

Department Works to Lessen the Impact of Zika in Alabama

The Zika virus is a growing threat in Alabama as our weather warms and state residents travel to Zika-affected areas for business, tourism and mission work. There is no vaccine or specific treatment, and only about one in five people infected experience symptoms. Most concerning is the potential effect that the Zika virus has on the unborn baby because it is the cause of severe birth defects and other poor birth outcomes.

Zika virus disease and Zika virus congenital infection are nationally notifiable conditions. All Zika infections in the United States have been related to either travel to a Zika-affected area or through sexual contact with such a traveler. Controlling mosquitoes helps protect the transmission of the Zika virus. Zika is transmitted by *Aedes* species mosquitoes which are present throughout Alabama and bite both day and night.

While much about Zika remains unknown, strides are being made in understanding how to recognize, diagnose and manage the complications of this virus. The Alabama Department of Public Health continues to work with a variety of partners to prepare, protect and educate Alabamians to meet the challenges of the virus and its risks to babies' health. Efforts have been focused on personal protection and vector control. Public health environmentalists have begun conducting courtesy yard checks to identify potential mosquito breeding locations and make recommendations to home owners on ways to prevent mosquitoes from breeding. Presentations have been conducted to numerous groups throughout the state, professional webinars/satellite conferences have been held, and rapid laboratory testing is now available at the Bureau of Clinical Laboratories in Montgomery.

A wealth of educational and informational resources is available on ADPH.org/mosquito for the general public, health care providers, public health environmentalists, municipalities, county commissions, fact sheets for women and men, a Zika coloring book, news releases, mosquito bite prevention information in English and other languages, travel warning notices, bite prevention posters for state parks, and a telephone number for the Infectious Diseases and Outbreaks Division for physicians to contact with suspected cases. Public health environmentalists delivered an estimated 250,000 coloring books to schools statewide. Other interested organizations were also sent copies. Zika information is updated regularly as more is learned and new recommendations are made.

The satellite and webcast conference, *Zika Virus: An Update for Clinicians*, was aired May 24 for clinicians who provide care for pregnant women, infants and children. Program faculty pictured are Dr. Scott Harris, Assistant State Health Officer, PHA 2; Dr. Karen Landers, Assistant State Health Officer, Public Health Area 1, Medical Consultant for TB Control and Immunization Divisions; Dr. Tom Miller, State Health Officer; and Dr. Mary McIntyre, Assistant State Health Officer for Disease Control and Prevention and State Epidemiologist.



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First Responders Learn Ways to Prevent Sleep-related Infant Deaths

Capt. James Carroll, a nationally known expert in preventing sleep-related infant death, conducted three sessions in Direct On Scene Education™ (DOSE) to first responders and other interested maternal and child health professionals March 18 in Montgomery.

“Losing one infant from SIDS, SUID and unsafe sleep is one too many,” State Perinatal Program Director Amy Stratton said. She repeated the regrettable statistic--21 percent of infant deaths in Alabama are attributed to SUID (sudden unexpected infant death). Stratton is hopeful that the DOSE program will take hold and flourish statewide in Alabama. This innovative program has been proven highly effective in preventing SUID in other states.



Pictured, left to right, are Aretha Bracy, Child Death Review Director; Gayle Whatley, Region III Perinatal Coordinator; Trendle Samuel, Region II Perinatal Coordinator; Katherine Hert, EMSC; Capt. James Carroll, Fort Lauderdale Fire and Rescue; Chyrl Willis, Perinatal Program Administrative Assistant; Lisa Carter, Region I Perinatal Coordinator; Amy Stratton, State Perinatal Program Director; Shirley Daniel, Region V Perinatal Coordinator.

First responders are in a unique position in that they often educate about medical procedures or treatments and informally give preventive health care advice because they are invited into homes when a crisis occurs. By channeling this opportunity into a more formalized education delivery system, more lives can ultimately be saved.

