

Issue #35

## **PBRN Week in Review | Jan 22, 2010**

*PBRN Grantees: Please circulate relevant information to your network members.* To request additional information or make suggestions for future items, please contact the National Coordinating Center at [publichealthpbrn@uams.edu](mailto:publichealthpbrn@uams.edu) or 501-551-0106. Newsletter archives are available [here](#).

### **Notable Recent Activities**

- **Round II January Conference Call.** In the first monthly call since orientation, representatives of the seven networks reviewed the Early Activities for Public Health PBRNs document and discussed action steps for establishing infrastructure in the early steering committee and full network meetings. Networks were encouraged to adopt agreements addressing the organization's mission, plans, governance, membership, decision-making, and roles. Identifying and developing communication mechanisms and patterns that best fit the network was emphasized, noting that routine communication should begin quickly. PBRNs were encouraged to establish and maintain inventories of participants' interests, skills and resources related to all aspects of research in public health practice-based settings and success in multi-organization collaboration.

National Coordinating Center (NCC) staff reported on the program's evaluation activity to characterize the early stages of public health PBRN development using social network analysis instrumentation. Baseline data of Round I network activity are being collected after one year, though Round II activity may be measured earlier. Sylvia Porchia described the NCC's initiative to coordinate conference calls and/or communication mechanisms devoted to special interest topics. The topics generated on both cohorts' January calls will be emailed to networks to indicate interest, volunteer to lead or co-lead calls, and add ideas.

All seven networks reported steering committee or other leadership meetings in January and February, as well as other early communication, infrastructure development, and research project activities.

### **Activities on the Horizon**

- **PBRN Annual Grantee and NAC Meetings.** Plans for the Annual Grantee Meeting in conjunction with the PHSSR Keeneland Conference are taking shape. Grantees should arrive in time to meet on Monday morning, April 19, and conclude on Tuesday afternoon, April 20. The NAC also will meet on Tuesday, April 20.

### **Related Research and Practice Activities**

#### **CALLS FOR PROPOSALS**

- **APHA** is accepting abstract submissions from February 1-5, depending upon the session type, for the 2010 Annual Meeting. [Link to details](#).

- **AcademyHealth Interest Groups Calls for Papers.** Interest Groups (IG) issue separate [calls for papers](#) for their meetings held in conjunction with the Annual Research Meeting (ARM). **All IG abstracts are due February 15, 2010**, including the Public Health Systems Research (PHSR) IG [detailed here](#). The PHSR meeting is June 29-30 immediately following the ARM.

#### CONFERENCES

- **Public Health Emergency Legal Preparedness.** NACCHO, ASTHO and CDC are co-sponsoring the one-day workshop "High-Priority Tools for Public Health Emergency Legal Preparedness," on February 16 to coincide with the 2010 annual Public Health Preparedness Summit in Atlanta. Public health practitioners will discover ways "to improve use of their public health laws to address influenza outbreaks and other, all-hazards public health emergencies." Registration and additional information are [linked here](#).
- **NIH Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation: Methods and Measurement** will be in Bethesda, MD on March 15-16, 2010. [Conference Registration](#) Deadline: February 12, 2010. "Researchers and evaluators who are interested in identifying opportunities and obstacles for dissemination and implementation research/evaluation are encouraged to attend this meeting." Investigators may request 15-minute individual sessions with relevant NIH program staff to discuss research ideas. To request an individual session, submit a one-page abstract by **January 29** following the instructions at the link above.
- **Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH).** The CCPH annual conference will be May 12-15, 2010 in Portland, Oregon. This is one of the earliest and best-known gatherings for community-based participatory research interests. For more information, [visit this link](#). Deadline for early registration is February 23.

#### COURSES

- **CDC Crisis and Emergency-Risk Communication Course.** Hosted by HHS and CDC, this 1.5-day course is designed to give emergency preparedness professionals the tools to communicate with the public, media, and stakeholders during a public health emergency, including pandemic flu. Conference dates: February 1-2 in New Orleans. [Link to information](#)

#### WEBINARS

Note  
Date!

- **Climate Change: Mastering the Public Health Role.** The third webinar in APHA's series is entitled, "The Public Health Role in State and Local Climate Change Action Plans." According to APHA, this webinar "will help public health professionals realize and act on the current opportunities to use their knowledge and expertise to impact climate action plans." To register for the live webcast scheduled for **January 25** from 12:30 to 1:30 ET, [click here](#).

