



COLORADO PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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Monthly Newsletter

January 2018

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From the Board

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The 2018 Legislative Session Begins

CPHA's policy committee will vote on these bills at its next meeting 2/1/18

Colorado State Legislature Tackles Opioid Misuse

A [bipartisan study committee](#) of Colorado lawmakers spent many hours—more than your average college class—studying the opioid crisis last summer. The group determined there were many ways the Colorado General Assembly could support efforts to reduce opioid misuse and overdose deaths. They've proposed six bills that contain important fixes for shoring up the Colorado systems that facilitate prevention and access to treatment:

- **HB18-1003 Opioid Misuse Prevention**
- **HB18-1007 Substance Use Disorder Payment and Coverage**
- **HB18-1136 Substance Use Disorder Treatment**
- **SB18-022 Clinical Practice for Opioid Prescribing**
- **SB18-024 Expand Access Behavioral Health Care Providers**
- **SB18-040 Substance Use Disorder Harm Reduction**

Despite bipartisan support, passage of these bills is not guaranteed. Two bills in particular have many hurdles to clear and may come out of committee greatly changed, if they survive committee at all:

- **HB18-1007** requires insurance companies to cover opioid alternatives for pain management, reduces copays for alternatives to narcotics, and prohibits commercial health plans from penalizing physicians for low patient ratings based on pain control.
- **SB18-040** aims to reduce harms associated with opioid use in Colorado by allowing hospitals to set up syringe exchange programs, by authorizing schools to choose to equip their nurses with naloxone for overdose reversals on campus, and by authorizing a supervised injection facility pilot program in Denver. This bill has been assigned to a committee where bills are often killed.



What can I do?

- Write to your state legislators! Find them and their contact information [here](#). Tell your story, give them facts, state your position.
- Request meetings with your legislators to discuss your concerns.
- Testify at hearings, or send written testimony to be read.
- Mobilize your friends/colleagues in other districts.
- SB18-040 will have its first committee hearing on February 5th. Contact members **of the [State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee](#)**, especially if you live in their district.
- If you're advocating in an official capacity, make sure you check in with the leadership of your organization first.
- Join the CPHA Policy Committee. All members welcome. Email cphapolicydirector@gmail.com for more info

2018 Culture of Data

Using Data to Achieve Health Equity

Arvada Center, Arvada, CO
Friday, April 6, 2018

Registration coming soon!
See you April 6!



Call for Abstracts

The conference offers a variety of breakouts, workshops and skill-building sessions for every data user level to help you apply data to achieve health equity in diverse communities. Send us an abstract of no more than 350 words for a panel or podium presentation, workshop, or poster to info@coloradopublichealth.org by January 31. (See suggested format below) We'll get back to you by February 28.

The objectives of the Culture of Data conference are :

- To identify and utilize the collection of health data on racial and ethnic populations that will impact health policy and the delivery of health services.
- To influence research by enhancing the data collection and dissemination process for communities experiencing health inequities.
- To develop and cultivate relationships and partnerships between communities and researchers seeking to achieve health equity.

Suggested Format:

- Is this a Panel, Podium, Workshop, or Poster?
- Title
- Presenters(s) (Please list associated agencies)
- Brief Description (350 words or fewer)
- 1 - 3 objectives



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Highlights

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People Profile

Dr. Jonathan Samet

Dean of the Colorado School of Public Health

Courtesy of the Colorado School of Public Health



Earlier this fall, Dr. Jonathan Samet, MD, MS assumed the role as the new dean of the Colorado School of Public Health following an extensive national search.

Dr. Samet, an accomplished medical professional and administrator, has occupied top positions in leading universities around the country.

He is currently distinguished professor and chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. He also directs both the USC Institute for Global Health and the Workforce Development and KL2 Program of the Southern California Clinical and Translational Science Institute.

"I am honored by being selected as the third dean of the Colorado School of Public Health," Dr. Samet said. "A key goal will be to enhance the school's impact on public health in the state and region through our research and training activities."

Previously, he chaired the department of epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and was clinical division chief for Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the University of New Mexico.

The chancellor of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Don Elliman said the new dean will strengthen and deepen the impact of the Colorado School of Public Health (ColoradoSPH).

