

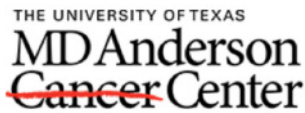


## INAUGURAL OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP AWARD

*NCHEC is pleased to announce the results of its inaugural Outstanding Service and Leadership Award in recognition of one professional and one organization that have displayed exemplary commitment to the advancement of the profession and the CHES and MCHES credentials.*

### Winner, Organizational Category:

#### The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center



MD Anderson Cancer Center utilizes CHES/MCHES certified individuals in a variety of settings and values the preparation

and expertise of CHES/MCHES certificants. The Patient Education Department alone employs eight CHES and MCHES. The organization will cover exam fees (retakes included), annual certification fees, and the cost of continuing education and training for their certified employees. Furthermore, MD Anderson provides certification pay of \$50.00/month for CHES and \$100.00/month for MCHES employees in their paychecks during the length of their employment if CHES or MCHES certification is maintained. This is in addition to their base pay. MD Anderson is also a continuing education provider, offering many scientific and professional programs covering the Responsibilities and Competencies for Health Education Specialists.

The MD Anderson Patient Education Department is responsible for the education of over 100,000 patients per year, utilizing documents, videos, and decision-aids that are developed by Health Education Specialists who are CHES/MCHES certified. Some specific examples of programs delivered by CHES and MCHES employees are The Health Disparities Research Program, The End Tobacco Program, and "Moon Shots," an unprecedented effort to accelerate the pace of converting discoveries into clinical advancements that reduce cancer deaths.

By utilizing CHES and MCHES-certified individuals to deliver such programs strengthens the message to patients and the community, and highlights MD Anderson's organizational belief that well-prepared, credentialed employees make a valuable difference in patient care.

### Winner, Individual Category:

#### James F. McKenzie, PhD, MCHES



Dr. McKenzie is a tremendous leader in the field of health education and promotion, including over 44 years of teaching health education in six different states. As a faculty member, Dr. McKenzie has taught numerous students and has mentored many junior colleagues who

are now leaders in the field themselves. As an author, his work has influenced many more students and professional preparation programs. Dr. McKenzie literally "wrote the book," or rather books, in Program Planning, Research Methods, Community Health, and the Theoretical Foundations for Health Education.

Dr. McKenzie has devoted many years to the development and improvement of the CHES and MCHES examinations through dedicated board service at NCHEC. He has served on the Division Board for Certification of Health Education Specialists, the Board of Commissioners, and various Job

*continued on page 2*

### inside this issue



2-3 Leadership News

3 Passion as Practice

4 How to Display Your Credential

5 Helen Cleary Memorandum

6 Call for Candidates

7 New CHES

9 CHES & MCHES High Scorers



Written by Kerry J. Redican, MPH, PhD, CHES, NCHEC Board of Commissioners, Chair



I am looking forward to serving as the 2017 NCHEC Board of Commissioners (BOC) Chair. Dixie Dennis did an outstanding job as BOC Chair during her previous terms, and has set the leadership bar very high! Thank you, Dixie!

The work of NCHEC is primarily done by staff, the elected BOC, the three elected Division Boards, and the Marketing Committee. At times the Division

Boards or the BOC will identify issues that affect the health education profession and are substantial enough to require the formation of separate committees for further evaluation. In the past year, both the International Committee and the Competitive Analysis Sub-Committee were formed. These newly-created committees are reviewing topics that are currently affecting health education and the advancement of the profession.

The International Committee chaired by Nancy Clifton-Hawkins began its work by reviewing 15 international/global health job announcements, with specific emphasis on the scope of work highlighted in the announcements. The Committee found that within these 15 job announcements, much of the scope of work was related to CHES/MCHES Competencies and Sub-competencies. One of the next activities the Committee will undertake is to develop strategies to encourage international employers to consider incorporating CHES/MCHES as one of the preferred qualifications for positions.

By now, most, if not all of you have noticed the proliferation of health-related certificates and certification opportunities. The

Competitive Analysis Sub-group has been evaluating certificate programs and certification programs that are related to health education and promotion, and trying to determine the potential these certificates and/or certifications have for creating market confusion for Health Education Specialists (HES). In other words, will the market believe that health coaches and HES are essentially the same thing?