“It is because of this open access that first responders are in a perfect position to educate and initiate behavior change,” Carroll said, adding that implementing DOSE has the potential to make significant changes within a community by proactively reducing sleep-related infant deaths. Carroll gave the example that an emergency call might be to assist the baby’s grandfather, but the first responder may notice an infant in an unsafe sleep environment or unsafe sleeping position. DOSE utilizes first responders to educate families about safe sleep for babies, and he encourages all first responders to use these life-saving practices in households where infants live.

Each year in the U.S., about 4,000 infants die suddenly of no immediately obvious cause. About half of these deaths are due to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), the leading cause of SUID and of all deaths among infants aged 1 to 12 months. The three most frequently reported causes are SIDS, cause unknown, and accidental suffocation and strangulation in bed.

DOSE attempts to eliminate sleep-related infant death due to suffocation, strangulation or positional asphyxia by using first responders to identify and remove hazards while delivering education on scene. First responders are trained to identify and remove hazards from an infant’s sleep space while on scene during emergency and non-emergency 911 calls. If in conducting the safety check, an unsafe sleep environment is identified, the

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Alabama Department of Public Health

Mission

To serve the people of Alabama by assuring conditions in which they can be healthy.

Value Statement

The purpose of the Alabama Department of Public Health is to provide caring, high quality and professional services for the improvement and protection of the public’s health through disease prevention and the assurance of public health services to resident and transient populations of the state regardless of social circumstances or the ability to pay.

The Department of Public Health works closely with the community to preserve and protect the public’s health and to provide caring quality services.

Alabama’s Health

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- Thomas M. Miller, M.D. State Health Officer
- Jim McVay, Dr. P.A. Director, Bureau of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease
- Arrol Sheehan, M.A. Editor
- Takenya S. Taylor, J.D. Contributing Editor
- Noelle Ahmann Graphic Designer



Central Office leaders hold a planning session on ways to respond to the Zika virus.



The Bureau of Clinical Laboratories responds to providers with questions regarding the Zika virus and has the capacity to perform some Zika testing. Shown standing, left to right, are Aretha Williams, Ph.D., deputy director, Courtney Chesnut, Carolyn Warner, George Buckley Evelyn Geeter, Randall Robinson, Nick Switzer. Seated are Sharon Massingale, Ph.D., laboratory director, Mark Ellis, Nancy Robinson.



The department created "Swat Team Skeeter Beaters" Zika coloring books that present prevention and protection information in an educational and entertaining format. Benjamin Hall, a student at Flowers Elementary School in Montgomery, is shown coloring and learning about Zika virus from his father Chris Hall of the Communications and Social Marketing Division.

Milestone Reached: HIV Testing Offered at the University of Alabama

In support of National Sexual Responsibility Week, HIV Program Coordinator Shakina Wheeler-Cox of Public Health Area 3 is pleased to announce a milestone at the University of Alabama. After several years of planning and preparation to offer Free HIV Testing on the University of Alabama campus, success was obtained on Feb. 9, 2016. HIV testing was offered to students and staff in partnership with other local agencies.

West Alabama AIDS Outreach, Whatley Health Services and the Communicable Disease Division collaborated for this event. This is the first time all three West Alabama agencies that provide HIV prevention education, testing, counseling and treatment were all invited to attend and provide testing. The event was hosted by the Assistant Director of Student Involvement and Health Promotion, and sponsored by faculty and student LGBT leaders from the University of Alabama.

Participants were offered Rapid Ora Quick Advance Tests. Each agency provided educational information, small incentives and protective barriers for participants. A grand total of 50 people were tested, an accomplishment which Mrs. Wheeler-Cox described as "ground breaking."

She said, "I am truly honored, humbled and grateful for this awesome opportunity and experience, and I look forward to future endeavors due to partnerships forming and more agencies being able to provide much needed services."



Public Health Area 3 HIV Coordinator Shakina Wheeler-Cox and partners assisted 50 people at the February event.

