Quarterly Newsletter

**Event/Education Highlight:**

Bowling Green State University (BGSU) hosted their annual Public and Allied Health Symposium on April 9, 2021. The Symposium was completely virtual and featured the Ned E. Baker keynote speaker Dr. Damon Tweedy, author of the best-selling book “Black Man in a White Coat”. Six breakout sessions were offered to attendees and showcased a diverse lineup of speakers including Julia Applegate (Equitas Health Institute), Glennon Sweeny (Ohio State), Michelle Cardel (University of Florida), Tamara Melton (Diversity Dietetics), Suzanne Goetz (BGSU), and Bernadette Williams-York (University of Washington).

The Symposium was themed “Bridging health through diversity, equity and inclusion” and aimed to highlight disparities faced by persons of color within the health care system, how race-based healthcare inequity has changed over time, and what we can be do today to foster inclusive practices. Breakout sessions covered novel public health approaches to serving the LGBTQ+ community, building community/university partnerships for population health transformation, eradicating social determinants of obesity and related diseases, the importance of diversity training for every healthcare practitioner, the effects of stress and burnout among underrepresented students within the graduate health professional programs, and how to forge greater awareness of cultural diversity in allied health professions.

The Symposium, offering continuing education credits, attracted over 300 health professionals and was rated highly by the attendees who were primarily composed of registered dieticians, health educators, local public health professionals, hospital employees, and college students/faculty from northwest Ohio.

Next year’s BGSU Public & Allied Health Symposium is tentatively scheduled for April 1, 2022 with the title “Are we there yet? Resiliency, unity, and the ‘new normal’”. Please mark your calendar and plan to join the conversation.

**Save the Date!**

The Ohio Overdose Prevention Network presents the training series “Communities of Care: Developing Person-Centered Systems.” Three trainings sessions on health equity, peer support integration and overdose prevention will be held on August 24, 26 and 31 starting at 12 p.m.

Please share with colleagues and partners.
**Member Update:**

Sheronda Whitner—I am eager to announce my transition at the Ohio Department of Health, into the Maternal & Infant Wellness Team as the Health Planning Administrator 2, which took place on January 4, 2021. I love the opportunity to grow, innovate, and expand the Infant Wellness Programs. My most recent position was as a Public Health Vision Consultant for the Children's Vision Program facilitating the requirements and guidelines for school-based preschool and K - 12.

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**Event/Education Highlight:**

This spring, we hosted our PreBurn event that includes a virtual 5K, and tee-shirt campaign in honor of Mental Health Awareness Month. Folks have the option to complete the virtual 5K (with or without tee shirt) or purchase the tee shirt. Those completing the 5K can complete it all at once, or complete it more like a wellness challenge by completing it over several sessions. Tee shirts are still available through June 30th if anyone would like to purchase one.

For more info: [https://namiwoodcounty.org/preburn-virtual-5k/](https://namiwoodcounty.org/preburn-virtual-5k/)