

2011 KPHA Board



Heather Henke

KPHA

President

Heather Henke, KPHA President, is the Administrator of the Barber County Health Department and the mother of four daughters and a wife to a wonderful supportive husband. She is practicing public health administration in the community in which she was raised. She sees population based health care as a way to touch the lives of the Kansans that she has grown to love. She began her health care profession as a nursing assistant in high school. She has provided direct patient care as well as population based care in many settings as an aide, an LPN, a registered nurse and public health department administrator. Heather has a passion for the programs she directs. Chronic Disease Risk Reduction and Tobacco Use prevention, Maternal Child Health, WIC, Immunizations, Family Planning Breastfeeding support, Oral Health improvement, and all Hazards preparedness are a few of the programs Heather directs and implements. Heather is a member of KALHD, KPHA, APHA, La Leche League and NACCHO. She looks forward to continuing to serve the awesome people of Kansas by striving to ensure the highest quality health care services are available to the public. Heather has served as a Section Chair 2 terms, as Director at Large for one term, and President Elect in 2010.



Tanya Honderick

KPHA

Secretary

Secretary Tanya Honderick is Assistant Director of the KU-Master of Public Health and Master of Science in Clinical Research programs. She graduated from the University of Kansas with a B.S.N. in 1996 and with a joint M.S. in Nursing/M.P.H. in 2003. Her clinical experience spans a decade in public health, with her particular interest being maternal and child health. She has worked in well child, WIC, family planning, and prenatal clinics in both the Reno County and Johnson County Health departments. She also has experience as a medical-surgical/oncology nurse in the hospital setting and in clinical management in the home health setting. Honors include traveling to China in 2006 with People to People International as a Community Health Nurse Delegate, and completion of the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute in 2008. In November 2009 she presented a poster at the APHA national conference in Philadelphia for research addressing pregnancy outcomes for diabetic clients in the High Risk Prenatal Program at the Johnson County Health Department.



Dr. David Cook

KPHA

Treasurer

David Cook, PhD is an Associate Professor in Health Policy & Management in the School of Medicine. Teaching and research interests primarily focus on the health of underserved populations, including

health technology applications, workforce development, emergency preparedness and health communication. David also is the Associate Director of the Institute of Community and Public Health. The institute is charged with developing a School of Public Health for the state of Kansas and identifying strategies for linking higher education resources more effectively with the public health practice community. In addition, he serves as the Executive Director of the Midwest Cancer Alliance at The University of Kansas Cancer Center and as the Associate Vice Chancellor for Outreach at The University of Kansas Medical Center. The Midwest Cancer Alliance is a membership-based cancer networking, professional education, and clinical trials organization serving Kansas and western Missouri, administered by the University of Kansas Cancer Center.



Eldonna Chesnut

**KPHA, Immediate Past
President and
APHA/ARGC**

Eldonna Chesnut is immediate past president of KPHA. This year she was selected to serve as Affiliate Representative to APHA Governing Council (ARGC). She is an APHA member, MCH section member, and attended the APHA annual conference in 08, 09, and 10. She is past KPHA section chair, Conference Committee chair, Orientation Manual Project committee member, and past Membership Chair. She has been actively involved in the Joint KPHA/APHA membership project now, in its third year. Eldonna is employed by Johnson County Kansas Health Department as Division Director of Adult and Child Care Facilities. Eldonna's on-going initiative – *Elder Smiles* provides onsite oral health services for the elderly residing in long term care facilities in Johnson County. The childcare part of her division is responsible for all childcare licensing work in Johnson County including Lexi's law implementation. She participates in many committees with in the health department and county. Eldonna has worked in a variety of settings before public health; these include hospitals, clinics, home health, long-term care, and proprietary schools. Except for the academic setting, her focus has always been children and/or the elderly. While working on her bachelor's degree in nursing she was active in state and national student nurses associations as well as Alpha Sigma Tau sorority. Upon graduation she started working as an obstetrical nurse. Showing an early interest in management and leadership, she returned to school to pursue a degree in health care administration. Once into the program, she shifted her focus from general health care administration to nursing administration. She graduated at the top of her class with a Masters in Nursing Administration. Upon joining the Health Department she was selected to attend Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute and successfully completed achieving Fellow status.