The results of the work of both the International Committee and the Competitive Analysis Sub-group will be captured in a manuscript for publication, position paper, or highlighted in some venue available to both health educators and those who employ HES.

Other ongoing initiatives include the NCHEC Ambassador program and the Diversity Initiative. NCHEC Ambassadors are faculty or preceptors in higher education professional preparation programs and are the interface between their college or university and NCHEC. To that end, the Ambassadors are provided CHES/MCHES promotional materials including a PowerPoint presentation so that the Ambassador can deliver presentations about CHES/MCHES and answer questions about certification, Areas of Responsibility, Competencies and Sub-competencies. The ongoing Diversity Initiative is an effort to reach out to minority higher education institutions who prepare HES. In the near future, more on the work of these committees will be highlighted.

Finally, 2017 will have many challenges ahead. We don't know what to expect in terms of the repeal and/or replacement of the Affordable Care Act and federal/state funding for health education. Regardless, we will keep moving forward to position CHES and MCHES as valuable and important players in public and community health, and health care.

## **Inaugural Outstanding Service and Leadership Award** *continued from page 1*

Analysis Task Forces. As the DBCHEC Coordinator, he was extraordinarily effective in leading the process of exam creation for the advanced credential, MCHES.

Included in his application for the award was an impressive letter of recommendation from over twenty-two students at Minnesota State University, who valued his expertise and willingness to help shape their futures in the profession. "Through his writing," said the students, "we have greater understanding

of the responsibilities and roles we will soon be charged with in our future careers. We have learned a wealth of knowledge from the work of Dr. McKenzie."

***NCHEC encourages all those who submitted applications to resubmit for the upcoming 2017 Outstanding Service and Leadership Award. Please stay tuned for announcements on the open application period for this distinguished annual award.***

*Written by Lnda Lysoby, MS, MCHES, CAE, NCHEC Executive Director*



The year 2017 is already proving to be an exciting year for NCHEC. Our Board of Commissioners (BOC) and several Division Boards met in late winter/early spring to get a head start on major initiatives.

In order to be in compliance with the third-party accreditation standards of the National Commission for Certifying Agencies and the ISO/IEC 17024 *Conformity Assessment - General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of*

*Persons*, work has continued to re-examine the recertification requirements for maintenance of certification. The volunteers of the Division Board for Professional Development (DBPD) examined examples from other certification organizations of how to ensure the “continuing competence” of the certified individual. Then proposals were brought to the BOC in March for consideration. Watch for announcements on final decisions regarding recertification changes and methods to assess the competency needed from the health education workforce, and ensuring reasonable expectations for the practitioners.

Another major decision has been the change from the current paper-based CHES and MCHES exams to Computer-Based Testing (CBT). This will expand the availability of testing sites throughout the US and also globally. This move supports comments from exit surveys of our test takers regarding the need to move to CBT. While still offering the exam twice a year, it will allow candidates to select a test center and time and date with a window of time rather than just one test day, twice a year. More information will follow regarding this process to begin the conversion to CBT with the fall 2018 exam testing cycle. Emphasis also will continue to be placed on university outreach and marketing the value of the credentials.

And in an effort to always improve upon the examination questions, the Division Board for the Certification of Health Education Specialists has already opened their process to write new items. Item writing begins with an online writing and review process and then an in-person meeting to thoroughly review the items, verify references, and finalize questions for acceptance in the bank of possible exam questions.

As always, I want to point out that these and other initiatives are driven by dedicated and committed volunteers on the BOC, Division Boards, the Marketing Committee, and a dedicated NCHEC staff.

## Passion as a Practice: Why Health Education is My First Choice

*Written by: Jordan Buckley, MPH, CHES*



Time and time again my colleagues want to know what steered me to take the CHES exam, wondering how this certification has impacted abilities within my career and where I think it will lead me. The answer is this: every facet of my skillset, efficacy of practice and individual potential is strengthened because of continued education. To maintain the CHES certification I

know I must accumulate Continuing Education Contact Hours (CECH). However, I believe this requirement stands for something deeper. Philosophically, I find it vital to my success (and happiness) to pursue a career that challenges me to ask questions and seek answers, which I find through professional development and CECH opportunities.

