WELCOME TO 2020 MEMBERSHIP

If you haven’t renewed your membership in 2020 with the National Association of Local Boards of Health, please be sure to do so as soon as possible. Membership is from January 1–December 31, 2020. If you need any assistance renewing or need an invoice, please contact the NALBOH Office. We look forward to another great year for the National Association of Local Boards of Health!

2020 NALBOH Member Benefits
By joining NALBOH you will receive:
- Quarterly Newsbrief electronic and by mail
- Monthly electronic newsletter
- Discounted rates to NALBOH conferences, webinars, and events
- Discounted rate for Governance in Action Series - Orientation for Board of Health Members
- Access to members-only online resources
- Submit news stories & articles for inclusion on NALBOH website
- eNews & Quarterly Newsbrief
- Share and post available jobs at complimentary pricing
- Eligibility to receive scholarships
- Network with Board of Health members across the country
- Free webinar and training opportunities (Sign in to view archived webinars)
- Stay informed and engaged
- Join the Board or a Committee and become a NALBOH leader
- Track your learning and event participation through the NALBOH web portal

Renewing your Membership Online is Easy:

1. As the primary account holder, log onto the NALBOH website with your username and password*
2. In your profile, navigate to Manage Profile, and select “Invoicing, Payments & History”
3. Click on “Invoices” to find your membership dues invoice, which can be paid online.

Not a member yet? Join the over 400 Boards of Health in the country and become a member of the only National Association dedicated to strengthening and improving public health governance. Click here to join today!

Be sure to add your Board of Health members in order to receive all NALBOH Correspondence!

If you are the primary account holder for your Health Department you can add your Board of Health members online. Visit www.nalboh.org. After signing into your online account click on Manage Profile and then click on Staff. This will log you out of the Health Department account and allow you to create a new account.

*As the primary account holder, log onto the NALBOH website with your username and password.


Your Staff direct link may be provided to potential staff by using the link above. Using the form below will include a sign-up link expires in 30 days.
Incoming 2020 President’s Message: Welcome to a New, Promising Year!

Diane Gerlach, DO  
Kenosha County Board of Health (WI)

As your new NALBOH President, I would like to immediately say THANK YOU for the work you do. We serve our communities to better our public health outcomes and get involved in ways we never imagined!

As an Osteopathic Pediatric Physician, I was trained to look at the whole person. This included their situation and environment. I was also taught, there is never just a child. This was my small-scale introduction to public health. Public health considers everything that affects health on a population level. This is where we must focus to create real change, but it is difficult as we all live in multiple worlds. As a physician, I focus on one patient or family at a time; as Board of Health Chair, I support a community; as NALBOH President, I look to change the country.

My goal with NALBOH in the coming year is to help Boards of Health see the big picture and affect change for the community and the nation.

We will continue to focus on membership growth, as there is power in numbers. Board of Health members are experts in their own areas. Expanded educational programs and resources will strengthen everyone’s skills and confidence to use your expertise to influence change at all levels. This influence is the power of Public Health.

We will continue to focus on building partnerships. Change occurs when we work together with a common goal. Boards of Health must work with Health Officers, as NALBOH works with NACCHO and ASTHO. Partnerships also bring resources, knowledge, and reach.

The NALBOH Board of Directors is currently working off a three year strategic plan – with an approved budget already in place. We look further this year to partnering further with NACCHO and attending their meeting, and having staff and board members as our guests at ours. We also hope to do more within our States to build leadership from the local, to the state, to the national level.

Our board’s goals are based on an assessment of both the association’s and our members’ needs. Information was collected through surveys and event evaluations; and data available from our financial reports and board dashboard.

We continue to emphasize and focus on our MISSION: “Strengthen and improve public health governance” and VISION: “Strong board governance makes healthy communities”.

Our primary goals identified through our strategic plan are to 1) Increase membership 2) Increase member participation and 3) Continue to build our finances to establish sustainable operations.

Although they seem quite simple, we need your help in order to do this – and have identified specific strategies such as:

- Update the website and communication methods to (a) increase connection among members, and (b) share information and resources with members.
- Create and update comprehensive national database of boards of health to (a) increase membership and conference recruitment potential, and (b) establish better data on current board of health demographics to support NALBOH planning and partner planning.
- Increase support for state associations and their leaders to (a) increase grass roots advocacy for board governance; (b) build “champions” and advocates for NALBOH at state level to help promote membership and conference attendance; and (c) develop future NALBOH leadership.
- Engage partners that can (a) help support NALBOH initiatives, and (b) share resources and expertise with members.

