



I'm Under What Umbrella? Partnerships for Environmental Public Health

Liam O'Fallon & Gwen Collman
Division of Extramural Research and Training,
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences



Key Topics

- What's 'Environmental Public Health'?
- How did this program come to be?
- What is the Partnerships for Environmental Public Health Program (PEPH)?
- Why am I under this 'umbrella'?
- What has been accomplished?
- What is the future of PEPH?
- Why should I attend the Inaugural Annual Meeting?
- What are the plans for the webinar series?



Definition of Environmental Public Health

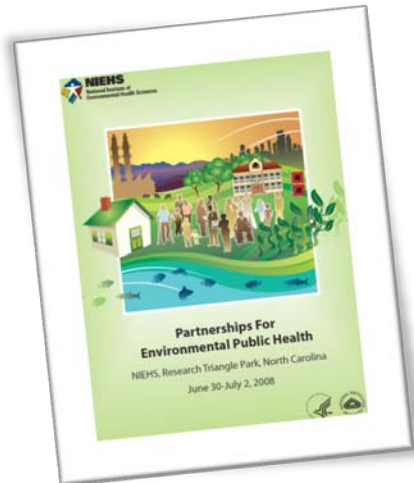
The science of conducting and translating research into action to address environmental exposures and health risks of concern to the public.

- Accomplished through the dissemination of science-based information about environmental risks and diseases to communities and other stakeholders.
- Fosters partnerships between and among community residents/organizations, researchers and other stakeholders in the research process, promotes communication of vital information about the linkages between exposures and disease that can be used to promote health and reduce the risk of disease across the populations at highest risk.



Partnerships for Environmental Public Health

- Development began in September 2007
- Builds upon the strengths of past and current programs
- Unified program to coordinate new and continuing activities in environmental public health
- Focus on research, communication, training and education, and evaluation



- Participatory: Input from many stakeholders:
 - » Request for Information (RFI) in November 2007
 - » <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/funding/grants/announcements/peph/index.cfm>
 - » Workshop held June 30-July 1, 2008
 - » <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/supported/programs/peph/about/workshop.cfm>



Partnerships For Environmental Public Health

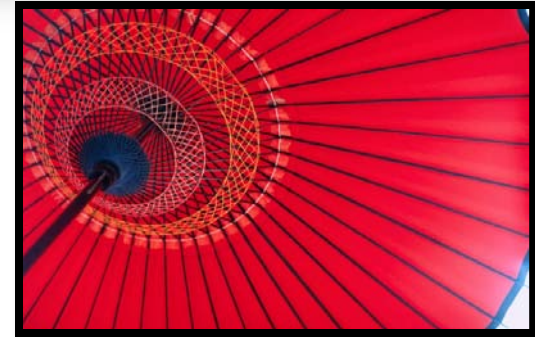
History

1994-present	Environmental Justice
1996-present	Superfund Outreach and Translation Cores
1996-present	Community Outreach Programs in EHS Core Centers
1996-2004	Community Based Prevention and Intervention Research Program
1998-present	Centers for Children's Environmental Health
2000-2007	Establishment of the COEP Resource Center
2000-2007	Science Education
2000-2005	Health Disparities
2002-2007	Environmental Justice: Built environment / Healthy communities
2003-present	Environmental Justice: ESLI and genetics
2003-2008	Centers for Population Health and Health Disparities
2003-2010	Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Centers
2005-present	Hazmat Training Program
2005-2009	Obesity and the Built Environment
2005-ongoing	Trans-NIH Community Participation in Research



Goals of the PEPH program

- Serve as an Umbrella Program – Strategically coordinate and integrate the various new and existing initiatives that involve communities and scientists working together.
- Develop and evaluate strategies to communicate environmental public health messages to a diversity of audiences.
- Create and provide materials to increase awareness and literacy about environmental health risks.
- Evaluate program contributions to the advancement of environmental public health.





