



## **Committee and Board Updates for Governing Council** *June 2021*

### **Action Board**

- The Action Board coordinated virtual Capitol Hill visits during National Public Health week, to advocate for APHA priorities. Twenty-two meetings took place with Senators from 16 different states. 258 APHA members sent Action Alerts to Congress during National Public Health Week, for a total of 1,389 messages sent to Congress so far this year.
- A new Advocacy Curriculum has been shared with Action Board members' sections.
- An advocacy webinar will be offered shortly before the summer Speak for Health Campaign (most of August – Labor Day). Information will be forthcoming.
- Planning is underway for advocacy sessions at the annual meeting.

### **Committee on Health Equity**

- Incoming and continued committee members were trained about the history of the American Public Health Association, structure and administration and the significance of CHEQ within the membership components of the Association. The group training was aimed for members to increase their participation, understand the required deliveries of the Committee, as the Diversity and Equity Assessment, engage in inter-sectorial work with other organizational structures and design innovative communication strategies to increase the awareness of the significance of Health Equity in Public Health among APHA members.
- Committee members selected to join the Leadership assessment and the overall membership Survey design groups reviewing the prior study (conducted three years ago) and preparing a more inclusive and representative questionnaire. With the technical expertise of some members the new instrument will facilitate participant engagement and foster transparency of data to advance APHA as a model organization in Equity and Diversity. A finalized document was submitted by the end of May for distribution and timely response. We expect to submit a report of the completed project by the October Annual Meeting.
- Members began to formulate different projects to increase Health Equity awareness and integration in practices and programs. A computer-based platform is under development and a second group is focusing in mentoring programs to train new Public Health professionals in the integration of Health Equity in their practice.
- A partnership to develop the Annual panel presentation has grown with the Community Health Planning and Policy Development Section. The traditionally well attended invited CHEQ session expect to be a challenging and thought-provoking session.

- The Committee on Health Equity (CHEQ) is charged with the responsibility of conducting a survey leading us to understand how satisfactory is the development of APHA towards its principles of inclusiveness and diversity and social justice. Based upon your responses, we will identify “best practices” with respect to diversity and equity employed by our peer committees and interest groups, and then disseminate these practices among our leadership and members. We hope to use this data to enable internal conversations that address barriers to achieving equity within APHA, that may in turn hinder APHA’s ability to serve as the leader within the larger public health community as the “primary voice for public health policy” (<https://www.apha.org/Policies-and-Advocacy>). Ultimately, enabling the diverse voices within APHA will translate into APHA’s ability to promote equitable public health advocacy across the world. Please access the survey at [https://unr.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cU4rCHDdnJmDnsq](https://unr.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cU4rCHDdnJmDnsq) and complete it by July 15, 2021.

### **Committee on Membership**

- The Committee on Membership will be reviewing APHA Zoom backgrounds, which sections may use for meetings as they wish. The Committee will also be discussing methods to collect and share best practices, as well as creating a toolkit for Committee members.

### **Committee on Women’s Rights**

- On March 26<sup>th</sup>, the COWR partnered with the APHA to have a Statement from the APHA COWR put on the APHA social media platforms to express our sympathies for those affected by the recent shootings in Atlanta, GA and Boulder, CO and to raise awareness about the intersection of race, class and gender as a determinant of workplace inequality that further subjects women to violence.
- The APHA COWR has also received several APHA policy statements and it has developed three special sessions that will be presented during the 2021 APHA Annual meeting.

### **Publications Board**

- The APHA Press secured two new projects, emergency health, family health and is working on developing a subcommittee of the Board to identify a COVID project(s) for the Press.
- **Projects in production:**
  - Public Health Under Siege: Improving Policy in Turbulent Times
  - Cannabis: A Policymaker’s Guide
  - Landesman’s Public Health Management & Disaster, 5<sup>th</sup> edition
  - Control of Communicable Diseases 21<sup>st</sup> ed
  - Standard Methods for the Examination of Dairy Products, 18<sup>th</sup> ed
- **Titles released:**
  - Gun Violence: A Public Health Approach

- Advocacy and Public Health
- Social Determinants of Healthy Aging

### **Science Board**

- The Science Board asks members to please review the [proposed policy statements set to be archived](#) at the close of the 2021 Annual Meeting. If an APHA member (or Member Unit) believes that a policy statement scheduled for archiving is still current, they can submit a special request to the Science Board for review of the science, references and action steps of the policy statement set to be archived. A rationale for keeping the policy statement active and removing it from the consent agenda for archiving must accompany the request. Such a request must be submitted to [policy@apha.org](mailto:policy@apha.org) by 11:59 p.m. ET on June 30, 2021 (deadline extended). The Science Board will review these requests and present their recommendations to the Governing Council, along with the archiving consent agenda at the 2021 Annual Meeting.