

METRO HEALTH

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

MAY 2010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A Message from the President	1
MWPHA Committees	
Federal Legislative Update	2
MWPHA Scholarships/Awards	
MD Public Health News	3
MWPHA Conference Recap	
DC Public Health News	4
MWPHA Member Update	5
Upcoming Events	6
MWPHA Past Events	8-9
DC Legislative Update	

ABOUT MWPHA:

What is the Metropolitan Washington Public Health Association?
MWPHA is the regional affiliate of the American Public Health Association since 1962.

Why become a member?
Get involved with building public health leadership, partnerships, and advocating for health equality. MWPHA members are encouraged to join a committee or program of interest.

Who are our members?
We are health professionals, advocates, students, and community members dedicated to improving the health of the DC and surrounding areas of VA and MD.

:: A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings,

I have been the President of MWPHA for the past year and now have one year remaining in my term. It has been an exciting time to be President. MWPHA has been involved in many positive policy changes including menu labeling in Health Reform and the passage of the DC Healthy Schools Act tackling childhood obesity and physical activity. These initiatives will impact not just the health of one individual but have a broad public health impact on the region and the nation.

Despite our many accomplishments within metro Washington, some alarming health concerns remain that need further action. For instance, DC's HIV/AIDS rate is still the highest in the nation and the surrounding areas of Maryland and Virginia are also impacted.

Also, the Housing for Opportunities for People HIV/AIDS wait list continues to grow. Furthermore as a resident of Ward 8 in DC, youth violence is on my mind as I mourn the loss of our promising youth. When facing these difficult issues, it is easy to feel overwhelmed and even defeated.

MWPHA can still make a significant impact on the health of the region.

To continue to do the work we need your help. Over 80% of MWPHA's funds come from your membership dues and donations. We have 100 paid members but over 400 people on our two listservs. Therefore, I know there are 300 of you we have yet to convince to become members. Also, donations to MWPHA have been very low this year. I am asking you to consider MWPHA as a part of your charitable giving.

Here is what your tax-deductible donations can do:

\$25	30 days of outreach materials
\$75	Cost of Materials for Awards and Scholarships Ceremony
\$150	Cost of 1 continuing education (CEU) event
\$300	30 days of MWPHA operating expenses
\$500	One semester of supplies for our programmatic projects
\$1000	Cost of APHA Annual Meeting (including travel for our Affiliate Representative to the Governing Council)



Inviting your colleagues and community members to join MWPHA is another way you can help. MWPHA has made funding diversification a top priority and will seek foundation, government and corporate grants and donations.

Finances aside, I sincerely appreciate all of the volunteer time you donate because that helps us fill in the gaps and consequently enhances MWPHA's local presence, strength, and credibility as well as our continued commitment among our many public health endeavors.

Sincerely,

Aisha L. Moore, MPH, CHES

:: MWPHA PROGRAM COMMITTEES NEED YOU!

Health Disparities
Chair, Karyn Pomerantz, MLS, MPH

Are you down to fight the racism and inequalities that make us sick? Join our social justice efforts as we partner with like-minded organizations on issues of living wages, affordable housing and unequal distribution of services.

We hold monthly HIV/AIDS outreach and the subcommittee Positive Places is fighting for an end to the HIV/AIDS housing waiting list.

Food & Environment
Chair, Tandra Stevenson, MS

The new civil rights issues in America is access and affordability to nutrient-rich whole foods. We are working hard to pass and fund the DC Healthy Schools Act this year with the DC Soda Tax.

The subcommittee DC Voices for Meal Choices wish to develop an expanded agenda to recognize the impact of obesity and food insecurity in the region and to pass the DC Menu Labeling Act.

Women, Youth & Children
Chair, Mary Frances Kornak, MPH

The goal is to bring awareness of health issues of women and young people in the region.

Tobacco Use Policy
Chair, Dr. Caroline Sparks

The goal of Campuses for Clean Air is to make the GWU campus a tobacco-free environment for the comfort and safety of all—students, staff, and visitors.



GWU Students educate people on menu options.

>> VISIT YOUR METRO DC PUBLIC HEALTH SOURCE AT

MWPHA.ORG

:: PETITION: B18-0136 – “HUMAN RIGHTS FOR EX-OFFENDERS AMENDMENT ACT OF 2009”

This legislation supports the Human Rights for Ex Offenders. Why it matters? If passed, **this bill will eliminate the box on job applications asking if you were ever convicted of a crime.** The employer would have to hire you first and then conduct a background check.