Note  
Date!

- **Translating Research into Practice.** On **Tuesday, January 26** at 2:00 ET, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) launches a new monthly cyber-seminar series to involve researchers and practitioners in discussions of translating research into practice. The first session features the NCI authors of *Making Data Talk* with their ideas about how researchers and public health practitioners can better communicate data to public audiences. [Registration/information](#).
- **A Growing Hunger: The Nation's Demand for Food Safety and Nutrition Information.** This webinar is the annual Ned E. Baker Lecture in Public Health sponsored by NALBOH and is scheduled for April 8, 2010 at 4:00 ET. [Click here](#) for registration and more information.

## NEW LITERATURE

- **State-level School Policy and Youth Obesity.** In the January 2010 issue of *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, Nannery and colleagues examine linkages between states' school obesity prevention policies and youth obesity. The [article](#) is available free.
- **Screening for Obesity in Children and Adolescents.** The US Preventive Services Task Force has revised its recommendation for clinicians screening children ages 6 to 18 for obesity. The latest recommendation and related evidence will be published in the February issue of *Pediatrics* is available at AHRQ's website [linked here](#).
- **Tax Policy and Alcohol Consumption.** In the February issue of *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, the Task Force of Community Preventive Services reports its findings from a review of literature regarding the relationship between the price of alcohol and its consumption and related health outcomes. Read the [abstract](#) here.

## PUBLICATIONS

- **The 2009 Influenza Pandemic: Selected Legal Issues.** The Congress Research Service (CRS) has released a Report for Congress summarizing various legal issues related to the H1N1 Influenza outbreak. Many of these matters also may interest public health practitioners and researchers. View the report [here](#).
- **The National Health Security Strategy.** HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius recently released the nation's first comprehensive strategy for protecting people's health during a major health incident. Read the [report](#) to see what constitutes a "health incident" and how the strategy will be applied.
- **Oral Health.** Two new or updated information resources on oral health as part of the broader health picture are available. [Training New Dental Health Providers in the US](#), authored by Burton L. Edelstein, DDS MPH, and released by the Kellogg Foundation, focuses on provider and policy issues. CDC's Chronic Disease at a Glance brief on oral health has been updated for the past year. [Oral Health-Preventing Cavities, Gum Disease, and Tooth Loss: At a Glance 2009](#) gives an overview of oral health and hygiene issues, facts, public health interventions and success stories.

## OPPORTUNITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

- **Comments Sought on National Plan for Action: Health Disparities.** The [National Plan for Action](#) describes the status of US health disparities and proposes strategies for their elimination. Initiated by the Office of Minority Health and developed through the efforts of community, faith-based and non-profit organizations, academic institutions, foundations and government agencies, the plan is available for comment until **Friday, February 12**. Forms allow comments on individuals chapters or on the report overall.

## Funding Opportunities

- **Communities Creating Healthy Environments.** RWJF has issued a CFP for Round II of *Communities Creating Healthy Environments: Improving Access to Healthy Foods and Safe Places to Play in Communities of Color*. Follow this [link to the announcement](#) to learn more about eligible applicants, matching fund requirements, and key dates including regional information sessions and applicant web conference. Deadline: Brief proposals due February 25, 2010.

Deadline!