"Since its establishment just nine years ago, the ColoradoSPH – a partnership of CU Anschutz, Colorado State University and the University of Northern Colorado – has made remarkable strides toward becoming one of the country's premier institutions of public health," Elliman said. "As its third dean, Dr. Samet, who brings the experience of a long and distinguished career in academic medicine and public health, is uniquely qualified to take the ColoradoSPH to new heights."

Dr. Samet comes to ColoradoSPH with nearly 40 years of experience in education, health care and research.

Throughout his career, he's fostered and mentored faculty members, created new lines of research, initiated curricular advances and maintained fiscal stability.

Along with teaching everyone from undergraduate to postdoctoral students, Dr. Samet has conducted a wide array of research into health issues. In many cases, he's translated



that research into action. His work led to advancing tobacco controls nationally and around the world, tightening air quality regulations and winning compensation for underground uranium miners suffering health problems.

The new dean is past-president of the American College of Epidemiology and the Society of Epidemiologic Research. He was elected to the National Academy of Medicine, one of the highest honors in medicine, and holds a bachelor's degree from Harvard College, an MD from the University of Rochester and a master's degree from the Harvard School of Public Health.

"We are fortunate to have someone as accomplished and versatile as Dr. Samet taking the helm of the Colorado School of Public Health at this critical juncture in its growth," Chancellor Elliman said. "I am grateful to Dr. Elaine Morrato who, as interim dean since December, has helped the school continue to build on its momentum while ensuring we are set up for a smooth handoff to new leadership."

Program Profile

Disaster behavioral health response helps recovery in Puerto Rico

Courtesy of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

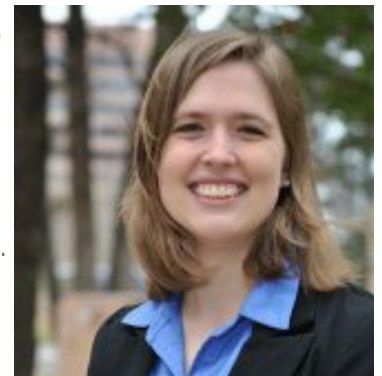


Image courtesy of US Department of Defense

At 5 p.m. the evening of Sept. 29, Aimee Voth Siebert found out she was being sent to help with the response to Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. Thirty hours later, she was on a flight to San Juan, more than 2,700 miles away.

"This was hands-down the fastest, most whirlwind emergency response I've ever been part of," she said.

Voth Siebert, a behavioral health specialist with the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response, wasn't sure she'd be approved for the team because of her rudimentary skills in Spanish. But her past experience in disaster behavioral response, coupled with her ability to deploy quickly, seemed to overcome any concerns about her less-than-perfect Spanish.



Aimee Voth Siebert

She's no stranger to this work. During the 2015 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, she deployed to Sierra Leone. But then she was responding to a disease outbreak; this time it was a hurricane.



“Every disaster response is different,” she explained. “When you’ve experienced one, you’ve experienced one.”

In Puerto Rico, Voth Siebert led a team of 11 behavioral health responders from various Colorado agencies. They were responding to a request for assistance under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, a nationwide mutual aid agreement. It was the first time any of them had worked together.

Although the team arrived with an accurate understanding of the island’s devastation—intellectually—no one was prepared for its emotional impact. With no power for lights, nights brought an eerie darkness over the large city of San Juan, home to almost 400,000 people. With communication channels knocked out, gathering information became a person-to-person enterprise. Learning about conditions in other areas of the island meant traveling to them.

Voth Siebert’s biggest take-away from the experience is that emergency planning for people must be as robust as emergency planning for infrastructure. With systems wiped out, she explained, people become the systems: to gather information, drive supplies to areas where they’re needed, count supplies and verify their delivery, provide security, and so on.

“But here’s the problem,” she added. “After a disaster, people are messy. There’s a simultaneous need for people and impact on people. So the disaster behavioral health goal is to reduce stress to increase functioning.”

Voth Siebert’s training tells her, after a disaster, people need five things:

- **To feel safe.**
- **To achieve calm.**
- **To get connected to others.**
- **To do something productive.**
- **To feel hope.**

Working with the local mental health agency, Voth Siebert and her team traveled from shelter to shelter all over the eastern side of the island. They provided psychological first aid to residents and workers, created quiet rooms where people could go for respite, and engaged children in activities and play.