As a Health Education Specialist (HES), my scope of work encompasses prevention efforts in a multitude of ways, but is specific to policy and communications in the arenas of school health and family and child wellness. I also have personal interests in reproductive rights and research. Yet, I understand the nature of public health and there will always be work to be done. As Thomas

Frieden, M.D., MPH, former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said, “It’s easy to miss public health successes - you don’t see the heart attacks that don’t happen, the years added to the lives of those who quit smoking, or the flu deaths avoided because of vaccines.” Our nation’s pursuit of health equity will not be seen immediately. However, when policy is put into practice and families are equipped with the wherewithal to make mindful decisions for their families, healthier behaviors and lifestyles can span generations. For this, I choose to be a HES.

Moving forward, my career objective is to practice the Seven Areas of Responsibility with emphasis on serving as a resource person by advocating research for health promotion and education. A long-term goal to complement this will be to obtain the MCHES certification. In the outcome, my indication of attaining advanced-level competencies will be measured my ability to speak about evidence-based theory along with “boots on the ground” field experiences.

*Jordan Buckley obtained her CHES certification in 2016. She is originally from central Pennsylvania. She completed a Bachelor of Science in Public Health/Health Promotion and a Master of Public Health with a concentration in Community Health, and now works with the Society for Public Health Education in Washington, D.C.*

# How to Display Your CHES/MCHES Credential

Written by: Jessica Wessner, NCHEC staff

The process of obtaining one's CHES or MCHES certification is by no means an easy accomplishment. In addition to sitting for an arduous competency-based examination, the certification denotes years of university-level academic study and a commitment to professional competency through continuing education. Displaying your professional and academic credentials properly will serve to validate your personal expertise and give tangible recognition of professional achievements. In addition, patients, clients, or community members will feel more confident in the care they receive from a nationally certified provider.

Judging from the manner in which credentials are often displayed in publications, communications, or social media, there may be some confusion out there as to how to display one's credentials correctly, including academic degrees, licensures, and certifications. It is important to understand what each credential means and how it should be displayed after a practitioner's name.

## ACADEMIC DEGREE

The decision of whether or not to include your academic degree in your title is a personal one. The preferred method for the display of degrees is to list the highest academic degree only. For example, if you earned both a PhD and an MPH, only the PhD would be listed in your title. However, if your MPH is relevant to your current professional position, it is certainly acceptable to display both degrees.

## STATE LICENSURE TITLES

A state licensure credential is generally awarded based on the completion of a specific educational program and requires the passing of a licensure exam that includes other requirements by the issuing state, allowing the individual to practice in that state. It is often required by states that an individual must use a licensure title when practicing, one example being for medical practice: Nancy Thomas, BSN, RN.

## PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Professional certification credentials are awarded by a nationally recognized certifying body, usually accredited, such as the

National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC), Inc. Certifications such as CHES or MCHES are indicative of knowledge, skills and competencies for a particular profession. Competencies for professional certifications have to be validated through a national role delineation or job task analysis, and can be entry-level, such as CHES, or advanced-level, such as MCHES. The display of your CHES/MCHES credential should be in capital letters always, with no periods. If you have transitioned from the CHES to the MCHES certification, only the MCHES initials are displayed in your title, as your CHES certification is no longer active.

The preferred order for display of credentials is:

- ❖ Highest earned degree
- ❖ Licensure
- ❖ State designations or requirements
- ❖ National certifications
- ❖ Awards and honors/other recognitions

## Example of credential display:

**Jane Smith, PhD, RN, MCHES, FAAHE**

Consistency in how Certified and Master-Certified Health Education Specialists identify themselves alleviates confusion and lends credibility to the profession of health education and promotion. Individuals who have earned their CHES or MCHES should feel a sense of responsibility to educate the public as well as colleagues about what they truly mean. Remember that you worked very hard for your degree(s) and credentials, so make sure that you are displaying them properly on business cards, publications, and email signatures in order to receive the recognition you deserve.

