



News from the Association of State Public Health Nutritionists

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In This Issue

Build Team Success with the Public Health Nutrition Online Certificate of Training Program

Mark Your Calendars: 2019 ASPHN Annual Meeting

Join the 2018-19 ASPHN Obesity Mini CoIIN

A Fresh Approach to Promote the Value of Public Health Nutritionists

Plan Your Nomination: 2019 ASPHN Annual Awards

Get Involved: Leadership Opportunities at ASPHN

ASPHN Internship Highlight: Expanding the Role of Food Pantries

ASPHN Interns Experience Advocacy at SOPHE Summit 2018

Welcome New Members!

About ASPHN

Build Team Success with the Public Health Nutrition Online Certificate of Training Program

This year, lay the foundation for your team's success by enrolling them in the [Public Health Nutrition Online Certificate of Training \(CoT\) program](#).



The CoT contains five separate modules that build on one another and focus on the fundamental components of public health nutrition.

Registered participants have 30 days to complete each module. To receive the certificate, all five modules and related tests must be completed, and a final exam must be passed with a minimum of 80 percent.

Interested in learning more? Contact Karen Probert at karen@asphn.org.

[Back to top](#)

Mark Your Calendars: 2019 ASPHN Annual Meeting

Save the date for the 2019 ASPHN Annual Meeting, taking place June 9-11 in beautiful Scottsdale, AZ. Watch future ASPHN Newsletters for more information.

[Back to top](#)

Join the 2019-20 ASPHN Obesity Mini CoIIN

Is your state interested in Farm to Early Care and Education? Join the 2019-20 ASPHN Obesity Mini CoIIN.



The ASPHN Obesity Mini CoIIN can help your state:

- Advance team knowledge about Farm to ECE;
- Implement, advance or expand these popular obesity prevention strategies; and
- Connect you with other states and experts during monthly webinars and in-person meetings.

ASPHN uses a Collaborative Improvement & Innovation Network (CoIIN) approach to help states improve ECE nutrition environments, policies and/or practices with Farm to ECE initiatives by supporting nutrition professionals at state or local health departments or other key state early childhood agencies with planning, implementing, running, expanding and/or evaluating a Farm to ECE program.

All states and the District of Columbia are eligible to apply. For more details go to <https://asphn.org/obesity-mini-coiin-opportunity/>.

States must submit an ASPHN Farm to ECE Interest Letter

[Back to top](#)

A Fresh Approach to Promote the Value of Public Health Nutritionists

Looking for a new way to communicate the value of public health nutritionists?

ASPHN has fresh sound bites that can punch up your communication efforts and help others retain and repeat your message.



Visit [See It. Say It. Share It.](#) today to learn more.

[Back to top](#)

Prepare Your Nomination: ASPHN Annual Awards

Prepare your nomination for the 2019 ASPHN Annual Awards!

Nominate your fellow ASPHN members in any or all categories.



[Preview the 6 award categories here.](#)

Nominations will be open Friday, February 1 through Thursday, February 28 and awards will be presented at the 2019 ASPHN Annual Meeting in June.

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

[Back to top](#)

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 \(MC&O\)](#) promotes membership opportunities and provides guidance to ASPHN members and its partners regarding communication initiatives. 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.

[Back to top](#)

Wanted: Feedback from ASPHN Members Working in WIC

The ASPHN Membership Communications & Outreach Committee (MC&O) wants to hear from members who work in WIC!



Please let us know how being an ASPHN members benefits you professionally. Responses will be used in a recruitment presentation being prepared by the MC&O Committee!

Please contact Allison McGuigan at allison@asphn.org for with a note about your experience or ask for more information.

[Back to top](#)

ASPHN Internship Highlight: Expanding the Role of Food Pantries

ASPHN intern [Desirae Suggs](#) worked with Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition (the Coalition) and assessed the nutritional quality and operations of food pantries in Chatham County and supported implementation of the [Supporting Wellness at Pantries \(SWAP\)](#) guidelines.



During her internship, Desirae implemented a food bank client satisfaction survey, which focused on accessibility, distribution, intake, items available, and how the items met client needs. Data from her project informed stakeholders of the state of local food pantry systems, as compared to SWAP guidelines standards.

Based on the results from Desirae's project, SWAP seems to be a feasible way to raise the nutritional quality of food pantry items in Chatham County. Of the 14 organizations assessed, only 2 offered nutrition education. Desirae concludes that a devoted group of volunteers and SWAP trainers, committed to the mission of providing nutrient dense foods, has the ability to weave these guidelines into pantry operations. With consistent volunteer training, Desirae believes that SWAP could reduce the County's food insecure population and improve access to nutritious foods.

"Interning with the Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition afforded me the opportunity to learn just how much health plays an integral role in community development. I have also grown to appreciate the importance of community collaborations. ...Truly, no one person or organization has all of the answers," said Desirae.

Desirae Suggs is a masters of health sciences student at

Georgia State University, completing nutrition-focused coursework. She plans to become a Registered Dietitian and would ultimately like to have her own a business that focuses on fitness programming, nutrition services for weight loss, and medical nutrition therapy.

Click here to find out more information about the [ASPHN Health Equity Internship Program](#) or email internship@asphn.org.

[Back to top](#)

ASPHN Interns Experience Advocacy at SOPHE Summit 2018

Fall ASPHN Health Equity Interns attended the 20th Annual Advocacy Summit hosted by the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) in Washington, DC in October 2018 to learn advocacy skills as a professional development opportunity.



During the ASPHN Health Equity Internship Program, students identify policies that addresses health inequity for select US populations. Taking a [public health approach to prevent gun violence](#) was the focus of the two-and-a-half-day advocacy summit.

Students heard from national advocacy organizations, such as Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, as well as the 2018 American Public Health Association Government and Health Policy Fellow. Breakout sessions provided opportunity to apply advocacy and systems thinking approaches to population level health issues.

ASPHN Intern Chomel Johnson from Bethune-Cookman University stated, "The hill visit for me was powerful, knowing that legislators agreed with what we presented to them. My cousin was killed in the August 26, 2018 Jacksonville mass shooting. It was a tragic day, for my family, the Florida community and people around the world. Still, we [came] together as one to make our voice heard."

To find out more about the ASPHN Health Equity Internship Program, contact Thometta Cozart at internship@asphn.org.

[Back to top](#)

Welcome New Members!

ASPHN expands its network of talented professionals this December as it welcomes 3 new members!



Associate Members:

Cindy McDuffie and Xuemei Zhang,
both are students at Appalachian State University (NC)

Valeska Mangini Weiss (FL)

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.

[Back to top](#)

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](#).

[Back to top](#)