

Opportunities 2012



California Conference of Local Health Department Nutritionists

Message from the President

Hello Fellow CCLHDN Members,

You all know that if you miss a meeting, you're likely to be elected to an officer position or be assigned a task. Well in my case, I actually attended the Annual Meeting at Asilomar for the first time in about 5 years and walked away as President!

Seriously though, at Asilomar it became very clear to me that CCLHDN was at a critical point in its history, with members wanting to support the organization's growth and vision to be the voice for nutrition issues at the local and state level, but not able to step up and take a leadership role. As a result, I agreed to be President. I am also pleased to announce that Niaomi Hrepich has agreed to step up as President-Elect (to be confirmed by vote of the membership through upcoming survey). So here we are! The Board is rounded out by Nori Grossmann and Amy Glodde as Past Presidents, Diane Wayne as Treasurer and Denise Kirnig as Membership Secretary. Melody Steeples keeps us all on task as our paid support staff. I thank all these amazing leaders for their dedication and commitment to CCLHDN.



So much has happened since Asilomar that I wanted to give you an update. Through the support of Sue Foerster, we have been awarded a \$134,000 Network Leadership Project contract that will build member capacity, expand our networks and partnerships and help support our Annual Meeting. (Contact Melody at melody@can-act.net if you'd like a copy of the full scope of work and budget).

As a result of this wonderful funding opportunity, the Board has slightly

restructured CCLHDN's three committees to align with the grant deliverables. These committees are Conference and Training, Partnerships and Communication. More information on the Committees can be found later in this newsletter. Through the *Network* contract, we will be able to support paid staff to assist the Board and committees with their work. I really felt paid support staff was a crucial missing link for our organization as CCLHDN members are all busy professionals, willing to volunteer, but needing the support of paid staff to accomplish our vision. In addition to about a third of Melody's time, Rebecca Tryon will support the project at 70% FTE as a consultant Coordinator. Both are tied to *Network* funding this year, and paid support staff in the future will depend on funding available.

Finally, I would like to ask each of you to consider serving on one of the three committees outlined on the next page. The work of these three Committees, along with other leadership and advocacy efforts of the Board, will help accomplish what we talked about at Asilomar – build the capacity of our membership to synergize around and advocate for key nutrition issues that are timely and vital to our profession.

If you have any thoughts, questions or concerns, please contact me at 530-245-6869 or tfieldshosler@co.shasta.ca.us. Thank you for the challenge and opportunity to serve as your CCLHDN President. I am looking forward to a year of growth and establishing an infrastructure that takes CCLHDN to the next level.

In health,
Terri Fields Hosler, MPH, RD

California Conference of
CCLHDN
Local Health Department
Nutritionists

CCLHDN 11-12 Board

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Have We Got a Committee for You!

Growing CCLHDN

2010 marked a turning point for CCLHDN. We adopted and began implementation of a strategic plan intended to revitalize and strengthen the organization's voice for nutrition issues in the state. And 2011 has brought still more opportunities.

With the transition of SNAP-Ed to NEOP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Nutrition Education is now the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant Program); the *Network for a Healthy California* (part of the California Department of Public Health) is transitioning from the local match program to a grant program. The *Network* is working to expand the number of counties engaged in NEOP delivery by funding more than a dozen new health departments this year, and has awarded CCLHDN a Leadership Project contract to provide trainings, peer mentoring, and partnership development opportunities to county nutritionists. As a result of this new funding, the board revised the scope and purpose of the three CCLHDN committees and aligned the contract deliverables with those committees.



Coming Soon...



Annual Meeting: Mark your calendar for **May 23-24, 2011** when CCLHDN will be hosting its annual meeting—*Harnessing the Power of Technology for Healthy Change*—at the Citizen Hotel. While we all love the tranquility of Asilomar, its out-of-the-way location makes travel arrangements challenging. So this year, we're gath-

Conference and Training Committee is hard at work planning our annual meeting in Sacramento on May 23rd along with a Leadership Summit the following day at the same location to bring affiliates and partners across agencies to-



gether to synergize around NEOP funding and nutrition and physical activity initiatives. This group will also help with webinars to meet specific training needs for county nutritionists. **Chair: Denise Kirnig, Solano** (ddkirnig@solanocounty.org)

Communications Committee is exploring how CCLHDN can support its members and strengthen advocacy efforts around nutrition issues using new technology and social media venues. The goal is to develop an online forum that will support sharing stories, best practices and resources, and a more effective communication tool for members between annual meetings. **Chair: Nori Grossman, Alameda** (nori.grossmann@acgov.org)

Partnerships Committee is working to increase support for nutrition issues by developing and ex-

ering in Sacramento to explore how together we can raise our voice, provide our expertise, and learn from one another. We are also hosting a Leadership Summit where we'll consider the county nutritionist's role in the *Network's* transition plan and determine how to best work with potential partners—like CCLHO, CCLDHE, County welfare departments, Extension, *Network* Leadership Projects—and support local health departments in creating and

2012 is our window of opportunity for rebuilding professional nutrition capacity in local health departments.

CCLHDN Staff Support:

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panding strategic partnerships and networks. Special projects of this committee will be to support current or new C-NAPs- County Nutrition Action Partnerships and the development of a peer exchange and mentoring program. *Network* funding will allow CCLHDN members to travel to other counties to learn from colleagues that have been active in *Network* or C-NAPs previously. **Chair: Elaine Emery, Stanislaus** (eemery@schsa.org)

So, get involved by contacting the chairs of the committees directly or melody@can-act.net. You'll also have the opportunity to join one of the committees through our upcoming member survey—so stay tuned!

measuring change.

More learning opportunities:

We mentioned that CCLHDN is developing a "peer exchange" program, a learning collaborative, and webinars to provide development opportunities for nutrition program leaders. Are you a nutrition leader who has something to teach? Are you a nutrition leader who has something to learn? Please share your thoughts in our upcoming survey.