ASPHN 2020-2021 Annual Report

Celebrating A Year of Uplifting Each Other

About Association of State Public Health Nutritionists (ASPHN)

ASPHN is a nonprofit membership organization that provides national and state leadership on food and nutrition policy, programs and services.

Our Vision
Healthy eating and active living for everyone.

Our Mission
To strengthen nutrition policy, programs and environments for all people through development of public health nutrition leaders and collective action of members nationwide.

It has been my sincere pleasure to lead the Association of State and Public Health Nutritionist (ASPHN) as President this past year and I introduce the 2020-2021 ASPHN Annual Report to you with much pride and great joy.

I would like to thank the ASPHN Board of Directors for carving out time from their schedules to foster personal connections with one another this year. These intentional connections establish the strong foundation of relationships necessary to uplift the work of our ASPHN committees and councils with distinction.

The Board continues to rely heavily on our ASPHN councils and committees for leadership to develop products, programs, and experiences that equip members for career success. We are grateful to each committee and council participant for their collective wisdom to implement the ASPHN Board’s action statement on equity and inclusion.

In this year’s report you will note that several committees and councils have taken specific actions towards implementation of our statement on equity. Updated guidelines on “The Way We Work Together” from the MCH Nutrition Council work group and the equity-centered reframing of the ASPHN national priority issues by our Policy Committee are key examples.
Even amid a pandemic, we proudly supported our nation through the delivery of many relevant resources, such as “The Clean Away COVID” campaign and the Library of Reliable COVID-19 Resource Links.

I would be remiss if we did not also celebrate our nearly 700 members of the ASPHN. It is humbling to know that so many people rely on ASPHN products and involvement to enhance their projects and careers. This year, we have especially seen early career professionals rising to lead us. Examples include Danielle Conlon presenting at our Annual Meeting and Christie Kirchoff joining the Board of Directors as our first student appointee.

In closing, I am thankful for the opportunity to not only serve ASPHN, but our communities at large. The work we have committed ourselves to is truly life changing. In a year of shutdowns, layoffs, and new waves of communication, ASPHN thrived. It has been my sincere honor to serve in this capacity. May we continue to celebrate the year we spent uplifting and empowering one another.

Tiffani Grant, MS, RD, LD
ASPHN Past-President

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Highlights

ASPHN projects build capacity in state programs to deliver opportunities for healthy living to everyone.

Former ASPHN Members Enrich the Consultant Team

This year ASPHN welcomed past president and annual award-winner Diane Golzynski to the consulting team as well as member Kyle Unland. ASPHN supports its members entirely through the work of consultants, making it agile at applying the right skills and experience to every task.

"ASPHN is why I was able to meet those folks and see that we all have similar challenges and that we can put our heads together to come up with some solutions or resources to help run our programs in our respective states.

ASPHN.org Maintains a Webpage Dedicated to COVID-19 Resources Relevant to Public Health Nutrition

The ASPHN COVID-19 webpage keeps members and partners current on COVID-19 information with monthly updates.

Example COVID-19 Topics
- School nutrition
- Ways to address health disparities
- Breastfeeding recommendations
- Relevant funding opportunities

Contact Emia Oppenheim at emia@asphn.org to post additional resources.

ASPHN.org Gets a Fresh Look, Website Updates

To better communicate with our growing membership, ASPHN has embarked on updating our website’s design and content. The project is ongoing, with a targeted completion date of summer 2022.

Webpage Organization Features
- Fresh, streamlined web pages
- Succinct displays of each program’s focus areas, vision, mission and goals
- Engaging benefits and value statements that encourage member involvement
ASPHN Adds More Members to the Public Health Nutritionists Hall of Fame on the See It. Say It. Share It. Website

ASPHN’s See It. Say It. Share It. web-based marketing campaign is actively promoting the value of public health nutritionists. The campaign is built around five sound bites, which communicate key focus areas of public health nutrition. The campaign encourages public health nutritionists and others to use the sound bites as part of their communications strategy.

New Members in the Hall of Fame
ASPHN created the Public Health Nutritionists Hall of Fame in 2020 to salute our members’ efforts and help others learn about the value of public health nutritionists.