We have started working on these but continue to look forward to engaging with our members to reach our goals and objectives in 2020 and beyond!

As your new NALBOH President, I again would like to finish and say thank you for the work you do. You are the hands, heart, and voice of public health. Let me help you in that endeavor.

Diane Gerlach
NALBOH's Current Board of Directors

Diane Gerlach, DO (WI), President
Andrew Quarnstrom (IL), President-Elect
Debbie Peet (UT), Past President
John Novak (NV), Treasurer

Ted Toles (GA), Secretary
Sharon Stanley (OH), Director at Large
Julie Mullica Duran (CO), Director at Large

Lynne Stauff (MI), Director at Large
Edward Cosgrove (MA), Director at Large
Benjamin Tillett (NC), Director at Large
Michael McLaughlin (IA), Director at Large

NALBOH Webinar - March 10 @ 1 p.m. Central
Promoting Health and Cost Control in States (PHACCS) Initiative Overview

Join NALBOH for a presentation by Trust for America's Health on the Promoting Health and Cost Control in States (PHACCS) Initiative. The PHACCS project focuses on state level policies that can be adopted and implemented to promote health and control cost growth.

This presentation will provide an overview of the PHACCS project and will focus on the impact you can make in your state. With many state legislators kicking off their sessions, examples of state policy that significantly impact boards of health will be highlighted. Discussion around the importance of board of health members engaging in policy at the state level will also be shared by the presenter.

About the Speaker

Adam Lustig is the Manager, Promoting Health and Cost Control in States (PHACCS) at TFAH. The PHACCS Initiative seeks to promote the adoption and implementation of effective, evidence-based state public health policies in a relatively short time period of five years. Prior to joining TFAH, he was the Senior Manager of Health Systems Transformation at the National Network of Public Health Institutes, where he developed strategies related to improving healthcare systems, alternative payment models, and supporting people-centered health systems. Mr. Lustig has also held positions at the Advisory Board Company, the National Pharmaceutical Council and the University of Pennsylvania. He received his MS in Health Policy from the Thomas Jefferson University College of Population Health and a BA in Public Policy from the State University of New York at Albany.

Website and Resource Committee – GET INVOLVED with NALBOH – Members Needed!

NALBOH is planning to update our website to make sure the resources and materials meet your board of health needs, including revamping board of health governance tools. We are looking for members to join our website and resource committee! Committee participation requires a small time commitment and will meet by phone no more than one hour per month. Andrew Quarnstrom, NALBOH Board Member (IL) will be the Chair of the committee. We are also hoping to add and boost our social media presence! Consider joining this committee to connect with other board of health members and help shape resources and tools needed for your colleagues and board of health members from around the US.

Contact Jamie Michael at Jamie@badgerbay.co if you are interested in joining the committee!
NALBOH 2020 Annual Conference
Save the Date - August 18-20
Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI

Don’t miss this conference! This year’s theme is, “Navigate the Rapids: Moving Your Board of Health Into the Future”. Conference activities will provide attendees with information, skills, and resources to empower board of health members to continue to improve public health through continued innovation and improvement in board governance. We look forward to an exciting conference full of learning and a celebration of the important role boards of health play in their community!

By attending the 2020 Annual Conference, attendees will be able to:

- Explore emerging trends in public health and national, state and local responses.
- Network with peers from across the country and make new professional connections.
- Discuss common challenges and exchange success stories.
- Identify strategies to improve measurable health outcomes in their communities.
- Identify best governance practices for all types of boards of health (e.g., advisory, governing).
- Identify the role of boards of health in moving their local public health organization towards Public Health 3.0.
- Advance skills as public health advocates for change.

*New schedule in 2020!

Conference activities will begin on Tuesday, August 18 with a State Leaders meeting, followed by a pre-conference workshop. Registration for pre-conference workshops will be open to all interested attendees. Tuesday evening will provide time for connecting and networking with colleagues from around the U.S.!

The 2020 Annual Conference will then officially kick-off on Wednesday morning with welcoming remarks and keynote presentation. This will be followed by breakout sessions provided by members and partners that will share resources and experiences, and work towards improving board governance from a variety of perspectives: rural communities, urban communities, academic projects, and community-based programs. Wednesday will also include the 2020 NALBOH Annual Business Meeting. This will be an opportunity for members to meet the current board, learn about the current state of NALBOH, celebrate prior year successes and discuss future plans!

Thursday will include a similar schedule including a morning keynote presentation, breakout sessions, and time to meet with vendors and NALBOH partner members. Thursday will adjourn in the early afternoon following breakout presentations and lunch. Stay until Friday to enjoy some extra time exploring Grand Rapids!

