As we usher in a new year, we face many new challenges, but we also see new opportunities for positive growth. Our roles and responsibilities are changing, but we in public health always find a way to rise to the challenges and adapt. We are constantly moving forward, as evidenced by our transition into electronic health records. No matter what challenges we face, or changes that occur, public health continues to thrive.

As always, AIPHA continues to play a major role in the enrichment and continuing education of public health employees, and this year will be no different. This year our annual education conference will be April 4-6, 2018, at the Montgomery Marriott Prattville Hotel & Conference Center at Capitol Hill in Prattville. AIPHA Vice President Melanie Dickens and her planning committee have done a wonderful job of assembling great speakers and topics which will certainly make this one of the best conferences ever. On behalf of the Alabama Public Health Association board of directors, we would like to thank you in advance for joining us.

I have enjoyed my time on the executive board of AIPHA and I plan to be active in this great organization for many years to come. I encourage anyone that is not a member of AIPHA to join this great organization. AIPHA offers opportunities for scholarships, training, continuing education, and networking that are unsurpassed.

I wish you all the best in 2018 and the years to come!

Kimberly Gordon, LICSW
President
Alabama Public Health Association
The Alabama Public Health Association (AIPHA) has opened registration for its 2018 Annual Conference, set for April 4-6 at the Montgomery Marriott Prattville Hotel & Conference Center at Capitol Hill in Prattville. Registration information is now available at alphassoc.org/conference.

This year’s conference carries the theme “Navigating the River of Health,” and features sessions and speakers covering a wide variety of health care topics. The agenda is still being finalized, but a tentative list of sessions includes:

• “The Opioid Epidemic and Determinants of Infant Mortality in Alabama”
• “Electronic Cigarettes and Public Health”
• “Lessons in Cultural Humility: The LGBTQ Client”
• “How to Deal with Difficult People”

The future of health records and reporting will also be topics of discussion, including sessions on Electronic Health Data and the Alabama Violent Death Reporting System.

The conference will kick off at 1 p.m. on April 4 with a session led by AIPHA President Kimberly Gordon, Alabama Department of Public Health East Central District Administrator Richard Burleson, State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris, American Public Health Association representative Dr. Joseph Telfair, and Southern Health Association President Dr. Georgia Heise.

Traditionally, AIPHA holds an awards ceremony during the conference to honor individuals for their outstanding service in public health. Among the awards that will be presented this year are:

• The D.G. Gill Award for exceptional contributions to public health in Alabama;
• The Anne M. Smith Excellence in Public Health Nursing Award; and
• The Ira L. Myers Award for excellence and achievement toward the promotion and protection of public health.

The cost of registering for the conference is $160 per person; students and retirees can register for $80 per person. Attendees can make room reservations at the Montgomery Marriott Prattville Hotel & Conference Center at Capitol Hill by calling 1-800-228-9290 or 334-290-1235, or by using the dedicated reservation link at alphassoc.org/conference.

AIPHA dates back to 1924, when a group of health care professionals from across Alabama met for the first time to discuss public health issues. Periodic state meetings evolved into the Public Health Workers Conference, which became an annual event in the late 1940s. In the 1950s, AIPHA was formed, and the first AIPHA/Public Health Workers joint conference was held in 1957 in Birmingham. AIPHA is an affiliate of the American Public Health Association, the national voice of public health.

JOIN THE ALABAMA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

AIPHA is an association of individuals and organizations working to improve the public’s health. It promotes the scientific and professional foundation of public health practice and policy, advocates for the conditions for people to achieve their maximum health, emphasizes prevention and supports endeavors that protect and promote the health of the people of Alabama.

The goals of AIPHA are to:

• Promote excellence in public health practices that are based on national public health standards and science-based evidence.
• Strengthen, advance and support the activities and infrastructures of the organization.
• Provide membership benefits, services and opportunities that enhance core competencies and celebrate achievements.

Membership Benefits:

• Continuing education programs featuring nationally recognized lecturers and speakers at the Annual Meeting & Conference and other seminars.
• Opportunities for networking among peers through discipline-oriented Section membership groups.
• Eligibility for awards and recognition for outstanding and innovative work in Public Health.
• Scholarship opportunities for students in advanced degree programs.

Dues:

• Individual Dues: $24
• Corporate Dues: $350
• Student Membership: $5

You can include a check for your dues along with your enrollment form, or you can now pay instantly and securely online through Paypal.
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**ALPHA NEW/RENEWAL APPLICATION FORM**

Email ____________________________________________
(primary communication is achieved electronically)

Name (as appears on payroll) ____________________________________________

AlPHA Name (If Different) ___________________________ Work Phone __________

Agency/Organization __________________________________________ Area/County __________

Agency Mailing Address __________________________________________

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<th>Street/PO Box</th>
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Membership Type |

- [ ] Full Time Student $5.00
- [ ] Individual $24.00
- [ ] Corporate $350.00

- [ ] New Member  [ ] Renewal

PLEASE CHECK HERE! I would like payroll deduction. _______ (ADPH employees only, $2.00 per month)

Signature __________________________________________

Social Security #_________ - _____ - ____________ (SSN needed only for members selecting payroll deduction.)

![ALPHA Logo](image)

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