Examples of the 6 new profiles include:

Carol Friesen, PhD, RD and the Second Harvest Food Bank

Nikki Davenport, RDN, LD and Iowa WIC’s Cultural Toolkit

The succinct profiles of ASPHN members and the work they are doing in their states are easy to share with a unique URL which can be quickly added to email, social media, etc. New entries are being accepted by application.

Learn more about See It. Say It. Share It. here. Contact Lourdes Pogue at lourdes@asphn.org for more information.

- 2021 Focus Group Participant”

- Easy access to related resources and meeting dates

Webpage visuals often center on "hero images" featuring diverse people of all ages enjoying healthy eating, active living and positive interaction. ASPHN’s sound bites on the value of public health nutrition are superimposed over many hero images. Member photos and testimonials underscore the peer connections and interactions that make ASPHN membership so meaningful.

Updated pages thus far include the

- National Fruit & Vegetable Nutrition Council;
- Maternal and Child Health Nutrition Council;
- Healthy Food, Active Communities Council;
- Children’s Healthy Weight State Capacity Building Program;
- Children’s Healthy Weight CoIIN;
- Farm to Early Care and Education Grantees Programs;
- Health Equity Internship Program;
- ASPHN’s Annual Meeting and 2021 Annual Meeting.
Partnerships

ASPHN products guide the implementation of evidence-informed policies and practices in public health nutrition.

The WIC Developmental Monitoring Project "Learn the Signs. Act Early" Continues to Adapt During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The WIC Developmental Monitoring Project has completed funding year-3 with aims to build the capacity of states to adapt, adopt, implement and assess the “Learn the Signs. Act Early.” WIC model into their own WIC clinics. WIC staff will be equipped to earlier identify and address the developmental concerns of the one in six children in the U.S. with a developmental disability.

Participating States
Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virgin Islands

Due to COVID-19 we were unable to secure 2 additional states who could receive funding to implement LTSAE, as planned. Instead, we quickly created virtual options for developmental monitoring in WIC. Thank you to our 19 Technical Assistance states who provided feedback on these options.

ASPHN and CDC Partner for a Successful DNPAO Training

Together with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity (DNPAO), ASPHN designed, planned, and executed a jam-packed national training to enhance current funding recipients ability to implement SPAN, REACH and HOP programs. Ambassador states were also invited.

The Zoom-based event took place in May and used the vFairs virtual platform to host 759 attendees from 44 states.

Meeting Design
- Welcome session with Dr. Rochelle Walensky, CDC Director,
- Twenty-two hours of programming across 51 sessions with 141 speakers
- Town Hall session
- Resource Room with printed materials and video options
- Chat room for networking
- Booths for wellness

Personal health was encouraged throughout the five-day meeting.

Access the recordings, resources and attendees names at
New Capacity Building Tools Available Online

- Milestone Checklists on CDC’s webpage
- “Milestones Matter” participant education modules in English and Spanish on WIChealth.org, WICSmart, and WIC-ed.com
- Developmental milestones content for the WICShopper app
- Twenty-three shareable social media posts that promote developmental monitoring
- “Introduction to Child Development and Resources from CDC’s LTSAE” training for all WIC staff

What’s Next
With additional funding for year-4 we will develop a campaign to promote the virtual options to more states, continue testing and gathering feedback on the virtual options, recruit more TA states and add the updates CDC makes to the milestone checklist.

Learn more about the WIC Developmental Monitoring Project "Learn the Signs. Act Early" on the ASPHN.org.

Contact amberbrown@asphn.org for more information.

 dnpaonationaltraining.org/.

Quotes from Evaluations
“Our whole team found the training extremely helpful and informative. We appreciated the open conversations about race and health equity!”

“As always, the DNPAO staff hit the mark again with this training. It provided the right mix of content and timing with the agenda. Well done and thank you all!”

“... This was a model of how smooth and efficient online conferences can be.”

2021 Partnership Development and Training

Overarching Goal:
For ASPHN members to gain the skills needed to successfully lead collaborative relationships that result in improved eating and activity habits among communities and states.

Background
In 2019, ASPHN members provided data about partnership experiences, challenges, etc. through key informant interviews, online surveys and Q & A sessions. ASPHN consultant Shana Patterson collected the qualitative data and applied it to a global framework, The Partnering Cycle.

