

August 1, 2023

*National Capital Area
Environmental Health
Association*

Annual Report 2022-2023

NCAEHA Objectives

- ★ To promote an association of Environmental Health Specialists and other Environmental Health practitioners
- ★ To provide an opportunity and stimulus for professional growth through educational programs
- ★ To promote high standards of qualifications and professional ethics for Environmental Health practitioners
- ★ To strive for increased recognition of Environmental Health practitioners as a professional group rendering services vital to the health and well-being of the public
- ★ To encourage cooperation between the private and public sectors in activities directed toward the improvement of public health and the environment
- ★ To promote, through educational means, public awareness of environmental factors which affect the general well-being of the populace; and to otherwise promote the objectives of the National Environmental Health Association (hereinafter known as NEHA)



*National Capital Area
Environmental Health
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President *Nicole Gragasin*



Welcome to the 2022-2023 Annual Report!

The goal of this report is to provide members with an insider view of the activities of Board members, a summary of the accomplishments for the year and a list of goals for the upcoming year. If you have any feedback regarding this report, have specific ideas on how we may better serve you, or specific ideas on how we may accomplish our 2023-2024 goals, please contact us. We'd love to hear from you, as some of our greatest ideas come straight from the membership!


At the start of the year, we held our very first IN-PERSON Conference since January 2020! Membership came together after 3 years of hosting Virtual Conferences, which we were able to provide for members despite the many tasks and duties associated with our regular work during the pandemic. Our NCAEHA VA Representative, Marcella Sikon was in charge of coordinating our Winter 2023 Educational Conference at the Fairlington Community Center in Arlington, VA on January 30th. At this conference, we welcomed almost 50 attendees and heard from speakers including the City of Alexandria Police Department on Opioid Response, the Alexandria Health Department on Public Health, Fairfax County's Fog/Wastewater Management, Wawa's Food Safety Standards, and Canine Assisted Rodent Control! In addition, we proudly installed NCAEHA's newest Board Members, including Jan Jaminal, our new VP of Membership, Caroline Friel as our Industry Liaison, and both Eva Rama and Kara Hoisington as our Directors of Communications! A successful first conference back indeed!

Next, we held our Spring 2023 Educational Conference in collaboration with the DC Department of Health on May 25th. This event was coordinated by our NCAEHA DC Representative, Amanda Barto along with our VP of Membership, Jan Jaminal of DC Health. About 30 members in attendance, we were able to learn more about the FDA Food Code and 2022 Updates, Whole Foods Food Safety Program, Environmental Noise and Hearing Loss, and held our first Open Forum Discussion on Environmental Health Implementations!

Our next Educational Conference will be held this October 26th in the Maryland area. If you have suggestions for presentation topics or would like to present at one of our conferences, please contact myself or our NCAEHA MD Representative, Erin Miller at ncaeha.md.rep@gmail.com.

Just a few weeks ago, we held our Annual Awards Dinner at Glory Days Grill at Barcroft for the second year in a row! Here, we recognized a very deserving group of individuals for their accomplishments in the Environmental Health field! Congratulations to all of our winners! We all had a wonderful time enjoying a delicious dinner by Glory Days, networking, and had fun with raffle prizes to end the night! Thank you to all those that attended! As always, we thank you for choosing to be a member of NCAEHA and appreciate your continued support for our organization. We look forward to a successful rest of the year and 2024!

Nicole Gragasin

 NCAEHA.President@gmail.com

VP of Membership

Jan Jaminial

Hello NCAEHA Member! My name is Jan Jaminial, and I am recently appointed Vice President of Membership. I would like to sincerely thank all of you for your unwavering support of our organization and the goal of enhancing environmental health and creating future environmental health professionals. We recently held our annual awards dinner on July 13, 2023, at Glory Days Grill in which we recognized and gave awards to our dedicated and talent environment health professionals.

The current project that I am embarking on is to increase the number of our student members by means of developing an environmental health mentorship program. This mentorship program will both provide an incentive for environmental students to join NCAEHA and serve as professional development for environmental health mentors.

Memberships Over the Past Three Years:

2021: 89 Current Members

2022: 86 Current Members

2023: 74 Current Members



NCAEHA.VP.Membership@gmail.com

VP of Programs and Professional Development

Amanda Coletti



I hope everyone is having a fabulous Summer! Our last few virtual conferences have been very successful with a wide variety of speakers and topics. However, this year we were able to meet in person for the first time since pre-Covid. Our 2023 Winter and Spring conferences were both in person and turned out to be very successful! We continue to remain in person for the time being. NCAEHA also hosted the 2023 Annual Awards Dinner (in person) at the Glory Days Grill in Falls Church. We had a great turnout, had delicious food, had an opportunity to connect with our peers, and celebrate our colleagues who won awards.

As your Vice President of Programs and Professional Development, I have a few ideas for the upcoming months ahead. I am going to coordinate some sort of professional development class. This could be CPO, CFPM, HACCP training, etc. In addition, Caroline (our industry liaison) and I are working together to plan a tour of some sort of public health facility. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to email me.