*Rates & Lodging

View the 2020 Conference rates and check back for updated information on the NALBOH website at www.nalboh.org.

NALBOH is pleased to offer you this new schedule to allow you to take time to enjoy all that Grand Rapids has to offer. Take time Thursday afternoon and make it a long weekend in Grand Rapids! Visit Experience Grand Rapids to learn more about “one of America’s Super Cool Cities!”

Make Your Hotel Reservation Today!

It is never too early to make your hotel reservation for the 2020 conference. Rooms are available at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel at a special group rate of $179. Reservations can be made by calling the Hotel toll free line at 1-800-253-3590 or online at https://book.passkey.com/e/50006934 and request the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) block. Consider bringing your whole family to enjoy the wonderful area!

The deadline to receive this special rate is July 28, 2020.
Grand Rapids, Michigan – named one of America’s Super Cool Cities by Expedia – offers an experience like no other!

Source: www.experiencegr.com

Come Early or Stay Late

Expedia cited the city’s awesome art, fantastic food, world-class beer, and thriving live-music scene – all of which is abundant in the city’s safe, clean downtown, where 200+ restaurants, breweries, shops, museums and entertainment venues are located within a 10-minute walk of four-star hotels and a skywalk-connected convention center.

Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, one of the world’s 100 most-visited art museums, is within 15 minutes of the city center, along with three massive shopping malls, a classic urban zoo and a wide range of outdoor recreation options.

Foodie-friendly restaurants and attractions – including the dazzling Downtown Market – earned the city a FoodTrekking award as the world’s 2nd best food & beverage destination experience. An “Ale Trail” of 80+ craft breweries demonstrates why Grand Rapids is the reigning Beer City USA titleholder. And anywhere you go, you’re just a short drive from the wonders of Lake Michigan’s Gold Coast – miles of sugar-sand beaches along crystal-clear waters.

All of this, plus a world-ranked airport make Grand Rapids a super fun place to visit!

2020 Annual Conference Keynote Slate Announced!

Dara Alpert Lieberman, MPP, Director of Government Relations
Trust for America’s Health

Dara Alpert Lieberman is TFAH’s Director of Government Relations, overseeing the development and implementation of federal government relations strategies and working to advance and ensure implementation of TFAH policy priorities. Prior to that, Dara served as TFAH’s Senior Government Relations Manager, leading the organization’s advocacy around infectious disease prevention, disease surveillance, and strengthening the nation’s public health emergency preparedness and response capabilities. Ms. Lieberman previously served as a legislative representative for the American Counseling Association, where she advocated for mental health access issues. Ms. Lieberman has also served as a staff member for the Senate Committee on Armed Services.

Renée Branch Canady, PhD, MPA, CEO, Ex Officio
Michigan Public Health Institute

Dr. Renée Branch Canady serves as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of MPHI; a Michigan-based and nationally engaged non-profit public health institute dedicated to advancing population health through public health innovation and collaboration. Dr. Canady has been recognized as a national thought leader in the areas of health inequities and disparities, cultural competence, and social justice. She has published and presented broadly on these topics and her passion for this work is evident in her personal, academic, and professional life. Dr. Canady has been highly influential in broadening the discussion of health equity and social justice while serving on numerous national boards, review panels, and advisory groups.

Brian C. Castrucci, DrPH, MA
President and Chief Executive Officer
de Beaumont Foundation

An award-winning epidemiologist with 10 years of experience working in state and local health departments, Brian brings a unique perspective to the philanthropic sector that allows him to shape and implement visionary and practical initiatives and partnerships and bring together research and practice to improve public health. Brian has published more than 70 articles in the areas of public health systems and services research, maternal and child health, health promotion, and chronic disease prevention. His recent work has focused on the public health needs of large cities, the need for better data systems, and public health system improvements.

Conference Registration to Open March 1st!
Three New Board Members at Large Join NALBOH Board of Directors

The current NALBOH board welcomes two new board members. On January 1st, 2020, the following individuals began their terms of service to NALBOH in the Director at Large Position:

**Edward Cosgrove (MA)**
NALBOH, Director at Large
Needham Board of Health
Needham, Massachusetts

Edward Cosgrove received his doctorate in Molecular Biology from Ohio State University in 1971. He then rose to the rank of Full Professor at Boston State College/University of Massachusetts Boston. Dr. Cosgrove left teaching to work at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health where he ran the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and rose to the rank of Assistant Commissioner for Environmental Health and Health Promotion. In 1991, he moved to Boston Children’s Hospital as a Research Administrator. He is now semi-retired but continues to consult at Boston Children’s in the research labs of the Departments of Cardiology and Neuroscience.

