

## 2018 Council of Affiliates Annual Report

The role of the Council of Affiliates (Council) is to promote efficient and effective communication and coordination of affiliate activities with APHA efforts. The Council facilitates collaboration between APHA and each of the affiliated associations to ensure a mutually supportive relationship. The Council's 2018 Strategic Work Plan continued to utilize APHA's core strategies as a framework. This annual report is intended to update the Governing Council on the Council of Affiliates' work.

### ***Strengthen Public Health Practice:***

1. The Council presents three scientific sessions at Annual Meeting. The sessions seek to strengthen public health practice at state and local levels. The sessions this year include: What Happens When Your Health Department Gets Accredited? The Impact of Sustained Support for Public Health Accreditation, Health Impacts of Discrimination Across Communities, and Affiliate Actions to Advance Health Equity. The accreditation speakers were identified from CDC and APHA grantees working on assessment, implementation and technical assistance efforts to increase local and state public health accreditation. The speakers for the sessions on discrimination and health equity were identified through an affiliate call for abstracts to highlight the local and affiliate level approaches to address the annual meeting theme.
2. The Council sponsors poster sessions for undergraduates and graduate students, and affiliate members with a goal to highlight affiliate successes. We received fewer posters in the affiliate category than hoped for. Future efforts to solicit abstracts will focus on increasing affiliate submissions to highlight local, state and regional best practices in public health.
3. The Council participated in a Google Hangout presentation to Yale School of Public Health students along with representatives from the APHA Executive Board, Student Assembly and Intersectional Council. The goal of the presentation was to highlight opportunities within APHA for students, young professionals and future leaders.

### ***Build a Public Health Movement:***

1. Working with APHA, the Council encourages all affiliates to participate in building-a-movement activities such as National Public Health Week and the Speak for Health Campaign. Throughout the year, APHA and the Council stress the importance of collaboration among Affiliate Leaders and APHA members/leaders. During National Public Health Week, all 54 Affiliates sign up on the website and serve as NPHW partners. They are engaged by participating in the NPHW webinar meetings, tuning into the Forum webcast and implementing activities at the state and local level. As part of the Speak for Health campaign, Affiliate leaders reported signing onto APHA action alerts, submitting letters to the editor, and visiting their state and federal legislators to discuss public health issues affecting their communities.
2. The Council continues to engage affiliates in APHA's policy development and implementation process. The Council continued its efforts to utilize a framework for affiliates to assess and provide feedback on proposed policies. This policy review framework highlights the affiliate perspective on policy implementation, specifically the impact and usability of APHA policy statements at state and local level.

3. The Council, Governing Council, Executive Board and Intersectional Council collaboratively hosted regional roundtables at the 2017 annual meeting. The goal of this session was to engage governing councilors, section and affiliate leaders in developing strategies to help us create the healthiest nation in one generation. Outcomes from this session included regional efforts to submit letters to the editor, development of a climate change and health webinar series and development of a public health book club/reading list.

***Align organizational capacity and infrastructure:***

1. Affiliate leaders participated in the Council's annual New Leaders Orientation webinar. This webinar introduced affiliates to new Council leadership, Council plans for the year, and affiliate resources within APHA.
2. The affiliates' Presidents-Elect meeting and Sections' Chairs-Elect meeting continued to be held at the same time. In addition to learning more about the Council and the APHA structure, affiliate leaders began building relationships with incoming leaders from across APHA components and communities.
3. The Council's Past-Chair continued to assist affiliates wanting to align their strategic plans with APHA's strategic plan. A total of 10 affiliates have taken advantage of this opportunity with 5 alignment trainings/technical assistance sessions occurring during 2018.

For the second year we included questions about affiliate perceptions of the Council's work in the affiliate annual report. We are pleased that over 80% of the respondents reported that the work of the Council is somewhat helpful or often helpful promoting effective communications between APHA and affiliates, coordinating affiliate and APHA activities, strengthening affiliates, and facilitating collaboration so that APHA and affiliates empower each other. Responses to this question increased from approximately 75% in 2017. Additionally, an open-ended question provided many ideas of ways the Council can further serve affiliates and APHA. This information provides a foundation for us to build on and a baseline to measure progress.

The Council Chair extends deepest gratitude to our Council leadership team, Regional Representatives, our dedicated representatives to APHA Boards, Councils, Committees, and Work Groups, and the hard-working, dedicated Affiliate Affairs staff. On behalf of Council, thank you to the APHA Executive Board and Executive Director for their support of all Affiliates and the work accomplished across our nation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlene Cariou, MHS, CHES  
2018 Chair, Council of Affiliates