- **RWJF Public Health Law Research (PHLR).** PHLR will issue its second CFP on February 10. Get the details on the program [web site](#).
- **Implementation of Quality Improvement Processes.** AHRQ is interested in supporting grants to rigorously study the implementation of QI strategies and provide generalizable scientific findings about the implementation of the strategy, related organizational changes, and their impact. More information is [here](#). The next application deadline is **January 25, 2010**.
- **Finding Answers: Disparities Research for Change.** RWJF has announced a national initiative to move disparities research beyond documentation and into the implementation of efforts to eliminate racial and ethnic differences in health care. Eligible applicants are more specific than usual. **Brief proposals due February 4.** [Link to CFP](#).
- **Dissemination and Implementation of Evidence-based HIV Prevention.** NIH invites research to enhance the science of technology transfer, dissemination, implementation, and operational research for evidence-based HIV-prevention interventions in the United States. More information is [here](#). The next application due date is **February 5, 2010**.
- **Pfizer Fellowships in Public Health Research.** Pfizer offers career development awards for junior faculty pursuing careers in public health systems and services research. Research collaboration with state and/or local public health agencies is required. The [2010 announcement](#) is available online, and the application deadline is **February 12, 2010**. Glen Mays is on the academic advisory board for this fellowship and can answer questions.
- **Time-Sensitive Research in Environmental Health Sciences.** NIH has announced availability of the two funding mechanisms to “support research in which an unpredictable opportunity has arisen to collect human or animal biosample baseline or exposure data (e.g., following natural or made-made disasters, health care policy changes; etc). The distinctive element of the project should be the need for empirical study for a situation that was not foreseeable and is achievable only if begun within a short time frame.”
  - ❖ R03 Small Research Grants – [announcement](#)
  - ❖ R21 Exploratory and Developmental Research Project - [announcement](#)
- **Environmental Health Specialists Network (EHS-Net) Research (U01) Grant.** CDC’s EHS-Net grant aims to strengthen environmental health service programs through a network of environmental health specialists who will work with epidemiologists and laboratorians in the areas of foodborne and waterborne illnesses. Note the specifics regarding eligible applicants. Deadlines: Letter of Intent due by February 12, 2010; application due by March 15, 2010. [Announcement](#)
- **Community Action for A Renewed Environment Program (CARE).** The EPA has issued a RFP for its CARE program, “a unique community-based, community-driven, multimedia demonstration program designed to help communities understand and reduce risks due to toxic pollutants and environmental concerns from all sources.” Read the [full announcement](#) to note the two types of efforts supported, the atypical application processes, and the entities eligible to apply for this highly competitive funding. Deadline for application: March 9, 2010.

Deadline  
Extended!

- **NIH School Nutrition & Physical Activity Policies, Obesogenic Behaviors & Weight Outcomes.**
  - ❖ R01 [Announcement](#)                      R03 [Announcement](#)                      R21 [Announcement](#)
- **NIH Obesity Policy Research: Evaluation and Measures at the Community Level.**
  - ❖ R01 [Announcement](#): Research grants ([About R01](#))
  - ❖ R03 [Announcement](#): Small research grants ([About R03](#))
  - ❖ R21 [Announcement](#): Exploratory/developmental grants ([About R21](#))
- **RWJF and the Pew Charitable Trusts** have an open Call for Proposals on their collaborative [Health Impact Project](#). Letter of interest required; full proposal by invitation.

## PBRN Colleagues in the News

- **Trusted Health Web Sites.** The Medical Library Association (MLA) recently named Ohio’s [NetWellness.org](#) to its annual “Top 100 List: Health Websites You Can Trust.” The site, with its 55,000 pages of health information, is maintained by Case Western Reserve University College of Medicine, The Ohio State University’s College of Public Health, and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. All three schools are partners in the **Ohio Public Health PBRN**, known locally as the Ohio Research Association for Public Health Improvement (RAPHI).
- **Double-Booked.** NCC staff are accustomed to Glen Mays attending several meetings simultaneously while the phone rings in the background. When Mays introduced the Round II conference call and explained that he must return to an IOM committee meeting by phone when those attending in DC returned from lunch, staff were unfazed when his phone and BlackBerry both rang. He whispered and dashed as Sharla Smith wrote on the board, “The baby is coming!” **Jasper John Mays** weighed in that evening at 8 pounds and 12 ounces. All is well.

## Upcoming Key Dates

<b>January 30:</b>	Round I PBRNs’ Annual Progress Reports to RWJF
<b>February 1-5:</b>	APHA Abstracts Deadline
<b>February 9:</b>	Round I PBRN Monthly Conference Call   11:30-12:30 ET
<b>February 15:</b>	AcademyHealth Interest Groups’ Abstracts Deadline
<b>February 18:</b>	Round II PBRN Monthly Conference Call   1:00 – 2:30 ET
<b>March 9:</b>	Round I PBRN Monthly Conference Call   11:30-12:30 ET
<b>March 18:</b>	Round II PBRN Monthly Conference Call   1:00 – 2:30 ET

**Next Issue:** January 29, 2010