As always, please reach out to me or any of the Board members with conference topic ideas, possible speakers, and suggestions for educational opportunities of interest to you. Wishing you all good health and have a great rest of your Summer!

✉ NCAEHA.VP.Membership@gmail.com

Secretary

Kendra Washington



As a returning member of the board, I am proud to serve in my role as Secretary and continue to work with our other board members in a new capacity. I attend and provide record keeping for our monthly minutes to provide transparency for both our board and annual members.

Did you know that members are able to review the board planning process by taking a look at our minutes on the website? It is a great way to see how our conferences and events take shape over time, and to see other updates within the organization.

I also am happy to be able to assist our board members in planning new strategies for our seasonal meetings and outreach. During our seasonal meetings I assist with checking the chatrooms for Q&A and mail out CEUs for attending. Hopefully in the future I will be able to meet more of our members at an upcoming conference but until then, please continue to be safe and I will see you at the Awards Dinner!

✉ NCAEHA.Secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer

Julia Balsley



Treasurer's 2021-2022 Annual Report:

·Our checking account balance as if June 30, 2023, is \$7,624.70 down \$580.82.

·Our greatest expense was to Wild Apricot to maintain our NCAEHA.org website, which we just spent \$1260.72 in June for another two-year subscription. Our second is our UPS Store mailbox located in DC, which cost \$540.00.

·Our current scholarship fund \$17,957.70 is up \$135.43 from last year's report. Board Member Registration and Flight to AEC of \$1047.80 is the largest expense for this past year.

·A \$1000 will be given to the Scholarship Award Winner this month.

·Petty cash fund of \$100.00

·Checking Account, Scholarship Fund and Cash total is \$27,185.89 up \$1,098.10 from last year's report

·We hope to receive more membership and conference fees for 2023!

✉ NCAEHA.Treasurer@gmail.com

Directors of Communications

Eva Rama and Kara Hoisington





Hello NCAEHA Members! This year, we have worked together to share the role as the Director of Communications. Working collaboratively, we are responsible for overseeing all communications for the organization. This includes developing and implementing communication strategies, creating content (like this report!) across various platforms, updating NCAEHA's website, and ensuring that messaging is received on NCAEHA's latest updates and events!




Please continue to follow us on our social media accounts, including Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn. Add us using the links below.

We are excited to have been a part of the group and look forward to the rest of the year!

Don't forget to please follow us and bookmark the following:

-  www.ncaeha.org
-  www.facebook.com/ncaeha - @National Capital Area Environmental Health Association
-  www.linkedin.com/company/ncaeha---national-capital-area-environmental-health-association/
-  www.instagram.com/ncaeha_org

 ncaeha.doc@gmail.com

VA Representative

Marcella Sikon



Hello NCAEHA members! Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as the Virginia representative. My goal this year is to work collaboratively with the board and NCAEHA members to bring educational and engaging presenters to our conferences. Have a topic you would like to see at the next conference? Want to do a presentation perhaps or know someone who would? Reach out, let us bring you what you want to see at the next conference! Feel free to send your ideas to my NCAEHA email!



✉ NCAEHA.VA.Rep@gmail.com

DC Representative

Amanda Barto

I was so excited to be chosen for my role as the Washington DC Representative last year! My goals for this year include assisting with future conferences, networking more so we can continue to have interesting and diverse speakers and trying to find new ways for our members to have professional growth. Please feel free to reach out to me or another member with any ideas or comments, we would love to hear from everyone!



✉ NCAEHA.DC.Rep@gmail.com

MD Representative

Erin Miller



Hi everyone! I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your Maryland Representative. I stepped into this role as a volunteer to fill the vacancy the Board had and look forward to curating a great Fall Conference to be held for you this October.

Please feel free to reach out to myself or another member of the Board if you have any topics or presenters you'd like to see, or if you would like an opportunity to present. I look forward to seeing you all soon! Keep reading for the Save the Date!

✉ NCAEHA.MD.Rep@gmail.com

Industry Representative

Caroline Friel

Hi Everyone !

I am delighted to have the opportunity to serve as the industry representative for NCAEHA.

Washington DC is my favorite city, so I am always happy to take a road trip to attend any conferences and seminars. This also gives me a chance to connect with regulators and fellow industry members in DC, MD and VA.

I attended committee meetings this year as well as keeping an eye on the NCAEHA g-mail account for any external questions or inquiries about our organization. In January I had an opportunity to present on Wawa's food safety standards and internal audit.

My goal is to increase industry membership and keep a focus on a partnership in food safety and working together as the most progressive way forward for a safer food supply.



*James M.
Wordsworth
Scholarship*

Ilda
Bengui
Sanitarian, DC
Health

Ilda Bengui currently works as a food sanitarian at the District of Columbia Department of Health. She has worked as a lab technician for Microgen Inc. located in Rockville for over 5 years. Her passion for the health field started when caring for her sick grandfather. Since then, she started a career as a care giver and later attended nursing school in Luanda/Angola where she is originally from. Ms. Bengui is currently enlisted with the military where she will serve as a reservist, and enhance a new skill as a logistic specialist. Along with other extracurricular activities, Ms. Bengui is a member of a children's foundation where she serves as a counselor and godmother to many orphans who have lost their parents during the war in Angola. Serving the public is her passion.

