



PO Box 67085 ■ Topeka, KS 66667  
 Ph: 785-233-3103 ■ Fax: 785-233-3439  
 E: [director@kpha.us](mailto:director@kpha.us) ■ <http://www.kpha.us>

# E-NEWSLETTER

An E-Newsletter of the Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA)

Visit our site

Summer 2007

## In This Issue:

- **President's Message**
  - [Momentum or Moment'um](#)
- **From the Executive Director**
  - [Public Health and KPHA . . .](#)
- **Association News**
  - [Awards Nominations Due](#)
  - [Call for Nominations](#)
  - [Resolution for Annual Meeting](#)
  - [Don't Miss This Year's . . .](#)
  - [Health Day at the Capitol . . .](#)
  - [KPHA Featured in Health . . .](#)
  - [Not Getting KPHA Emails?](#)

## President's Message

### Momentum or Moment'um



Webster's New Collegiate Diction defines momentum as "a property of a moving body that determines the length of time required to bring it to rest when under the action of a constant force or moment." The concept of momentum can also apply to ideas and actions. Momentum is the force that keeps activities on track. It is a motivator for completion. It is energy that causes things to happen.

Moment'um, a word I made up while thinking about life, is not quite the opposite momentum, but it sure is close. The term is split up into two parts. The first part is "moment," like the moment you come up with a great idea that will help improve health outcomes or the moment you find out that there is some money available that would cover some of the smaller activities you've wanted to do but never could. The second part is "'um," the reaction to the "moment."

In public health that manifests itself in hesitation and questioning. Do I have the time to deal do this? Is it worth the effort to jump through all the bureaucratic hoops to get this done? It's the long period of time between deciding the "moment " was good but, for whatever reason, not good enough to keep a constant force applied to get to the "moment."

Public health needs momentum, not moment'um. Our workforce needs to know that when they bring up ideas and activities that we accept as good, feasible, and desired that the momentum is there to complete those activities and to help those ideas become reality. The KPHA Board, Executive Director and the leaders of our various task forces and sections have helped keep KPHA's momentum intact. You'll be hearing more about the Fall Conference as the time gets closer. Proposed by-law changes that will allow the Board to run KPHA more effectively will be sent out in the next month for your input. And, as always, Elaine will be keeping you informed about KPHA's activities in Kansas and at the national-level. [Back to menu](#)

## From the Executive Director

### Public Health and KPHA Growing and Going Strong!



It has been almost 3 years since I started working for KPHA and as the saying goes, "time flies when you are having fun, (and working with hardworking people!)" Public Health is an ever growing field of interest to many and this is evidenced in the number and diversity of our members! We are especially growing in our Organizational membership and now have 298 persons in that category, which has surpassed 202 in the Active Individual category combined with the 42 in the Student Category!! To see who members are, you can click on the link in the Members Only Site on our website. At [www.kpha.us](http://www.kpha.us) the User Id is still kpha and the password is kpha4me.

The website has taken on many changes over the past 3 years, along with changes in the Newsletters, and more involvement from members in the organization. It would take up the entire newsletter if I began thanking all those who have helped KPHA grow. All of you know who you are. And those of you who have wanted to help and just haven't been quite ready or able, now is the time to work with other public health leaders by becoming active in your KPHA.

There are so many activities going on that we need help with. The Orientation Manual, reworking the bylaws, reviewing the Strategic Plan, getting ready for the 2008 Legislative Session, the VISTA Volunteer program, serving on KDHE/KHI and other committees representing KPHA, the Healthy Kansas campaign, working with APHA, the Fall Conference and all the work that goes into carrying off such an event with over 300 in attendance, and establishing a public health reserve corps are just a few!

KPHA is really helpful in building bridges in careers. Just ask any one of the Board members this year, and in past years. It opens doors to other positions and opportunities.