Given, if the violation relates to the position the person is hired for, a person can be released from employment. However, in the time it takes for the background check to come back, the person

could have been working for 4 to 5 weeks and doing an excellent job. This bill makes it harder for an employer to fire you because of your record. This bill gives the ex-offenders entry into the workplace and stability.

Currently, this Bill rests with Councilmember Yvette Alexander, Ward 7. She has no plans to move this bill, due to not enough support! Also, indicate if you are interested in participating in a radio broadcast on the topic.

Introduced by Councilmember Barry last February, with co-sponsorship by Harry Thomas Jr. and Yvette Alexander. It has a public hearing on July 1st, but has not moved forward. View the bill at www.dccouncil.us/images/00001/20090210104039.pdf. What to do:

1. **SHOW YOUR SUPPORT**
2. **SIGN THE PETITION**
3. **EMAIL tskipper40@gmail.com**

:: INTRODUCING *BEST BONES FOREVER!*

A fresh and fun bone health campaign for girls

Osteoporosis is a pediatric disease with geriatric consequences. In terms of bone health, the stage is set early on: girls build close to 90% of their bone mass by age 18. Once they reach adulthood, it becomes increasingly difficult for them to make it up. Unfortunately, most adolescent girls do not get the calcium, vitamin D, and physical activity they need to grow strong, healthy bones.

That's why the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office



on Women's Health launched *Best Bones Forever!*, a national bone health campaign for girls ages 9-14. *Best Bones Forever!* focuses on friendship and fun—and encourages girls to “grow strong together, stay strong forever.”

The new campaign empowers girls

posters, magnets, tattoos, book covers and at www.bestbonesforever.gov to get girls excited about growing healthy bones! Parents can get important bone health information from a brochure in both English and Spanish, and at www.bestbonesforever.gov/parents.

Help make an impact by encouraging girls and their daughters to make bone health a priority. **If you are interested in ordering our free *Best Bones Forever!* materials, contact Talia at OWH@hagerssharp.com.**

:: MWPHA SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Scholarships Due May 27th!

1. Apply for or nominate yourself/ someone for the 2010 Public Health Awards and Charles Hayman Memorial Scholarship. Both awards will be presented at the Scholarship and Awards Ceremony in June 2010.

Public Health Awards

Each year MWPHA presents the public health awards to a deserving organization or individual in the DC Metropolitan area who has demonstrated a commitment to public health.

2. Download form at www.mwpha.org.

Charles Hayman Memorial Scholarship

The Charles Hayman Scholarship will be awarded annually to a current or aspiring public health worker and/or student who seeks additional public health training.

3. Email completed form to Sarah Jackson at ssjac79@gmail.com.

:: PROVIDERS DISCUSS HIV/AIDS RESOURCES FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

On Friday, April 23 the "Health Action Forum of Prince George's County" sponsored panel discussions on the HIV/AIDS resources and issues in the county. The program was held in the Pavilion at Prince George's Hospital Center (PGHC).

Voices from institutional leaders and community organizers presented information about resources and strategies for advancing the struggle against HIV/AIDS in Prince George's. Members of **MWPHA's Health Disparities Committee** challenged the panel to consider the social determinants of disease and push for increased support by the state and county.

The economic crisis is being used to cut programs at a time when more people need them. Dr. Linda Green, a MWPHA Governing Councilor, described available programs through Dimensions and PGHC and emphasized the need for increased prevention through housing, substance abuse strategies such as needle exchange and early detection. PGHC is home to a CDC grant for HIV screening in the Emergency Room, which is overseen by Camilla Stanley, MPH (GWSPH) – the only hospital in the DC suburbs with



L to R Dr. Sarah Leonhard (Greater Baden), Dr. Linda Green (MWPHA and Prince George's Hospital Center), Mr. Lawrence Smith (Treasurer, Ryan White Planning Council), Dr. Donald Shell (PG County Health Officer). Out of the picture is Emily Grantz Mckay (Moderator, Mosaica and Washington Aids Partnership)

such a program.

Dr. Sarah Leonhard spoke from Greater Baden (FQHC) on the need to increase capacity for both primary care and specialty care and noted that screening in her clinics had identified a 3% rate of HIV infection. Dr. Donald Shell, PG County Health Officer, described the need to address behavior and expand education.