In 2020, six ASPHN members formed the Partnership Learning Community (PLC) to review partnering processes, frameworks and provide resources in order to create their own Partnership Development Plan.

The work of the PLC informed the content of the 2021 Partnership Development and Training 2-part series.
Growing Leaders at All Career Stages

ASPHN provides online and in-person leadership opportunities and training programs to support the development of each generation of public health leaders.

Students
ASPHN Builds Diversity Among Public Health Students Through the Health Equity Internship Program

The ASPHN Health Equity Internship program is increasing the number of students from minority-serving institutions that have experience working with territorial, state & local health agencies and community-based organizations. This experience in public health practice positions them to address the nutrition, cardiovascular disease and other health risk factors among ethnic and racial minority communities.

Internship Highlights
- Internships were completed by 25 students
- Interns were placed at 20 agencies: government, academic, national organizations and community-based organizations
- 24 preceptors served as mentors for the internship program
- Interns' abstracts were accepted for presentation at national public health meetings and conferences

What's Next
- Virtual internship placements reduce COVID-19 risk
- More placements in cardiovascular disease prevention
- Additional pilot CVD risk reduction projects at Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Praise for the ASPHN Health Equity Internship:
“Through my association with ASPHN, I maintained relationships with people in West Virginia. So when I moved to [that] state, they recruited me. So [ASPHN] helped me get a job.”
- 2021 Focus Group Participant

First Student Appointed to the ASPHN Board

Congratulations to Christie Kirchoff, ASPHN’s first student board member appointee to the Board of Directors.

Representing student voices on the board ensures that we are meeting the needs of members at all stages of their career. ASPHN also provides appointed students structured and mentored leadership experience to develop excellence in public health leadership.

This position will continue to be appointed yearly through application process.

Watch the monthly ASPHN newsletter for more information.

“Some of my mentors were in ASPHN. So I think that having that mentorship and then just being
while addressing their health concerns,"  
-Peter Kalu, MSPH student at Meharry Medical College.

"I envision a career working with children or underserved communities and teaching them about the importance of eating health and routinely engaging in physical activity."  
-Jessica Norman, public health education major at North Carolina Central University.

Learn more about the ASPHN Health Equity Internship Program here or contact internship@asphn.org.

Early Career and Emerging Leaders

Early Career Professionals are Reaching Higher

Here are just a couple examples of the leadership of ASPHN by early career professionals.

Danielle Conlin, chair of the National Fruit and Vegetable Nutrition Council, presents at the 2021 ASPHN Annual Meeting. See her in action in the recording of the Fruit and Vegetable Consumption as a National Priority session.

Jamie Lee-Rokala joins honorees in the ASPHN Public Health Nutrition Hall of Fame. See more great work by ASPHN members in the Public Health Nutrition Hall of Fame.

We are proud to provide leadership opportunities and a showcase for ASPHN members at each stage of their career.

Growing ASPHN Leaders Participants Serve Among Us

Watch for these 2021 Growing ASPHN Leaders as they serve with you on ASPHN Councils and Committees in the next year.

- Amanda Harner – Policy Committee; National Fuit & Vegetable Nutrition Council (F & V Council)
- Cayla Waxman – F & V Council; Healthy Food, Active Communities Council
- Emily Brinkman – Maternal and Child (MCH) Nutrition Council
- Emily Mattern – F & Vegetable Council
- Emily McFarland - F & Vegetable Council
- Laura Perdue – ASPHN Policy Committee; MCH Nutrition Council
- Lydia West – ASPHN Collaboration Committee
- Mary Curnutte – F & Vegetable Council
2021 Growing ASPHN Leaders

ASPHN's leadership class helps members grow in ways that enhance leadership skills and provide practical application.

In 2017, the Growing Leaders curriculum was adjusted to include topics and discussions around vulnerability, gender and racial inequities.

In 2021, 12 members enrolled from CO, NC, AZ, KS, MI, MO, MN, MS, NJ and NY(2).

In addition to the core discussion around Dr. Nita Mosby Tyler’s White People Really Love Salad, participants were encouraged to take a deeper dive into equity and justice through participation in Food Solutions 21 Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge, and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics webinar series on Racial Bias.

