



**Association of  
North Carolina Boards of Health**

# ANCBH New Member Discussions

Hosts:

# Agenda

- ▣ ANCBH mission, purposes, and brief history of the organization
- ▣ Advocacy
- ▣ Member categories
- ▣ Review of current member specialties and roles, including our Executive Director
- ▣ Meetings
- ▣ Member communication
- ▣ Communication strategies
- ▣ Networking and visibility
- ▣ Finances
- ▣ Partnerships
- ▣ Awards
- ▣ Current and past projects and initiatives
- ▣ Q&A

# ANCBH Website

■ <https://www.ancbh.org/>



**Association of  
North Carolina Boards of Health**



# ANCBH Mission, Purposes, and Brief History of the Organization

- Incorporated in 1986.
- **Goal: To pursue excellence in public health in North Carolina by providing leadership and support for local Boards of Health in their efforts to protect and promote the public's health. And its purposes remain focused on the health of the public by:**
  - Promoting for the citizens of North Carolina. **high standards of comprehensive public health services**
  - Providing **consultation and education** for, and facilitate the exchange of ideas among, Board of Health members.
  - Supporting **health policy and finance issues** in support of public health in North Carolina.
  - Promoting **close working relationships** between local Boards of Health and other allied agencies.
  - Promoting **programs and projects** deemed necessary to protect and promote the health of the citizens in North Carolina.
  - Supporting **public awareness** of public health issues and dangers.

# Advocacy

- Most important book on this topic was written by a past member of ANCBH, Dr. Robert R. Blackburn. Note: This also has application to education.
  - *Advocacy from A to Z*
- Advocacy efforts can involve supporting other public health agencies' position statements, as well as development of our own statements. Letters of support have been written in support of disciplines to improve services to our citizens, and also for recommending persons for awards in the public health arena.
- **Advocacy** is educating on an idea or service. **Lobbying** is suggesting a legislator vote for your idea/program.
- **Our goal is to help members of BOHs to better advocate for public health to their county commissioners.**

# Member Categories

## ▣ Institutional

- ▣ Counties who pay their dues; may vote at the Annual Meeting and nominate officers for the organization.

## ▣ Individual

- ▣ Current members of local Boards of Health (have been sworn-in to serve on their BOH).

## ▣ Associate

- ▣ Past sworn-in member of a BOH or a liaison to a public health organization who support the goals of ANCBH and has a passion for public health.

## ▣ Emeritus Director

- ▣ An honor awarded to a past officer of the organization for continued excellence and service. Has voting privileges and has lifetime membership to serve as desired.

# Review of Current Member Specialties and Roles

- **Jean Douglas:** President and Pharmacist (Guilford County)
- **Ben Tillett:** Past President and Pharmacist (Person County)
- Secretary: vacant
- **Edna Hensey:** Treasurer and Citizens for Public Health liaison (Wake County)
- **Susan Elmore:** Director Emeritus, past president, and Veterinarian (Orange)
- **Barbara Ann Hughes:** Director Emeritus, past president and Dietician (Wake)
- **Deborah Fortune:** Assistant Professor, Public Health Education at NCCU (Durham)
- **John Kessler:** ANCBH webmaster, and Pharmacist (Chatham)
- **Stephen Dedrick:** Pharmacist and Continuing Education Specialist (Durham)

# Review of Current Member Specialties and Roles, continued

- **Eva Brown:** Past secretary, public health advocate (diabetes), and BOH member (Warren)
- **Jane Hinson:** Health Director and liaison from the NC Association of Local Health Directors (Iredell)
- **Marielena Moreno-Garcia:** Liaison to NCLHD Accreditation Board, NALBOH Board of Directors, nurse, and BOH member (Alamance)
- **James Davis:** Retired sheriff/private investigator, BOH member (Hoke)
- **Calvert Jeffers:** Past ANCBH President and veterinarian BOH(Forsyth)
- **Hannah Rodgers:** Communication Specialist and a liaison from NC Healthcare Association (new member)
- **Karl Johnson:** Assistant Professor and Liaison from UNC Gillings SOPH (new member)
- **Eddie Jordan:** current chair of Surry County Board of Health (new member)
- **Kevin Austin:** current chair of Yadkin County Commissioners (new member)
- **Pam Andrews:** current chair of AppHealthcare BOH (new member)



# Executive Director

- **Merle Green, MBA, MPH**
- 30 hours/week
- Represents ANCBH at meetings and attends the Health Director's monthly meetings.
- Attends each of the 10 regional zones as scheduled.
- Past Health Director of Guilford County.
- Knowledgeable in public health in state and knows many key persons.
- Office located at Alamance Health Department in Burlington.
- Responds to questions concerning policies and conflicts.
- Leads activities and works with board members on an on-going basis.
- Directs and supervises our Data Assistant, Kathy Brooks.

# Meetings

- In this past January, members selected the following time for our **meetings** this year:
  - Every other month (odd numbered months)
  - Every third Wednesday of the scheduled month
  - 9am
  - Zoom
- An **Annual Meeting** is required per the Bylaws. The purpose is to vote on officers, present our awards, and update the Bylaws. Institutional members are invited to participate and vote at this meeting. This meeting was held in September this year, but any date may be considered.
- A **Whole Year Calendar** is maintained by the President so members will know when meetings occur and the status of projects. This is updated monthly.

# Member Communication

- **Agenda** is emailed at least a week before the scheduled meeting, including attachments. Late minute documents may be emailed out before the meeting.
- **Minutes** will be emailed after the meeting with the required follow-up defined. Attachments will be included also. Approval will be voted upon at the next meeting.
- **Decisions** that can be made by email if needed to be made between meetings. Members email their vote.
- **Goals** are agreed upon and worked on throughout the year. A **Whole Year Calendar** is maintained by the President so members will know when meetings occur and the status of projects. This is updated monthly.