Voth Siebert said it was inspiring to watch residents form their own systems. People came out of their houses and began interacting with their neighbors, sharing information, skills and ideas. In doing so, they were embracing an important recovery skill: reframing the disaster from a focus on what they lost to a focus on what they could do to help. Children demonstrated their resilience during play with games and coloring books. One little girl whose house lost its roof said, “At least we can see the stars now.”

Voth Siebert’s favorite memories of her three-week deployment were of watching her team members in deep conversations with the folks who were living and working in shelters, and witnessing the positive results. One team member, for example, generated calm by engaging staff and residents in deep-breathing circles.



“This changed the desperate energy around us into positive ideas,” Voth Siebert said. “We started with the body to help the brain.”

The team also helped other responders who were there to perform cleanup tasks. Informal conversations often evolved into psychological first aid. In a report prepared for the Puerto Rico mental health agency, the team recommended routinely embedding disaster mental health workers or crisis counselors in other responder groups. When she returned, Voth Siebert focused on taking care of herself. She meditated and got plenty of sleep, water and exercise. She reconnected with friends. She limited her exposure to media reports of the devastation, which she called “undercovered and hyperpolarized.” Her husband, Michael, provided support, hugs and a listening ear when she needed to release pent-up frustrations. This isn’t easy work. Responders often feel they’re not doing enough, especially when the devastation prevents them from getting help to remote areas.

Overall, though, Voth Siebert is proud of her team’s accomplishments. “We planted seeds, in small moments with people, and through the ideas we left behind,” she said. The work the team began will be continued by 300 crisis counselors Puerto Rico requested through a grant. She’s confident the tiny U.S. territory will recover, because of the resilience she witnessed in its residents. But it will take a while.

“Please find ways to remind yourself of Puerto Rico now, in six months, in a year, and in five to 10 years,” she said. “Because this will be a long recovery process.”



Image courtesy of US Department of Defense



Program Profile

The Early Childhood Colorado Partnership Shared Data Agenda

Courtesy of The Early Childhood Colorado Partnership

The Early Childhood Colorado Partnership
Shared Data Agenda Report

Early Childhood Colorado Partnership



[The Early Childhood Colorado Partnership](#) Data Action Team has finalized the Shared Data Agenda report! The report highlights the process through which the Shared Data Agenda indicators connected to the [Early Childhood Colorado Framework](#) were identified, as well as baseline data for those indicators. Read the report to view the data, challenges and barriers to existing early childhood data, and recommendations for next steps.

Since 2011, the Early Childhood Colorado Partnership (ECCP) has supported a Data Action Team¹ composed of 25 cross-sector organizations invested in the quality and utility of statewide data, as well as shared accountability and measurement for improving child and family outcomes. Partners include data experts from key state and local agencies supporting children and families. While the Data Action Team is one of several early childhood data efforts in Colorado, it brings particular value through cross-sector collaboration, as well as the connection to a broad network of partners.

The ECCP Shared Data Agenda 2 (Data Agenda) was collaboratively developed by partners on this team between November 2015 and January 2017 in order to drive shared measurement and collective impact on early childhood measures in alignment with the Early Childhood Colorado Framework³ (the Framework). The Framework is a shared vision for Colorado's young children and their families. It is embraced widely by early childhood partners and stakeholders, often guiding goals and activities.

The Data Agenda is one of several data resources in Colorado and should be considered one tool in supporting early childhood efforts and outcomes.

This report is as much about the process of identifying indicators and coordinating data tracking across agencies as it is about the data themselves. It is a celebration of collaborative data coordination efforts and an invitation to apply both indicators and collaborative measurement approaches to current early childhood efforts in Colorado. Specifically, this report has been developed for three purposes:

1. **Share the results and process through which the Data Agenda was developed.**
2. **Prompt new and progressive conversations about early childhood data.**
3. **Provide initial technical assistance on how to access and use the data.**

[Click Here to Access the Report](#)





New Professionals

Colorado Public Health Association | January 2018

William Mundo



My name is William Mundo, but my preferred name is Will. My pronouns are He/Him/His. I am a son of two immigrants from Acapulco, Mexico. As a result, I am also a first-generation American and a first-generation college student. I am an older brother and the oldest cousin in my family. I was born in East Los Angeles California but raised in Colorado. I grew up in Leadville Colorado, although it is a gorgeous town it is a small rural underserved town. The elevation of Leadville is 10,200 feet above sea level and as you can imagine it gets freezing. Things I am passionate about include diversity, equity, and inclusion as well as civic engagement and social justice. I also appreciate history and politics. I like to spend time outdoors, write poetry, mix music, and spend time with my family.