More than ever, we need to develop the image that KPHA is part of your job when you work in Public

Health. Most professional organizations members think of the time and commitment to their association as "hours at work." That thought can be cultivated by more members to have more involvement at KPHA. And, it is not in contradiction to government ethics...if you look at other professions in state/county jobs, their "service" and time commitment to their organization is considered part of their job. From personal experience, I know this to be true. So, if you work for the state or county, a foundation, or any 501(c)3-become more active in KPHA-you'll have fun, too! [Back to menu](#)

## Association News

### Awards Nominations Due

Each year at the statewide public health conference, KPHA honors individuals and organizations for meritorious service in the field of public health and environment. Any member may submit nominations for these awards. Unless specifically stated, awards are restricted to KPHA members. Members can send in their nominations to the KPHA Awards Committee. That group reviews nominations and presents its recommendations to the board of directors for its approval. KPHA's awards are as follows:

- **Samuel J. Crumbine Medal** - So special, it is even registered with the Library of Congress. The "Crumbine" is given for meritorious service related to the improvement of the health of Kansans and/or the environment of the state. Recipients of other KPHA awards may also receive this one. A \$2000 scholarship is given!
- **Special Services Award** - for an individual who has rendered outstanding service to Kansas in the interest of public health and/or environmental improvement. May be presented to a non-member of KPHA.
- **Dorothy Woodin Award** - for outstanding public health nursing service.
- **Virginia Lockhart Health Education Award** - Recognizes excellence in public health promotion of health and/or environmental issues.
- **Corporate Public Health Service Award** - Given to a business or organization which, through public policy activities, makes a significant contribution to the mission of public health and/or environmental improvement in Kansas.
- **Jane Addams Award** - for the social worker who exemplifies the qualities of Jane Addams, including a pioneering spirit, trailblazer, and striving to improve the health of the poor and the sanitary conditions of communities.

Members wishing to submit nominations in any category should complete the form found by [clicking here](#) on our website and return it to KPHA Attn: Awards Committee, PO Box 67085, Topeka, KS 66667, or email it to [director@kpha.us](mailto:director@kpha.us). [Back to menu](#)

## Call for Nominations

It's time once again to prepare for the association's elections. The KPHA Board of Directors plays an essential role in assuring that the association is doing its best to fulfill its mission and serve its members. We are asking for your help in identifying and nominating leaders for KPHA to serve on our board in the following positions:

- **President-elect**  
Assumes the duties of president in his/her absence; will chair the planning committee for the 2008 annual statewide conference and serve on the executive committee. Term is one year, followed by one year as president.
- **Secretary**  
Keeps minutes of all association meetings; oversees notification of members concerning meetings and voting; sees to it that staff to keep membership records; also serves on the executive committee. Term is two years.
- **Director-at-Large** (1 position open in 2007-2008)  
Attends board meetings, representing the membership in setting association policy and related activity. Term is two years.

If you are willing to share your time and talents as a board member, just complete the "KPHA Board Nominee Profile" on the website and return it to KPHA, Attn: Nominations Committee, PO Box 67085, Topeka, KS 66667. Or, go to [www.kpha.us](http://www.kpha.us), click on "Upcoming Events," and download an electronic profile. The document is in Word format, so you can complete it from your computer then return it by e-mail to [director@kpha.us](mailto:director@kpha.us). [Back to menu](#)

---

## Resolutions for Annual Meeting

This past legislative session KPHA prepared a one page Legislative Priorities document that was given to Legislators and others interested in our Legislative platform. It included a resolution proposal by member Leon Vinci that he submitted following last year's Fall Conference: Below is the summary:

1. TOBACCO
  - a. Statewide clean indoor air ordinance
  - b. Statewide curb-to-curb hospital tobacco ban
  - c. Tobacco tax hike
  - d. Statewide law requiring group insurers to cover quit smoking medications (MN law)