He and Mr. Lawrence Smith from the Ryan White Planning Council noted that the 1.2 million allocated for the county is a far cry from that needed to expand outreach and education. Dedra Spears-

Johnson from Heart to Hand, a community-based organization in the county for 11 years, described the case management and other services they provide and the difficulty in getting patients enough support to guarantee consistent adherence.

Audience members included University of Maryland School of Public Health faculty and health department staff as well as people living with aids (PLWA). MWPHA will be working with all these groups to increase collaboration, advocacy and activism over the next few months.



L to R Pastor Anthony E. Moore (Carolina Baptist Church), Dedra Spears-Johnson (Heart to Hand) and Lisa Connors (Community Health Educator, Greater Baden)

Contact Dr. Green at 301-618-3371 or via email (green_linda@hotmail.com) to get involved and provide suggestions.

:: MWPHA ANNUAL MEETING MOVED ATTENDEES' PASSION TO ACT

Over 60 people convened in Washington, DC for the **2010 MWPHA Annual Meeting**. Public health leaders from across the region provided great information, insights and opinions on the topic of public health leadership. The meeting was held at the Kaiser Family Foundation Barbara Jordan Center.

During the conference there were many opportunities for networking built in. The morning panel addressed the challenges that today's leaders may face. With the help of Larry Bryant from Housing Works, attendees were given some time to reflect on their leadership development.

Shavon Arline, MPH, Director of Health Programs for the NAACP provided us with a post lunch time dynamic and interactive motivational talk.

In the afternoon we heard about the success and challenges of advocating for change on the local level. The final panel gave the attendees tips on becoming an independent consultant.

Remarks from the attendees:

"I liked the interactive breaks which improved lunch discussions."

"This was a wonderful meeting-one of the best ever (not just MWPHA). A wide range of aspects meant that you covered the topic of advocacy in depth. Very practical and interesting. And several great speakers and moderators."

"The annual meeting of MWPHA provided an opportunity to network with other public health professionals and facilitates conversations about activism."

"I loved the keynote speaker Shavon Arline. Great passion, great tool pointers for continuing our work in public health. I would love her as a mentor."

:: ADVOCACY SUCCESS: SAVE LIVES, FREE THE CONDOMS!

If you walk into any CVS store within the District today, you will find that an overwhelming majority of stores display all their condoms on open shelves. If you find yourselves asking “so what?” you should know that this was not always the case.

In 2006, a group of graduate student advocates from the George Washington University (GWU) School of Public Health and Health Services identified a barrier to HIV risk-reduction behavior: condoms at CVS, the most prominent pharmacy in the District, were inaccessible.

Approximately 40 percent of stores placed their condoms behind locked-glass cases, where customers were required to ask for assistance from a CVS staff member (an embarrassing task for many) before they could obtain and purchase condoms. In addition, it was found that the stores in which condoms were inaccessible also tended to be in lower-income, predominantly African-American communities with the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the District.

After conducting their initial needs assessment, the GWU graduate students started The Save Lives Free the Condoms (SLFC) advocacy campaign, under the direction of MWPHA member and Professor Caroline Sparks, to address issues of condom inaccessibility in D.C. CVS stores.

Housed within the MWPHA Health Disparities Committee, chaired by Karyn Pomerantz, the SLFC campaign aimed to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and unintended pregnancies within the District by advocating for improved condom accessibility.

Since the inception of the SLFC campaign, GWU student advocates used coalition-

building, media, and negotiation tactics to fight to meet their primary objective: stop CVS from restricting access to condoms in all District stores. Through months of regular MWPHA meetings, protests, petition signings, social networking, and media recognition; SLFC achieved its first big step towards policy change: attention from DC City Council’s Committee on Health.

In the spring of 2009, MWPHA members Kafui Doe and Kiana Bess worked with the Committee and testified in front of the Chairman of the Committee on Health, David Catania, on the importance of improving condom accessibility in District CVS stores. Soon after, at the July 6, 2009 HIV/AIDS Administration (HAA) meeting, Councilman Catania announced that he received a letter from CVS corporate offices stating that by September 2009, CVS would alter its display of condoms in all District stores to reduce barriers to accessibility.