What’s Next?:
In 2022 Growing ASPHN Leaders will pause, giving the leadership time to enhance the course, integrate ASPHN’s 2021 diversity and inclusion priorities and look for more ways to meet the needs of our growing membership.

Past participants continue to be involved with ASPHN at every level of participation.

Participants Share About the Growing ASPHN Leaders Experience

"It has been a tremendous learning experience being a part of this group, and I truly value the lessons I’ve learned and the connections I’ve made with other classmates.”

“One of the most impactful lessons I learned is that everyone is a leader. Leaders are not born – they are developed! Leadership takes continual practice, and this class has equipped me with tools to help make that happen. I am looking forward to becoming an excellent leader and helping develop the leadership skills in the people that work with me.”

“The program helped me to embrace my servant leader style. I never thought of it as a leadership style or a strength until I went through the program. It helped to give me confidence to step into that as a leader.”

"I definitely think [ASPHN resources] help improve my strategic thinking to focus our efforts because we're spread very, very thin,..."

-2021 Focus Group Participant
Train at Your Own Pace

Career Growth is the Focus of ASPHN's Development Digest

The Development Digest helps Public Health Nutritionists realize their career potential through inspiration from:
- Expert interviews,
- Stories of peers overcoming challenges and
- Transformational resources.

Practicing Validation and Recognition at Work, the latest issue published this year, includes an article on meaningful recognition strategies for your team, an article on wellbeing derived through appreciation and an article on ASPHN member recognition tools.

The digest exists online so members can relax and engage at their own pace.

Past Development Digest Topics
- Prioritizing the Practice of Resource Sharing
- The Pursuit of Learning
- COVID-19

Praise for the Development Digest from Mikaela Schlosser:

The value I have found in sharing the Development Digest is how focused every product is in keeping the role of the public health nutritionist in mind. You can receive education about nutrition from a lot of sources, but seeing specific examples of how other states have incorporated it into public health nutrition programming is so beneficial!

ASPHN Trainings Enhance Skills and Build Career Success for Public Health Nutritionists

ASPHN enhances skills in the Public Health Nutrition workforce through timely and leading-edge training topics offered throughout the year. An average of eight engaging professional development opportunities are offered each month. Ninety percent of trainings are available online, fitting easily into most schedules.

The 93 trainings offered in 2020-2021 drew 3,248 participants.

Find ASPHN Trainings archived here. Click Show All.

"...some of the webinars provided perspective that I hadn't even thought about and many times opened my eyes to things that I wasn't aware of. So I think ASPHN is usually on the cusp of new knowledge or new information.”

-2021 Focus Group Participant
CoIIN Updates

**CoIINs: Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Networks**

**What's a CoIIN?**

**ASPHN Advances Farm to ECE Strategies in 2021**

Did you know that ASPHN has been supporting states doing Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) through CoIINs since 2019?

**Farm to ECE Works**

Listen to an ASPHN overview of the value of farm to ECE and hear from some of our dynamic grantees in our May 2021 presentation for the ASPHN Fruit and Vegetable Council.

Farm to ECE is especially relevant in the context of COVID-19. See details in *Nurture Young Children’s Health and Curiosity During COVID-19*.

**Farm to ECE Grantee Programs**

Thanks to the generous support and partnership from CDC's DNPAO, ASPHN has run 3 different Farm to ECE grantee programs. ASPHN previously supported a 3-year grantee program called the Mini CoIIN that closed July 31, 2021. See the final report here.

**Children’s Healthy Weight CoIIN Actions, Funding**

The Children’s Healthy Weight CoIIN (CHW-CoIIN) was a multi-year initiative including 13 states. It formally launched in July 2017 and continued through August 2021.

**Goal**

CHW-CoIIN worked to develop, implement and integrate evidence-informed policies and practices in State Title V programs. These projects improve health behaviors related to breastfeeding, physical activity, and nutrition for people newborn through 21 years of age, and includes those with special health care needs.

Long-term, CHW-CoIIN aims to increase the proportion of people 21 years old and younger who maintain a healthy weight.

**State Action Highlights**

-26 state teams from 12 state teams implemented 52 actionable projects, related to breastfeeding, physical activity and innovative nutrition
ASPHN currently runs two new Farm to ECE grantee programs, the Capacity Building Grant (CABBAGE) and the Farm to ECE Implementation Grant (FIG).

