



NCHEC NEWS

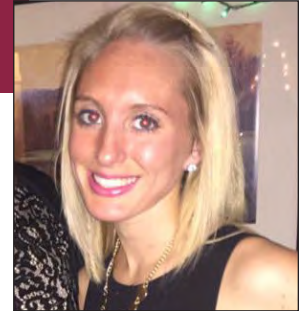
CREDENTIALING EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH EDUCATION

Volume 27, No. 2

Spring 2016

FACEBOOK INAUGURAL ESSAY CONTEST WINNER

And the vote is in! Congratulations to our Inaugural Facebook Essay Contest winner, Madeline Chaffee, CHES, of Trumbull, CT. NCHEC's Marketing Committee was pleased to receive over 27 submissions on the topic "CHES/MCHES Certification: Building Value in My Community." Joanna Lyon, of Derwood, Maryland, was selected as Runner Up for the award. You can read Ms. Chaffee's winning entry in its entirety below:



munities across the nation. The CHES certification represents an advanced level of understanding when it comes to conducting needs assessments; planning, implementing and evaluating health promotion programs; serving as a health promotion resource; and serving as a community health advocate. With this certification, I am equipped to go above and beyond the call of duty to foster positive, sustainable, long-term change within the health of my community and present myself as an advocate for those who might not otherwise have a voice in their well-being.

CHES has been long established as the hallmark of health education in the field of public health - and having those four initials after my name lends credibility that my bachelor's degree does not. CHES has helped me build a strong reputation as a capable, forward thinking and well-respected professional in the field. The CHES certification is more than just a mere designation boasting proficiency that has long since passed; it is an icon of applied thinking and professional dexterity. It has prompted me to stay abreast of the latest trends in Public Health, always challenging my views and perceptions of effective community health education. The CHES certification helps distinguish my skill sets from a number of other health promotion professionals in a notably saturated industry. It allows for a level of marketability that other certifications do not, and lends itself as a symbol of excellence in the field.

There is no doubting that the CHES certification has helped me make tremendous strides as a professional in the field of health education. As the future of medicine and the healthcare industry continues to evolve, I can only imagine what obstacles I will be able to overcome with this designation. Just as my mentor had, I look forward to sharing my experience with other young professionals in hopes that they, too, will obtain the CHES credential. As a fiercely passionate, young professional, I am proud to be a Certified Health Education Specialist and would simply not be where I am today as a health educator, wellness advocate, support person, health resource or mentor without it.

"CHES/MCHES Certification: Building Value in My Community"

by Madeline Chaffee, CHES

Steve Jobs once quoted, "Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle. As with all matters of the heart, you'll know when you find it." There are many things in my life that make me feel alive; fulfilled and wholeheartedly satisfied. The greatest, however, is my career.

A former mentor of mine encouraged me to pursue the CHES certification prior to graduation from Southern Connecticut State University in 2010. She insisted that the certification would prove invaluable in my future endeavors – and she couldn't have been more right. Who would have thought that the CHES certification would bring me from my home in New Haven, Connecticut, to the rural, rugged terrain of Montana, scenic countryside of Maine, and then back again? Looking back at the past five years, I attribute much of my success directly to the CHES certification. My career path, thus far, has led me to many exciting places and has introduced me to some of the most passionate, caring, intelligent and inspiring children, students, parents, teachers, laborers, religious affiliates, community members and professionals across the country – all of which has been shaped directly by CHES.

CHES has enabled me to deliver the highest quality health education and wellness programming within my community and com-

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“The quality of leaders is reflected in the standards they set for themselves.”

Ray Kroc, Founder of McDonald’s

*by Dixie Dennis, PhD, MCHES,
NCHEC BOC Chair*

Accreditation is the process by which credentialing or educational programs are evaluated against defined standards and are awarded recognition if they are in compliance with those standards. The National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) awards accreditation to those programs in compliance with rigorous, and established, high standards. The NCCA was developed to assess professional competence, through accreditation, to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the public. NCHEC is committed to the public, and, as such, offers CHES and MCHES as the only health education certification programs with NCCA accreditation. The CHES certification program was accredited in 2008, and the MCHES certification program was accredited in 2013. The CHES and MCHES credentials are among 300 NCCA accredited programs for 120 organizations including, but not limited to, nursing, counseling, and respiratory therapy.