*Jerrold M.
Michael Award*

Abdul Al
Monsur
Sanitarian, DC
Health

Mr. Abdul Al Monsur was born and raised in the city of Sylhet, Bangladesh. He completed his medical school degree at the College of Medicine under Shahjalal University of Science and Technology. He worked as a physician and for 8 years, worked as an Environmental Specialist in Bangladesh. Since then, he has been a Sanitarian with the Division of Food within the Health Regulation and Licensing Administration (HRLA) since June 2022. Abdul has over eight years of experience combined in both the fields of environmental health and infectious disease surveillance. I witnessed firsthand Mr. Al Monsur's dedication to environmental health and protecting the public's health when I served with him as a Sanitarian during the 2022 Africa Leader's Summit and the various special events throughout the District of Columbia. Abdul exemplifies the mission of DC Health of protecting the safety of all the residents and visitors of the District of Columbia. Mr. Al Monsur has both the knowledge and experience of not only becoming a skilled Sanitarian but also an innovator in the field of environmental health. When not at work, he enjoys spending time with family and friends and playing Cricket.

*NCAEHA
Certificate of
Merit Award*

Crystal
Lamb

Code Compliance
Investigator II,
Fairfax County
Department of
Code Compliance

Crystal Lamb's passion for the environment started at a young age having the opportunity to grow up and explore the natural amenities in the planned community of Reston, VA. She graduated with honors from Virginia Tech with a BS in Environmental Science, Land Resources concentration. After graduating, she served on the Southwest Conservation Corps, working on a crew building hiking trails along the Continental Divide. She has held positions with the NoVa Regional Park Authority as a Park Ranger, with the Prince William County Planning and Zoning Office as a Planning Technician and with the Fairfax County Department of Land Development Services as an Engineering Technician. Crystal joined the Fairfax County Health Department in 2011 as an Environmental Health Specialist (EHS). During her time there, she mentored countless new EHS, maintained a challenging caseload and served on various project teams. She was recently promoted to Code Compliance which provides her the opportunity to utilize all her experiences. She is thankful for the past and present staff of the Fairfax County Division of Environmental Health that she had the opportunity to learn from and work with.

*Environmental
Health
Innovation
Award*

Rodent
and Vector
Control
Division of
DC Health

Since the establishment of the Rodent and Vector Control Division under the leadership of Mr. Gerard Brown, they have served numerous citizens and businesses in the District of Columbia. This Division has spearheaded the innovation of the environmental health systems used by the Rodent and Vector Control, Food, and Community Hygiene divisions. The platforms that the Rodent and Vector Control Division created:

- Division of Food and Community Hygiene Online Inspection Request System
- Division of Food and Community Hygiene Online Complaint System
- Division of Food and Community Hygiene Online Performance Management System
- Division of Community Online Upholstery and Bedding Facility Online Registration System
- Rodent and Vector Control Division Online of Notice of Infraction System

The Rodent and Vector Control Division deserves this award because of its dedication to innovating the environmental and public health services they offer to all the residents and businesses in the District of Columbia.

*NCAEHA
Industry Award*

Glory
Days Grill
Inc.

Gary Cohen, Executive Vice President of Glory Days Grill Corporate is a Past State Chairman of the Virginia Restaurant Lodging and Travel Association, a long-term member of Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington and the 2022-2023 Past Chairman of Visit Fairfax Board of Directors. Glory Days Grill is a sports themed family-friendly American grill and bar that combines an award-winning menu of freshly prepared appetizer, entrees and sandwiches with entertainment that appeals to all ages. Many locations have private rooms and patios available for parties and events. Each restaurant has an abundance of televisions to watch the big game, news, cartoons or just about anything that's worth watching, along with the latest interactive games. Glory Days has graciously hosted the NCAEHA Annual Awards Dinner for the past two years.

*NCAEHA
Members of the
Year*

DC
Sharon Cave, Sanitarian, DC Health
Recent Years of Active Membership: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 Recent Events Attended: Winter 2023 Educational Conference

MD
Alan Heck, Retired
Recent Years of Active Membership: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
Recent Events Attended:
Fall 2020 Virtual Educational Conference, Spring 2021 Virtual Educational Conference, Fall 2021 Virtual Educational Conference, Winter 2022 Virtual Educational Conference, Spring 2022 Virtual Educational Conference, Spring 2023 Educational Conference

VA
Tilde Hoff, Environmental Health Specialist II, Fairfax HD
Recent Years of Active Membership: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
Recent Events Attended: Winter 2020 Virtual Educational Conference, Fall 2021 Virtual Educational Conference, Winter 2022 Virtual Educational Conference, Fall 2022 Virtual Educational Conference, Winter 2023 Virtual Educational Conference, Spring 2023 Educational Conference

SAVE *the* DATE

NCAEHA 2023 FALL
EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

10.26.23

MARYLAND

Seeking: Conference Speakers

Do you have any speaker interest/recommendations for our next conference? If so, we'd love your suggestions!

Contact me at ncaeha.md.rep@gmail.com

✉ NCAEHA.MD.Rep@gmail.com