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first responder provides a safe sleep kit with information on the ABCs of Safe Sleep.

Ms. Stratton reiterated, “We can all help reduce the risk by remembering the three simple ABCs: Alone, Back and Crib.” In addition to maternal and infant risk factors, there are many environmental risk factors that can be modified. Stomach sleeping infants have a five to seven times greater risk of dying from SIDS/SUID and back sleepers who are placed to nap on their tummy face a 19-fold risk of SIDS, Side sleepers have a two-fold greater risk of SIDS.

Listed below are some unsafe sleep examples illustrated in the Baby Safe Sleep Initiative training manual. All of these practices have led to infant deaths.

- Sleeping on a couch
- Sleeping in a car seat
- Sleeping in an infant seat
- Sleeping on a boppy pillow
- Being placed to sleep in a bassinet, but on top of a pillow
- Use of bumper pads
- Wedging from a crib in disrepair
- Pillow in crib
- Twins bed sharing
- Use of positioner

After treating the patient in a high-risk home, the officers on the scene should educate willing families about the safe sleep initiative and give receptive families a baby safe sleep kit. They may refer the family to community agencies.

Sometimes there is no crib in the home. If so, they ask about the family’s ability to obtain one, and those with demonstrated need and no other resources are referred to Cribs for Kids. Follow-up visits help ensure the family received adequate education, has an understanding of information presented, and has been referred to resources in the community. It should take no more than three days for an eligible family to receive a crib through a Cribs for Kids voucher.

The DOSE training program was presented through a grant funded by the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs: Birth Outcomes Initiative.



Get Moving Alabama was the theme of the Alabama Employee Health and Fitness Walk May 13 at the State Capitol. Sponsors of the free, noncompetitive event are pictured. The walk encourages physical activity as a key component to a healthy life.

Lisa Reeves Presented Baker Exemplar Award

Lisa Reeves, R.N., M.P.H., was awarded the James H. Baker Exemplar Award at the Tuberculosis Advisory Council meeting at the Jefferson County Department of Health on May 6. This award is presented in recognition of dedication to the protection of Alabama’s health. This dedication is evidenced by professionalism and personal sacrifice in support of TB control efforts in her area.

Nominators agreed that Ms. Reeves has been a valuable asset throughout the state and is always willing to go the extra mile when other public health areas need assistance. This was proven further by the long days spent weekly during the TB outbreak in Public Health Area 7. The award is named in honor of Baker, a retired 40-year TB employee.



Shown at the presentation are, left to right, Lisa Reeves, James H. Baker, Dr. Bailey, chairman of the TB Medical Advisory Council, and Pam Barrett, director, Division of TB Control.

Center for Emergency Preparedness Holds Conference on Disaster Mental Health

On April 13, the Center for Emergency Preparedness held a disaster mental health conference at Alabama State University to educate participants from various state departments and organizations on topics such as the following:

- Identifying age specific traumatic events that impact the mental health functioning of youth and adolescents;
- Describing strategies for communicating and responding to children with autism during emergencies and disasters;
- Discussing substance abuse prevention with youth and adolescents who are survivors of trauma; and
- Explaining the importance of good mental health and self care when responding to the needs of children and adolescents following an emergency.

Conference director Elana Parker Merriweather, ESAR-VHP/Minority/Special Populations Coordinator for the Center for Emergency Preparedness, described her goal for the day. “Addressing the behavioral health needs of children and adolescents who have been impacted by disaster related trauma is a very important capability of public health preparedness. I wanted this conference to offer professional development training for child care and behavioral health providers on how to deliver age appropriate interventions to youth following a crisis or traumatic event.”

In addition to providing valuable information, participants received an opportunity to network with partners who serve clients with varying types of functional and access needs. Speakers at the conference included the Alabama Department of Mental Health’s commissioner, coordinators from the Family Sunshine Center, substance abuse consultants, and training supervisors for first responders.