## Sources:

National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM); *Displaying Your Credentials Proudly and Properly*; Kory Ward-Cook and Mina Larson, 2012.

American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC); *How to Display Your Credentials*; 2013.

Tell a colleague or student that the

## 2017 CHES AND MCHES EXAM DATES are October 21, 2017 and April 28, 2018

For more information, visit [www.nchec.org](http://www.nchec.org) or contact the Exam Coordinator: 888 - 624 - 3248, ext 12

OCTOBER 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



## LEADER, VISIONARY, MENTOR

*In Memory of*

### **Dr. Helen P. Cleary, MPH, D.Sc., CHES**

(1920-2016)

Written by: Alyson Taub, EdD, MCHES

Professor Emerita of Health Education, New York University • First Executive Director, NCHEC

**Dr. Helen Cleary**, the driving force in the establishment of the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. (NCHEC), died peacefully at home at the age of 96 on November 5, 2016. Due to her important role in spearheading certification, she received the first CHES credential (CHES #1), and served as the founding chair of the NCHEC Board of Commissioners.

Born and raised in Brookline, MA, she lived in Norfolk, MA until her death. From an early age, she demonstrated leadership and was a woman ahead of her time, earning a baccalaureate degree at Regis College in mathematics and graduate degrees in Public Health from Yale (MPH) and Harvard (Doctor of Science). Her first job was as a teacher of mathematics and science. She enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and served until 1965, retiring with the rank of Lt. Colonel. Her early employment included the Lynn Tuberculosis and Health League, and the Norfolk County Tuberculosis Association. After graduating with her public health degree, she worked as a health educator at the Boston Health Department, Rehabilitation Council of Metropolitan Boston, Massachusetts Association for the Blind (as its Executive Director), and Coordinator of Rhode Island's Regional Medical Program. After two years as a Senior Fellow at the Harvard Center for Community Health and Medical Care, she completed her career in academia as an instructor of health education at the Harvard School of Public Health, and Associate Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine of the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Her employment gave her insights into the many aspects of health education (school health, community health, medical care, college/university).

Dr. Cleary was also a leader and volunteer in local voluntary and governmental agencies (Town of Norfolk, Worcester Visiting Nurse Association, Central Massachusetts Division of the American Health Association, Central Massachusetts Health Systems Agency). Her professional activities included service as President of the New England Chapter of the Society for



Public Health Education (SOPHE), Governing Council representative of the American Public Health Association, and SOPHE President (1975). While traveling around the country as SOPHE President, Dr. Cleary became aware of the need for a clearer definition of what health educators do in practice. She encountered many who were unsure of their role and could not explain it to others. To address this need, Dr. Cleary became the leader of a decade long effort serving as chairperson of the National Task Force on the Preparation and Practice of Health Educators. The Task Force ultimately became NCHEC in 1988. She was tireless in keeping the Task Force on course, raising funds to support the effort, and inspiring others to volunteer their time.

Dr. Cleary was recognized by peers for her extraordinary leadership, vision, and being a role model, mentor, and friend to many. The Association for the Advancement of Health Education awarded her its Presidential Citation. Eta Sigma Gamma presented her with its Distinguished Service Award. SOPHE honored her as a Distinguished Fellow. When talking about the CHES credential, she emphasized that “we took time to do it right.” She always strived for excellence in her own work and expected nothing less from those working with her.

On a personal note, Helen was a role model for me. I was inspired by her passion for the profession, and her mission to promote it and the practice of health educators. When we were making presentations to gain support for certification, we often joked about ducking the tomatoes from opponents in the audience. I remember fondly the many long hours the Task Force spent in hotel rooms around the country debating and drafting documents to establish NCHEC. We didn't have much funding so we had to sneak food into the meeting rooms! She was always on task, leading the way, and extremely resourceful. I value the time that I was able to share with her.

A Celebration of Life will take place at her home on May 20, 2017 at 1 pm.

# 2018 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, 2018. 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 2017. Consider nominating yourself or encouraging a peer to take this opportunity. The deadline to receive nominations is June 15, 2017.