This spring, MWPHA members and GWU graduate student advocates Dana Al-Khalifa and Marquita Campbell set out to identify if the SLFC campaign succeeded in stopping CVS stores from restricting access to condoms. Dana and Marquita, with the help of three additional data collectors (MWPHA members Ron Harris, Jana Baldwin, and Sarah Peterson), conducted store surveys and managerial interviews at 53 CVS District store locations.

Store-survey data found that an overwhelming majority (91 percent) of all District stores now display *all* condoms on open shelves. Only two stores were found to lock large-packs of condoms behind glass cases, and three stores were found to store condoms in click boxes (a mechanical device that can be operated without the assistance of CVS staff).



MWPHA members and GWU students at a local CVS pharmacy in DC advocating for access to condoms for safer sex and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Data collected from interviews found that at least 11 of the store managers (of stores that locked condoms in 2006) improved condom accessibility practices within their stores recently, suggesting changes in practices could have been directly attributed the SLFC testimony one year earlier.

During the interviews, several managers made indirect references to the local community group (SLFC) that influenced this policy change. While none of the managers mentioned the SLFC campaign by name, several comments made it clear that the advocacy campaign successfully lead to increased pressure among CVS decision makers to improve condom accessibility.

This progress is a testament to the principles of Community Organizing; to what can happen when a community of passionate individuals joins together to mobilize resources and develop and implement strategies to fight an issue that is viewed by a community as unjust.

We encourage all MWPHA members to celebrate in the success of this campaign, and hope that members are inspired to actively support future MWPHA advocacy initiatives and activities.

Submitted by Dana Al-Khalifa

:: STAY CONNECTED TO YOUR METRO PUBLIC HEALTH SOURCE

 www.groups.to/mwpha

 www.twitter.com/mwpha

 www.linkedin.com/groups

:: MWPHA MEMBER UPDATE

Ndidi Amutah, MPH, PhD, a MWPHA member and Governing Councilor will start the Kellogg Community Health Scholar postdoctoral fellowship this Fall. She graduated from the University of Maryland College Park with her PhD in maternal and child health.

The fellowship focuses on community based participatory research, health disparities, and health policy. Learn more at www.kellogghealthscholars.org. Also Ndidi was inducted into the Delta Omega, public health honor society this May.

Nina Brown, MPH, CHES, a MWPHA member and Governing Councilor, was hired this year at Metro Teen AIDS as the Evaluation and Program Development Manager.

Kafui Doe, MPH, CHES, a MWPHA member, Communications Chair, and Governing Councilor graduated from George Washington University School of Health Sciences and Services with her MPH degree and graduate certificate.

She is now working on the Healthy Schools Act with the DC Office of the State Superintendent for Education.

Tambra Stevenson, MS, a MWPHA Vice President, Founding Chair of the Food & Environment Committee and Governing Councilor, is completing personal chef training and obtaining ServSafe food handler's license.

Special congratulations for summer birthdays and MWPHA student members who are graduating with the Class of 2010!

We wish you the very best.

:: MWPHA PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

Equitable social conditions, such as living wage jobs, affordable and stable housing, literacy, and safe work sites, create health.

Over the last month, MWPHA Health Disparities Committee members have joined with others to create healthier conditions. We need more members to bring public health to these important campaigns:

DC Fights Back – Campaign to End AIDS celebrated its 5th anniversary in April. Many MWPHA members have joined with DCFB to secure housing for people living with AIDS and a local plan to fight the epidemic. www.dcfightsback.org.

Positive Places, MWPHA's subcommittee on housing and HIV, submitted testimony to the DC City Council on ending the 600 person housing waiting list for people living with AIDS. positiveplacesdc.weebly.com

Healthy Schools Coalition fights for comprehensive health and sexuality

education and healthy nutrition programs in the public schools. MWPHA members are members of the coalition and contributed testimony at the City Council hearings. See www.dchunger.org

Save Our Safety Net fights against the budget cuts for public libraries, health centers, adult education programs, child care, and housing. MWPHA has joined this coalition at its rallies and Council visits. See updates at www.saveoursafetynet.com

Jobs with Justice DC organized a press conference and attended hearings to stop the Secure Communities program that requires the police to send fingerprints of all arrested people to ICE, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency. Jwj supports hotel, construction, and other workers who organize for health care, safety, living wages, and jobs. MWPHA is a member of this coalition. www.jobswithjusticedc.org

Health Information Partners

teaches people how to use health information on the Internet. It funds community health advocates and coaches from 21 literacy, workforce, and health organizations to host workshops and outreach.