One of the key highlights was presenters who teach and consult using play therapy techniques to assist

children with special needs after disasters. Conference participants were given toys, tools and activities to provide hands-on demonstration on how the therapy works with children.

For more information on emergency preparedness plans, activities and conferences, visit www.adph./cep.

By TAKENYA TAYLOR



Pictured, left to right, are William Kennedy, Social Work Division Director Renae Carpenter, Commissioner James Perdue of the Alabama Department of Mental Health, and Emergency Preparedness Conference Coordinator Elana Parker Merriweather.



Dustin Chandler, president and co-founder of Interaction Advisory Group, spoke on responding to the needs of children with autism during emergencies and crisis events. Shown, left to right, are Elana Parker Merriweather, Chandler, Suretta Davis and Monica Sewell-Watts of the Center for Emergency Preparedness.

ALPHA Honors Outstanding Public Health Leaders

The Alabama Public Health Association recently recognized persons from across the state who have demonstrated exceptional merit during the past year in the field of public health. The following individuals were honored at the association's 60th Annual Meeting and Health Education Conference in Opelika April 7.



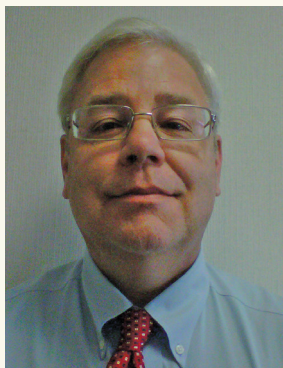
Marilyn Knight,
M.S.N., R.N.,

The Anne M. Smith Public Health Nurse of the Year Award was presented to nurse educator **Marilyn Knight, M.S.N., R.N.**, of Tuscaloosa. The recipient of this award must exemplify the mission of public health nursing in Alabama, that is "to assure conditions in which individuals, families and communities can be healthy utilizing the unique expertise of public health nurses to assess,

plan and implement programs which promote health and prevent disease."

For the past eight years, Ms. Knight has assisted new nurses in orientation and integration of public health services. With the desire to see all nurses thrive in their roles, she enjoys learning new concepts. Supporters praised her positive attitude, willingness to go beyond the call of duty to accomplish the mission, dedication to her role, and commitment to public health.

The Frederick S. Wolf Award was presented to **Doug Turnbull** of Dothan. This award was established in 1982 to recognize an individual who has been active in public health at the local level for more than 10 years; who has demonstrated efficiency, dedication and professionalism in delivery of public health services; and who has provided unselfish community services in areas unrelated to public health.

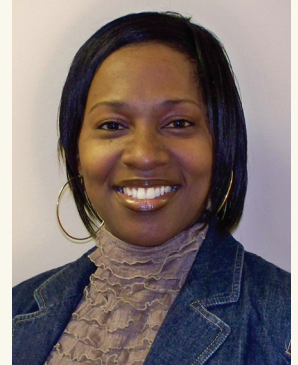


Doug
Turnbull

Turnbull is an environmental supervisor for the Coffee, Crenshaw, Geneva and Houston county health departments. He holds the nationally recognized Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS/RS) credential. A strong supporter of community organizations,

he has served as a judge and volunteer for the high school Envirobowl competitions of Legacy: Partners in Environmental Education since 2006. In 2010 he took his first step in the three-day, 60-mile Susan G. Komen Walk for Breast Cancer. He has participated five times, and raised close to \$12,000 to promote awareness, self exams, mammograms, early detection and treatment of breast cancer. He plans to participate in his sixth walk this year.

Shawanda Surles of Prattville, formerly of Selma, was awarded both the D.G. Gill Award which honors an individual who has made an exceptional contribution to public health in Alabama and the Virginia Kendrick Award which recognizes an individual who has provided notable service to the people of Alabama while serving in a supporting role in the field of public health.



