INAGURAL 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.

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
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

Analysis Task Forces. As the DBCHES 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.
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.
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, licenses, 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 you 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:**

American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC); How to Display Your Credentials; 2013.
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.
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, 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 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@nchec.org or visit the Web site at www.nchec.org. Nomination deadline is June 15, 2017.
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
Armin Aflaki
Lawrence Agi
Bernadette Agrazal
Akinwale Akingbule
Vena Sue Aleck
Jibi Alexander
Jonathan Alexander
Ayeshia Ali
Anna Alikhani
Ashley Allen
Jordyn Allen
Kelsey Allen
Carisa Almquist
Evelyn Alvarez
Clare Alvey
Sara Ammini-Rad
Syvil Amkaya
Michelle Anaba
Patricia Anafo
Nkemdim Anaoko
Sophie Andar
Eboni Anderson
Nicole Anderson
Jennifer Anglin
Aliyah Ansari
Ashley Anthony
Mikafui Antonio-Osebe
Kimberly Arellano
Latham Avery
Akandibka Ayelah
Aaron Bacha
Jennifer Baker
Melissa Baker
Ashton Balarin
Parinitha
Balasubramanyam
Amanda Balido
Sheila Bannister
Kathleen Barcena
Kirstie Basal
Hannah Bascomb
Kim Baskette
Justine Baumann
Abigail Beausir
Cathryn Beeman
Biliesha Belvitt
Krisztina Beni
Victoria Bennett
Carson Benowitz-Fredericks
Alyssa Berdnik
Elizabeth Bergum
Rosemarie Bernabe
Courtney Bishop
Aditya Bissoonauth
Lisa Blackwell
Shanique Blackwell
Brigid Blazek
Brianne Bostian
Jayla Bostic
Katherine Bourne
Desarae Bradham
Hannah Brantley
Emily Brasser
Sarah Brauneis
Amanda Bravo
Tiffany Brellinski-Long
Sarah Briley
Karla Brito Gonzalez
Courtney Brittain
Erika Bro
Megan Broekemeier
Sarah Brown
Siobhan Brown
LeeAnne Brummer
Brittany Bryan
Gannon Brzoska
Jordan Buckley
Quincy Budell
Courtney Bueler
Valerie Burkart
Kaitlyn Burns
Allison Burrell
Jacqueline Burris
Wanda Burton
Amanda Busack
Christopher Calabrese
Alexandra Calloway
Ezmeralda Cantu
Courtney Carlson
Jessica Carpenter
Leah Carrillo
Megan Carroll
Molly Carroll
Nicole Carter
Valentina Castaldo
Joseph Ryan Castro
Julianne Catania-Guzik
Carlie Catolico
Yikeyia Chandler
Quintunya Chapman-Hamilton
Raisa Charles-Willcock
Harmanpreet Chauhan
Emily Cheak
Ashley Clark
Dannie Claycomb
Emily Clyatt
Celine Coleman
Cynthia Coleman
Kayla Confer
Karina Cordova
Clayton Cowart
Emily Cox
Felicia Cox
Felicia Crosson
Jordan Cuby
Brynne Curtis
Christopher Curtis
Taylor Dailey
Anjuli Dasika
Colleen Dawson
Leslie Dawson
Natalie Dayton
Kirk Decker
Patrice DeLeon
Rachna Desai
Erin Devereaux
Traci Dews
Ashley Diamond
Cynthia Diaz
Mary Duckett
Malasha Duncan
Sara Duran
Allexia Durant
Katherine Earle
Shawna Edgerson
Christina Eldrenkamp
Riham Elkashef
Katherine Elkins
Obi-erhor Emofovwah
Jess Engelken
Sandra Enniss
Theresa Eury
Samantha Eussen
Oluwatunmise Falana
Danielle Falck
Amy Fehrenbach
Nadine Ferlazzo
Bradley Fevrier
Nathan Fleming
Sandy Flores
Rachel Fogleman
Mariah Fortman
Brenda Foster
Lisa Foster
Janide Frais
Rachel Franklin
Laura Freeman
Samantha Frick
Caitlin Fritz
Madeline Fromm
Marisa Fullgrapp
Lindsey Fulton
Daniela Fumu
Ruth Gallego
Rebecca Gamble
Camille Garcia
Devan Gardner
Katarina Gardner
Sara Gardner
Mekhala Garvin
Rikiksha Gilmore-Byrd
Gia Gilmour
Ashley Glass
Jennifer Glassman
Semin Goins
Halle Goldner
Carolina Gonzalez
Latisha Gonzalez
Whitney Gorsgner
Ibel Grace
Sarah Graver
Kristine Greener
Aaron Grober
Corrie Groesbeck
Alison Grooms
Michelle Guerra
Haley Guiffrda
Katie Guthmiller
Shenna Hair
Jean Hall
Jena Hallmark
Randii Harrald
Destiny Harris
Michelle Harris
Sophia Hauri
Emma-Lee Hefton
Rachel Helgeson
Aimee Herrington
Bethany Hicks
Michelle Hicks
Lawrence Hill
Sydney Hill
Veronica Hill
Haley Hines
La’Tesha Hinton
Hannah Hoeffner
Ashlee Hoffman
Faith Hoffman
Emily Holbrook
Polley Howell
Evan Hudson
Caprice Hunt
Cassie Hunt
Emma Hunter
Marcie Hunter
Tabitha Hurley
Evi Hyman
Latasha Hyman
Pamela Icochea Calenzani
Amanda Ivarra
Jasmine Jack
Shakita Jenkins
Michael Jenkins, Jr.
Katherine Jensen
Celia Jewell
Lia Jiannine
Diego Jimenez
Annette Johnson
Janay Johnson
Joan Johnson
Lacey Johnson
LaNita Johnson
Maya Jolley
Abigail Jones
NCHEC WELCOMES NEW CHES – FALL 2016