Early in 2000, NCHEC leadership made a commitment to align with NCCA standards in the development, and ongoing implementation, of CHES and, in 2011, the new MCHES. Of the 24 NCCA standards, #22 is specific in requiring that certification programs, i.e., CHES and MCHES, must require periodic recertification for all certificants. As such, it is very important for CHES/MCHES not to

let their certification lapse and, thereby, help maintain NCCA accreditation as well as ensure the education workforce of the high level of competence of CHES/MCHES certificants.

As an additional achievement, NCHEC earned accreditation as a Personnel Certification Body by the International Accreditation Service (IAS) in July of 2015. International accreditation provides a global benchmark for personnel certification programs to ensure consistent, comparable and reliable operations worldwide. This recognition demonstrates NCHEC’s ongoing commitment to meeting the highest credentialing standards of practice for the health education/promotion profession and also may contribute to the global mobility of the certified health education workforce.

Regarding personal recertification requirements, CHES/MCHES must earn a total of 75 Continuing Education Contact Hours (CECH) every five years. At least 45 CECH must come from offerings by NCHEC-preapproved designated providers (Category I); the remaining 30 CECH may come from other providers (Category II). CHES/MCHES may choose to earn all 75 CECH from Category I. One difference for MCHES that is not required for CHES is that certificants must earn 30 CECH directly related to advanced-level Sub-competencies in either/both Categories.

In summary, NCHEC is a quality organization with high integrity, having the only health education certification programs that are accredited. Therefore, NCHEC remains the leader among organizations certifying health education specialists. NCHEC’s high standard to establish and maintain accreditation for its certification programs is a testament to continuing excellence in certification as well as the value of your CHES/MCHES credential.

Tell a colleague or student that the next

CHES AND MCHES EXAM DATES

are **October 15th, 2016 and April 22, 2017**

For more information, visit www.nchec.org or contact the Exam Coordinator: **888-624-3248, ext 12**

OCTOBER 2016						
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Continued Growth and Exam Integrity

by Linda Lysoby, MCHES, CAE, NCHEC Executive Director



The National Commission for Health Education, Inc (NCHEC), continues its efforts to grow and strengthen the credential. Increasing numbers of candidates, the alignment of the exams to the results of the Health Education Specialists Practice Analysis (HESPA) study, as well as recognition by external accreditation bodies all point towards NCHEC's commitment to ensuring the integrity of the CHES and MCHES certification examinations.

The 2015 exam cycles signified the highest number of registrations to date. A total of 2,736 people registered for the CHES exam in 2015, up from 2,452 and 2,299 in 2014 and 2013, respectively. Further, 170 people registered for the MCHES exam in 2015, up from 122 and 97 in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

In order to be in compliance with both national and international standards, NCHEC partnered with the Society for Public Health Education, and testing vendor, ProExam, to release the HESPA study. With the release of the HESPA study, NCHEC's Division Board for Certification of Health Education Specialists (DBCHES) has been working diligently to revise the CHES and MCHES examinations to be reflective of the updated Responsibilities, Competencies, and Sub-competencies. In April 2016, the new MCHES exam will be utilized for the first time, based on the HESPA model findings, while the new CHES exam will be used in the October 2016 exam cycle. In addition, The Health Education Specialist: A Companion Guide for Professional Excellence, 7th edition, was released in 2015 in preparation for these revised MCHES and CHES examinations.

The CHES and MCHES examinations continually introduce new items. The exam contains 165 items; 150 of the items are scored and 15 of the items are used as pilot items and do not contribute to the final score on each exam. Examinees are informed that there are pilot items on the exam, however, the candidate is not told which items are being piloted and which items are being scored. Piloting new items helps to ensure high statistical integrity of this certification examination. Item piloting is used to determine the psychometric properties of an item before the item is actually included as a "scored item" on an exami-

nation. This also allows for the removal of items that do not perform at acceptable levels for certifying examinations.

The exam processes are overseen by the DBCHES. DBCHES is comprised of 11 individuals responsible for maintaining and evaluating the certification exams. More specifically, the DBCHES assures a periodic review and evaluation of certification and examination processes; recommends policies and procedures for administering the CHES and MCHES examinations; participates in item-writing workshops; and ensures that NCHEC's competency testing meets acceptable standards

NCHEC's certification programs have been reviewed and accredited by two organizations, the International Accreditation Service (IAS) and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA.)