**Board of Commissioners (BOC):** One At-Large Commissioner: 5-year term. The Board of Commissioners is comprised of 11-13 individuals who govern in compliance with the mission and the objectives of NCHEC. More specifically, the BOC defines the mission, participates in strategic planning, approves the annual budget and monitors financial statements, employs and evaluates the Executive Director, oversees and evaluates the credentialing program, establishes policies related to coordination and communication among the three division boards, and advocates for credentialing. Significant experience in health education, interest or familiarity with the functioning of non-profit boards, and knowledge and interest in health education credentialing is preferred.

**Division Board for Professional Preparation and Practice (DBPPP):** One Director: 5-year term. 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.

**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, recerti-



*Credentialing Excellence in Health Education*

fication 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 terms. One Director: 2-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.

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](mailto:mopp@nchech.org) or visit the Web site at [www.nchech.org](http://www.nchech.org). **Nomination deadline is June 15, 2017.**

# NCHEC WELCOMES NEW CHES – FALL 2016

The following is an additional list of those who earned the district title of Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) in the October 2016 examination. Those who opted not to be published are excluded from the list.

Cassandra Adams	Krisztina Beni	Nicole Carter	Sandra Enniss	Katie Guthmiller
Armin Aflaki	Victoria Bennett	Valentina Castaldo	Theresa Eury	Shenna Hair
Lawrence Agi	Carson Benowitz-Fredericks	Joseph Ryan Castro	Samantha Eussen	Jean Hall
Bernadette Agrazal	Alyssa Berdnik	Julianne Catania-Guzik	Oluwatumise Falana	Jena Hallmark
Akinwale Akingbule	Elizabeth Bergum	Carlie Catolico	Danielle Falck	Randii Harrald
Vena Sue Aleck	Rosemarie Bernabe	Yikeyia Chandler	Amy Fehrenbach	Destiny Harris
Jibi Alexander	Courtney Bishop	Quintunya Chapman-Hamilton	Nadine Ferlazzo	Michelle Harris
Jonathan Alexander	Aditya Bissoonauth	Raisa Charles-Willock	Bradley Fevrier	Sophia Hauri
Ayesha Ali	Lisa Blackwell	Harmanpreet Chauhan	Nathan Fleming	Emma-Lee Hefton
Anna Alikhani	Shanikque Blackwell	Emily Cheak	Sandy Flores	Rachel Helgeson
Ashley Allen	Brigid Blazek	Ashley Clark	Rachel Fogleman	Aimee Herrington
Jordyn Allen	Brianne Bostian	Dannie Claycomb	Mariah Fortman	Bethany Hicks
