



Hot on the Hill

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| New Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data Released | 2 |
| CDC Releases "Vital Signs" | 3 |
| Putting Data and Innovation to Work | 3 |
| New "Policy Opportunities Tool" | 4 |
| Updates from the States | 4 |

Child Nutrition Bill Approved by Committee; Includes Funding for Nutrition Education



On July 15, Rep. the House Education and Labor Committee approved the Improving Nutrition for America's Children Act ([H.R. 5504](#)). The bill would: add six cents for each school lunch that meets federal standards and a half a cent per lunch to fund nutrition education, bringing the total per lunch to \$2.745 (Sec. 207, bottom of page 111); allow for "express lane" enrollment of Medicaid and S-CHIP eligible children; promote local foods in school; establish nutrition standards for foods sold outside of the cafeteria; and support nutrition education.

The current [Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004](#) is set to expire on September 30, 2010. If Congress does not pass either Rep. Miller's bill or Sen. Blanche Lincoln's *Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010* ([S. 3307](#)), it will have to pass an extension to continue current funding. Please check back with SOPHE for updates on forthcoming hearings and votes before the House Agriculture and Education and Labor Committees.

Robert Wood Johnson, George Washington University Launch Website to Track Health Reform Implementation

The [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) and the [Hirsh Health Law and Policy Program](#) of the George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services recently launched *HealthReformGPS* (<http://www.healthreformgps.org/>), a website designed to track implementation of [H. R. 3590](#), the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, and its companion bill [H.R. 4872](#), the Health Care

and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.

The website will cover announcements by HHS, state-level implementation, legal challenges, and provide updates as provisions take effect. The website also has a Twitter account:

<http://twitter.com/healthreformgps>

Get Involved!

- Stay up to date by reading your local paper or visiting a national news outlet webpage
- Visit your Member of Congress and let them know about your work as a health educator and SOPHE's work nationally
- Encourage others to join SOPHE and participate in SOPHE advocacy events and activities

Obesity Rates Increase Across America

Adult obesity rates increased in 28 states in the past year, and declined only in the District of Columbia (D.C.), according to *F as in Fat: How Obesity Threatens America's Future 2010*, a report from the Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. More than two-thirds of states (38) have adult obesity rates above 25 percent. In 1991, no state had an obesity rate above 20 percent. The 10 fattest states are (in order): MS, AL, TN, WV, LA, OK, KY, AR, SC, NC and MI (tie for 10th). View the report at: <http://healthyamericans.org/reports/obesity2010/>.



A new YRBS data widget web tool helps partners share YRBS results quickly and conveniently via their website. It's customizable to present youth risk behavior data specific to their location. Downloaded the widget at: www.cdc.gov/widgets.

CDC Releases 2009 Youth Health Data

On June 3, CDC released the 2009 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) and launched new tools along with the results. The enhanced YRBS Youth Online system provides quick access to comprehensive YRBS data from 1991 to 2009—covering more than 2.5 million high school students—on youth dietary behaviors; physical activity; obesity; behaviors that can lead to unintentional injuries and violence; tobacco use; alcohol and other drug use; asthma; and sexual risk behaviors. Youth Online is accessible at www.cdc.gov/yrbs; select Youth Online (<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline>) under “Comprehensive Results.”

From Research to Policy: Lessons from a Community Guide Review on Alcohol-impaired Driving

Laws to reduce the blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of drivers save lives. A new case study from the CDC and the Guide to Community Preventive Services examines translating this evidence into policy. Published as part of a series of case studies in the June issue of the *Annals of Epidemiology*, this case study describes the Community Guide's scientific processes and collaborative efforts that contributed to the passage of legislation that led to all 50 states adopting 0.08% BAC laws. It is estimated that these laws save 500 lives in the United States each year.

