions regarding the nine identified criteria.
- If funding opportunities arise before the formal structure is in place, the current work product of the HND Funding Task Force will be used to make funding decisions.

The HND Funding Task Force identified the following items as "Parking Lot" issues:

- Need to define consensus as utilized during the HND Funding Task Force meetings.
- Consider noting minority opinion. Not all HND Funding Task Force members agreed with all HND Funding Task Force recommendations.
- HND can seek external expertise for controversial issues. (This applies to situations when HND may not have all the information to make a decision or know what impact a decision could have on HND partners.)
- Solidify/strengthen HND as an individual entity that partners with member stakeholder organizations.
- - It was noted that this issue could serve as a possible solution for Problem Statement 3.

The outcomes of the HND Funding Task Force will be presented to the HND Coordinating Committee and HND Advisory Committee. The Parking lot items and Problem Statements 2 & 3 will be considered as HND pursues implementation of its strategic assessment.