Thanks to everyone who joined us at our 94th Annual meeting on May 1st! We had a great turnout of folks from many different disciplines which made for some robust networking! Congratulations to our honorees, Dr. Ted Kestner and the Sussex County Healthcare Coalition! Thanks to our keynote speaker Ella Greene-Moton, who delivered a poignant and inspiring message for us all. We also welcomed our new leader, Dr. Kate Smith, while recognizing the significant achievements of Tim Gibbs, who served as Executive Director for an action packed 16 years! I also wanted to thank the Academy/DPHA team for delivering a great meeting, with Dayzha Washam as our lead event director!

For me, the hi-light of the evening was that as President, I got to have dinner with our key note speaker! I found that Ella has an amazing story to tell. She is an inspiring leader, and APHA is very lucky to have her as their lead volunteer!

I wanted to share a few excerpts from “my dinner with Ella:"

* Ella does not have a degree, but rather has made her way to her current leadership role through her work as a community based public health worker. She has built a body of experience through her work; and has developed an extraordinary skill in being able to share, inspire, and to lead at the highest levels of public health!

* Ella had a number of questions for us, and as she understood us better provided insight as to how well positioned our organization is, based on the strong representation of medicine and public health working hand in hand. Her outlook is that this uniquely positions our organization to achieve improvement the health and well being of our community (and is a combination that she has not seen elsewhere!).

* Ella spoke of the importance of partnerships as a way to have a greater positive impact on the community. The Academy/DPHA partnership with the Sussex County Healthcare Coalition is just one example of how we are looking to
achieve much more by working together with our partners.

* Ella mentioned how systematic racism exists and continues to “get in the way” of progress in terms of the public’s better health and well being, and is something for us to better understand and to work on here in Delaware.

* Ella also talked about the importance for us to listen to the community regarding the issues that they experience, as an important way to inform our work. On the other hand, she talked about the importance of actively communicating with our decision makers with regard to setting policies that affect the public health, and that this can be done via hill visits and in our case, having a dialogue with those in Dover.

* Finally, Ella’s comments about “a cause for pause” caught my attention. Below is a description and depiction of her comments here, that is something that I will remember!

A Cause for Pause!

Just because you are right does not mean that the other person is wrong... as in this case, it only means that you are looking at it from two totally different views...

Thanks for taking the time to read my update, and please be in touch as you have ideas that can help the Academy/DPHA to achieve its mission of better health and well being for our Delaware community!

Lynn C. Jones, LFACHE
President, Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association

Amplifying Momentum Among the Health Sector for Environmental Justice & Climate Action Symposium
Join the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments and the Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment for "Amplifying Momentum Among the Health Sector for Environmental Justice & Climate Action". Health professionals are advocates for holistic well-being. With historic progress and investments in environmental justice and climate action, it's an opportune time for health professionals in the Mid-Atlantic region to amplify progress by supporting climate and health at a state, local, and community level.

Held at the Inn at Villanova University, this program is designed to provide nurses and other health professionals with the knowledge, skills, and networking opportunities to amplify leadership towards advancing climate action for public health and communities. All health professionals and students are welcome!

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unique program is designed to inspire, educate, and equip nurses and other health professionals with the knowledge, skills, and networking opportunities to amplify leadership towards advancing climate action for public health, environmental justice, and communities. Registration starts at 9:30 am. The event runs from 10 am - 4 pm followed by a reception from 4 - 5 pm and a film screening and panel discussion from 5 - 6:30 pm. Included in the registration fee is lunch (buffet-style catering) and hors d’oeuvres plus 1 complementary bar ticket for those 21 years and older at the reception.

All health professionals and students are welcome! Villanova University M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. Nurses who attend and stay until 5 PM will be awarded 5.75 contact hours. For nurses who stay for the program, film "Trash & Burn", and the accompanying panel presentation, 7.25 contact hours will be awarded." Social work CEs provided pending approval.

Scholarships are available for both general admission and student general admission tickets. Please reach out to cara@envirn.org to request a scholarship.

Register here

Nominate a Young Environmentalist for DNREC Awards

The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is calling for nominations for its 2024 Young Environmentalist of the Year Awards. The awards program recognizes Delaware students who have shown a commitment to environmental advocacy and conservation efforts.

“DNREC’s Young Environmentalist awards provide an opportunity to spotlight student leaders who are working to protect, restore and enhance Delaware’s natural resources and environment,” said DNREC Secretary Shawn M. Garvin. “These young people are claiming a place at the table to help ensure the future of Delaware – and our Earth. We welcome them and support the work they are doing every day.”

Nominations will be accepted through Friday, June 28, 2024. A winner will be chosen from each of the following categories: elementary grades 1 to 4, middle
school grades 5 to 8, and high school grades 9 to 12. Each category winner will receive a certificate, gift card and prize pack in recognition of his or her contribution to the community.

Now in its 31st year, the Young Environmentalists program recognizes Delaware students who have initiated an innovative project, increased public awareness and/or demonstrated environmental ethics and stewardship. Nominations must be based on actions or projects which have taken place between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.

An awards ceremony is scheduled for Governor’s Day, Thursday, July 25, at the Delaware State Fair. Details will be announced in the summer.

Teachers, peers, club leaders and family members are encouraged to nominate standout students. More information, including the nomination form, is available on the DNREC website at de.gov/youngenvironmentalists.

Become a Member and Stay Connected!

Want to become a member?
Join today!

Additional Resources

Delaware Division of Public Health - The DPH Bulletin
Trust for America's Health: Wellness and Prevention Digest - Subscribe

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