Shawanda
Surles

Ms. Surles is the office manager for the Montgomery County Health Department and actively serves in several organizations related to public health. She consistently exhibits determination to supply clients, workers and others with the best experience possible. Described as "dependable, efficient and extremely supporting" and a leader who has been a tremendous asset to her church and community, she was praised for her warm and cheerful attitude that finds her handling difficult situations with "remarkable patience and admirable tact." She is the first recipient of two awards from the association in a single year.

Karl Bryant of Montgomery was presented the Guy M. Tate Award, an award given annually to a public health employee, group or agency with 10 years or less in public health for outstanding current or recent service or contribution to public health. Letters of support stated Bryant "epitomizes the spirit of public health—always willing to help, professional, creative and responsible" and for his professionalism, kindness and



Karl
Bryant

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courtesy. Colleagues praise him for completing multiple projects with a high level of expertise in graphic design and for his assistance with all aspects of projects.

Judy Smith, R.N., M.P.H., of Cullman was presented the Ira L. Myers Award for Excellence in Public Health. This award was established in 1987 to honor Dr. Myers for his accomplishments by recognizing an individual, group or organization who, through excellence in work, has made a significant impact on some aspect of public health in Alabama.



**Judy Smith,
R.N., M.P.H.**

Ms. Smith has worked in the Alabama Department of Public Health for 45 years and has been involved at all levels, beginning as a local public health nurse and progressing through various levels to administrator of a seven-county area. Throughout her sterling career a consistent theme has been a determination to make things better for those she serves, including securing funding for many grants and seeing the construction of new county health departments.

Two Alabama Department of Public Health employees were inducted into the Alabama Public Health Association Hall of Fame, Class of 2016: **Sandra Blakely** of Eclectic and **Dr. Bernard H. Eichold** of Mobile. The Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the enhancement and advancement of the association.



**Sandra
Blakely**

Mrs. Blakely, a 25-year member, was recognized for assisting everyone with the highest level of professional skill, regardless of the scope of the request and for treating the public with the utmost respect and courtesy in her work. As Mobile County health officer, Dr. Eichold was praised for his dedication to the field of public health at the county, area, state and national levels and his staunch support of the association since he joined in 1990. ALPHA also recognized the Mobile County Health Department for its 200th year of service.



**Bernard H.
Eichold, M.D.**

Customer Service and Conflict Resolution Go Together

This is the first of six motivational articles in Alabama's Health prepared by Sharleen Smith, Director of Professional Development, Troy University's Continuing Education. A business trainer and consultant, she has more than 30 years of experience that includes executive coaching, consulting and motivational speaking.

Did you know that it takes 12 positive experiences to make up for one unresolved negative experience? This was reported in a study discussed in "Understanding Customers" by Ruby Newell-Legner. We will save a lot of time by managing conflict or difficult situations with our customers to provide an amicable solution. If there is a conflict, regardless of the customer's disposition, we need to remain friendly. After all, he/she is the customer and we are the "pubic servant." Here are a few quick reminders for conflict with customers:

1. Adjust our own mindset. Set aside your own personal feelings.
2. Actively listen. Start a dialogue with, "Let's go over what happened" or "Please tell me why you are upset." Then, do not interrupt the customer as he/she is talking.
3. Repeat the concern back to him/her to ensure you understand or have the correct facts.
4. Apologize. It does not matter if it was your fault or not. The apology is that there is a misunderstanding, conflict in service, or that the department cannot provide the particular service needed.
5. Present a solution, if possible. If our procedures or services do not provide a solution, then we deliver this news with empathy and listen intently.
6. Take action and follow up. It is not always possible, but when you can, follow up with the customer or patient to ensure the personal touch.

By **SHARLEEN SMITH**

Three Outstanding Public Health Social Workers Recognized

Renaee Carpenter, director of the Division of Social Work, presented awards to the outstanding area nominees and award recipients from across the state at the Public Health Social Work Celebration and Training at the Doubletree Hotel in Montgomery on March 18 during National Social Work Month.