The IAS accreditation program for Personnel Certification Bodies is based on ISO/IEC Standard 17024:2012 Conformity Assessment — general requirements for bodies operating certification of persons. Accreditation provides a benchmark for personnel certification programs to ensure consistent, comparable and reliable operations. The accreditations provide quality assurance to the public and other stakeholders that NCHEC's policies and procedures are in alignment with high credentialing standards.

Continued growth and recognition of the credential, commitment to continual updating of the examinations and third party accreditation all contribute to certifications that are recognized and valued by certified parties as well as employers and many outside stakeholders.



Site visit to Prometric, NCHEC's new testing vendor, located in Baltimore, MD, January 2016

NCHEC WELCOMES NEW CHES – FALL 2015

The following is a list of those who earned the distinct title of Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) in the October 2015 examination. NCHEC welcomes them to a class of more than 11,000 active CHES. Those who opted not to be published are excluded from the list.

Juliana Abdallah	James Bishop	Marie Culik	Nicholas Gedemer	Nicole Hurst
Bassam AbiSaab	Brittan Blanchard	Samantha Curry	María Geli-Cruz	Brittany Jacobs
Ina Ables	Rebecca Boisvert	Jessica Curtis	Tina George	Rohan Jairam
Lindsey Adamczyk	Serena Bolinger	Julie Dahlen	Gigi Gibbs	Taylor Jamison
Sara Adams	Kemi Bolutayo	Mark Dale	Lauren Gibson	Anna Jimenez
Oluyemisi Aderomilehin	Kari Boyle	Elizabeth Dana	Christie Gigliotti	Korrie Johnson
Brenda Adkins	Savannah Bradley	Ta-Kisha Darden	Yvonne Gilead	Tiffany Johnson
Kendra Aguilar	Hannah Brady	Charis Davidson	Kelsi Gilleylen	Kathryn Johnson
Eisha Akbar	Diane Brand	Cheryl Davis	Ariel Gomez	Stefanie Johnson
Ricardo Albarran	Lorianne Breher	Richard Day	Rebeca Gomez	Gauri Joshi
Dennise Alfaro	Rachel Brewer	Debbie Liza De Sagun	Diana Gonzalez	Zach Kast
Jaelin Ali	Katie Bromfield	Eden DeHart	Michelle Goode	Hawanatu Kebbie
Lisa Allen	Shannon Brown	June Deibel	Lisa Greathouse	Jonathan Kelley
Courtney Allen	Lacy Brown	Theresa Delfino	Ceabert Griffith	Ashley Keys
Kristen Allshouse	Audra Brummel	Abigail Delich	Jade Gromowski-Schuenke	Esther Kim
Kjersten Anderson	Sarah Buckingham	Lauren Delmerico	Jennifer Gronseth	Kymberlee Kleeburg
Janelle Anderson	Neesha Bukht	Jenna Delph	Karis Grounds	Zachariah Koehn
Shaila Andrews	Jessica Bumber	Denise Demers	Gema Guevara	Melissa Kondor
Amanda Angles	Lauren Bunns	Cheryl Der Ananian	Michael Guterrez	Bradley Krock
Patricia Apple	Alden Bunyan	Noelle Diehl	Amy Gulati	Kachina Kudroff
Jade Aquino	Sheri Burson	Audrey Doty	Connor Gulling	Gifty Kwofie
Lucy Aranda	Adrienne Butterwick	Kenneth Durroh	Elise Gunnell	Melissa Lacy
Tiffany Archuleta	Cassandra Camp	Gerard Dyckman	Kathryn Haberlin	Sangeetha Lakshmanan
Katrina Armstrong	Jamie Campos	Chad Earl	Matthew Habuda	Kayla Landry
Desiree Arroyo-Espinat	Christina Canal	Yvebrielle Edmond	Wykinia Hamblin	JoAnn Lane
Nazneen Asefi	Alejandrina Canelo	Lindsey Elliott	Kashmone Hamilton	Jordin Lane
Megan Ashbaugh	Villafana	Kathryn Elliott	Kathleen Hammans	Meghan Lane
Shannon Ashcroft	Jennifer Cannon	Bryli Elsner	Christina Hansen	Brittany Langevin
Kimberly Ashley-Pauley	Jamie Canton	Lynn English	Kelly Heckman	Paulette Larmond
Katherine Atcheson	Katherine Cantu	Sean Ennis	Andrea Heeter	Katherine Ledbetter
Kathryn Autry	Isabel Capella	Leandro Enriquez	Keri Henderson	Grace Lee
Elizabeth Ayoko	Jessica Castro	Nicole Estrada	Kristen Henry	Alison Lee
Marsha Bach	Wynonna Chandler	Bethany Evans	Kelly Hernandez	Jonatan Lefler
Brittany Badicce	Charles Chapa	Cera Falls	Kara Herr	Rebecca Lehman
Courtney Baeyen	Amy Charlot	Stephanie Faron	Kyle Herrala	Juan Leos
Megan Baird	Jason Chrisman	Sarah Faust	Julie Herrmann	Abby Lepak
Yassah Ballayan	Elizabeth Christian	Ernest Fiabu	Arielle Hieronimus	Audrey Lewis
Holly Bandy	Katy Cisneros	Nicole Fields	Olivia Hill	Xing Li
Janet Barber	Rachel Clarke	Rebecca Fisher	Chelsea Hoffman	Jia Lu Lin
Sarah Barnes	Rebecca Coath	Amber Flanigan	Theresa Hoffman-Makar	Amy Lofthouse
Erin Barrett	Mary Cockrell	Nadia Fonseca	Michele Holzhauser	Catherine Lopez
Sarah Barton	Harrison	Joshua Fuller	Karina Horochena	Leslie Lopez
Philip Baughey	Cecily Coleman	Steven Gadingan	Molka Horton	Lauren Lube
Kristen Belcher	Erica Coleman	Colin Gallant	Cheryl Houston	Kelly Luepke
Terene Bennett	Rosemary Corriero	Tomi Galloway	Natalie Howardson	Brittany Luipold
Ingrid Berthomieux	Grace Angela Cotangco	Dianne Jane Garcia	Meredith Howe	Sarah Luneau
Shweta Bhatt	Haley Crabb	Katherine Garcia	Brittany Howell	DeMicha Luster
Christine Bickel	Taylor Cronin	Antonio Gardner	Brieah Hudson	Heather Macher
Devon Binkowski	Stephanie Cryder	Julie Gardner	Chelsea Hultz	Simone Mack
Pamela Birriel	Ashlee Cubarney	Carlee Garlick	Regina Hunt	