Dr. Ellen Averett

**KPHA
Director At Large**

Director at Large, Dr. Ellen Averett, received a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Duke University in 1984 and a Master of Health Services Administration from the University Of Kansas School of Medicine in 1999. Prior to joining the Health Policy and Management faculty in 2004, Dr. Averett was engaged in consulting and clinical practice and supervision. As a provider in our health care system, she has practiced in a number of settings including private practice, a managed care group model HMO, state and private psychiatric and medical hospitals, and a university counseling center. In the Department of Health Policy and Management, Dr. Averett teaches the U.S. Health Care System, Health Services Research, Health and Social Behavior, and Ethics. Dr. Averett's consulting and research interests include health

communications, public health education and disease prevention, health-related behavioral change, training long-term care workers in communication and leadership skills, quality improvement methods in health care organizations and public health systems. Recent publications of hers appear in the CDC's *Emerging Infectious Diseases* and in the *American Journal of Health Behavior*. Her professional and community service includes being a board member and chair of the Research and Evaluation section of the Kansas Public Health Association; a board member of the Menorah Legacy Foundation; chair of the Ethics Faculty Network of the Association of University Programs in Health Administration; a member of the University of Kansas Hospital Ethics Committee, a former examiner with the Kansas Award for Excellence and a member of the American Society for Quality.



Dr. Ruth Wetta-Hall

KPHA

Director At Large

Director at Large, Ruth Wetta-Hall, is an Assistant Professor and Interim Chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, and the Director of the REACH (Research and Evaluation Associates in Community and Clinical Health) Center at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita. She is a registered nurse holding master degrees in nursing administration and public health, and a Ph.D. in Community Psychology. She teaches courses in public health administration, program evaluation and performance improvement in the KUSM-W MPH program. Ruth has 15 years of clinical experience in emergency and intensive care nursing, and more than five years of experience in performance improvement and Outcomes Research in the acute care setting. Transitioning to the community setting in 1997, Ruth has served as the Coordinator of the Sedgwick County Community Health Improvement Project (CHIP), and as a board member of several community-based agencies. Her most recent research includes health services research and evaluation of health care access in uninsured populations and teen sexual health. Ruth was a member of the 2002 class of Leadership Kansas, the Kansas Health Foundation Community Leadership Initiative, and the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute. This is Ruth's fourth year of KPHA Board service. She conducts and compiles the annual KPHA membership survey which is implemented electronically at the Conference and also by email to those members unable to attend the Conference. She additionally writes a comprehensive report which is included on the website.



Dr. Mark Thompson

KPHA

Director At Large

Director at Large, Mark Thompson, is the Project Director for Kansas Coordinated School Health (KCSH) for the Kansas Department of Education. KCSH provides funding, professional development, policy and practice direction, and technical assistance to K-12 schools in Kansas to improve school health. KCSH focuses primarily on addressing physical activity, nutrition, tobacco use prevention, and staff wellness. In addition to co-directing KCSH, Mark oversees the bi-annual administration of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey for Kansas. Mark received his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Kansas State University and Master's and PhD in Education from the University of Kansas. Mark assumed the position with KCSH in 2006 after sixteen years as a university faculty member in Texas and at the University of Kansas. Mark has also served as the facilitator for the Douglas County Community Health Improvement Project's (CHIP) Special Committee on Tobacco Prevention since 2005.



Shirley Orr

KPHA

**Administrative Health
Section Chair**

Shirley Orr serves as the Director of Health Protection and Promotion for the Sedgwick County Health Department. She served the past 20 years with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. For the past nine years she served as KDHE's Director of Local Health Services, leading local health department support functions within the state health department, including technical assistance/consultation to local health departments and monitoring, evaluation and support of local agency programming and administration. She was also responsible for aid-to-local grants to local health departments and community-based organizations, totaling approximately \$20 million. She provided oversight of public health workforce development and training programs and served as agency liaison to state and regional academic institutions, and the Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita and an instructor for the Wichita State University (WSU) School of Nursing. Ms. Orr received BSN and MHS degrees from Wichita State University, and is a graduate of the National Public Health Leadership Institute. She is ANCC certified in Nursing Administration at the advanced level. Professional memberships include the National Public Health Leadership Society, Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society, American Public Health Association (APHA), American Nurses Association, Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing (ASTDN), and Kansas State Nurses Association (KSNA). She has served on the Board of Directors of ASTDN, KPHA, and KSNA. She is a past president of ASTDN and KPHA. Ms. Orr was recognized as the 2009 WSU School of Nursing Distinguished Alumnus and was the 2004 recipient of the Samuel Crumline Medal from the Kansas Public Health Association. She is presently an RWJ Executive Nurse Fellow.