Current organizations include the Community Education Group, DC Center for LGBT, Different Avenues, MWPHA, PIA, Whitman Walker, and The Women's Collective. connectforhealth.gwu.edu

St Teresa of Avila's Health Ministry

has been a key partner with the Food and Environment Committee and partners in forming the DC Food Justice Coalition to advocate, engage and inform key stakeholders on transforming the food system East of the River.

Partner with MWPHA on key health and social justice issues in the metro Washington area!

Extra! Extra! >>>

MWPHA Newsletter Gets a Facelift. What do you think? Share your feedback and give suggestions at communications@mwpha.org

:: UPCOMING PUBLIC HEALTH EVENTS



The DC Healthy School Act passed. Now let's get it funded. Pass the DC Soda Tax!

Why the urgency?

Council meets this week to decide the budget. Big Soda lobbyists have used deceptive ads to sway members.

How can you help?

1. Call, visit or email DC Council

- Harry Thomas (Ward 5)
(202)724-8028
- Vince Gray (Ward 7)
(202)724-8032
- Kwame Brown (at Large)
(202)724-8174
- Yvette Alexander (Ward 7)
(202)724-8068

2. Sign the Online Petition

www.supportthehealthyschools.org

For more info, contact the MWPHA Food and Environment Committee at tambra@creativecause.org.

In collaboration with key partners across the Chesapeake area, ECO, Inc. is organizing and hosting Sowing Seeds Here and Now!: A Chesapeake Area Urban Farming Summit on **Friday, June 18th, 2010 at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in Maryland.**

Join farmers and public health practitioners, policy advocates and teachers, city planners, and local food entrepreneurs to work together to identify and smash barriers to urban farming, and to embrace lessons learned by people around the country who are advancing urban agriculture to meet our complex community needs. Hands on trainings, inspiring stories, and constructive strategies for justice and health will flourish in the three tracks of the one day Summit. **Keynote speaker and inspiration is Will Allen of Growing Power.**

Scholarships available reducing the ticket price to \$10. Volunteers wanted. Learn more at www.sowingseedshereandnow.com.

Save the date: October 21-22, 2010! Each year the American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR) welcomes dietitians, clinical investigators, epidemiologists, basic scientists, and other health professionals interested in discussing the latest research on food, nutrition and physical activity as they relate to cancer prevention, treatment and survival.

This year's conference will be held at the **Capital Hilton Hotel in Washington, DC on October 21-22, 2010.** There will be a number of networking opportunities, including RD roundtables and a poster session. CPEU and CME credits are available.

For more information please visit www.aicr.org/conference, email research@aicr.org, or call 202-328-7744.



Solution-Focused Brief Therapy: Creative Applications in Community-Based Settings

This training features leading thinkers and practitioners in the field who will guide attendees through a number of workshops designed to build skills and confidence in this effective approach to working with families. This training institute is being held in **Washington, DC from June 29 - July 2, 2010.** Professionals from across the globe will convene to improve their skills and

learn from their international, national, and local peers. Attendees include social workers, school-based counselors, parent coordinators, and teachers, law enforcement and youth/gang violence prevention.

Solution-focused Brief Therapy is inherently strength-based and holistic in the way it engages families. While developed initially as a therapy model, it has transferred well to many different areas of community work.

Its combination of looking forward while helping people recognize their strengths and learn from their successes is a perfect fit for the development of family plans, street-level outreach, adult reentry counseling, job readiness training, and family group conferences. The possibilities are endless! Visit the Columbia Heights/Shaw Family Support Collaborative at <http://www.chsfsc.org> or **contact Danica Johnson at 202-518-6737.**

:: Got News?

Email your public health updates, professional/personal achievements, and community news to your MWPHA Newsletter Editor at communications@mwpha.org.

:: MWPHA AFFILIATE PARTNERS: SOPHE



SOPHE AWARDS

The Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) recognizes outstanding contributions to health education and health promotion at its Annual Awards Banquet, which will be held in Denver, Colorado on **November 6, 2010 in conjunction with the Society's 61st Annual Meeting.**

SOPHE awards include (1) Distinguished Fellow, (2) Health Education Mentor Award, (3) Program Excellence Awards, (4) Open Society Award, (5) Graduate Student Research Paper and (6) Vivian Drenckhahn Student Scholarship.