2021 CABBAGE

In this year-one, three Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) teams learned about and implemented farm to ECE in their communities to redress health disparities and help young children develop healthy habits.

The 3 CABBAGE teams include Eastern Michigan University (EMU), National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM) and Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln (PHL).

CABBAGE Team Accomplishments
- EMU integrated farm to ECE curricula, activities, and gardens into a new Burmese ECE in Battle Creek, MI.
- NKFM partnered with 5 ECEs in a Farm to ECE learning collaborative.
- PHL helped 2 ECEs in Lincoln, NE incorporate Harvest of the Month, taste tests, CSA boxes, and other opportunities into their classrooms.

The 2021 CABBAGE impacted 8 ECEs, 23 providers, and over 300 children. This success led to an additional year of funding and the CABBAGE will now support up to 5 REACH teams working on Farm to ECE for its second year beginning November 1, 2021.

2021 FIG

ASPHN, in collaboration with CDC and National Farm to School Network (NFSN) partners, administers the Farm to ECE Implementation Grant integration, including:
- Toolkits and information resources
- Mini-grants
- Coordination across funding streams
- Physical activity programs for schools, incorporating children with special health care needs
- Nutrition-related materials for classrooms

-State teams built and strengthened partnerships to leverage existing resources and improve their states’ nutrition and physical activity environment.
  - State teams identified 150 local, state, and national level partners.
  - 27% of partnerships identified were new to the state’s CoIIN work.

Go to asphn.org/childrens-healthy-weight-coiin/ to access the evaluation reports, and infographic detailing the overall CHW-CoIIN, depicting the each of the 3 workstreams, and describing the work of each intensive level state team.

"I come to ASPHN to work with other people who are working on the same type of problem or the same type of public health needs. And then we're basically using each other as resources.”

-2021 Focus Group Participant
(FIG), which provides technical assistance and funding for 10 states and the District of Columbia to strengthen their state-level Farm to ECE initiatives.

The 11 FIG teams include Colorado, District of Columbia, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Vermont, and Washington.

Teams were so successful in the first 10 months of the FIG that funding for a second year was added to continue their work.

**FIG Teams Accomplishments**

- Launched Farm to ECE mini-grants
- Started procurement pilots in Head Start sites
- Conducted state-wide assessments
- Trained ECE providers, farmers, and master gardeners on Farm to ECE
- Held substantive focus groups, created websites and regular farm to ECE newsletters
- Educated policymakers on Farm to ECE in their area

For more information on these Farm to ECE grantee programs contact Emia Oppenheim at emia@asphn.org.

Collaboration Updates

ASPHN multiplies the impact of members' work through strategic partnerships.
Collaboration Committee Accomplishments

ASPHN Collaboration Committee currently maintains 36 relationships that multiply the impact of public health nutrition initiatives by coordinating with other organizations that advance the Association’s mission, vision and values and that advance the goals outlined in our strategic plan.

Work Groups
Guided by the ASPHN strategic plan, five work groups within the committee compile data from ASPHN Liaisons who also serve on partner initiatives. The Committee then identifies strengths and gaps in coordination and develops training and tools for liaisons to improve partnerships.

Liaison Training/Networking Calls
The Collaboration Committee developed two unique training* opportunities for Liaisons:

- Getting Grounded in and Enhancing Collaboration with Tool "1-2-All"
- Asking the Right, Hard Questions with Tool "Partnership Coherence Assessment"

*Fun fact: Training tools were obtained from ASPHN’s Partnership Training resource cache.

Recognition
A presentation highlighting the work of each liaison and each ASPHN partnership was created to recognize their work and promote involvement in the Collaboration Committee.

Learn more about the ASPHN Collaboration Committee here.

ASPHN Partners with US Breastfeeding Committee

ASPHN partners with US Breastfeeding Committee (USBC) through the Building Capacity to Increase Access to Breastfeeding Support Through a Collaborative Process Project. USBC provides support and education to local, state, and cultural coalitions for activities highlighting breastfeeding.

The Building Capacity to Increase Access to Breastfeeding Support Through a Collaborative Process Project is in its third year of providing funding and support to the United States Breastfeeding Committee (USBC) and ASPHN members for activities to increase breastfeeding rates.

