

# National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program

*Linking:*  
Hazards, Exposures,  
& Health Effects

*Closing America's Environmental Public Health Information Gap*



## Program Agenda

# 2004 Environmental Public Health Tracking Workshop

San Francisco, CA ❖ October 13 – 15, 2004



BIRTH DEFECTS PREVENTION • TRAINING • CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION • INJURY PREVENTION • LABORATORIES  
EPIDEMIOLOGY • ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH • DISABILITIES • GENETICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH • GLOBAL HEALTH • PUBLIC  
WORKPLACE HEALTH • HEALTH INFORMATION • HIV PREVENTION AND CONTROL • HEALTH STATISTICS • ENIRONM  
AL • PREVENTION • INFECTIOUS DISEASE PROTECTION • IMMUNIZATION • PRI  
CHILDREN • GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS • MINORITY OUTREACH • MONITORING HEALTH • C  
SAFE • PEOPLE • SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE • SAFER • HEALTHIER • HEA  
HEALTH • EPIDEMIOLOGY • WORKPLACE HEALTH • IMMUNIZATION • WORKPLAC  
LTH • RESEARCH • PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS • PUBLIC HEALTH WORKE  
INF • PROTECTION • PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS • HEALTHY AGING • HIV PREV  
L • STD CONTROL • WOMEN'S HEALTH • TRAINING • HEALTH STATISTICS • MINORITY OUTREACH • YOUTH PROGRAMS • G  
TION • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS • HEALTHY AGING • GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS • OUTBREAK INVESTIGATIONS • HEALTH

# 2004 EPHT Workshop

## Special Acknowledgements

### Workshop Planning Committee

#### **California**

Paul English  
Mimi Johnson  
Geoff Lomax

#### **University of California, Berkeley**

John Balmes  
Amy Kyle  
Jennifer Mann

#### **Connecticut**

Gary Archambault  
Karen Frost  
Calondra Tibbs

#### **Louisiana**

Andrew Ganz  
Todd Page

#### **Missouri**

Roger Gibson

#### **Montana**

Christine Korhonen

#### **Nevada**

Ihsan Azzam

#### **New Hampshire**

Matthew Cahillane

#### **New Jersey**

Jerald Fagliano

#### **New York**

Frank Boscoe

#### **Utah**

Kori Gunn  
Gambrelli Layco

#### **Wisconsin**

Marni Bekkedal

#### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

Sascha Fielding  
Leslie Fierro  
Phillip Finley  
Susan Rezai  
Sandy Thames

#### **Ross & Associates**

Nancy Tosta



**Wednesday, October 13, 2004**

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8:00 am – 8:10 am

**Welcome & Opening Remarks**

Judith Qualters, PhD

Chief, Environmental Health Tracking Branch, CDC

8:10am – 10:00am

**Opening plenary**

*Environmental Public Health Tracking: Conception to Implementation*

In September 2000, the Environmental Health Tracking Project Team at Johns Hopkins University with the support of the PEW Environmental Health Commission released "America's Environmental Health Gap: Why the Country Needs a Nationwide Health Tracking Network." This report provided insight into what a future Environmental Public Health Tracking Network might look like as well as to what types of questions it may be able to assist in answering. In the four years following the publication of this report, great strides have been made towards building the Nationwide Environmental Public Health Tracking Network. This opening panel will highlight the progress made, provide a strong focus as to what we need to accomplish in moving towards implementation of the network, and examine how this workshop can assist us in identifying our next steps.

**Speakers:**

Paul English, PhD, MPH (*Moderator*)

Principal Investigator, California Environmental Public Health Tracking

Michael McGeehin, PhD, MSPH

Director, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects, CDC

Judith Qualters, PhD

Chief, Environmental Health Tracking Branch, CDC

Thomas Burke, PhD, MPH, ScM

Principal Investigator, Johns Hopkins University Center of Excellence in EPHT

Richard Kreutzer, MD

Chief, Environmental Health Investigations Branch, CDHS

John Balmes, MD

Principal Investigator, University of California at Berkeley Center of Excellence in EPHT

10:00am - 10:15am

**Morning Break**

10:15am – 11:00am

**Plenary Session 2**

*Report out: Centers of Excellence*

The Centers of Excellence have been performing a number of activities with their partner states/localities in many areas, including but not limited to program planning and implementation, methods development, and epidemiologic research. The Centers of Excellence have worked closely with their state and local partners to examine what an EPHT network may look like, what types of tools or methodologies it may need to include, as well as what types of questions can be uniquely answered by such a surveillance system. This strong collaboration between academia and public health practice in EPHT can help us to examine areas of commonality across the nation.