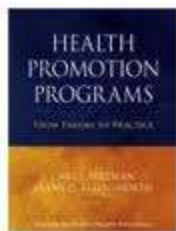
Nominate yourself or a colleague. **Applications are due July 31 and available at www.sophe.org/awards_scholarships.cfm.**

SOPHE JOURNAL

SOPHE announces the release of two special issues of its practitioner journal, Health Promotion Practice (HPP), in May 2010.

Funded by CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health (CDC DASH), the supplement *Reducing Health Disparities Among Youth: Promising Strategies* features articles about practice-based programs aimed at reducing disparities affecting children and adolescents.

The issue addresses a range of health topics—including physical activity, sexual behavior, alcohol use, and immunizations in a variety of settings. Highlighted programs utilize individual, family, and community approaches to address not only behavior change, but also to create environments and opportunities that will sustain optimal



health and development.

Accompanying the supplement is a focus issue on Environmental Health Promotion. Funded by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), this special issue highlights practice-based programs aimed at facing a variety of complex, multi-dimensional environmental challenges.

Featured articles highlight programs that increase preparedness for chemical disasters, reduce carbon monoxide exposure, promote food and home safety among U.S.-Mexico border residents, and modify the built environment to improve individual- and community health. Collectively, these articles underscore the importance of community participation in environmental decisions, the need for accurate and timely public education to reduce hazardous exposures, and partnerships.

HPP publishes authoritative, peer-reviewed articles devoted to the practical application of health promotion and education. The journal is unique in its focus on critical and strategic information for professionals engaged in the practice of developing, implementing, and evaluating health promotion and disease prevention programs. **To view articles online or to order a copy of these issues in print, please visit <http://hpp.sagepub.com/>.**

SOPHE TEXTBOOK

SOPHE's comprehensive undergraduate textbook, *Health Promotion Programs* introduces the theory of health promotion and presents an overview of current best practices from a wide variety of settings that include schools, health care organizations, workplace, and community. The 43 contributors focus on students and professionals interested in planning, implementing, and evaluating programs that promote health equity.

The textbook covers a range of key organizational health promoting practices, such as: identifying organizational key stakeholders, articulating challenges, assessing needs and assets, building evidence-based health education programs and services, funding and budgeting, evaluation, advocacy, and professional development. This vital resource for faculty, students, and professionals provides the needed guidance and tools for a career in health promotion. **Hurry! Order for your fall semester today! To learn more about this publication OR to order, visit www.sophe.org.**

SOPHE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (H. R. 3590), and its companion bill, the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (H.R. 4872) were signed into law on March 23 and March 30, respectively. Although many of the major provisions do take effect until 2014, some key reforms will begin in 2010 and 2011, including:

- Temporary access to insurance for people with preexisting conditions: On June 21, a program to provide coverage for individuals with preexisting conditions who have not had insurance for at least six months will be created;
- No preexisting condition restrictions for children: On September 23, insurance plans will be prohibited from excluding coverage for preexisting conditions for children 19 or younger;
- Expanded dependent coverage: On September 23, adult children 26 or younger may be covered as dependents on their parents' health insurance;
- Immunizations and preventative

:: MWPHA PARTNER AFFILIATE: SOPHE (CONTINUED)

services: On September 23, new plans must cover recommended preventive services and immunizations without requiring cost sharing.

- Creating a National Health Care Workforce Commission: By September 30, the Comptroller General will appointment members to the Commission to develop and offer health care career pathways, including "allied health and public health care workforce capacity at all levels."

The Society for Public Health Education has developed a two-page fact-sheet that outlines the implementation of The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. **Get details on provisions at www.sophe.org/Sophe/PDF/Health%20Care%20Reform.pdf.**

SOPHE CONFERENCE

SOPHE's 2010 Annual Meeting, **"Healthy People 2020: Scaling New Heights" will take place November 4-6, 2010 at the Marriot Hotel in Denver, Colorado.**

Public health professionals working in disease prevention and health promotion have much to celebrate and still more to discover. At the conclusion of the Healthy People (HP) 2010 decade, we should recognize our achievements and learn from our challenges.

