



NCPHA Public Health Major Awards Nominations

We all know someone who has achieved great accomplishments, gone beyond the call of duty, made outstanding contributions to public health and/or acted as a motivated champion for public health clients. Let's celebrate our success and recognize our coworkers!

Award winners will be recognized at North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference. Visit NCPHA's website to learn more about the conference at: www.ncpha.com.

Available Awards:

- **Reynolds Achievement Award:** Sponsored by the North Carolina Medical Society, this award is bestowed upon the individual member of NCPHA who has made the greatest contribution to public health in North Carolina during the past year. Winner is awarded \$500.
- **Rankin Legacy Award:** This award is given to a NCPHA member in recognition of the outstanding contributions to public health in North Carolina over the member's lifetime. Winner is awarded \$1000.
- **Distinguished Service Award:** This award is given to a NCPHA member for their service to NCPHA. Nominated by the NCPHA Executive Committee. Winner is awarded \$250.
- **Partners in Public Health Award:** Established in 1998, this award is given to organizations and professions outside of public health departments who have made significant contributions to public health in North Carolina over the past year. Winner is awarded an organizational membership to NCPHA.
- **Dr. Sarah Taylor Morrow Health Departments of the Year:** This award is given to health departments for outstanding programs and efforts. Awarded to two health departments. Winners are awarded \$1000.

Requirements:

Nominees must be a current individual or organizational member of NCPHA at the time of nomination. To verify membership status, email Kim Dittmann at kdittmann@ncapha.org. Note that nominees may not win the same award more than once.

Instructions for Nomination Form

- Complete the Nomination Form by **July 12, 2024**.
- Submit the Nomination Form via: **Only emailed forms will be accepted.**
 - Email: NCPHA, kdittmann@ncapha.org

NCPHA Major Awards Nomination Form – Word count for the nomination should be no more than 500 words. Please include three bullets that highlight the nominee. These will be read if they win.

- The Partnership for a Healthy Durham is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, which is a huge feat since there are very few North Carolian local health department multi-sector health collaboratives that have this longevity.
- Partners share common values (i.e. collaboration, equity) and an agenda to build opportunities for better health and equity for all Durham County residents.
- The Partnership won the RWJF award Culture of Health Prize Award in 2014 in part due to the strength of its relationships. In 2022, the Partnership received a 5-year \$750,000 grant from The Duke Endowment, focused on implementing evidence-based initiatives to improve chronic conditions, physical activity opportunities and food access, all with the priority of enhancing racial equity.

Name of Award: Dr. Sarah Taylor Morrow Health Departments of the Year

Information of Nominator

Name: Marissa Mortiboy
County: Durham
Agency: Durham County Department of Public Health
Phone Number: 919-560-7752
Email: mmortiboy@dconc.gov

Information of Nominee

Name: Durham County Department of Public Health
County: Durham
Agency: Durham County Department of Public Health
Phone Number: 919-560-7600
Email: health@dconc.gov
Positon/Profession: N/A
Years of Service: N/A

Narrative

If nominating an individual, describe the nominee and why he/she should be considered for this award. Include information on public health experience, education, outstanding public health experience, organizational affiliations, offices held, important board appointments, and previous awards as necessary.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

If nominating an organization, describe the organization and why they should be considered for this award. Include information on outstanding programs, achievements, and recognition for advancements made in public health practice.

While the Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) provides multiple outstanding services and programs, this nomination will focus on the county-wide health coalition, the Partnership for a Healthy Durham.

The Partnership for a Healthy Durham is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. This is a huge feat since there are very few North Carolian local health department multi-sector health collaboratives that have this longevity. The Partnership is unique due to its roots in community, focus on equity, innovation, an engaged and active member base and its number of achievements. The Partnership won the RWJF award Culture of Health Prize Award in 2014 in part due to the strength of its relationships.

The Partnership for a Healthy Durham consists of several hundred members of the community and organizational representatives from sectors including health care, housing, transportation, food, government, education and nonprofit agencies. Partners share common values (i.e. collaboration, equity) and an agenda to build opportunities for better health and equity for all Durham County residents. Relationships are key to the work of the Partnership in achieving its goals.

The Partnership, Duke Health and the Durham County Department of Public Health has taken the lead in including more diverse perspectives in the Community Health Assessment (CHA) reports such as new sections centering the LGBTQ+ population, added topics such as environmental justice and climate change, and a more authentic account of Durham County's racialized history and the throughline to current health outcomes. The process and report have evolved to focus on root causes for existing health inequities by race and ethnicity and the populations most impacted. DCoDPH has received Awards of Excellence from NC DPH for the quality of its 2017 and 2020 reports and collaborative methods. DCoDPH will receive an award for the 2023 CHA later this year.

The Partnership's collaborations have led to multiple achievements. This includes providing in-person and virtual space for support and connection among community health workers through regular roundtable meetings. Also, the Partnership and Durham Adverse Childhood Experiences and Resilience Taskforce created a joint Community Resiliency Model (CRM) Teacher Collaborative to disseminate mental health and wellness information and skills within Durham in partnership with community health advocates.

In 2022, the Partnership received a 5-year \$750,000 grant from The Duke Endowment, focused on implementing evidence-based initiatives to improve chronic conditions, physical activity opportunities and food access, all with the priority of enhancing racial equity. The coalition sponsors partner organizations and members in attending the Racial Equity Institute two-day workshop, and additional efforts to build capacity include sponsoring grant writing courses for small community-based organizations (CBOs) to attend.

Using a racial equity lens and disaggregating data to look at populations most impacted by the top health issues is a major priority for the Partnership. Over the past several years, the Partnership, DCoDPH, and their partners have become more data-driven in decision making, such as during the COVID-19 pandemic and when selecting the 2023 CHA health priorities.