Goal
The goal of this project is to co-create multi-sector partnerships that advance policies and practices for improved breastfeeding outcomes.

Project Highlights
- 4 ASPHN liaisons and the ASPHN Breastfeeding Consultant bring the public health nutrition viewpoint to USBC Constellations and Learning Communities group discussions, including the newly developed COVID-19 Constellation.
- ASPHN collaborates with USBC and other breastfeeding support organizations through Breastfeeding Public Health Partners. These partners have been highlighted in several ASPHN newsletters.

Find more information on the MCH Nutrition Council webpage and the USBC website.
New ASPHN Partnerships

- NOPREN- Healthy Eating Research – COVID & Schools ad Hoc Working Group
- National Association of Chronic Disease Directors – Building Resilience in Communities Grant Partnership
- Clean Away COVID Healthy Home Environments: Engaging WIC Participants – campaign
- Appalachian State University - Student webinar & education series partnership

“[ASPHN] is my go-to organization for learning from others and collective action.”

(2020 ASPHN Member Survey)

Policy Updates

ASPHN strengthens its members' work by keeping legislators and regulators informed of priority issues.

Our members offer state and national leadership on food and nutrition policy, programs and services that help improve the health of our population.

ASPHN Shapes National Policy for Health Equity

Working together with the ASPHN Board of Directors, Councils, Committees, members and partner organizations the ASPHN Policy Committee actively promotes upstream public health and nutrition policies, programs and other initiatives through science-based leadership by sharing information and supporting collective action

Building Nutrition Policy Influencers Through Foundational Webinar Series


The ASPHN Policy Committee created this training in partnership with
nationwide.

Action Highlights
The Policy Committee revised the ASPHN Policy Committee Priority Issues Watch List to emphasize support for policies addressing systemic racism and as its destructive influence upon the Social Determinants of Health.

The committee also submitted comments to USDA on
(1) restoration of milk, whole grains, and sodium flexibilities; and
(2) update, development, coordination, and implementation of the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) market basket.

Sign-Ons
Also on behalf of ASPHN, the committee signed-on to 60 letter requests from numerous partner organizations and submitted evidence-based comments addressed to elected officials other policy influencers.

Some of the many issues addressed in these letters included strengthening support for:

- school meal and child nutrition programs,
- farmers and those who feed us,
- Native communities,
- essential workers,
- children and families, and
- people who have been historically underserved and underrepresented.

What’s Next
The Committee will continue to monitor and review public health actions pertinent to nutrition issues in upcoming regulations.

Visit the Policy Committee webpage to view other resources and minutes from previous meetings.

ASPHN’s MCH Nutrition Council to help members step forward as policy influencers.

Follow the links below to watch these archived webinars.

Watch the Webinar Series:
- Moving Public Health Nutrition Policies Forward: Supporting Moms and Babies In the First 1000 Days

“When I was involved in the policy committee, I would get lots of emails on the current policies... I really did find it informative to get that cheat sheet every 6 day and to be involved in the discussions... It really did help me stay abreast of what was going on in policy, where I tend to just be so focused on my own work that I don't get that broader perspective.”

-2021 ASPHN Member Focus Group Participant
Council Updates

ASPHN facilitates peer support.

The ASPHN consultants are supportive along every step of the way, making it easy to participate. Participating in a Council is an opportunity to learn different leadership styles from the unique perspectives of public health nutrition leaders across the nation. -Elaine Russell (KY)

National Fruit and Vegetable Council Accomplishments

Expanded Membership
Lead by Danielle Conlon, Tayna O’Connor and Melissa Lonsberry, the National Fruit & Vegetable Nutrition Council has 247 members, an increase of 170 from 2020.

Networking
Supported a National Fruit and Vegetable Nutrition Council Facebook Group to provide Council members a place to communicate about their work in the world of fruits and vegetables.

Offered two all-member networking calls to allow Council members to learn from each other. Topics include, Social Media and Nutrition Initiatives.