I recently graduated from the University of Colorado Denver with a B.S. in Public Health and a B.A. in Ethnic Studies in May 2016. I am also wrapping up my M.P.H. in Global Health Systems Management and Policy at the Colorado School of Public Health, and I expect to be completing my degree in May 2018. After I finish my masters, I will be pursuing my M.D. and will be graduating in May 2022. In the future, I will be a physician that works for Doctors Without Borders, the United Nations and other international agencies alike. Not only do I want to treat my patients in the exam room, but I also want to be able to address systemic macro-pathologies. Ultimately, I want to be able to use my medical practice as a way to gain experience and evidence to help drive policy that improves health systems and infrastructures across the world.





Announcements

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4th Annual Summit: For the Sake of Connecting with our Communities

The Colorado Public Health/Parks & Recreation Collaborative is excited to announce that registration is OPEN for the 4th Annual Summit: For the Sake of Connecting with our Communities on March 2nd from 8:30am - 4pm at the Buck Recreation Center in Littleton. Cost: Free & includes lunch.

Our Keynote speaker is Janet Bartnik, Executive Director for Western Eagle County Metropolitan Recreation District (WECMRD). She is nationally known for her efforts to bring together Public Health, Parks & Recreation through her leadership in Liberty, MO with the Liberty Community Health Action Team. You don't want to miss "We're Better Together!". Morning panel discussion sessions focused on Health and Park Prescriptions, Using Parks for Social Connection & Promoting Mental Health. We will be having a "World Cafe" experience in the afternoon with experts from around Colorado in community organizing, collaboration, out of school time, and many more....final topics coming soon.

Come join us for a great day of education, connection and networking.

[Click Here to Register!](#)



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Kresge's Emerging Leaders in Public Health Initiative



THE KRESGE FOUNDATION
EMERGING LEADERS IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Looking to transform your public health department?

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
April 2 - 30, 2018**
Learn more at kresge.org/elph

Applications Open in April 2018 for Kresge's Emerging Leaders in Public Health Initiative

[The Kresge Foundation](http://kresge.org) is partnering with the University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health (UNC) to recruit and select 20 teams for the third cohort of **Emerging Leaders in Public Health (ELPH)**. ELPH is a leadership development initiative aimed at providing local, governmental public health leaders with the knowledge and skills to lead in today's changing health care environment. The health officer and a second leader from the same agency team up for an 18-month, action-oriented experience designed to enhance skills and competencies in communications, business planning and leading organizational change. Each team will focus on the development and implementation of a "transformative concept" that shifts or expands the role of their local health department in the community and translates into sustainable change. Leadership teams will receive coaching and a grant up to \$125,000 from The Kresge Foundation to apply their leadership training while leading their department towards assuming this new, transformative role.

The Kresge Foundation will be accepting applications from 12 a.m. Eastern Time on April 2, 2018 through 5 p.m. Eastern Time on April 30, 2018. More information about the selection criteria, application process, and stories of previous participants can be found at <http://kresge.org/elph>.

Informational Webinars will be held in the first and second weeks of April for applicants who want to ask questions about applying. **Information on how to register will be posted in February 2018** at <http://kresge.org/elph>.

For questions, please contact the National Program Office at elph@kresge.org.



Telligen Community Initiative Grant Funds



2018 LETTER OF INTEREST REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Telligen Community Initiative has a commitment to the health of our communities. We want to fund programs and nonprofits that address social determinants that impact health and enhance equity, that are making healthcare education more accessible, and that are fostering innovation.

Our support comes with our endorsement of the good these programs and organizations do. We invest in them because they are investing in our neighbors and friends and ultimately in all of us.

[Click Here to for Grant Information](#)

Aurora Community School
is seeking school board
members

Aurora Community School

The mission of Aurora Community School is to create a safe, supportive, and stable environment that allows students to fully engage in experience-based learning, in order to bridge academic excellence and community impact.

Serving Grades K-8 beginning Fall 2019



We are the co-founders of a K-8 charter school, set to open in the DelMar park area of Aurora, in fall 2019. Over the past year we have spent time creating a mission and vision, connecting with families and students in the neighborhood, and building community partnerships who will be essential to the effectiveness of our charter school. More information about the school is [here](#).



