New Infographic: Children's Healthy Weight CoIIN

If you're looking for an easy way to share or explain the Children's Healthy Weight CoIIN with others, be sure to download our new infographic from ASPHN's website.

The colorful hand-out illustrates the CoIIN's purpose, partners, work streams and key drivers. Most importantly, it underscores how ASPHN and public health nutritionists are tackling one of our nation's most pressing health challenges - curbing childhood obesity.

To learn more about the Children's Healthy Weight CoIIN, please visit the ASPHN website or contact Sandy Perkins at sandy@asphn.org.

Honoring Hispanic Heritage Month

Each year, Americans pause to honor the contributions of Hispanics during National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15th-October 15th). Hispanics have had a profound presence throughout the US history. Their commitment to family, faith, hard work, and service is deeply rooted in American culture and values.

How are you celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month? Tell us about your related news and events. We love to showcase the work that our members are doing through the ASPHN News page and social media channels. Contact Janelle Clepper at janelle@asphn.org.

Find a Job, Post a Job

Find your next great job or employee through the ASPHN Job Board.

To post a job opening, contact Allison McGuigan at allison@asphn.org.

ASPHN Policy Committee Update: Sign-Ons and Farm Bill

The Policy Committee frequently collaborates with partner organizations to promote vital public health nutrition topics on behalf of ASPHN.

Recent Sign-Ons
During July and August the Policy Committee elected to sign-on to a Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) letter opposing a proposed amendment to the Farm Bill that would change the Fresh Fruit & Vegetable program to include non-fresh fruits and vegetables i.e. canned, frozen and dried.

The Policy Committee also supported CSPI by signing ASPHN on to a second letter opposing the House rider (Section 768) in the FY2019 Agriculture and Rural Development Appropriations Bill that blocks the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) from releasing sales data from Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) authorized retailers.

Similarly, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (the Academy) received ASPHN's support for a letter sign-on request which championed the "Developing Best Practices for Integrating Food and Nutrition Concepts into K-12 Education Act." The bill would require the Department of Education to provide funding for pilot projects to states for testing strategies for integrating food and nutrition concepts into elementary and secondary education.

ASPHN also signed-on to letters from the United States Breastfeeding Committee (USBC) and the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) supporting policies and positions in the global arena that aim to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding; by ensuring future breastfeeding policy decisions and actions are based on current scientific evidence, free from industry influence, and carried out in accordance to global trade agreements and international law.

Farm Bill Update
The Farm Bill Conference Committee was scheduled for September 5th. Programming in state health departments and local health department would be directly impacted by HR 2. The 28 states and 1 territory with members on the Conference Committee are: AL, AZ, AR, CA, FL, GA, IL, IA, KS, KY, LA, MA, MI, MN, MO, NH, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, PA, TX, UT, VT, VA, VI, and WI. This is an ideal time for ASPHN members, stakeholders, and partners to provide Conferees with specific, 'localized' information about how the two bills are projected to affect their state or district's SNAP-Ed activities and results.

Learn More
Follow these links to learn more about the potential impacts of these key pieces of legislation.
The Academy's farm bill webpage
The Food Trust on SNAP-Ed

Contact Michelle Futrell and the policy committee at michelle@asphn.org with any inquiries or comments.

Postponed: Live Webinar Launch- Guide for Enhancing Skills in Public Health and Community Nutrition
The webinar originally scheduled for September 13th entitled "Training Our Workforce: A New Guide for Training Public Health and Community Nutrition Professionals" has been postponed due to technical issues. We will keep you informed of the new date, time, and link for registration.

This live webinar will officially launching the Guide for Developing and Enhancing Skills in Public Health and Community Nutrition!

Get Involved:
Leadership Opportunities at ASPHN
Now is a great time to step into a leadership role at ASPHN.

First-time and returning ASPHN volunteers are welcome. This is your opportunity to expand your leadership skills, your national network and more!

Committees

Membership Communication and Outreach Committee (MC&O) provides guidance regarding communications to ASPHN membership and its partners. Contact Allison McGuigan at allison@asphn.org.

Policy Committee monitors key national issues that align with the strategic goals of ASPHN. The Committee works with ASPHN members and partner organizations to improve our communication and elevate the visibility of public health nutrition issues. If you’d like to help out with the Policy Committee’s efforts, contact Michelle Futrell at michelle@asphn.org.