2. Public health funding
3. Regionalization and Infrastructure
4. MSA Funds for Public Health

Leon has agreed to chair the Legislative Issues and Action Committee for the 2008 session. Since these priorities are not time sensitive, the Board and Leon will decide on using them as a Platform document or as resolutions for KPHA. He along with KPHA member, Mike Fox, will chair the AHA-KS that meets weekly during session and plans Health Day at the Capital. If you **do** have a passion for a particular public health issue, and it is one you wish to share with your fellow KPHA members, maybe you should think about submitting a resolution to the membership for consideration at the annual meeting in September, or submitting it to the Board for consideration. Just send it to [director@kpha.us](mailto:director@kpha.us), or by snail mail: KPHA, PO Box 67085, Topeka, KS 66667. [Back to menu](#)

---

## Don't Miss This Year's Annual Business Meeting and Conference!



**For the Conference Brochure on the conference, go to [www.kpha.us](http://www.kpha.us). You can see all the sessions!**

Annual Conference Focuses on "Communicating our Message."

This year we are featuring an on-line registration to help with the time and effort it takes to track registrations. Many states and other associations are using this practice. If you do not have online access, please call the KPHA office at 785-233-3103, or write: KPHA, at PO Box 67805, to obtain help with your information to file the online registration.

Janis Goedeke, President Elect/Conference Chair and Cyndi Treaster, Session Chair, along with Ed Kalas, Sonja Armbruster, Eldonna Chesnut, Melissa Armstrong, Debbi Baugher and have done a terrific job in designing the 2007 Public Health Conference. The conference will focus on communicating our message of public health, public health policies and public health politics. There will

be approximately 6 general sessions and 12 breakout sessions to give you the opportunity to learn about all the activities within public health that is and working to communicate our message throughout all of Kansas. To see the agenda and conference information go to [www.kpha.us](http://www.kpha.us).

**If you know of anyone planning to attend the conference let them know they need to fill out a registration form online, because if they don't they will not have a badge at the registration table! Please let everyone you know who is attending that they must register!**

Some of the keynote speakers and topics will be:

**"Public Health Law-the Highest Form of Policy and Politics" - Judge Linda L. Chezem.** Judge Chezem creates educational outreach opportunities between health related research, justice systems, and communities. Chezem holds an appointment as Professor, Youth Development and Agriculture Education, College of Agriculture, Purdue University. She also has a part time appointment at the Indiana University School of Medicine in the Department of Medicine and Purdue School of Science-Indianapolis, Forensic Science Program, and is a senior research fellow of the Sagamore Institute. She has held appointments at Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis, and an Affiliated Scholar with the Center for Public Health Law Partnerships at the University Of Louisville School Of Medicine. Chezem's focus on the improvement of adjudication through judicial education led her to conclude that the abuse and dependence upon alcohol was the nexus of the single largest public health impact in the U.S. In 2001, through her service on the Morgan County, Indiana, Board of Health she recognized a compelling need for up to date materials and references for public health emergencies for the justice system.

**"Promoting the Health of the Public: Creating Political Will for Action" - Dr. Debra Klein Walker, APHA President.** Deborah Klein Walker, Ed.D. is a Vice President in the Health Division at Abt Associates and President of the American Public Health Association. Before joining Abt in 2004, Dr. Walker was at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for 15 years where she most recently was the Associate Commissioner for Programs and Prevention responsible for programs in maternal and child health, health promotion and disease prevention (including the tobacco control program), primary care and community health programs (including those for HIV/AIDS and substance abuse), minority health, data integration and information systems. Dr. Walker is a current trustee of the Cambridge Health Alliance and a co-founder of New England SERVE, an organization committed to quality services for children with special health care needs. She is a past president of the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, a former board member of the Massachusetts Public Health Association, and a past chair of the Maternal and Child Health Section of the American Public Health Association. Dr. Walker is currently an Adjunct Professor at the Boston University School of Public Health and an Adjunct Lecturer at the Harvard School of Public Health. Prior to state service, Dr. Walker was an Associate Professor of Human Development at the Harvard School of Public Health and a faculty member at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Dr. Walker has authored three books and over 100 articles and book chapters. Her research and policy interests include child and family policy, program implementation and evaluation, public health practice, disability policy, community health systems, health outcomes and data systems.

**Kenneth Thompson** - As a family member who lost a loved one in the bombing, Ken Thompson has first-hand experience, both as a recipient of the expertise of the responder community during the

aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing.