Webinars
- September 2021: Farm to ECE, ASPHN’s Involvement, and Stories from 3 Farm to ECE State Leaders
- May 2021: Promoting Nutrition in Young Children: USDA Meal Patterns

MCH Nutrition Council Accomplishments

Expanded Membership
The ASPHN MCH Nutrition Council has over 320 member members including MCH Nutrition Council Liaisons, an increase from 260 members last year.

Publications
Provided input on the development of two new MCHB resources:
- Incorporating Nutrition in the Title V Five-Year Needs Assessment
- Resources for Addressing Nutrition in the Title V Five-Year Needs Assessment

Training
Organized quarterly training webinars with guest speakers on emerging issues including trauma-informed nutrition, and nutrition & autism.

Support
Hosted conversations among MCHB leaders and MCH professionals to enhance understanding of MCHB programs including, National Survey of Children’s Health, Pregnancy-Related Care Research Network, and HRSA Agency Overview

Technical Assistance
Held technical assistance sessions for MCH Nutrition Professionals:
- December 2018: Using Performance
What’s Next
Exploring collaboration opportunities with the National Fruit and Vegetable Alliance.

Find more Fruit and Vegetable Nutrition Council webinars here. Click Fruit & Veg Nutrition Trainings.

The Obesity Prevention Nutrition Council Becomes the Healthy Food Active Communities Council

Under the leadership of Jillian Osborne, Teresia Mbogori and Cheryl Hill, the 245 members of the Healthy Food, Active Communities Council provide national leadership and advocate for the role and competencies of public health nutrition in healthy food systems and active living environments.

New Name
Formerly the Obesity Prevention Nutrition Council, the members changed the name to Healthy Food, Active Communities Council which better reflects the actions it takes to prevent obesity and make healthy living the easy choice for all people.

Webinars
Health equity continues to be a priority focus for this council webinars and training, including Strengthening Native American Representation Among Tribal Health Councils.

Access the archived webinars here.

Find out more on the Healthy Food, Active Communities Council webpage at ASPHN.org.

Management and Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) Cycling to Improve Nutrition Service Delivery
- May 2019: Engaging Nutrition Into the 5-Year Title V Needs Assessment
- June 2019: Raising Maternal Mental Health Awareness to Address Early Childhood Obesity

What’s Next
ASPHN is continuing in a contract with Maternal and Child Health Bureau to provide technical assistance and training to Title V MCH Block Grant Programs related to food and nutrition policy, programs and services, with a special focus on bolstering the public health nutrition workforce.

Contact Sandy Perkins at sandy@asphn.org to access MCH Nutrition Council webinars.

“I find the support and mentoring talents of ASPHN leadership contributes great value as I work to achieve my career objectives.”

(2020 ASPHN Member Survey)
ASPHN members lead public health nutrition.

From advancing the consumption of fruits and vegetables to promoting breastfeeding and maternal and child health and nutrition, to stemming the tide on the obesity epidemic, ASPHN's members share a common drive and passion for public health nutrition.

Membership Communications & Outreach Committee Highlights

The Membership Communications and Outreach Committee (MC&O) works to increase members’ skills and knowledge by promoting involvement in ASPHN’s programs.

Major Activities
The ASPHN Membership Communications & Outreach (MC&O) Committee recently updated its work plan, identifying 7 high-priority projects to complete in order to carry out its purpose.

All-Members Orientation
The former New Member Orientation is now the ASPHN Member Orientation and is available on-demand to all members. Orientation at anytime during membership can connect viewers to programs, products and services they may have missed.

The 90-minute orientation provides an overview of ASPHN's organizational structure, highlights tools and involvement opportunities and introduces the ASPHN consultant team. The guided tour of ASPHN.org and her sister sites makes discovering new resources a snap!

More and More Members
ASPHN welcomed more than 100 new members in 2021. The total membership is now over 700 strong and 8% are students. New members are joining every month.

Emerging Professionals Pay Lower Membership Fees
Students and professionals in the first two years of their career now can join for just $25 per year. See details on the ASPHN Membership page.

“Being a member has been a great asset to my current position as a Public Health Nutritionist. Learning from other reputable colleagues has been very beneficial.”

(2020 ASPHN Member Survey)
Access the ASPHN Member Orientation recording and slides here.

Meeting goals
Every new ASPHN member is welcomed by a member of the MC&O Committee.

Contact Allison McGuigan at allison@asphn.org for more information.