Dr. Cosgrove has continued his teaching career at Northeastern University and the University of Massachusetts Boston. At Mass/Boston, Dr. Cosgrove has taught Psychopharmacology since 1978 at the undergraduate and graduate levels in both face-to-face and online formats. At Northeastern University, he has taught Microbiology and Medical Microbiology since 1976 in The College of Professional Studies and in The School of Pharmacy.

Dr Cosgrove has been an elected member of the Needham, Massachusetts Board of Health since 1996 and is presently serving as Chair. The Needham Board of Health has been a leader in Community Drug and Alcohol Prevention and currently holds several grants including a Drug Free Communities grant from SAMHSA. Needham has also been a nationwide leader in Tobacco Control and Education. It is recognized as the first Board of Health in the Nation to raise the legal age for the purchase of tobacco and tobacco products to 21 years. Recently, Needham has been a statewide leader in the development of regulations regarding the production and sale of medicinal Cannabis and Cannabis containing products.

Dr. Cosgrove is a founding board member of the Public Health Museum in Tewksbury and served several years as President. He is also a member of the American Society for Microbiology and serves on the Executive Board of the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards.

**Julie Duran Mullica (CO)**
NALBOH, Director at Large
Tri-County Board of Health
Northglenn, Colorado

Julie Duran Mullica may be the new kid to her local board of health and NALBOH but she’s passionate about public health and advocating for the health of her community. As a current elected official and council member, Julie is actively pursuing public health policy initiatives in her community and encouraging surrounding communities to take similar action. She sees her role as a council member and a board of health member as an opportunity to speak out on pressing public health issues like youth vaping and rising suicide rates. Whether testifying for a bill at the state capitol or speaking at a local city council meeting, Julie is a fierce advocate of public health and is determined to see meaningful policy implementation.

Professionally, Julie has spent the majority of her career working in acute care hospitals as an Infection Preventionist and is currently the System Infection Prevention Specialist at SCL Health. Working to improve the quality of healthcare and prevent healthcare-associated infections has provided her with the opportunity to develop unique skill sets and work closely with diverse teams. Julie lives in Northglenn with her husband and three children ages 6, 4, and 1.

**Lynne Stauff (MI)**
NALBOH, Director at Large
Ingham County Board of Health
Lansing, Michigan

Lynne serves as Chair of the Ingham County Board of Health, Lansing, Michigan, for the last year and a member for 5 years. Lynne is a seasoned public health professional having worked in Michigan’s state health department for more than 17 years. She has worked in a variety of roles, numerous programs and with diverse populations. From her first position advocating for people living with HIV (PLWH) to receive needed services; then as a statewide Accreditation reviewer; to a departmental-wide government cultural change agent and most recently development of a national promising practice reducing tobacco use in PLWH - Lynne believes she has improved the lives of Michigan’s citizens. She has recently moved on from the state government to pursue other adventures.

Congratulations to the new board members and thank you to all candidates. Also, a continued thank you to Christina Dokter (GA), Judy Sartucci (CT), and Michael Holliday (IL), who finished their terms as of December 31.
CDC Rolls Out Active People, Healthy Nation Initiative

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has announced a new initiative, “Active People, Healthy Nation,” to help 27 million Americans become more physically active by 2027. The initiative uses five steps to coordinate actions to achieve its goal. The program will support physical activity initiatives through national, state, and local networks. CDC will develop and communicate messages to connect a larger audience with the benefits of active lifestyles, using multiple communications channels. In addition, CDC will enhance national, state, and local data collection systems on physical activity.

According to new state maps of adult physical inactivity prevalence released by CDC yesterday, all states and territories have more than 15% of adults who were physically inactive, a per state estimate that ranged from 17.3 – 47.7%. The maps show wide disparities in physical activity access by race. The new maps are based on combined 2015 – 2018 data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.

PHAB Board of Directors Names Paul Kuehnert as New President and CEO of PHAB

An Announcement from the Public Health Accreditation Board

The Board of Directors of the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) last month named Paul Kuehnert, DNP, RN, FAAN, as the organization’s new President and CEO. Kuehnert, Associate Vice President for Programs at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, succeeds Kaye Bender, PhD, RN, FAAN, who will retire at the end of December after serving as PHAB’s President and CEO since 2009. Kuehnert will join PHAB on January 1.