Becky Tuttle

KPHA

**Community Health
Section Chair**

Becky Pattison Tuttle has over fifteen years of professional experience working with youth and adult coalitions on alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention and intervention and promotion of physical activity and nutrition. The majority of the experience has occurred tobacco control, specializing in serving youth and diverse populations. Ms. Tuttle is currently serving as the Health Promotions Coordinator for the Sedgwick County Health Department. Her main responsibilities include collaborating with community and state partners towards common goals of improving health of the public through health education initiatives and coordinating program planning and services with other community and state agencies. Based on identified needs of the agency and communities, Ms. Tuttle develops new or strengthens existing health education and health promotion programs, program framework development, implementation, evaluation). Ms. Tuttle also ensures accountability for staff and program performance and for the effectiveness and efficiency of all health education directed programs (e.g. tobacco, HIV/AIDS risk reduction, oral health, hand washing, worksite wellness, physical activity, and nutrition). Ms. Tuttle is a Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute Scholar and has served on many state and national conference planning committees. Tobacco cessation training includes Freedom From Smoking, Fresh Start, Mayo Clinic, TAP and TEG. Her career highlights include numerous local, regional, state, and national awards, including serving as the Coordinator for Tobacco Free Youth Initiative in Indianapolis,

Indiana, which received the 2001 American Public Health Association-Glaxco Smith Kline Partnership for Healthy Children Award.



Rebecca Brown

KPHA

**Elder Issues
Section Chair**

Rebecca Brown is the Kansas Liaison for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM), Mid-Continental Region. The NNLM is the outreach arm of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), which is one of the National Institutes of Health. Rebecca works with health information providers of all kinds to promote the freely available resources of the NLM. Rebecca has been at the A.R. Dykes Library of Health Sciences at the University of Kansas Medical Center since 2005, and began her position with the National Network in January 2007. Rebecca completed her Master's degree in Library Science from Texas Woman's University in 2006.



John Kephart

KPHA

**Infectious
Disease
Section Chair**

Infectious Disease Section Chair, John W. Kephart, MSPH, is a Surveillance Epidemiologist for the Sedgwick County Health Department. He specializes in syndromic surveillance of infectious and communicable diseases and conducts disease investigations with a special focus on school health related issues. Mr. Kephart also conducts health education and awareness for diseases such as Hepatitis B/C, MRSA, and other emerging infectious diseases. Before coming to the Sedgwick County Health Department in 2009, Mr. Kephart worked for many years in California's San Francisco Bay Area. His work focused primarily in the areas of occupational, environmental, and international health. Among other things, Mr. Kephart has conducted research on the early onset of Parkinson's Disease in workers exposed to welding fumes, and on the international side, Mr. Kephart spent time in India working on lead safety and prevention programs for lead battery manufacturing workers and their families, as well as the prevention of silica dust exposure to workers in the stone crushing industry.



Michele Peterson

KPHA

**Emergency
Preparedness
Section Chair**

Preparedness Section Chair, Michelle Peterson, is the Strategic National Stockpile Coordinator in the Bureau of Public Health Preparedness, Kansas Department of Health and Environment. In her current role, she is responsible for developing state guidance for mass prophylaxis dispensing emergency planning and providing state-local liaison preparedness activities with 100 local health departments related to developed guidance. Michelle is also responsible for management of the KDHE state cache of medical materials and pharmaceuticals for health and medical emergencies and state-federal liaison activities with CDC OPHPR Division of Strategic National Stockpile through the public health emergency preparedness grant and during response to a health and medical emergency. Michelle's passion for public health research started at Washburn University where she received her BS in Biology with minors in Chemistry and Physics, conducted undergraduate research on the DNA replication of Naegleria, (an amoeba commonly found in warm freshwater), and dedicated her senior research to study the bioterrorism threat of *Clostridium botulinum*. Her public health career began in 2007 as a medical investigator and emergency planner for the Western Pyramid Region serving eight county health departments in Kansas. Michelle is a graduate of the Core Public Health Program and a member of KPHA, NACCHO, the American Chemical Society, and the American Institute of Biological Sciences. Michelle has also dedicated time in education as a Chemistry and Biology instructor and through pursuing doctorate level coursework. Michelle's husband, Msgt Mark Peterson, serves with the 190th Air National Guard Security Forces Squadron and is currently deployed on his third mission in Afghanistan.