Lessons from the case study highlight the value for translating evidence into policy of:

- Clearly outlining the relationships between health problems, interventions and outcomes
- Systematically assessing and synthesizing the evidence
- Using a credible group and rigorous process to assess the evidence
- Having an impartial body make specific policy recommendations on the basis of the evidence



- Being ready to capitalize on briefly opening policy windows
- Undertaking personalized, targeted, and compelling dissemination of the evidence and recommendations
- Engaging key partners and stakeholders throughout the production and dissemination of the evidence and recommendations
- Involving multiple stakeholders in encouraging uptake and adherence of policy recommendations
- Addressing sustainability

Visit to read more about this recommendation and related findings, visit: <http://www.thecommunityguide.org/mvoi/AD/BAC-laws.html>

CDC Launches Data Trends and Maps Website

On June 1, CDC released the National Cardiovascular Disease Surveillance System (NCVDSS) Data Trends & Maps Website, which provides access to national, state, and regional data on cardiovascular disease trends. NCVDSS brings together multiple indicators from a variety of existing national, state, and local data sources to present a more complete picture of cardiovascular diseases and

associated risk factors in the U.S. Tracking heart disease, stroke, and their risk factors is essential to the planning, implementation, and evaluation of heart disease and stroke prevention programs and policies. The data can be used to monitor trends and patterns, set research priorities, monitor quality of care and patient outcomes, identify underserved populations, and plan the placement of

services. New data sources and indicators will be added to the website each February and August. CDC is also working to incorporate other existing data sources such as behavioral risk factors, environmental indicators, Medicare, emergency medical services, registries, and data from cohort studies. To access the website, visit: http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/NCVDSS_DTM

What is Preemption? What Advocates Need to Know

Many public health policy leaders and advocates may not know it, but the legal concept known as preemption has tremendous impact on their work - and those who don't fully understand how preemption works can inadvertently undermine their own efforts.

In a nutshell, preemption is what happens when one level of government has the authority to keep a lower level of government from regulating a certain issue. A new state law addressing indoor secondhand smoke, for instance, might preempt local governments from passing restrictions on secondhand smoke in outdoor areas, hindering policy innovation and control at the local level.

The National Policy & Legal Analysis Network to Prevent Childhood Obesity (NPLAN), a project of Public Health Law & Policy (PHLP), has just produced new resources to help advocates better understand preemption and how to handle it. These new tools outline the different types of preemption, the potential consequences and show advocates how to spot and negotiate preemption when it appears in a proposed law. To view the fact sheets, visit: http://www.nplanonline.org/childhood-obesity/products/preemption_fact_sheets

CDC's [State Indicator Report on Physical Activity 2010](http://www.cdc.gov/physical-activity/downloads/PA_State_Indicator_Report_2010.pdf) Report Highlights States' Abilities to Support Physical Activity. To access the report, visit: http://www.cdc.gov/physical-activity/downloads/PA_State_Indicator_Report_2010.pdf

Putting Data and Innovation to Work to Help Communities and Consumers Improve Health

HHS recently launched an initiative to make federally generated community health data widely available to the public in easily accessible and useful formats.

Secretary Sebelius and Institute of Medicine (IOM) President Harvey Fineberg, MD, announced the initiative during IOM's Community Health Data Forum in

Washington. HHS by year-end will implement a new Health Indicators Warehouse providing online access to HHS data on national, state, regional and county health performance. Data will include such indicators as rates of smoking, obesity, diabetes, access to healthy food and utilization of health care services.

The warehouse also will include best practices on improving performance for specific indicators. Users can access some or all of the data at no cost and integrate it into their own Web sites and applications.

More information is available at <http://www.hhs.gov/open/datasets/communityhealthdata.html>

Michelle Obama Announces Childhood Obesity Report



On May 11, First Lady Michelle Obama released the findings of the White House Task Force on Childhood Obesity. President Obama created the task force to

report on strategies and policies to reduce childhood obesity rates. A dozen federal agencies, including the Education, Agriculture, Health, Interior and Transportation departments, participated in the Childhood Obesity Task Force.

Among the 70 recommendations made by the Task Force are for women to maintain a healthy weight during pregnancy; breastfeeding; updated federal nutritional standards for meals served at school; more school-based nutrition education; and incentives to attract supermarkets to underserved areas. To download the full report, visit:

<http://www.letsmove.gov/obesitytaskforce.php>.