Kelsey Allen	Jayla Bostic	Emily Clyatt	Brenda Foster	Michelle Hicks
Carisa Almquist	Katherine Bourne	Celine Coleman	Lisa Foster	Lawrence Hill
Evelyn Alvarez	Desarae Bradham	Cynthia Coleman	Janide Frais	Sydney Hill
Claire Alvey	Hannah Brantley	Kayla Confer	Rachel Franklin	Veronica Hill
Sara Amini-Rad	Emily Brasser	Karina Cordova	Laura Freeman	Haley Hines
Syvil Amkaya	Sarah Brauneis	Clayton Cowart	Samantha Frick	La'Tesha Hinton
Michelle Anaba	Amanda Bravo	Emily Cox	Caitlin Fritz	Hannah Hoeffner
Patricia Anafi	Tiffany Brelinski-Long	Felicia Cox	Madeline Fromm	Ashlee Hoffman
Nkemdilim Anako	Sarah Briley	Felicia Crosson	Marisa Fullgrapp	Faith Hoffman
Sophie Andar	Karla Brito Gonzalez	Jordan Cuby	Lindsey Fulton	Emily Holbrook
Eboni Anderson	Courtney Brittain	Brynne Curtis	Daniela Fumu	Polley Howell
Nicole Anderson	Erika Bro	Christopher Curtis	Ruth Gallego	Evan Hudson
Jennifer Anglin	Megan Broekemeier	Taylor Dailey	Rebecca Gamble	Caprice Hunt
Aliyah Ansari	Sarah Brown	Anjuli Dasika	Camille Garcia	Cassie Hunt
Ashley Anthony	Siobhan Brown	Colleen Dawson	Devan Gardner	Emma Hunter
Mikafui Antonio-Obese	LeeAnne Brummer	Leslie Dawson	Katarina Gardner	Marcie Hunter
Kimberly Arellano	Brittany Bryan	Natalie Dayton	Sara Gardner	Tabitha Hurley
Latham Avery	Gannon Brzoska	Kirk Decker	Mekhala Garvin	Evi Hyman
Akandibka Ayelah	Jordan Buckley	Patrice DeLeon	Rikkisha Gilmore-Byrd	Latasha Hyman
Aaron Bacha	Quincy Budell	Rachna Desai	Gia Gilmour	Pamela Icochea Calenzani
Jennifer Baker	Courtney Bueler	Erin Devereaux	Ashley Glass	Amanda Ivarra
Melissa Baker	Valkerie Burkart	Traci Dews	Jennifer Glassman	Jasmine Jack
Ashton Balarin	Kaitlyn Burns	Ashley Diamond	Semin Goins	Shakita Jenkins
Parinitha	Allison Burrell	Cynthia Diaz	Halle Goldner	Michael Jenkins, Jr.
Balasubramanyam	Jacqueline Burris	Mary Duckett	Carolina Gonzalez	Katherine Jensen
Amanda Balido	Wanda Burton	Malasha Duncan	Latisha Gonzalez	Celia Jewell
Sheila Bannister	Amanda Busack	Sara Duran	Whitney Gorseger	Lia Jiannine
Kathleen Barcena	Christopher Calabrese	Allexxia Durant	Ibel Grace	Diego Jimenez
Kirstie Basal	Alexandra Calloway	Katherine Earle	Sarah Graver	Annette Johnson
Hannah Bascomb	Ezmeralda Cantu	Shawna Edgeron	Kristine Greener	Janay Johnson
Kim Baskette	Courtney Carlson	Christina Eldrenkamp	Aaron Grober	Joan Johnson
Justine Baumann	Jessica Carpenter	Riham Elkashef	Corrie Groesbeck	Lacey Johnson
Abigail Beausir	Leah Carrillo	Katherine Elkins	Alison Grooms	LaNita Johnson
Cathryn Beeman	Megan Carroll	Obo-erhoro Emofovwah	Michelle Guerra	Maya Jolley
Biliesha Belvitt	Molly Carroll	Jessa Engelken	Haley Guiffrida	Abigail Jones