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NCHEC WELCOMES NEW CHES *continued*

Catherine MacMillan	Montserrat Noboa	Lindsay Sakiewicz	Clarissa Stebbing	Tivoli Walker
Janna Madison	Jennifer Northway	Jeanmarie Salie	Mariahm Stephenson	Heidi Walsh
Alicia Maguire	Kathryn Noviski	Severiano Sanchez	Alexandra Stephenson	Audra Walters
Olivia Mahlmann	Tara Noye	Victoria Sanchez	Megan Stoffregen	Sade Walters
Julie Maina	Christian Noyola	Matthew Sanderson	Robert Stone	Gin Wang
Nelly Maina	Jessica O'Leary	Claudia Sandoval	Delcie Strahan	Danielle Ward
Noora Majid	Brenda Oliver	Maria Santos	Katherine Sumsion	Kimberly Ward
Melissa Major	Becky Olomon	Ariel Schaufler	Amanda Swygard	Angela Ward
Erin Manalo	Jade Owen	Alissa Schmitz	Davinity Tallent	Andrea Ward
Francesca Maresca	Benedicta Owusuaddai	Michelle Schoneman	York Nee Tan	Felicia Warren
Amanda Martin	Melissa Papp-Green	Leila Seidfaraji	Suphitporn Tangsirisan	Brittany Waters
Maren Martinez	Mariel Parman	Rachel Sellers	Melanie Tatge	Timothy Watts
Natalia Martínez Ojeda	Leah Perrotta	Amanda Selman	Roseann Tebay	Magdalene Wellman
José Javier Martínez-Vélez	Emily Phillips	Minjung Seo	Bisrat Tesfagiorgis	Amy Westermann
Susan Mbawuiké	Brian Pins	Miriam Shafer	Leslie Thomas	Alice White
Billy McCall Jr.	Michelle Pless	Kimberly Sherrod	Pedro Tomas-Domingo	Krista White
Olivia McCarthy	Marie Plug	Ajibike Shodunke	Kellie Toomer	Margaret Whittington
Rhyanne McDade	Hernise Polycarpe	Tonya Short	Claire Townsend	Lauren Williams
Asia McGhee	Emily Poole	Shannon Simmons	Nicole Travis	Sheri Winn
Keishla Medina	Alisha Pope	James Simpson	Nicole Trostle	Emma Winningham
Kathleen Meehan	Kristopher Pratt	Kayce Singletary	Benjamin Trout	David Winter
Terry Melo	Sharice Preston	Christie Slay	Jena Trull	Sena Woldetensay
Emily Menge	Katherine Price	Brandie Smith	Jessica Truong	Leah Wood
Brittany Mercik	Amy Pruim	Cassandra Smith	Candace Tucker	Brittany Wright
Zachary Messer	Breanna Pruitt	Rachel Smith	Victica Tuggle	Maria Wright
Mitchell Metcalf	Danielle Purciello	Lesley Sommerville	Tonya Twyman	Fan Wu
Kacie Meyer	Heather Putt	Britain Sotelo	Sharon Vance	Rachael Wummer
Wendi Middleton	Emmanuelle Quenum	Eunice Soto-Gomez	Cortney VanHook	Jia Ye
Patricia Mock	Christina Radatz-Sachs	Amanda Spivey	Jordan Vesta	Linda Yonan
Nadine Enra Monforte	Thomas Ramsey	Jamie Stabler	Leanne Villarivera	Roxana Yusti
Daron Monnin	Peggy Ranke	Karsyn Stark	Tunicia Walker	
Melissa Monroe	Dannielle Rasile			
Ashley Monson	Veronica Ray			
Allison Moore	Kristin Reed			
Erin Moriearty	Jacquaya Reel			
Krista Morris	Jessica Richards			
Lauren Morse	Kaunda Richardson			
Kimberly Mory	Ashley Riley			
Linda Mukumbuta	Virginia Rink			
Lama Murad	Tamara Robertson			