Shauna Nelson
KPHA
Environmental Health
Section Chair

Aqualia L. Nelson, MS, REHS/RS has a new job. She works at the Munson Army Health Center in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Aqualia (Shauna) was an Environmental Health Specialist at Johnson County Environmental Department (JCED) in Olathe, Kansas. She worked as a food inspector. Her duties involved protecting the public from unsafe food handling practices that may result in food-borne illnesses. Shauna is a Registered Environmental Health Specialist and has been involved in food safety for 8 years now. Prior to working for Johnson County, she worked as a food inspector for the City of Wichita for four years. She graduated from Texas State University with degrees in biology and chemistry. Shauna has also received dual Masters Degrees in Management and Business. Her interests include event planning, decorating, and shopping.



Jamie Katz
KPHA
Tobacco, Substance
Abuse and Mental
Health Section Chair

Tobacco, Substance Abuse, and Mental Health Section Chair, Jamie Katz is a Prevention Coordinator with the Regional Prevention Center of Johnson, Leavenworth, and Miami Counties, where she works on all levels to prevent substance abuse and its negative consequences. This includes community mobilization, coalition development, strategic planning, team building, multi-sector collaboration, grant writing, consultation and technical assistance, training and educational presentations, social marketing, legislative and media advocacy, program development and implementation, survey design, data collection, youth empowerment, research and evaluation. She continues to focus on empowering communities to create healthy environments for citizens to live, learn, and grow. Jamie currently serves

on several community coalitions and is involved in multiple Kansas City metro-wide initiatives in addition to KPHA – including Metropolitan Healthy Communities Coalition/Clean Air Kansas City initiative, Miami County Connect Kansas Coalition, and Coalition Against Substance Abuse in Miami County. Previously she was a research assistant at Indiana University. Jamie has additional experience through the MPH program at KU, completing a 600 hour practicum at the University of Missouri – Kansas City, Department of Psychology, MOTIV8 Laboratory, studying medication adherence in HIV+ individuals. In addition to her research background, she has extensive experience working with diverse populations, especially those with special needs, in a variety of settings. Jamie is a nationally certified prevention professional. She holds a Master's degree in public health from University of Kansas Medical Center and a Bachelor's degree in psychology and Jewish Studies from Indiana University - graduating Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and With Honors in psychology.



Dr. Theresa Shireman

KPHA

**Research and
Evaluation
Section Chair**

Research and Evaluation Section Chair, Dr. Theresa Shireman is an Associate Professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center with joint appointments in the Departments of Preventive Medicine and Public Health and Health Policy and Management. She is a health services researcher who specializes in pharmacoconomics and pharmacoepidemiology and who has extensive experience in working with administrative claims data. Much of her work involves analyses of Medicaid and Medicare claims and ranges from quantifying patterns of medication use to program or treatment evaluation. While her work has covered a wide range of medical topics (for example, mental health, otitis media, asthma, osteoporosis), a central core has been cardiovascular health with a recent focus on cardiac medication use and outcomes in dialysis patients. She was awarded an R01 from NIDDK (DK080111) to study the effectiveness of cardio protective medications in ESRD, a project whereby she is linking three national data sets. In addition to large data analyses, Dr. Shireman also provides critical health care cost modeling techniques, namely cost- effectiveness analysis, for a variety of public health interventions including smoking cessation and interventions to improve blood pressure management in the community. Dr. Shireman's expertise is shared with students through three graduate courses taught on the KUMC campus: pharmacoepidemiology (PRVM 811), management of public health data (PRVM 875), and cost-effectiveness and decision analysis (PRVM 878/HP&M872).