# NCHEC WELCOMES NEW CHES – FALL 2016

Tyla Jones	Lindsay McClune	Elizabeth Peeler	Elizabeth Ruth	Chris Tacto
Stacy Jorgensen	Betty McCown	Karen Perez	Ketsia Sadler	Marwa Taha
Mirco Joseph	Laura McCulloch	Katelyn Perez	Amel SalahEldin	Amanda Tapler
Anna Judd	Corinne McDaniels	Gabrielle Perez-Espejo	David Sallee	Mitali Thakore
Brittney Keller	Priscilla McNeely	Erica Perkins	Jennifer Salt	Molly Thomas
Kaleema Kerbs	Lynette Medeiros	Lisa Persico	Kori Sandman	Azalea Toney
Hailey Ketchum	Alexandra Meeks	Morgan Peterson	Alejandra Sandoval	Ruth Toruno
Samira Khan	Krizia Melendez	Hannah Phillips	Christina Sansone	Danika Troupe
Kai-Ning Khor	Lindsay Miguel	Karon Phillips	Jessica Sansotta	Tawny Tucci
Sarah Kilby	Anna Miller	Meagan Pichler	Nayaab Sattar	Heidi Tucker
Jennifer Kim	Brian Miller	Angela Pickard	Jacklyn Saulnier	Clara Umbe
Lea Kimmelman	Kathryn Miller	Marie Pickney	Amika Savage	Jennifer Unger
Christine King	Kenya Miller	Humberto Pinon	Alexandra Savala	Stephen Updyke
Evonne Koo	Anne Milne	Fidelia Pokuah	Jennifer Scarpena	Alejandra Vaca
Talar Kossakian	Theresa Mince	Richard Pollock	Jordyn Schaeftbauer	Dillon Van Rensburg
Katherine Kovich	Katherine Minese	Sara Polston	Julie Schaub	Briana Versteeg
Jessica Kruger	Mikayla Mirando	Rachel Pomeroy	Katarina Schneider	Christine Villarreal
Mackenzie Kujawski	Meredith Molge	Andrea Portillo	Hannah Schommer	Liliana Vior Espalter
Anthony Lacina	Joshua Moore	Jessica Preciado	Christopher Schouest	Martina Vis
Emily Lamb	Andrea Moosreiner	Jennifer Puryear	Kati Schroeder	Meredith Vita
Erin Landry	Leah Mora	Arooba Qazi	Robin Schwartz	Nicole Walters
Christine Langfeld	Amber Morris	Rachel Quayle	Kerri Scott	Claire Walton
Josephine Lara	Julia Morrison	Kristyn Quimby	Morgan Sellers	Taniqua Ward
Michelle Larsen	Sarah Music	Cathryn Radlein	Djaze Serikpa	Kayla Watkins
Lynette Lartey	Megan Nawrocki	Jose Rangel Garibay	Karen Shagavah	Tameka Watson
Alexandria Leach	Christine Nebocat	Jennifer Raymond	Lauren Sheehan	Heather Watts
Jane Lee	Leopoldo Negrón Cruz	Kimberly Reeder	Amber Sherrard	Heidi Whitman
Mai Lee	Kendra Neilsen Myles	Matthew Reeves	Jonathan Silva	Heidi Wiedenfeld
Katherine Lemieux	Casey Nelson	Holli Reich	Sherita Simmons	Stacey Wiles
Susan Levy	Katty Nerio	Erinn Reinbolt	Stephanie Sisko	Amanda Williams
Charita Little	Gabrielle Nichols	Jerlanda Reinshagen	Tiffany Sleek	Darneshia Williams
Kristen Little	Stephen Nierengarten	Brittany Rempel	Cynthia Sleight	Deontra Williams
Ryan Loong	Denise Nissle	Kathryn Resch	Mariah Sloat	Kadena Williams
Yelena Luzhanskaya	Stefani Nixon	Julie Ressalam	Elle Smith	Jessica Wilson
Raquel MacDermant	Alexandra Nowalk	Hermenia Ricks	Sarah Sommer	Nicholas Wilson
Bryan Mader	Bailie O'Connell	Shelby Riley	Adenike Sosina	Nicole Wilson
Elizabeth Maloney	Francie O'Meara	Stacy Riley	Yesica Soto Garcia	Emily Witt
Amanda Marcanio	Jibreel Oliver	Mary Robertson	Aurellia Stearns	Emily Wood
Kasey Marsh	Jessica Olivieri	Ashley Robinson	Jamie Steed	Soraya Wright
Dorisbel Martin	Henry Onyia	Tricia Robinson	Rosalind Steele	Kelsey Yoder
Leslie Martin	Anna Orlov	Lupe Rodarte	Melissa Stephenson	Kara Young
Devan Martinez	Kristi Orr	Julio Rodriguez	Veronica Stern	Chanadra Young Whiting
Jazmin Martinez	Jennifer Otte	Nancy Rodriguez	Elizabeth Stokes	Kirsten Zalas
Sheilarie Martínez	Jessica Owdom	Megan Romeo	Indira Stokes	Zachary Zandona
Sánchez	Miryan Palacios	Amy Ropp	Mallory Strange	Jasmin Zepeda
Kaleb Martorana	Lakshmi Palavali	Dominique Rose	Debbie Strejc	Jajuan Zolicoffer
Alexus Mattice	Neliza Pallesco	Teresa Rose	Jennifer Strom	Rhianna Zuleger
Kelly McCain	Emily Para	Nasseem Rouhani	Lindsay Sullivan	
Julia McCarroll	Jessica Parker	Jennifer Rudella	Ashley Sumara	
Coleen McCarthy	Airen Payne	Jackeline Ruiz	Amie Szabo	



# NCHEC WELCOMES NEW MCHES – FALL 2016

The following is a list of those who earned the distinct title of Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) in the October 2016 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.