**Speakers:**

Gambrelli Layco, MFS (*Moderator*)

Program Manager, Utah Environmental Public Health Tracking

LuAnn E. White, PhD

Principal Investigator, Tulane University Center of Excellence in EPHT

Thomas Burke, PhD, MPH, ScM

Principal Investigator, Johns Hopkins University Center of Excellence in EPHT

John Balmes, MD

Principal Investigator, University of California at Berkeley Center of Excellence in EPHT

## Wednesday, October 13, 2004 (Cont.)

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11:00am – 11:45am

### **Plenary Session 3**

*Report out: Standards and Network Development Workgroup*

The Standards and Network Development (SND) Workgroup was established to ensure collaboration among CDC, states, and other partners in the development of the Environmental Public Health Tracking Network. All grantees have designated members in the SND. The work of the SND has focused on developing common definitions, identifying standards for documenting data quality, establishing approaches for accessing data, addressing needs for geographic encoding of data, and developing a common conceptual view of the architecture of the network overall. This plenary provides an opportunity for grantees to become familiar with the SND activities that will have an effect on all network participants. At the end of this session, grantees will better understand the conceptual design, development tools, and standards for implementing the EPHTN.

#### **Speakers:**

Nancy Tosta

Ross & Associates, Ltd.

Steven Macdonald, PhD, MPH

Principal Investigator, Washington State Environmental Public Health Tracking Program

Sandy Thames

Public Health Advisor, Environmental Health Tracking Branch, CDC

11:45am – 1:00pm

### **Lunch (on your own)**

1:00pm – 2:45pm

### **Discussion Session 1**

*Enhancing Future Program Activities I:  
Needs, Barriers, and Successes of EPHT Partners*

As we move forward in defining the future of Environmental Public Health Tracking we experience a variety of questions, opportunities, concerns, barriers and successes. All of these elements are a natural part of the creation of a new program and help us to identify how to develop new activities, revise existing activities and enhance our communications. Our experiences during the first two years of this program can help us to examine partner needs and to work together in continuing to develop our efforts to strengthen and maintain EPHT at the local, state, and federal levels and within academia. This session will explore questions that are asked of us from within our state and local health departments, our environmental counterparts, our policy makers, and our communities. Presenters will share what has been done to address these questions thus far, and will hypothesize about what is needed to maintain and enhance our existing activities. In addition, this session will provide time for interactive roundtable discussions between participants to identify areas of commonalities and differences in experiences encountered during the first years of funding.

#### **Speakers:**

Leslie A. Fierro, MPH (*Moderator*)

Epidemiologist, Environmental Health Tracking Branch, CDC

Roger W. Gibson, MPH

Program Director, Missouri Environmental Public Health Tracking Program

Daniel E. Kass, MSPH

Program Director, New York City Environmental Connections

Geoffrey Lomax, DrPh

Research Director, California Environmental Public Health Tracking Program

Timothy Watkins, MS

Deputy Director, Human Exposure and Atmospheric Science Division, ORD/EPA

## Wednesday, October 13, 2004 (Cont.)

2:45pm – 3:00pm

**Afternoon Break**

3:00pm – 4:45pm

**Discussion Session 2**

*Enhancing Future Program Activities II:*

*Designing our future to generate and share early successes- How can indicators help?*

This session follows up on discussions in *Enhancing Future Program Activities I*. The session is designed to examine what we can do to generate and define early successes. It has been noted in multiple forums that indicators may offer a mechanism through which we can structure our conversations about identifying and developing a standard set of measures for a nationwide EPHT network; provide a useful means for communicating with multiple audiences unfamiliar with scientific terminology; and help us in generating and documenting early successes. Presenters will provide us with information on the potential use and role of indicators in EPHT and give updates on the use of existing and newly developed indicators within states/localities. The end of the session will include time for a facilitated discussion with panelists and audience members to discuss next steps for indicators relevant to EPHT and their potential role in addressing comments, questions, or concerns noted in *Enhancing Future Program Activities I*.