Kuehnert’s selection concludes a comprehensive national search for leadership excellence combined with a demonstrated career-long commitment to improving and protecting the health of people and communities.

"On behalf of PHAB’s Board of Directors, it gives me great pleasure to welcome Paul as PHAB’s new President and CEO, said PHAB Board Chair Joe Finkbonner, Executive Director of the Northwest Portland (Oregon) Area Indian Health Board. “Paul brings a deep personal commitment to public health and a life-long passion for prevention and community well-being. We look forward to working with him and are confident that his leadership, guidance, vision and energy will ensure a seamless transition as we continue our mission to improve the health of communities everywhere.”

PHAB is the nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that administers the national public health accreditation program with the goal of improving and protecting the health of the public by advancing and transforming the quality and performance of governmental public health agencies in the U.S. and abroad.

Read more about Paul by clicking here.

NACCHO Year in Review & NACCHO’s 2020 Federal Legislative and Policy Agenda

In a recent blog post, NACCHO’s Government Affairs Team recaps 2019’s public health funding activities, legislations authorization, comments on proposed regulations, engagement with policymakers, and looks towards new priorities for 2020. Learn more.

The Federal Legislative and Policy Agenda guides NACCHO’s work in its interactions with federal agencies and Congress. The Agenda features NACCHO’s priority issues and is informed LHD input.

We look forward to supporting NACCHO to prioritize legislative asks and public health funding! Learn more.


Health officials and boards of health have a duty to protect the public’s health. They have a great amount of discretion in how they fulfill this duty and must make difficult decisions around emerging threats that require balancing many factors, including the risk of acting prematurely based on limited information and the risk of delaying action until they have additional information. This tool provides a checklist of key questions for public health decision-makers and practitioners to consider in deciding whether to act or to wait based on information known at the time.

Read more by clicking here.
Promoting Health and Cost Control in States (PHACCS) Initiative: State Policy Project

NALBOH looks forward to hosting a webinar on March 10th to discuss more about the Promoting Health and Cost Control in States (PHACCS) Initiative. The PHACCS Initiative is a collaboration between Trust for America’s Health and the Center for Public Health Law Research to provide states with ways to improve community health through cost-saving policy changes. The collaboration has published two new harm reduction-focused, cross-sectional datasets on syringe service programs and tobacco pricing strategies. The entire project will include 13 datasets through summer 2020.

Read more by clicking here.

PHAB Awards Initial Accreditation Status to Nine Health Departments; Four Health Departments Achieve Reaccreditation Status

Strong public health departments engaged in effective community partnerships make all communities healthier places to live, work, learn, and play. Striving to fulfill their crucial mission, more and more health departments are placing their work for review against the rigorous national standards set by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). In November, PHAB announced it has awarded initial accreditation status to nine local health departments, and national reaccreditation status to four local health departments. With these decisions, the benefits of being served by a PHAB-accredited health department now reach 81 percent of the U.S. population.

PHAB, the nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that administers the national public health accreditation program, aims to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing and transforming the quality and performance of governmental public health agencies in the U.S. and abroad. To receive national accreditation through PHAB, a health department must undergo a rigorous, multi-faceted, peer-reviewed assessment process to ensure it meets a set of public health quality standards and measures.

National initial accreditation was awarded November 19, 2019 to:
- Canton City Public Health, Canton, Ohio
- Cleveland Department of Public Health, Cleveland, Ohio
- Defiance County General Health District, Defiance, Ohio
- District 4 Public Health, Georgia Department of Health, LaGrange, Georgia
- Ingham County Health Department, Lansing, Michigan
- Portsmouth City Health Department, Portsmouth, Ohio
- San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, San Antonio, Texas
- Stanislaus County Health Services Agency - Public Health Division, Modesto, California
- Trumbull County Combined Health District, Warren, Ohio
- Columbus Public Health, Columbus, Ohio
- Kane County Health Department, Aurora, Illinois
- Licking County Health Department, Newark, Ohio
- Tulsa Health Department, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Congratulations to these newly accredited and reaccredited health departments! NALBOH encourages quality improvement – of which, accreditation can be a mechanism to learn more about your department and advance your goals. Learn more about PHAB and accreditation at www.phaboard.org.

The vision of NALBOH is boards of health that are:
- Appointed as a result of a well-informed selection process.
- Comprised of individuals who have demonstrated the knowledge, skills and abilities to effectively represent and serve.
- Well-connected to other stakeholders in public health and government.
- Effectively and competently serving the public health needs of their community in accordance with the core functions and essential public health services.
- Aware of NALBOH’s resources and actively engaged in its success.