Ariel Murray	Janelle Robinson			
Rachael Musch	Teresa Robinson			
Edith Mwashia	Jeanine Robitaille			
Farrah Nagin	Gloria Rodriguez			
Keosha Najair	Richard Rosenblum			
Susaye Nattoo	Sara Routley			
Rita Ndaguba	KatherineJ Rubin			
Margaret Nechvatal	Katherine Ruggles			
Sydney Nelson	Miriam Ruiz Rapale			
Tanya Nemece	Carolyn Russell			
Trelanie Neville	Brandon Ryans			
Avina Nguyen	Isabell Sakamoto			

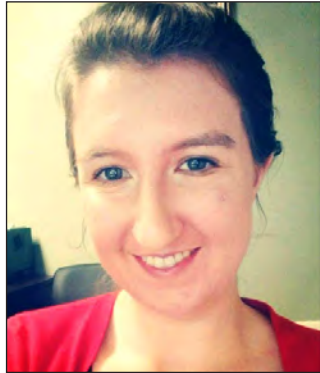


NCHEC staff attended the APHA conference in Chicago, IL in October. Left to right in photo: Linda Lysoby, Melissa Schmell, Jessica Wessner and Tanya Cole

HIGH SCORERS ON THE FALL 2015 CHES EXAM

Kachina Kudroff, MPH, CHES

Kachina Kudroff serves as a Coordinator of Health Education at the UAB 1917 HIV Clinic where she coordinates outreach and prevention efforts including comprehensive sexual health education, HIV testing and counseling, and most recently the provision of pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV prevention through the 1917 PrEP Clinic. She was awarded her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Willamette University in 2010 and completed her Master of Public Health degree with a concentration in Health Behavior at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2012.



“I feel that taking the CHES exam is important for both personal and career development. Obtaining the CHES certification opened new doors for me and renewed my commitment to health education theory and practice, which is so essential in my line of work.”

Sarah Barnes, BS, CHES

Originally from Northern California, Sarah Barnes was strongly influenced by the region’s health conscious approach to lifestyle and nutrition. When she was diagnosed with an autoimmune disorder in 2010, Sarah sought out ways to manage the condition through a wellness-centered approach. Her personal experiences quickly developed into a passion for helping others to take a more active role in their own health and wellness, ultimately inspiring her to pursue a degree in health education. She is a recent graduate of the University of North Carolina - Wilmington, where she received a Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education in 2015. She completed her internship experience at the Brunswick County Health Department in Bolivia, North Carolina, where she developed and presented health information in a variety of community settings, strengthening her skills in community empowerment, cultural competence, and health promotion. She is looking forward to entering the public health workforce so that she can use her knowledge, skills, and experience to enrich the community around her through health education.