**Speakers:**

Catherine Thomsen, MPH (*Moderator*)

Epidemiologist, Oregon Environmental Public Health Tracking

Amy D. Kyle, PhD, MPH

Research Scientist, University of California at Berkeley Center of Excellence in EPHT

Kristen Malecki, MPH

CDC/CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellow, Wisconsin Environmental Public Health Tracking Program

Jim VanDerslice, MSEE, PhD

Co-Principal Investigator, Washington Environmental Public Health Tracking Program

5:00pm – 6:00pm

**Special sessions**

- State/Community HANES- *San Miguel Room*
- PHASE- *Ballroom West*
- EPA IMWG EHDAT – *Potrero Room*

6:00pm – 7:30pm

**Poster Session Reception**

*(Light refreshments provided)*



# 2004 EPHT Workshop

Thursday, October 14, 2004

8:30am -9:30am

## **Opening Plenary**

*Key Themes & Messages from October 13<sup>th</sup>: A report from the raconteurs*

A number of participants with different backgrounds and interest in EPHT have been selected as the workshop "raconteurs." These individuals are responsible for sitting in sessions with an "eye and ear" for themes arising from workshop sessions, roundtables, other facilitated discussions, and questions/answer sessions. The raconteurs will share key issues, needs, barriers and successes that were expressed by workshop participants on October 13<sup>th</sup> during this plenary session. Additionally, they will synthesize this information and share their thoughts/ideas as to how these findings can be utilized in moving EPHT into the future.

9:30am – 9:45am

## **Morning Break**

### **Concurrent Session I**

9:45am – 11:45am

#### Discussion 1:

Tracking & Drinking  
Water: Issues,  
Approaches &  
Opportunities for  
Collaboration

#### Discussion 2:

Network  
Architecture  
Concepts

#### Discussion 3:

Targeting the Policy  
Audience

#### Discussion 4:

Environmental Hazard  
Roundtables:  
Approaches,  
Challenges, Successes

11:45am – 1:00pm

## **Lunch (on your own)**

### **Concurrent Session II**

1:00pm – 2:45pm

#### Discussion 1:

Mechanisms for  
Documenting and  
Sharing Data

#### Discussion 2:

Spatial Data Linkages:  
Standards,  
Opportunities, &  
Challenges

#### Discussion 3:

Working Effectively with  
Stakeholders:  
Approaches to  
Program Planning

#### Discussion 4:

Health Effects  
Roundtables:  
Approaches,  
Challenges, Successes

2:45pm – 3:00pm

## **Afternoon Break**

### **Concurrent Session III: Trainings**

3:00pm – 6:00pm

#### Discussion 1:

Building Logical Data  
Models

#### Discussion 2:

Small Area Analysis  
and Clustering  
Techniques for use in  
EPHT

#### Discussion 3:

Issues and Challenges  
of Risk Communication  
and Public Participation  
in the Context of EPHT

# 2004 EPHT Workshop

**Friday, October 15, 2004**

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**8:00am – 8:30am**      **Continental Breakfast**

**8:30am – 10:00am**      **Centers of Excellence Meeting with Partner States/Localities**

- University of California
- Johns Hopkins University
- Tulane University

**10:00am – 10:30am**      **Morning Break**

**10:30am – 10:50am**      **Plenary Session 1**

*Report out: Program Marketing and Outreach Workgroup*

The Program Marketing and Outreach (PMO) Workgroup supports CDC and its grantees in development and implementation of program outreach and marketing plans. PMO develops appropriate education and outreach materials that clarify, emphasize, and support the goals, objectives, and timely promotion of the national EPHT effort. PMO has kicked off its outreach strategy plan to ensure that clear concise messages about the program are being made available to a variety of key audiences. The PMO has established subgroup teams to refine key program messages, profile and prioritize target audiences, tailor messages for each target audience, and define channels for reaching the target audiences. The PMO workgroup is also developing evaluation criteria to determine how well the outreach activities are working. This plenary provides an opportunity for grantees to become familiar with activities that will support their future work. At the end of this session, grantees will better understand the outreach activities PMO has planned and conducted to (1) raise interest in and awareness of the National EPHT Program, (2) engage community members in discussion of EPHT information, and (3) provide opportunities for the public to become involved in the program planning process.

**Speaker:**

Lorena Barck, PhD, JD

**10:50am – 12:30pm**

***Closing Plenary:***

*Key Workshop Themes and Considerations for our Future: Implementing the Nationwide EPHT Network*

During the closing plenary we will hear key messages from the workshop raconteurs. This will include key issues, needs, barriers and successes that were expressed by workshop participants on October 14<sup>th</sup> as well as a synthesis of the important highlights of the entire workshop. They will continue to share their thoughts/ideas as to what these key messages may mean for building the Nationwide EPHT Network. Judith Qualters, Chief of the Environmental Health Tracking Branch will sum up the workshop with next steps related to building the Nationwide Network.



**Have a Safe Trip Home. Thanks for coming!**

**NOTES:**