CDC Releases *Vital Signs*

On July 6, CDC released the first issue of *CDC Vital Signs*, a new monthly release that will provide timely, high impact, and data-driven prevention information. The new project will link science, policy, and communications to create a call-to-action. Each month, *CDC Vital Signs* will provide the most recent, comprehensive data on one of twelve key indicators of important health topics. These are cancer prevention, tobacco use, alcohol use, access to health care, HIV/AIDS, motor vehicle passenger safety, health care-associated infections, cardiovascular health, teen pregnancy and infant mortality, asthma, and food safety. To access *Vital Signs*, visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/>

Updates from the States



SOPHE is pleased to present the latest updates from the states on chronic disease prevention and health promotion policy from our 2010 Health Promotion Policy Experts (HPPEs)!

New York

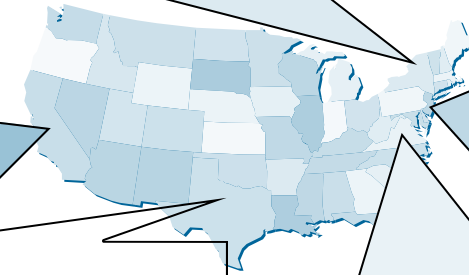
NY could become the first state to prohibit the use of indoor tanning beds by minors under the age of 18. Bills are pending in the Senate and Assembly Codes Committees, having cleared both Health committees with strong bi-partisan majorities.

New Jersey

In April 2010, the state of New Jersey acknowledged World Autism Awareness Day. Governor Christie pledged to improve the partnership between the public and private sectors to aid children with autism. In addition, U.S. Senator Robert Menendez and U.S. Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. noted that the recently passed health insurance reform bill will provide coverage for New Jersey families for behavioral health treatments impacted by autism...

California

- On May 27, 2010, the state senate voted 21-11 in favor of Senate Bill 1255. This bill would prohibit sales of sugar-sweetened sports drinks in public middle and high schools...
- California received \$55.1 million to combat the obesity and tobacco problem...



Texas

HPV Vaccine: [HB 2220](#) Would allow the Executive Commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission to require immunization against human papillomavirus or other immunizations for a person's admission to elementary or secondary school. (In committee 3/17/09)

Chronic Disease: Some bills were passed this past session concerning the recognition of Heart Disease and Diabetes:

- The Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, encourages all Texans to observe the week of May 10 through 16, 2009, as National Women's Health Week in Texas.
- Diabetes Self Management Pilot Program: Creates a diabetes self-management training pilot program for State Medicaid participants...

Virginia

- There are nearly two dozen provisions for dental care in the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act and ten dental provisions secured in the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act. Many of the resources provided in these two initiatives will be directed toward prevention programs.
- Virginia is participating with the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and Head Start to secure a national network of dentists to create dental homes for Head Start children. Training sessions in dental care for young children will be held later this year for interested dental team members.

To read more updates from our HPPEs in these states and others, visit:

<http://www.sophe.org/chronicdiseasepolicy/update.asp>

Health Reform Helps Millions with Chronic Conditions

Interactive Map Shows State-by-State Prevalence of Asthma, Diabetes, and High Blood Pressure

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/06/chronic_conditions.html

American Academy of Pediatrics— "Policy Opportunities Tool"

"The *Policy Opportunities Tool* is designed to showcase the various policy strategies that support healthy active living for children and families. This tool is designed for healthcare professionals who have experience in advocacy and are interested in focusing their advocacy efforts on obesity prevention."

http://www.aap.org/obesity/matrix_1.html



Save these Dates!

SOPHE Summer Webinar Series

Join us throughout the summer for these free online events covering an array of public health topics. For details & registration, visit:

www.sophe.org/summerwebinarsseries.cfm

SOPHE 61th Annual Meeting

Healthy People 2020: Scaling New Heights
November 4-6, 2010

Denver Marriott City Center Hotel, Denver, CO

For details, visit: www.sophe.org/annualmeeting.cfm

18th Annual NALBOH Conference

Call for Presentations

Journey to the Future: Facing Public Health Challenges Today for a Healthier Tomorrow
August 5-7, 2010

Omaha, Nebraska

For details, visit:

http://www.nalboh.org/NALBOH_Conference.htm

APHA 138th Annual Meeting

Social Justice: A Public Health Imperative
November 6-10, 2010

Denver, CO

For details, visit: <http://www.apha.org/meetings/>



SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC
HEALTH EDUCATION

10 G Street, NE, Suite 605
Washington, DC 20002,

Phone: 202-408-9804
Fax: 202-408-9815
E-mail: info@sophe.org