

October 2002

Annual Meeting Satellite Broadcast to Reach Every State: Performance Standards Session to Be Broadcast

Local and state health officials can learn to assess how well their public health systems are performing through a nationwide satellite broadcast in November.

As part of the 130th APHA Annual Meeting, which will be held in Philadelphia Nov. 2003, a session on the National Public Health Performance Standards Program will be broadcast live via satellite to sites in all 50 states. The standards program, launched in Washington, D.C., in June, is made up of assessment instruments that allow health officials to compile and evaluate data on services provided through their public health systems.

Since the standards were launched this summer, there has been widespread interest from health officials across the country who want to learn more about them, said Karlene Baddy, MEd, director of the Public Health Innovations Project at APHA. The satellite session will provide an overview of the program and include examples of how the standards can be used to improve public health services.

"State and local health officials who want to determine if they are adequately serving the public health needs of their residents – which can include everything from bioterrorism preparedness to health promotion - can use these instruments to do so," Baddy said. "This is a great opportunity for those in the field to learn more about the program."

The satellite broadcast session, sponsored by APHA, will be held Tuesday, Nov. 12, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern time. Participants will be able to take part in the session from sites in their home states. Registration for the session will be open online Oct. 1 at www.apha.org/meetings/satellite.htm.

Broadcast participants will be eligible to receive continuing education credits for viewing the session. The broadcast will include a taped broadcast of the Annual Meeting keynote speaker, who will address the Annual Meeting's opening session.

Public health professionals who attend the 130th Annual Meeting in Philadelphia can attend the session in person. The broadcast will be listed in the Annual Meeting Final Program as session number 4233.

The National Public Health Performance Standards Program is a collaboration between APHA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, National Association of County and City Health Officials, National Association of Local Boards of Health, Public Health Foundation and National Network of Public Health Institutes.

For more information about the satellite broadcast, e-mail <healthnews1@apha.org> or call (202) 777-2529.

For general questions about the public health performance standards program, call (202) 777-2494 or e-mail <karlene.baddy@apha.org>.

- Michele Late