Robert J Bensley	Roshni B Devchand	Kathryn E Hansen	Shondra R McCage	Debra J Smith
German Blanco	Crystal T Dixon	Kim Kato	Jennifer L McCalley	Jenifer E Starr
Kellie J Brunner	Sarah M Eustice	Elizabeth I Kennedy	Heather M McCann	Shaina Tinsey
Alicia P Cambron	Sarah L Fowler	Tanya M Kory	Kelly K McLaughlin	Edenn M Vidrio
Melissa R Cammack	Jatunn Gibson	Deanna M Krautner	Joshua T Phifer	Janet R Weatherly
Laura L Colbert	Elisabeth Gildemontes	Bianca I La Chau	Jean M Pierson	Elizabeth Williams Mays
Sarah J Cousins	Stacy E. Goddard	Lindsey W Lee	Paul W Pitts	Christina M Yongue
Julie W. G. Dalton	Heather L Green	Ryan Lindner	William H Potts-Datema	Elizabeth A Zacharias
Christine L Davis	Sydney Griffin	Shanna R Livermore	Saida A. Sanchez	
Craig Demmer	Lillie M Hall	Claudia L Mata		

## CHES High Scorer, October 2016 Elizabeth Ruth, CHES



Elizabeth Ruth graduated summa cum laude from Western Washington University with a Bachelor of Science degree in community health. Her passion for public health was ignited by a volunteer opportunity during high school with the Whatcom County Health Department, and later inspired Elizabeth to pursue a degree in public health as a non-traditional student.

She received the Spirit of Community Health award in her program for her steadfast belief in positive change and justice. Social determinants of health and equity drive her work in areas across the interconnected spectrum of health, from reproductive rights to substance use disorders to childhood development.

She currently works as a high-level Administrative Assistant at Skagit County Hospital District 304 in Washington State. Elizabeth serves the demographically and geographically diverse communities in the District, along with several other CHES-certified professionals, through numerous grant-funded programs that reflect the identified needs of the community. Elizabeth hopes to gain a deeper understanding of the work of community health before deciding to pursue a master's degree and the MCHES certification.

“I am honored to join the league of Health Education professionals, so excellently modeled by my professors Drs. Ying Li and Senna Towner as well as my current colleagues. Their high standards of excellence and dedication to the profession made certification seem like the natural next step towards actualizing my career. I learned to ask the right questions and really listen to answers, and the insight I gained into my course work while studying for the CHES exam was well worth the effort!”

## MCHES High Scorer, October 2016 Laura Colbert, MCHES



Laura Colbert is the Director of Outreach & Partnerships at Georgians for a Healthy Future (GHF), a consumer health care policy and advocacy organization. In her current role, she oversees GHF's coalitions, partnerships, and public education and engagement efforts. Laura has been at GHF since June 2014. She previously worked at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

where she developed and managed community partnership and outreach efforts in the Strong4Life program, a childhood obesity prevention and intervention initiative. Laura's other previous positions include working at HealthSTAT, a student-run health policy and advocacy organization; and the CDC's Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention. Laura was recognized in 2014 by the Society for Public Health Education as one of the organization's "30 under 30." She currently serves on the board of the Georgia Society for Public Health Education as the Advocacy Co-chair. Laura has an MPH from Emory University, where she focused on health literacy and the social determinants of health. Before moving to Atlanta, Laura attended the University of Georgia, where she earned her B.S.Ed in Kinesiology with a focus on biomechanics. In her free time, Laura likes to ride mountain bikes with her husband and hike with her dog.

“I sat for the MCHES because I have appreciated my CHES certification so much. There are not many CHES-certified professionals working in policy and advocacy. The CHES Competencies help me articulate why health educators are important in that part of the public health world and how I can best contribute, given my skill set. I knew that I wanted to sit for the MCHES exam so that I could not only have evidence that I am competent at the more advanced-level Competencies and Sub-competencies, but also to refresh the skills that are required for an MCHES but which I don't use very often. Studying for the exam was a great refresher of my MPH program and a good opportunity to reinforce important skills.”



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