HIGH SCORER ON THE FALL 2015 MCHES EXAM

Karl Larson, PhD, MCHES

Karl Larson serves as Associate Professor of Health Education and Coordinator of the Public Health minor at Gustavus Adolphus College (GAC). Originally from Inver Grove Heights, MN, Karl has worked in higher education, public health, and corporate wellness for 25 years. Karl works closely with students entering public/community health professions in identifying culturally-appropriate theory-based approaches to behavior change. Before coming to GAC, he served the faculty at University of Southern Indiana. Prior to entering the faculty ranks, Karl worked in corporate wellness and served as the Director of Health Education for a county health department, both in Southern Illinois. He also spent five years working with underrepresented college students in an academic success program at Southeast Missouri State University. He has co-authored books on alternative health practices, wellness, and violence prevention. He is married to Kathy, his wife of 26 years, and has three children: Danielle (23), Evan (18) and Brenden (10).



“I chose to complete the MCHES exam to serve as an example for our students entering the public health field, and to give the program one more dimension of credibility. I believe it is important to teach students early the value of demonstrating competence in the discipline, and sustaining that level of expertise through continuing education.”

FYI

New Category II Claim Form

Effective April 1, 2016: A new Category II Claim Form for Continuing Education Credit Hours will be available for download or submission

online at www.nchec.org. The revised claim form reflects the recent changes in health education competencies to align with the Health Education Practice Analysis (HESPA) 2015 study. Changes to the form include the addition of credit activities such as developed a marketing plan, policy analysis, logic model for evaluation, and an agency/program strategic plan.

NCHEC WELCOMES NEW MCHES – FALL 2015

The following is a list of those who earned the distinct title of Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) in the October 2015 examination. NCHEC welcomes them to a class of more than 1,000 active MCHES. Those who opted not to be published are excluded from the list.

Anina Aaron	Patricia Diamond	Vivian Hyatt Arnold	Ashley Parks
Jamilah Abdur-Rahman	Marie Donnay	Winston Jackson	Pauline Patrick
Eva Aklamati-Darko	Sarah Engler	Rebecca Kleinschmidt	Claire Rudolph
Laurie Anderson	Vanessa Farrell	Kelly Kunkel	Brandi Sankey
Maria Elena Avila-Toledo	Jonelle Fitzgerald	Karl Larson	Anthony Santella
Erica Bailey	Jeanne Fournier	Priscilla Lopez	Kya Schnettler
Janice Blake	Christine Freaney	Devaki Magee	Janel Schrader
Osei Boaitey	Kimberley Freeman	Christine Margalis	Sherry Sexton
Alana Boutelle	Jerome Garner	Wendy McLaughlin	Cherylee Sherry
Barbara Bungy	Jessica Gill	Karen McMillan	Tia-Jane'l Simmons
Jeannette Burgos	Kathleen Grace-Bishop	Chelsea Moxlow	Stephanie Swan
Karen Carrigg	Amanda Greene	Patti Murphey	Kamilah Thomas-Purcell
Laura Catalusci	Fred Hall	Nikeysha Neal	Randy Tyer
Deniece Chevannes	Christine Hall	Amy Nelson	Valerie Ubbes
Julie Christie	Kristin Hartsaw	Bonnie Nelson	Lori Werrell
Christine Clinton	Chelsea Hawkins	Donna Norkoli	Andrea Wilson-Gutka
Danene Coroneos-Shannon	Matthew Herington	Eric Nwazue	Alvin Wong
Joyce Davis	Tala Hooban	Jennifer Ochoa-Vela	Markisha Woodson
Jennifer Davis	Heather Hudson	Christine O'Hare	Bethany Wrye

An Interview with an MCHES by Dr. Manoj Sharma

"To me, MCHES is a symbol of lifetime commitment to primary prevention."

Background: Dr. Manoj Sharma was trained as a physician and has been engaged in health education since his first year of medical school. He chose a career path in Public Health, and completed a doctorate in Preventive Medicine from the College of Public Health at The Ohio State University.