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

To view the NCHEC News online, visit: www.nchec.org/nchec-news-bulletins

Spring 2017
Robert J Bensley
German Blanco
Kellie J Brunner
Alicia P Cambron
Melissa R Cammack
Laura L Colbert
Sarah J Cousins
Julie W. G. Dalton
Christine L Davis
Craig Demmer
Roshni B Devchand
Crystal T Dixon
Sarah M Eustice
Sarah L Fowler
Jatunn Gibson
Elisabeth Gildemontes
Stacy E. Goddard
Heather L Green
Sydney Griffin
Lillie M Hall
Kathryn E Hansen
Kim Kato
Elizabeth I Kennedy
Tanya M Kory
Deanna M Krautner
Bianca I La Chaux
Lindsey W Lee
Ryan Lindner
Shanna R Livermore
Claudia L Mata
Shondra R McCage
Jennifer L McCalley
Heather M McCann
Kelly K McLaughlin
Joshua T Phifer
Jean M Pierson
Paul W Pitts
William H Potts-Datema
Saida A. Sanchez
Debra J Smith
Jennifer E Starr
Shaina Tinsey
Edenn M Vidrio
Janet R Weatherly
Elizabeth Williams Mays
Christina M Yongue
Elizabeth A Zacharias

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.”
Computer-based Testing is Coming!
Implementation Date: October 2018 • www.nchec.org/CBT

National Commission for
Health Education Credentialing, Inc.
1541 Alta Drive, Suite 303
Whitehall, PA 18052
Phone: (888) 624 - 3248
Fax: (800) 813 - 0727
Web site: www.nchec.org

NCHEC STAFF
Executive Director
Linda Lysoby, MS, MCHES, CAE
llysoby@nchec.org • ext. 13
Deputy Executive Director
Melissa Opp, MPH, MCHES
mopp@nchec.org • ext. 11
Credentialing Project Specialist
Cynthia Kusorobor - Narh, MPH, MCHES
narh@nchec.org • ext. 16
Continuing Education Coordinator
Melissa Schnell
mschnell@nchec.org • ext. 14
Exam Coordinator/Office Manager
Tanya Cole
tcole@nchec.org • ext. 12
Financial Coordinator
Lisa Petrone
lpetrone@nchec.org • ext. 15
Communications Specialist
Jessica Wessner
jwessner@nchec.org • ext. 10
Administrative Coordinator
Mimi Byelick
mbyelick@nchec.org • ext. 18

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Executive Officers 2017
Kerry Redican, MPH, PhD, CHES (2014-2018)
(Chair, DBPPP)
Kathy Janes Junkins, BSN, M.Ed, MCHES (2016-2020)
(Vice-Chair, At-large)
Jill Clutter PhD, MCHES (2016-2017)
(Secretary, DBCHES)
(Treasurer, At-large)
Dixie Dennis, MS, PhD, MCHES (2014-2018)
(Immediate Past Chair, At-large)

Commissioners
(At-large)
Larry Williams, PhD, MSW (2017-2019)
(Public Member)
Kathleen Allison, PhD, MPH, MCHES (2017-2018)
(DBCHES)
Chesley Cheatham, M.Ed, BS, MCHES (2014-2018)
(DBPPP)
Nicole Lindsay, MPH, BS, MCHES (2017-2018)
(DBPPP)
Carolyn Rodgers, PhD, MPH, MHS, MCHES (2017-2018)
(DBPPP)

Division Board for Certification of Health Education Specialists
Kathleen Allison, PhD, MPH, MCHES, Coordinator
Jill Clutter, PhD, MCHES, Vice-Coordinator
Christine Abarca, MPH, MCHES
Brian Gordon, MA, PhD, MCHES
Amy S. Hedman, PhD, MCHES, CWWS, CCP
Dianne Kerr, PhD, MCHES
Melody Yarbrough Knight, PhD, RN, MCHES
Susan Nyanzi, DrPH, MPH, MCHES
Marietta Orlowski, PhD, MCHES, CPH
Shana Pack, MS, MCHES
Darlene Saunders, PhD, MPH, MCHES

Division Board for Professional Preparation and Practice
Kerry Redican, MPH, PhD, CHES, Coordinator
Carolyn Rodgers, PhD, MPH, MHS, MCHES, Vice-Coordinator
Gwyn Ashcom, MPH, MCHES
Dawn Bleyenburg, MS, MCHES
Kadi Bliss, PhD, CHES
Kelly Miller, PhD, MPH, CHES
Alicia Carranza, MPH, MCHES

Division Board for Professional Development
Chesley Cheatham, M.Ed, BS, MCHES, Coordinator
Nicole Lindsay, MPH, BS, MCHES, Vice-Coordinator
Davonda Brown, M.Ed, CHES
Shontelle Dixon, MPH, CHES
Karen Stewart, MPH, MCHES
Jennifer Taylor, DHEd, MPH, MCHES
Nigel Thomas, Ed.D, MPH, MCHES

Editorial Board
Editor – Melissa Opp, MPH, MCHES, NCHEC
Copy Editors – Jessica Wessner, NCHEC
Emily Tyler, MPH, RHEd, RCHES, Former NCHEC Commissioner