

# Emory Public Health Training Center

## Emory University Rollins School of Public Health



### **Overview**

- The mission of the Emory PHTC is to be a learning community that will build competence in the current and future public health workforce, expose public health students to the value of working in underserved areas, and advocate for public health systems and policies.
- The geographic region covered by the Emory PHTC is the state of Georgia.
- The activities of the Emory PHTC address three target audiences:
  - public health students;
  - public health practitioners; and
  - Boards of Health members.

### **Key Activities**

- Pathways to Practice: Comprehensive field placement program for public health students whereby they can work on behalf of medically underserved populations and communities throughout the year:
  - Learning and Practice Program: occurs during academic year
  - Summer Internship Program: occurs during summer
  - Collaborative Practice Program: short-term (about four weeks) that occurs throughout the year
  - Pathways to Practice Conference: Semi-annual event where field placement students showcase their experiences.
- Models of Excellence Lecture Series: Live, webcast, and archived webcast competency-based lecture series for current public health workforce.
- Public Health Practice Academy: Series of four, two-day competency-based courses for current public health workforce.
- Board of Health (BOH) Needs Assessment and Training: Competency-based training needs assessment was conducted with county BOH members and one day training was developed and disseminated.
- Training Needs Assessment developed and disseminated jointly with the University of Georgia PHTC.
- Advisory Board convened jointly with the University of Georgia PHTC.

### **Public Health in Action**



MPH students learn about field placement opportunities.

## **Impact on Public Health Workforce**

### **Field Placements:**

- For summer 2011, posted 13 field placement positions in nine different agencies. Received 65 applications and eventually placed nine students.
- Communities served by these placements include: homeless living in urban setting and at risk for TB infection; urban neighborhoods with predominantly poor, African Americans including children, homeless and senior citizens; children and adults residing in rural Georgia; Georgia residents with brain and/or spinal cord injuries and limited financial means; Asian immigrant and refugee communities; uninsured population living at or below 200% of the poverty level; and adolescents at risk for pregnancy and teen mothers with limited support and resources.

### **Models of Excellence Lecture Series:**

- Over 200 individuals attended the three-lecture series. Topics included: a social media approach to reducing methamphetamine use; public/private partnerships addressing the problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children in Georgia; and findings from an 80-year longitudinal study on health and longevity.
- The majority of respondents indicated they gained either a fair amount or great deal of knowledge about the topic(s). Other comments centered on increased awareness and practical application.

Training Needs Assessment: Results from the training needs assessment were received from each of the 159 counties in Georgia.

## **Key Partners**

- County and District health departments in Georgia
- Georgia Department of Public Health
- Georgia Public Health Association
- University of Georgia's PHTC
- Agencies representing underserved communities including: The Center for Pan Asian Community Services; Good Samaritan Health Center; Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention; Community Health Works; Emmaus House; Brain and Spinal Injury Trust Fund Commission; CDC

## **Leadership**

**Principal Investigator: Kathleen R. Miner, PhD, MPH, MCHES**

**Co-Principal Investigator: Melissa (Moose) Alperin, MPH, MCHES**

**Emory PHTC**

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# HRSA Public Health Training Centers



The Health Resources and Services Administration funded Public Health Training Centers (PHTC) are partnerships between accredited schools of public health, related academic institutions, and public health agencies and organizations. The PHTC Network improves the Nation's public health system by strengthening the technical, scientific, managerial, and leadership competence of current and future public health professionals. Public Health Training Centers assess the learning needs of the public health workforce, provide accessible training, and work with organizations to meet other strategic planning, education, and resource needs.

<http://www.publichealthtrainingcenters.org>



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