Why Certification: "While I was licensed to practice medicine, I aspired to have a credential that was exclusive to my specialty of Public Health Education – for which there was no fellowship." Dr. Sharma sat for the CHES exam in October of 1999, and was part of the original MCHES certification EDO (Experience Documentation Opportunity) in 2011.

Career Benefits: The credential aided Dr. Sharma in obtaining teaching positions in health education departments, even though he did not have a formal degree in Health Education. He obtained his original CHES eligibil-



ity through coursework. In addition, the credential helped with Dr. Sharma's service on NCHEC's Division Board, DBCHEs, and he assisted with writing questions for the CHES and MCHES exams.

Words of Wisdom: "This credential has been a source of inspiration to more than 4,000 of the students I have taught in my career. Many of these students are now CHES and MCHES. My advice to an aspiring CHES/MCHES certificant is to prepare well for all the core competencies of health education, pass the exam with flying colors, complete continuing education credits regularly, display your prestigious credential, and enjoy the numerous benefits this credential has to offer. Excellent approaches to earning continuing education credits include participating in professional conferences, reading and writing manuscripts, and attending workshops and webinars.

New Webinar Available for Mid-Cycle CHES

Written by Nicolette Powe, DrPH, MCHES, Director of the Division Board for Professional Development

The Division Board for Professional Development has produced a new webinar designed to assist mid-cycle CHES and MCHES in the process of maintaining and enhancing their hard-earned certifications.

The webinar is geared to assist those who are certified an understanding of the process of accruing and recording continuing education credit hours. Recertification occurs every five years for the CHES and MCHES credential, and is not such a daunting task with the basic knowledge and preparation provided in the presentation.



Purpose of MCHES

Maintaining the Certified
Health Education Specialist (CHES)
and Master Health Education Specialist (MCHES)
Certifications Part II:

Questions and Answers



The objectives of the presentation are as follows:

- Continuing Education Contact Hour Specifics
- Accessing your Continuing Education Contact Hour transcript
- Details on the MCHES Certification
- Details on the structure of the NCHEC organization and its governing boards
- Resources communicating the value of the CHES/MCHES

Continuing education is an important process in the maintenance of both national and international accreditation. Accreditation standards are what elevate the value of the CHES and MCHES

Please visit the NCHEC website for more information on how to register for this webinar.

2017 CALL FOR CANDIDATES



NCHEC is searching for individuals to fill volunteer positions on our Board of Commissioners and Division Boards. All positions adhere to the Code of Ethics of the Health Education Profession. The terms of these positions will begin on January 1, 2017. NCHEC seeks individuals from a variety of practice settings on all boards:

school, medical care, business/industry, academia and community. Elections will be held in August 2016. Consider nominating yourself or encouraging a peer to take this opportunity. The deadline to receive nominations is June 15, 2016.

Division Board for Professional Development (DBPD): One Director: 5-year term. The DBPD is comprised of seven individuals responsible for oversight of the recertification and annual renewal procedures. More specifically, the DBPD recommends policies and procedures related to the designation of continuing education providers, recertification and the annual renewal of CHES/MCHES; recommends fees for recertification, annual renewal and provider designation; and assures that the processes are monitored and periodically evaluated. Interest or experience in the development or delivery of continuing education programs for health educators is preferred.

Division Board for Certification of Health Education Specialists (DBCHES): Three Directors: 5-year term. The DBCHES is comprised of 11 individuals responsible for the credentialing examination. More specifically, the DBCHES assures a periodic review and evaluation of certification and examination processes; recommends policies and procedures for administering the CHES and the MCHES examinations; participates in item-writing workshops and on-going online item-writing assignments, and ensures

that NCHEC's testing meets acceptable standards. Interest or experience in item-writing and exam construction is preferred. The MCHES credential is required to serve on this Board.

Division Board for Professional Preparation and Practice (DBPPP): Two Directors: 5-year terms. The DBPPP is comprised of seven individuals responsible for promoting professional preparation. More specifically, the DBPPP works with colleges, universities and accrediting agencies to improve professional preparation programs and promote best practices in health education settings, and monitors and updates the certification application and eligibility review process. Interest or experience with the credentialing process and with professional preparation is preferred.