Collaboration Committee seeks partnerships that advance the Association’s mission, vision and values and that advance the goals outlined in our strategic plan. In working with a variety of partner organizations, we work to expand our visibility and effectiveness. Contact Shana Patterson at shana@asphn.org.

Council Leadership Teams

National Fruit & Vegetable Nutrition Council serves as an organized voice of state public health nutrition leaders in public health planning that affect fruit and vegetable consumption. Contact Sandy Perkins at sandy@asphn.org.

Obesity Prevention Nutrition Council strengthens policy, environmental change, programs and services to decrease obesity across the nation. Contact Sandy Perkins at sandy@asphn.org.

MCH Nutrition Council provides national leadership for efforts to achieve optimal well-being through healthy eating and active living among the maternal and child health population, including those served by Title V/MCH Block Grants. Contact Sandy Perkins at sandy@asphn.org.

Committee and council volunteers generally prepare for and attend one meeting per month plus review materials to give guidance on special projects. That is a small amount of time considering the great impact these teams make on the health of our nation.

Apply Now:
2019 ASPHN Leadership Class

ASPHN invites you to join the 2019 Growing ASPHN Leaders. Apply by Thursday, October 11th.

The ASPHN leadership class helps members grow in ways that enhance leadership skills and provides practical application.

Be challenged and supported in 5-6 leadership calls, 1 orientation call and a final debrief call from December 2018 through June 2019. Participants join an ASPHN committee or council leadership team after they complete the program.

Space is limited and filling fast. Contact Shana Patterson at shana@asphn.org to request the Growing Leaders application or get more information.

Back to top
ASPHN Internship Highlight: How Healthy is Your Community?

ASPHN intern, Shalani Taylor, focused her projects on addressing preconception health in ethnic and racial minority women and men.

During her placement at the Crescent City WIC, located in the New Orleans metro area, Taylor immersed herself in all facets of the preconception health program at her placement site.

Crescent City WIC addresses preconception health by offering traditional supplemental nutritional services for pregnant and postpartum women and their children. Their Health Start Initiative seeks to reduce health disparities in maternal and infant health status in communities deemed high risk. Both Crescent City WIC and Taylor describe these programs as a perfect match. Taylor used the resources of these programs to promote and educate men and women about preconception health.

Guided by her preceptor, Taylor convened focus groups and also developed and implemented a preconception survey for men and women 18 to 22 years old. After analyzing the quantitative and qualitative data from these activities, Taylor developed a preconception screening tool for the target audience. "The internship went by quickly," said Taylor. "I'm glad that I had the opportunity to develop a useful tool that Crescent City can use to plan services long after my placement ends."

Taylor recently graduated from Xavier University of New Orleans with an undergraduate degree in public health with concentrations in pre-law and Spanish. She decided to do a gap year or two before pursuing dual JD/MPH degree programs. Taylor is also trained in the performing arts - dance. Recently, she auditioned and was selected for a leading role in the Love Boat cast. Over the next year she will apply to various law schools with public health programs for the fall 2019 or 2020 entering classes. Taylor's professional goal is to become a public health attorney.

Click here to find out more information about ASPHN Health Equity Internship Program or email internship@asphn.org.

Back to top

Develop Public Health Leaders: Become a Health Equity Internship Preceptor

Apply now to be a preceptor for an ASPHN Health Equity Intern for Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 sessions.

The field of public health nutrition needs your help to develop a new and more diverse generation of professionals. ASPHN members are encouraged to serve as preceptors and host sites for the ASPHN Health Equity Internship Program.

Undergraduate and graduated college students, mostly from Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI), are placed into 12-week stipend supported internships at no cost to the host agency.

For more information about hosting an ASPHN Health Equity Intern, contact Dr. Steve Owens or Thometta Cozart at internship@asphn.org.

Back to top

Welcome New Members!
ASPHN expands its network of talented professionals this August as it welcomes
Abby Gold, PhD, MPH, RD from North Dakota State University.

Thank you for joining us!

Our ASPHN member-network is strengthening our nation through collective action that makes healthy eating and active living possible for everyone.

You, too, can join this dynamic group of Public Health Nutrition leaders. Check out our member benefits and become a member now.

Contact Allison McGuigan at allison@asphn.org with questions.

About ASPHN

The Association of State Public Health Nutritionists (ASPHN) is a non-profit membership organization that strengthens nutrition policy, programs and environments for all people through development of public health nutrition leaders and collective action of members nationwide.

Our vision is healthy eating and active living for everyone. We welcome your involvement in our growing organization. Learn more about us at About ASPHN.