A tie vote among judges resulted in the selection of two Public Health Social Workers of the Year: **Tanya Lee** of the Marshall County Health Department and **Teresa Pope** of the Perry County Health Department. **Kimberly Gordon**, a social work manager in Public Health Area 9, was selected as the Alabama Public Health Social Work Manager of the Year for 2016.

An Alabama Department of Public Health employee for 10 years, Ms. Lee works hard to cultivate resources for her clients. Supporters describe her as a cooperative and humble team player who mentors teens and chairs the pantry ministry at her church. She also works with the no littering campaign to assist in keeping Marshall County clean. Her co-workers praise the married mother of two for her compassion and caring and for being “a great representative of social work excellence.”

Ms. Pope also is described as “an excellent representation of the social work profession as a whole” and a true public health servant. She has been employed with the Alabama Department of Public

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Shown left to right are Linda Beasley, Social Work Manager, Public Health Area 2; Terrina Harris, Social Work Director, Public Health Area 2; Tanya Lee, Marshall County, Public Health Social Worker of the Year; and Renae Carpenter, State Social Work Director.

Two Additional Environmentalists Earn REHS/RS

Melanie Boggan, assistant environmental health director, Montgomery County Health Department, and Stacy Williamson, Environmental Supervisor of the Butler and Covington County Health Departments, have received certificates of registration and completed the requirements and testing to become registered environmental health specialist/registered sanitarians (REHS/RS).

The REHS/RS is the premiere National Environmental Health Association credential, available to a wide range of environmental health professionals. Individuals holding the REHS/RS credential show competency in environmental health issues, direct and train personnel to respond to routine or emergency environmental situations, and frequently provide education to their communities on environmental health concerns.

Strict eligibility requirements must be met and passage of a four-hour REHS/RS credentialing examination and continuing education are required.

Other environmentalists in Alabama with the designation include the following: Craig Corwin, William (B.J.) Diltz, Cindy Goocher, Tim Hatch, John Hooper, April Pearce, Michele Sellers, Rene’ Sinsky, Jane Snow, Rachel Sullenger, Cyndi Tereszkieicz and Doug Turnbull. Retiree Carl Thornton also holds the designation.



Melanie Boggan



Stacy L. Williamson

Social Work, continued from page 8

Health for more than 20 years. Supporters praised Ms. Pope for treating all clients with dignity and respect and finding ways to meet their needs. Ms. Pope is described as caring, selfless, a true team player and having a “can do” attitude. A devoted wife and mother, she volunteers at her church and her daughters’ school activities.

Colleagues describe Ms. Gordon as a team-oriented employee who always maintains a positive attitude. While she embraces challenges, she has the unique ability to keep members of the team motivated and working together toward a common goal. Co-workers said she supports and works alongside her employees, is very honest and hard working, and does not care who receives credit so long as the needs of those who are being served are met. Supporters also praise her for being organized, dependable, planful, a self-starter, respectful, and an advocate for those she serves.

A dedicated employee, wife, and mother of two, Ms. Gordon was selected from a group of social work managers from across the state. She has worked as a social work manager since 2008 and currently serves as vice president of the Alabama Public Health Association responsible for planning the annual educational conference.

Public health social workers provide intervention services to help clients discover ways of meeting their needs and preventing future problems. Clients they serve may be children, families, elderly persons, and persons with functional and access needs.



Pictured , left to right, are Mary Holmes, Social Work Director, PHA 7; Renae Carpenter, State Social Work Director, PHA 7; Teresa Pope, Public Health Social Worker of the Year, Perry County; and Sarina Stewart, Social Work Manager, PHA 7.



Kim Gordon, right, was named Public Health Social Work Manager of the Year. She is pictured with Social Work Division Director Renae Carpenter.

Environmental Q and A

QUESTION: Can a person who has tested positive for HCV work in a kitchen facility?