Through the development phase we have been working with an advisory board, and are ready to transition to a working board in the next three months. As we make this transition, we are looking for experts who are interested in serving on a charter school board, sharing their expertise in law, business, development and/or community development, and joining a dynamic team committed to changing outcomes for diverse, traditionally under served students.

The commitment:

- 8 hours a month to attend one meeting and support the start up of the school.
- 14 month commitment-May 2018 to June 2019, at which point we will transition to a governing board. Working board members could transition to the governing board, if interested.
- Willing to share with others about the school to build interest and support.

If you are interested, we would love to set up a time to share more information about the co-founders, the school and answer any questions.

Jessica Martin and Meredith Stolte
Co-Founders, and Future School Leaders at Aurora Community School

CDPHE's Assessment and Planning Advisory Council

Invitation to participate in CDPHE's Assessment and Planning Advisory Council (APAC)

Dear Public Health Partners,

- Are you interested in helping decide how the health and environmental priorities for the state of Colorado are chosen?
- Would you like to be part of an engaging group of individuals from all over the state?
- Are you interested in getting your voice heard and sharing experiences from your Colorado community?

Background: Every 5 years, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is charged with developing a comprehensive plan and setting priorities for providing essential public health to Colorado residents (C.R.S. § 25-1-501). Community-driven assessment and planning is a best practice and is critical to effectively improving the health and well-being of Coloradans. In order to complete an assessment and develop this plan, a multi-sectoral group of diverse, creative, dedicated individuals must come together to guide the process.

Commitment:

- A single 2-year term, with quarterly 2.5 hour meetings
- Participating in person or via video call to at least 3 of the 4 meetings per year, distraction-free, to be present, connect with other members and share your expertise
- Sharing information about the assessment and plan with those in your circle of influence and bringing that information back to council members
- Reviewing and providing constructive feedback on documents in between meetings as needed
- Optional: Organizing and/or leading a short-term action team to get a particular task completed.



Stipends for Residents! Residents who participate (outside their organizational or business role) are eligible for travel reimbursement and a stipend for each council meeting.

If you'd like to be a part of the advisory council and can fulfill the commitments above, please go to <https://goo.gl/forms/JyMtNsSFIgc7RM9j2> to complete the application and call Cristina Bejarano at 720.300.1248.

CHCO Mental Health Youth Action Board: Call for Stories

CHCO MENTAL HEALTH YOUTH ACTION BOARD

CALL FOR STORIES

Youth Mental Health: Stories of Survival, Hope, & Strength

We are collecting stories and artwork to create a book that can be read by teens and adults alike. We believe that sharing your story, poem, or artwork may be a positive and healing experience for yourself and others.

Calling all teens and young adults ages 12-24: Tell us about your experience with a mental health problem, emotional challenge, or personal struggle. We are looking for stories or artwork that involve aspects of survival, strength and hope. What obstacles have you faced? What strengths and supports have helped (treatment, friends, family)? What have you learned from your mental health journey?


Write your story in up to 750 words in such a way that it does not include personal identification such as your name. Entry forms will be separated from the stories for selection purposes. If you choose to submit poetry or other visual art, be sure that it is no more than 3 double-spaced pages, or 3 pages of artwork. All visual art will be considered.

Some stories will be selected for an honorarium of \$100.00. Our ratings will be guided by narrative flow, quality of writing, engagement, and relevance to the topic. Submissions will be reviewed by teenagers on the Mental Health Youth Action Board. In order to meet our editorial goals, we reserve the right to offer editing suggestions. We will not publish anything without your permission. If you are under 18, and your art, poem or story is selected for publication, your parent/guardian will have to sign a consent form as well. Your entry will be printed under whatever name or pseudonym that you provide. Some honorees may be asked to share their stories in presentations or publications if they are willing to do so.

ALL SUBMISSIONS DUE BY FEBRUARY 16TH BY 5PM

- Include your name, age, pseudonym, phone number, e-mail address and title of artwork.
- Email submissions to YABstories2018@gmail.com

Children's Hospital Colorado complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. • ATENCIÓN: el habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-720-777-1234. • CHÚ Ý: Nhà bệnh nhi Tiang Vĩet, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-720-777-1234.

Children's Hospital
Colorado

Email Submissions to: YABstories2018@gmail.com

