



Idaho Public Health Association

In This Issue

Please Join IPHA Today

IPHA is National Affiliate of the Year

Unmet Social Needs Worsen Health

Healthy People 2020 Health Indicators

Quick Links

[Website](#)

[News](#)

[Events](#)

[Join Us](#)

[Donate](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Won't You Join Us?

As the oldest, continuously functioning nonprofit organization dedicated to public health in the state, IPHA fights for the health and safety of every Idaho citizen through advocacy, education and research. From vaccination

Happy New Year! January 2012

Welcome New Board Officers and Members

Andy Hyer, JD, MHS - President
Susan Ault, NP - President Elect
Nikki Sakata, MPH - Secretary
Sarah Toevs, PhD, RDH - Treasurer
Katy Quinn, MHS - member
Conrad Colby, PhD, RRT - member

Thank you to Vivian Lockary, MPH - Past President

Welcome to Kim Gallagher, who will serve as IPHA's Policy Intern during the coming legislative session. Kim is a student in BSU's Master of Health Science program and will be working with Margaret Henbest (from the Idaho Alliance for Leaders in Nursing) in preparing weekly legislative updates.

IPHA Receives Outstanding Affiliate of the Year Award

The Idaho Public Health Association was honored at the American Public Health Association's (APHA) 139th Annual Meeting in Washington DC, in November 2011 for decades of significant contributions to public health through innovative partnerships and advocacy.

The award was presented by the APHA's Committee on Affiliates (CoA) as part of its Annual Meeting. IPHA Past President Sarah Toevs and incoming President Andrew Hyer accepted the award on behalf of the Association. IPHA was one of four recipients of CoA awards during the reception. The awards included: Outstanding Affiliate of the Year, Award of Excellence, Outstanding Student of the Year, and Chair's Citation.



Dr. Sarah Toevs presented the Outstanding Affiliate of the Year award to IPHA President Vivian Lockary at the Nov. 16 Fall Advocacy Forum. The event

awareness and disaster preparedness, to health promotion and prevention of chronic disease, IPHA is Idaho's public health guardian.

We need your help. Please become a member, renew your dues, make a donation, or volunteer to serve on a committee if you are a member (we especially need members for our Policy Committee!).

As stated in a nomination letter, "Thanks to dedicated board of directors and outstanding committee leadership, the organization has made great strides and continues to build its infrastructure, increase membership, and communicate to partners and collaborators to strengthen the public health system in Idaho. All because these public health champions believe that without public health, there can be no individual health."

was sponsored by the Idaho Public Health Association and the Idaho Nonprofit Center. About 80 people attended a presentation on advocacy and legislative panel with Q&A, with very favorable reviews.

Unmet Social Needs Worsen Health

Although many physicians say their patients have health concerns caused by social issues, only 20 percent feel able to address them, a survey shows.

Physicians are frustrated by social issues that affect their patients' health -- so much so, that nearly three of four doctors surveyed by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation said they would write a prescription to cure them if they could.

Eighty-five percent of primary care physicians and pediatricians say unmet social needs are directly leading to worse health for all Americans, according to the survey, which was released online Dec. 8, 2011.

Yet, only 20 percent of doctors feel confident or very confident in their ability to address those needs.

Unmet social needs could be any issue that is not under a doctor's direct control, and may or may not be under the patient's control. Many physicians say they want to prescribe nutritional food, exercise housing assistance and help with utility bills in an effort to improve their patients' health.

[Read more...](#)

By Christine S. Moyer, amednews staff. Posted Jan. 2, 2012.

Who's Leading the Leading Health Indicators?

Starting in January 2012, the Healthy People 2020 News You Can Use updates will be transformed into a new resource we're referring to as Who's Leading the Leading Health Indicators? The Leading Health Indicators (LHIs) are a smaller set of

Healthy People 2020 objectives that have been selected to communicate high-priority health issues to the Nation.

The monthly series will spotlight an LHI topic area by providing an overview of the health topic, noting the most recent data and trends, and showcasing states, communities, or organizations that are addressing the LHIs in innovative ways. You will also continue to receive periodic updates highlighting new Healthy People resources and events.

[Learn More About the Leading Health Indicators](#)

Special Thanks to our Donors in 2011

Vivian Lockary, Joanne Mitten, Galen Louis, Sarah Toevs, Andy Hyer, Susan Ault, Cal Gillis

In addition to you membership in IPHA, please consider a donation to our Student Scholarship Fund, Legislative Update Fund, or General Operating Fund in 2012. [Donate here...](#)

Idaho Public Health Association PO Box 6247 Boise ID 83707 Phone 208-392-8524

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Idaho Public Health Association | P.O. Box 6247 | Boise | ID | 83707