Requirements for all positions include:

- Maintaining CHES/MCHES certification (Note: DBCHES Directors must be MCHES)
- Participating in monthly conference calls
- Attending one face-to-face meeting (all expenses paid by NCHEC) per year –typically this meeting spans a weekend (Thursday night –Sunday noon). DBCHES may require two face- to-face meetings per year.
- Reading agendas, minutes and other documents and information to stay informed
- Exercising independent judgment on decisions presented and maintaining confidentiality
- Advocating for credentialing
- Working on specific assignments/projects
- Supporting the work and mission of NCHEC, protecting confidentiality, and avoiding conflict of interest

If you are interested in becoming a candidate, please contact Melissa Opp at: 888-624-3248 ext. 11 or mopp@nchech.org or visit the Web site at www.nchech.org. **Nomination deadline is June 15, 2016.**

Conference Schedule

Mark your calendars for opportunities to earn continuing education contact hours.
For more information on these conferences, visit the organizations' Web site.

Organization	Details	Dates	Location
American Journal of Health Promotion (AJHP)	www.healthpromotionjournal.com	April 27-29, 2016	Orlando, Florida
American College Health Meeting (ACHA)	www.acha.org	May 31-June 4, 2016	San Francisco, California
National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO)	www.naccho.org	July 19-21, 2016	Phoenix, Arizona
88th Annual American School Health Association (ASHA)	www.ashaweb.org	October 6-8, 2016	Baltimore, Maryland
APHA 142nd Annual Meeting & Exposition	www.apha.org	Oct. 29 - Nov. 2, 2016	Denver, Colorado

CHES and MCHES: A Certification Snapshot

The need for certified health education specialists is greater than ever. The CHES and MCHES programs create a national standard for specialists practicing at all levels from entry level to more experienced. The exam content covers the Seven Areas of Responsibility for Health Education Specialists essential to the practice and delivery of health education and promotion, with the MCHES focusing on more advanced skills to demonstrate leadership roles. Specifically, the MCHES credential is hierarchical, meaning that MCHES are competent in all entry-level (CHES) skills, in addition to more advanced-level skills.

	CHES	MCHES
Designed for individuals in the early stages of their career	✓	
Designed for experienced specialists with at least 5 years of experience		✓
Exam content validated through comprehensive research	✓	✓
Designed for health education specialists responsible for developing and managing budgets, and applying ethical principles		✓
Designed for health education specialists responsible for identifying staff development and training needs		✓
Designed for health education specialists who select participants and deliver training	✓	✓
Designed for health education specialists who develop and monitor strategic plans		✓
Designed for health education specialists that identify existing data collection instruments for program evaluation	✓	✓

DBPPP Announces the NCHEC Ambassador Program

Written by NCHEC's Division Board for Professional Preparation and Practice (DBPPP)

The Division Board for Professional Preparation and Practice (DBPPP) is one of three Division Boards within the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC) and is responsible for promoting professional preparation. More specifically, the DBPPP works with colleges, universities and accrediting agencies to improve professional preparation programs and promoting best practices in health education settings.

In January 2016, the DBPPP launched the NCHEC Ambassador program which is designed to facilitate communication between health education programs and NCHEC. Ambassadors will promote the Certified Health Education Specialist/Master Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES/MCHES) credential at their respective campuses using information provided by NCHEC.

“University faculty can play a vital role in informing students about the discipline-specific certification that may help to differentiate them as candidates for employment,” said Linda Lysoby,

NCHEC’s Executive Director. “We hope to encourage this student-faculty communication through the newly launched ambassador program.”

During this roll out, selected faculty and staff members at universities from across the United States were invited to serve as NCHEC Ambassadors. Individuals were selected based on a number of factors including possessing an active CHES/MCHES credential and representing a campus with a large number of exam applicants. “Ambassadors will be sent a welcome packet that contains materials as well as action steps for communicating the value of this credential across campus,” said Miguel Perez, Chair of DBPPP, in announcing the launch of this exciting program.

NCHEC expects to expand the program to every university in the country offering a health education program in the next few years.

NCHEC ATTENDS THE ACHI CONFERENCE



Three MCHES present a session titled, “Health Education Specialists: Bridging Health Care & Healthy Communities in Post-Health Reform”, at the Association for Community Health Improvement conference in Baltimore, MD.

From left to right Sherrylee Sherry, Chesley Cheatham, and Elaine Auld.



NCHEC Executive Director, Linda Lysoby (right), and NCHEC Board of Commissioners’ Secretary, Chesley Cheatham at the NCHEC exhibit booth at the Association for Community Health Improvement Conference.



NCHEC NEWS

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