



Business Leadership Network

Network News and Notes

March 2019



At the University of Iowa College of Public Health, we understand that our work is very place based; it happens out in the "real world" where people live and work. We also recognize the mutual benefits that might come about through collaborative relationships with communities and businesses around the state. We invite you to keep in touch with us through these quarterly messages and through our initiatives around the state.

- Edith Parker, Dean

BLN Spring Community Forum – Centerville

Join the Business Leadership Network at our spring community forum in Centerville, IA.

Topics to be discussed include:



- Low-cost strategies for employers to implement in the workplace to keep their employees healthy and productive.
- Inspiring kids to lead healthy lives through eating right, staying active, and setting goals.

The forum is free to attend and lunch will be provided.

For [more information and to register](#) to attend the forum.

VIDEO: BLN Community Grant Recipient Spotlight



The college's Business Leadership Network (BLN) Community Grant project supports public health-related initiatives that build collaborations and support community well-being. Check out a [short video](#) in which two of the 2018 grant recipients, Muscatine Center for Social Action in Muscatine and Living Proof Exhibit in Davenport, describe how these grants have helped their programs. [Watch the video here.](#)

VIDEO: Reduce Exposures to Workplace Hazards



The Healthier Workforce Center of the Midwest recently released an educational video that provides safety and health-related examples of using the hierarchy of controls to reduce exposures to workplace hazards. [Watch the video here.](#)

Upcoming Conferences



Occupational Health

March 28-29, Cedar Rapids, IA

The Heartland Center for Occupational Health and Safety's conference will discuss FMLA/ADA regulations and changes, hiring and safety for employees with disabilities, OSHA updates for 2019, Workers compensation law updates, Total Worker Health, a presentation from Vermeer on the lessons learned after a tornado hit their plant in Pella last July.

For [more information and to register](#).



Supporting Employee Mental Health

May 14 – Ames, IA

The Healthiest State Initiative is holding a conference on cultivating workplaces that better support an employee's mental health. The conference will be held on May 14th in Ames, IA.

For [more information and to register](#).

The UI College of Public Health in the News

Researchers examine link between minimum wage, long-term health

A new study led by George Wehby, CPH professor of health management and policy, will examine whether children's health can be positively affected by an increase in their parents' minimum wage.

UI CPH student, alum create app to help with public speaking

CPH alumnus Nico Aguilar and current CPH student Anthony Pham have created an app called 'Speeko' to help people improve their public speaking skills. "We believe that communication is not just a talent, it's a skill," said Aguilar. "It's something that you can improve, and that improving this can change your life."

UI research finds no health hazards from wind turbines

New research looked at the public health impact of wind turbines and found little evidence they're harming neighbors. Studies found sound from wind turbines may be annoying, but they "have established no adverse health effects," said CPH professor Peter Thorne.

Students create community campaign addressing mental health

The Health Communication Campaigns course in the College of Public Health, fosters unique collaborations by exploring a single issue from a variety of angles. In the fall semester, students worked with community partners in Fairfield, Iowa, to create campaigns addressing the issue of mental health in the community.

Rural Restaurant Healthy Options toolkit now available

A healthy options toolkit for rural restaurants that was developed by researchers at the University of Iowa College of Public Health's Prevention Research Center helps customers make positive food choices by raising awareness of healthy menu options. This cost-effective intervention targets small owner-operated rural restaurants.

Iowa ranked among nation's top public health programs

The University of Iowa College of Public Health was ranked #19 among 177 public health schools and programs in the latest U.S. News Rankings, and the college's Department of Health Management and Policy and its Master of Health Administration program climbed to #8 among health care management programs.

Questions or comments? Contact:

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College of
Public Health