RESPONSE: If by HCV you mean hepatitis C virus - the answer is yes, a person who has tested positive for hepatitis C may work in a food facility so long as they are not exhibiting certain symptoms. Under our current food rules, there are five illnesses that would exclude a food worker from working with food in an establishment: norovirus, hepatitis A, *Shigella*, *E. coli* or *Salmonella typhi*. The manager should exclude or restrict employees with these five symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, jaundice, sore throat with fever, and a wound on the hand area with pus. Food employees experiencing persistent sneezing, coughing, or a

runny nose that causes discharges from the eyes, nose or mouth may not work with exposed food; clean equipment, utensils, and linens; or unwrapped single-service or single-use articles.

QUESTION: If our business were to allow patrons to come in barefoot, would we be violating any laws?

RESPONSE: Alabama operates under the 2005 Model Food Code for rules governing the handling and preparation of food for sale. The Food Code addresses issues as they pertain to food safety. The issue of customer dress codes is not mentioned; therefore, it would not be a violation for patrons of an establishment to be barefooted. This would be a business decision.

Commendations

If you would like to praise employees for their accomplishments, send letters of commendation to the State Health Officer or the employee's supervisor and a copy by e-mail to Arrol.Sheehan@adph.state.al.us for inclusion in this list. Four items are needed: the employee's name, work unit, name of the person making the commendation, and his or her city and state.

Glenda Adams

Center for Health Statistics
from Marie V. Barrington
LaGrange, Ga.

Andy Baker

Center for Emergency Preparedness

Renee Griffin

Butler County Health Department

William Kennedy

Bureau of Home and Community
Services

Elana Parker Merriweather

Center for Emergency Preparedness

Meg May

Houston County Health Department

Demetra Peoples

Bureau of Children's Health
Insurance

Elizabeth Rogers

Bureau of Family Health Services
from Renae Carpenter, L.C.S.W., PIP
Montgomery, Ala.

Rob Boyles

Primary Care and Rural Health
from Jodi Perlmutter, M.S.W.
Renton, Wash.

Jill Brewer

Jody Mitchell

Joan Styres

Center for Health Statistics
from Monalisa Rose
Birmingham, Ala.

Kathie Cleckler

Theresa Mulkey

Center for Health Statistics
from Bob Sims
Montgomery, Ala.

Mary Conway

Public Health Area 8
from Morgan Brown, MHA, LNHA
Phenix City, Ala.

Suretta Davis

Center for Emergency Preparedness
from Jane Reeves
Montgomery, Ala.

Tanya Haynes

Center for Health Statistics
from Stanley Edison Leibert
North Chesterfield, Va.

Casandra Henderson

Center for Health Statistics
from Dr. Shelton Wright
Stone Mountain, Ga.

Goucheer Lewis

Tuscaloosa County Health
Department
from Angela Shoultz
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Limestone County WIC Program

from Jasmine (last name unlisted)
Athens, Ala.

John Lowery

Center for Emergency Preparedness
from Ann Brantley
Rita Maynard
Jane Reeves
Montgomery, Ala.

LaTia Myles

Office of Program Integrity
from Yolande M. Johnson
Montgomery, Ala.

Mary Osgoode

Center for Health Statistics
from Alice Floyd
Montgomery, Ala.

Delano Williams

Center for Health Statistics
from Dr. Childs
Cincinnati, Ohio

Legal 'Food Frenzy' Benefits Food Bank

More than 1.8 million Alabamians and more than one in four children are from families that experience food hardships. To help meet this need, the Office of General Counsel competed in the Alabama Legal Food Frenzy, a competition among law firms (private and governmental) across the state to raise food and funds for Alabama's eight regional food banks.

General Counsel Brian Hale thanked the Central Office and the Bureau of Clinical Laboratories staff who provided 339 pounds of food and \$170 in monetary donations that will benefit the Montgomery Area Food Bank. Donations are especially important at this time of year because the demand for food increases as the 385,000 children who depend on access to breakfast and lunch at school are home for the summer months. Only 7 percent of children who receive free or reduced lunches during the school year have access to summer meal programs.