At this conference, plenary speakers and presenters will share progress and discovery in disease prevention and health promotion, discuss goals and expectations for the next decade, and describe innovative strategies for achieving those objectives. **For more information, visit www.sophe.org/annualmeeting.cfm.**

SOPHE WEBINARS

SOPHE remains committed to providing professional development opportunities for professionals to independently advance their skills and knowledge in an array of topic areas through web seminars covering a range of topics.

The webinars include (1) food safety, (2) climate change, (3) state legislation, (4) career branding, (5) self marketing, (6) health disparities, (7) grassroots activism, (8) emergency communication with ethnic communities, (9) injury prevention, and (10) health reform.

To access these webinars and SOPHE journal self-study test opportunities, visit: www.sophe.org/Self_Study.cfm.

:: MWPHA PAST OUTREACH EVENTS

May '09

- MWPHA Annual Meeting: The role of Public Health Research in Cancer Genetics
- MWPHA Awards Ceremony
- Charles Hayman Scholarship
- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County
- Dinner Talk on Blood Pressure at Royal Courts Community Center
- Malcolm X Day Health Fair

June '09

- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County

July '09

- MWPHA received "I'll Be There" Award from Jobs with Justice
- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County

August '09

- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County

September '09

- Eat-In at St Teresa of Avila Catholic Church
- Members testified at HIV AIDS Town Hall Meeting sponsored by the White House
- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County
- Ward 8 Democrats Health Fair

October '09

- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County

November '09

- Training: Intimate Partner Violence and HIV/AIDS
- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County
- Sign-on to the RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE EXPANDED AND IMPROVED MEDICARE FOR ALL ACT (HR 676)



- Healthy Food Event at St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church
- Maternal and Child Health Committee completed an introductory brochure on DC comparing to National and local jurisdictions on major MCH issues.

December '09

- MWPHA Holiday Day Open House
- World AIDS Day March and Advocacy Event
- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County
- Maternal and Child Health Committee supports EMPOWER DC in their fight for Child Care

January '10

- Social Change in Public Health Workshop
- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County

:: MWPHA PAST OUTREACH EVENTS (CONTINUED)

February '10

- Maternal and Child Health Committee meets with GWU to discuss student involvement in the MCH committee.

March '10

- Public Health Leadership Roundtable Series "What's on your plate? Food Policy Forum at Hyattsville Library
- Policy/Outreach in Montgomery & Prince George's County"
- Maternal and Child Health Committee works to get the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) to be a preceptor of GWU students,
- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County
- Sign-on to the Support of the Healthy Schools Act

- Maternal and Child Health committee attended the OSSE Performance Oversight Hearing. No testimony given.

April '10

- MWPHA Food & Environment Chair spoke at the DC Food Access Panel
- MWPHA Annual Meeting: Public Health Leadership
- HIV/AIDS Outreach in DC and Prince Georges County

May '10

- Outreach on food and built environment at RWJF Healthy Eating, Active Living Conference
- Participated in rally at Wilson Building to fund the Healthy Schools Act via the DC Soda Tax



DC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Build the Safety Net

Date: Wed, May 19, 2010
Time: 8:30am
Where: John A Wilson Building, 1350 Penn Ave NW, DC 20004
Metro: Federal Triangle or Metro Center

RSVP: <http://bit.ly/BuildtheNet>

Join Save Our Safety Net and the Fair Budget Coalition as we build a human safety net around the Wilson Building.

More than \$100 million has been cut from safety net services during the recession, and despite broad support for a more progressive budget, the Council is still considering cuts to programs such as job training, interim disability assistance, health care, rapid housing, and support for grandparent caregivers.

We have 6 Safety Net Superheroes on the Council, supporting progressive tax reform to generate the revenue we need to protect these safety net services. We have just one week before the vote and we need a 7th hero. We need you to help show Councilmembers what a strong safety net looks like.

After our action, we will head inside the Wilson Building to thank our supporters and make sure holdouts come around in time for the vote.

:: MWPHA IN ACTION



Keynote speaker, Shavon Arline, MPH, at the MWPHA Annual Meeting 2010



MWPHA Annual Meeting attendees at the KFF Barbara Jordan Conference Center



L-R Public health friends getting together Tandra Stevenson, MS, Ndidi Amutah, PhD, MPH & Ranjeeta Pal, MPH



Tandra Stevenson spoke at the DC Food Access Panel at THEARC in Southeast DC in April