**Dr. Jack Thompson, University of Washington.** Since 1999, Jack has served as the Director of the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice. Prior to his appointment, he was employed by the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health for ten years, and was the Director of the Seattle Health Services Division since 1986. Before coming to the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, Thompson was Executive Director of Neighborhood Health Centers of Seattle, a consortium of community health centers, for six years. Prior to his Lecturer and Senior Lecturer appointments, he served as a Clinical Instructor in the Department of Health Services for six years.

**"Communicating our Message: Public Health, Policy, and Politics,"** don't miss it. Click on [www.kpha.us](http://www.kpha.us) for the Conference Brochure and the Registration materials-what makes a good conference are the attendees and networking!

**We need your help in soliciting vendors for the conference.** If you know of any for-profit businesses that you work with, please share the conference registration form with them. The annual conference is one of the revenue sources for the Association. Any help you can give with letting others know about the Conference, recruiting exhibitors, recruiting attendees, scholarship recipients will be greatly appreciated.

**Here is this year's Conference Committee:**

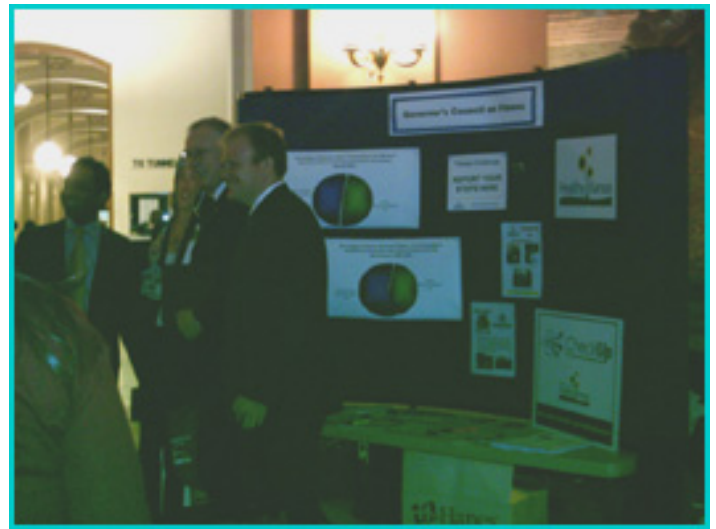
Janis Goedeke, Chair  
Ed Kalas, Vendors,  
Cyndi Treaster, Speaker Chair  
Melissa Armstrong, Posters Chair  
Gloria Vermie/Alice Weingartner, Silent Auction

The 2007 KPHA Board will be recognized at the conference this fall, for their services and dedication to KPHA. In case you're wondering who they all are, just [click here](#). [Back to menu](#)

---

## Health Day at the Capitol-Great!

Thanks to Chair, Sonja Armbruster, Sedgwick County Health Dept., and Legislative Issues and Action Committee Chair, Dr. Richter, KUMC, and the many who participated, the event was a terrific success! This year KPHA member Paula Marmet helped with organizing a Fitness Test for Legislators and there were 3 winners from the House and 3 from the Senate. Next year we hope to start the Fitness Challenge at the beginning of session with the final tally on Health Day at the Capital. This year also included a lunch for legislators. Here are a few photos:



Next year we hope to have a bigger and even better event. If you are interested in helping with the planning, just email [director@kpha.us](mailto:director@kpha.us)! [Back to menu](#)

---

## KPHA Featured in Nation's Health



Thanks to the many members who worked hard to make National Public Health Week and Health Day at the Capitol very successful, along with helping to hand out Legislative Packets during the session, Kansas was featured in the June issue of APHA Nation's Health! Congrats, Sonja! [Back to menu](#)

---

## Not Getting KPHA Emails?

If you are not receiving the KPHA eNews Updates, etc., we need your correct email address. We also send out lots of other information via email, and we are looking at electronic voting, as other

organizations do! Stay connected! [Back to menu](#)

**Copyright 2006. Kansas Public Health Association. All rights reserved.**