Retirees

The following departmental employees have retired recently.

January

Barry Ambrose

Pickens County Health Department

Deborah Baker

Coffee County Health Department

Previlla Bush

Jefferson County Health Department

Laura Davis

Health Provider Standards

Melinda Lewis

Jefferson County Health Department

Margaret "Annie" Vosel

Family Health Services

February

John Hankins

Professional and Support Services

Ann Salter

Autauga County Health Department

March

Cheryl Cody

Clarke County Health Department

Diane Cooper

Clay County Health Department

Martha Dodson

Jackson County Health Department

Brenda Hicks

Winston County Health Department

Patricia Hill

Barbour County Health Department

Marjorie Israel

Randolph County Health Department

Elnora Moore

Dallas County Health Department

Tracey Stanley

Etowah County Health Department

Cynthia Templeton

Public Health Area 6

Georgia White

Clinical Laboratories

April

Connie Danner

Center for Health Statistics

Reba Gay

Cleburne County Health Department

Catherine Hanks

Family Health Services

Mary Hann

Greene County Health Department

Jeanette Jolly

Limestone County

Health Department

Gail Mask

Family Health Services

Linda Miller

Autauga County Health Department

Doris Nix

Sumter County Health Department

Annie Pete

Escambia County Health Department

Rhea Pete Preston

Clinical Laboratories

Jane Reeves

Emergency Preparedness

Craig Young

Health Promotion and

Chronic Disease



Carol Heier, director of the Office of Performance Management, is shown with State Health Officer Dr. Tom Miller. She retired March 1 with 30 years of state service.

PHA 2 Employees Receive 'Dragon Tail Oar' Award

In support of the Decatur Morgan Hospital Foundation, Public Health Area 2 employees formed a team named "Best Little Oars In Town" in a Dragon Boat race May 14. The team came in last place and received the "Dragon Tail Oar" Award. Area Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris, kneeling, holds the award. Pictured left to right are Jessie Simmons, Cindy Daigre, Michael Glenn, Judy Smith, Karen Smith, Sandra Adair, Rita Gilbert, Sonya Tinsley, Amber Allred, Pam Galbreath, Jimmy Galbreath, Connie Bailey, Patience Enyinda, Renee Overton, Samantha Overton, Rhonda Morgan, Rachel Sullenger, Robert Sullenger.



Calendar of Events



June 10

Zika Virus: Information for Elected Officials, 10-11 a.m.

For more information, contact Mary McIntyre, M.D., M.P.H., (334) 206-5325.



June 16

Human Trafficking, 1-3 p.m.

For more information, contact Renae Carpenter, L.C.S.W., (334) 206-3383.



June 17

Sexual Assault 101--Part 1, noon-1 p.m.

For more information, contact Jessica Hardy, M.P.H., D.N.P., R.N., ACNS-BC, (334) 206-5665.



June 20

Accommodating People with Disabilities, 1-3 p.m.

For more information, contact Laurie Eldridge-Auffant, M.P.H., (334) 206-5651.



June 21

Adolescent Addictions, 2-4 p.m.

For more information, contact Renae Carpenter, L.C.S.W., (334) 206-3383.



June 24

Sexual Assault 101--Part 2, noon-1 p.m.

For more information, contact Jessica Hardy, M.P.H., D.N.P., R.N., ACNS-BC, (334) 206-5665.



June 27

EMS Trauma and Health Systems Training, 10 a.m.- noon

For more information, contact Choona Lang, R.N., B.S.N., MHA, (334) 206-5687.



June 28

Integration of Primary Care and Mental Health, 10 a.m.- noon

For more information, contact Carolyn Bern, M.P.A., (334) 206-5436.



July 7

ADPH Statewide Staff Meeting, 3-4 p.m.

For more information, contact Video Communications, (334) 206-5618.



August 11

Social Work Ethics Training, 2-4 p.m.

For more information, contact Renae Carpenter, L.C.S.W., (334) 206-3383.