Dr. Marvin Stottlemire

KPHA

**Health Policy
Section Chair**

Policy Section Chair, Marvin Stottlemire has earned a BA in political science from the University of Oregon; a MA and PhD in political science from Rice University; and, a JD from the University Of Kansas School Of Law. He taught political science at Louisiana State University in Shreveport and was the Assistant Director of the University of Kansas Public Management Center. He is currently Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health at the University of

Kansas Medical Center, KUMC-Health Policy and Management. He is past president of the Kansas Public Health Association.



Nicole Heim

KPHA

**Membership Committee
Chair**

Nicole is currently adjunct faculty, Course Lead, and assists with student career mapping for Kaplan University in the School of Health Sciences. She is also making an effort to obtain projects her consulting business. Nicole began her public health career in May 2003 at the Clay County Public Health Center in Liberty, MO as an Environmental Health Specialist. Since that time, she has worked in environmental health and emergency preparedness positions for Johnson County, Kansas, and as Associate Director of the Kansas Public Health Association. She currently serves as Membership Committee Chair for KPHA. She is a fellow of the Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute, Cycle VI. Nicole graduated from Park University in Parkville, MO with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology and a minor in Sociology in May of 2003. She received her Master of Public Health degree from the University Of Kansas School Of Medicine – Kansas City in May of 2007.



Daniel Lassley

KPHA

**Oral Health
Section Chair**

Daniel Lassley serves the Bureau of Oral Health at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment as the Dental Recruitment Program Manager, working to increase the number of dentists and dental hygienists in rural and underserved areas of the state. He has a degree in Human Resources Management and has worked in a variety of roles to address workforce issues in Kansas. Daniel's experience in manufacturing, technology, disabilities, advertising and sales gives him a broad background to assist efforts to increase access to quality healthcare.



Ryan Heiman

KPHA

**Student Section
Chair**

Ryan Heiman is the Student Section Chair for the KPHA Board. Growing up in rural Northeast Kansas, he can relate to the importance of public health. Ryan attended Washburn University from 2005 to 2008 where he obtained his Associate of Science and obtained his certification as a Physical Therapist Assistant. Ryan currently works as a physical therapist assistant in a number of healthcare settings. He

also has a Bachelor of Health Science from Washburn University. After his undergraduate studies he was accepted in the Health Policy and Management Program at the University of Kansas, School of Medicine where he has an anticipated graduation of May 2011 with a Master of Health Services and Administration. Following graduation in May, Ryan has accepted a one year post graduate fellowship with the Oklahoma City VA in which he will enter the Government Healthcare Administration Training Program. Ryan is involved in a number of local, state, and national organizations including the American College of Healthcare Executives, the Kansas City Local Program Council, the Health Information Management Systems Society, and the American Public Health Association to name a few



Elaine Schwartz,
KPHA
Executive Director

Executive Director, Elaine Schwartz has been with the Kansas Public Health Association since 2004. Elaine was the Director of Information and Community Resources at the Kansas Department on Aging prior to KPHA from 2000-2004. She supervised LIFELONG Communities, the Alzheimer's disease grant, annual Governor's Conferences on Aging, Senior Health Insurance Counseling, Senior Pharmacy Assistance, Mental Health/Substance Abuse, Retired Physicians & Volunteers, Minority Outreach, grant searches/applications, and booth displays. She was a Governor's appointment on the Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities. She was a Policy Analyst and chaired the Employee Handbook Task Force, and was the principal analyst for the agency's long-term care programs including regulatory processes. From 1995 to 2000, she worked at SRS as Administrator, Community Residential Programs, and managed Mental Health services for older adults. At SRS she was also the Adult Services Director, supervising Medicaid long term care programs including all Nursing Facilities in Kansas; Home and Community Based Services Waivers, and Adult Protective Services, being responsible for \$275 million dollar budget. For the eight years, prior to working for State Government, 1986 to 1994, Elaine won four elections and served in the Kansas House of Representatives, representing Osage and Lyon counties. She Vice Chaired Governmental Organization and Elections Committee and was a member of the Public Health and Welfare Committee, Judiciary Committee, Insurance Committee, and also served on the Agriculture and Small Business Committee. During her tenure in the legislature, she was Vice President of Heartland Health Systems, managing staff and administering the company's operation of Sales and Marketing. Prior to this for 14 years she was in long term care, as a licensed Administrator of Brookside Manor of Overbrook, Rolling Hills Health Center, and Fairlawn Heights Nursing Center of Topeka. She began her career as a nurse's aide in the 1970's.