# Communication Strategies

## ■ Newsletter:

- Format and production strategies are being tested to see what works best. Our last newsletter was well received. Graphics were designed by a NCCU student.
- The newsletter will focus on current topics, meetings, situational problem solving from across the state, advocacy efforts, etc. We hope to include a section calling for questions where answers are desired.
- We may ask our members to contribute short articles based upon their specialties and communicating with local BOH members of the same discipline across the state.

## ■ Website:

- News and interesting information are posted to the website as needed. Please refer interested persons to this website. It is well designed.
- Share any ideas that you have for the website with John Kessler, PharmD.

# Networking and Visibility

- Send ANCBH board members to NALBOH annual meetings and NCPHA theme specific meetings (leadership, data management, education, etc.)
- Send Executive Director to NALBOH and NACCHO
- When funds are available, provide scholarships for ANCBH board members and institutional members
- Meet with local legislators in Raleigh to address key public health issues
- Advocate for public health on Hill Day in Washington, DC

# Finances

- ▣ In July of each year, each county is asked to pay registration **dues** to ANCBH. \$350 per year. 90% of the counties have paid dues this year so far.
- ▣ **Fundraising** efforts include continuing education programs, sponsorships for exhibiting at meetings, grant writing for small projects, etc. Ideas such as GOFUNDME are being considered, as well as working with NC Association of County Commissioners to seek funding support for accreditation and our organization.
- ▣ The **Finance Committee** prepares the budget and approves any activity where funds are required.

# Partnerships

- ▣ ANCBH continues to meet the needs of our members by working with:
  - **NCALDH:** Local health directors by attending their monthly meetings, supporting their advocacy efforts, and giving a monthly report of our activities;
  - The **N.C. Institute of Public Health** local board of health training program by providing a trainer and providing input on subject matter;
  - The **N.C. Local Health Department Accreditation Board** with four members serving on the board (one as chair, two as subcommittee chairs and one on the appeals committee);
  - **Liaison groups** such as N.C. Association of County Commissioners, N.C. Alliance for Health, NCPHA, and the N.C. Citizens for Public Health.
- ▣ Bylaws can be found on our website ([ancbh.org](http://ancbh.org)).

# Awards

## ▣ Outstanding Board of Health Award

- ▣ BOH is an institutional member that has shown leadership in public health accomplishments.

## ▣ Robert “Ed” Strother Partnership Award

- ▣ Individual or institution that has established and/or fostered a public-private partnership that has improved public health for the community.

## ▣ Carl Durham Award

- ▣ Institutional, individual, associate or emeritus member that has made significant contributions to public health.

## ▣ Robert Blackburn and Vaughn Upshaw Awards

- ▣ Outstanding graduate students in the Public Health Leadership Program with a demonstrated commitment to local PH agencies, leadership skills, academic excellence, and contributions to NC.



# Current Projects and Initiatives

- ▣ Define priorities based upon goals and collaborations with other agencies
- ▣ Hold every other month board meeting and an Annual Meeting
- ▣ Attend NCALHD and Public Health Region meetings (decentralized)
- ▣ Provide up-to-date answers to questions from BOHs and Health Directors
- ▣ Review nominations and select recipients for the Awards and Scholarships
- ▣ Recognize board member contributions to the organization
- ▣ Mentor public health graduate students with projects

# Current Projects and Initiatives

- Update and provide BOH training for new board members
- Recruit new ANCBH Board Members
- Set up the Board Chair Network to fulfill our mission
- Find a secure process to accept registration payments
- Seek fundraising ideas to offer reduces training fees
- Update website and investigating ways to archive documents with protection
- Seek to provide pointers associated with contracting for pharmacy services (currently on hold till the Board Chair Network is further along
- Partner with Gillings SOPH and NCIPH/UNC SOG to train BOH members to advocate for public health in their counties.

# Past Projects and Initiatives

- Written letters of support for public health and pharmacy advocacy
- Recommended professionals for the NCPHA Partnership Award 2023
- Developed a recruitment plan, talking points sheet, and a committee
- Provided advocacy for Medicaid expansion, smoking/tobacco use, infant mortality, DEIB, and streamlining processes for covid vaccines/treatments
- Participated in development of NALBOH and Accreditation Self Monitoring documents
- Initiated ANCBH newsletter for local BOH members and Health Directors
- Celebrated our members who won national awards /elected to national officer and board positions (NALBOH)

# Past Projects/Grants

- Provided a community-based blood pressure program
  - American Heart Association and ANCBH established a community-based BP program in 2022 for blood pressure screening, education, and referral in collaboration with local health departments in Guilford and Forsyth counties (Triad) to provide cardiovascular self-management options due to the lack of community education and wellness centers in communities. This effort addressed access to health promotion and cardiovascular disease prevention.
  
- Organized Public Health Nurses Conference
  - ANCBH saw the clear need to celebrate and acknowledge the work of Public Health Nurses in NC. Nurses from all public health departments in North Carolina were invited for a day of teaching, training, celebration, fun, and fellowship. More than 200 public health nurses attended the conference on May 5, 2023 in Greensboro.

# So, What is ANCBH's **Focus**?

- ❑ **Support** local Boards of Health and Health Directors
- ❑ **Advocate** for improved public health
- ❑ **Coordinate** training and projects
- ❑ **Move forward** with the resources we have without burning out our members, in this new age of health care

# Questions?