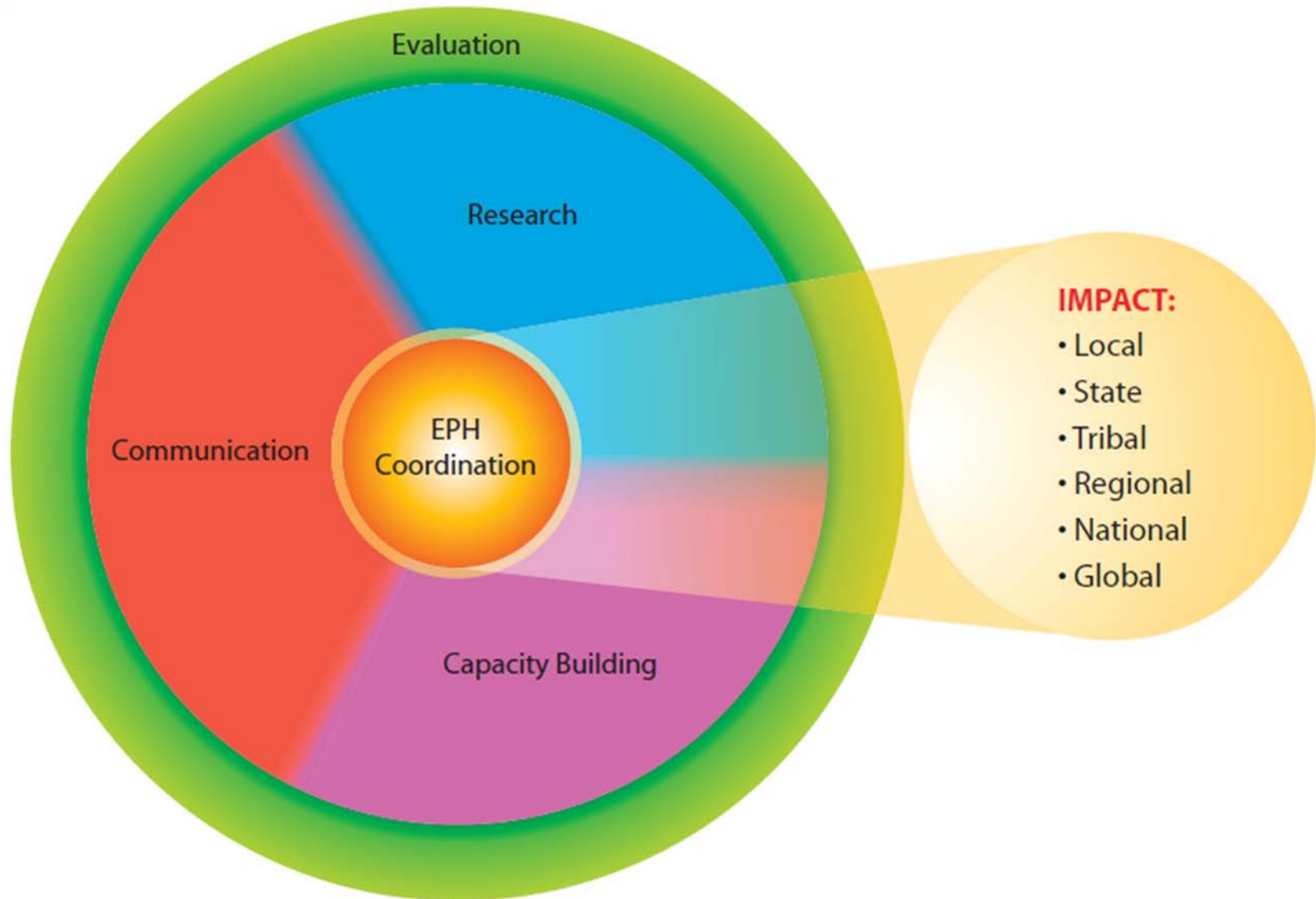
Key Tenets of the PEPH Program

- Engage diverse stakeholder communities at all stages
- Promote research to action
- Value both scientific advances and translational efforts
- Promote the best science ('gold standards')
- Respond to current issues ('nimble')
- Focus on prevention
- Foster unified, integrated and synergistic activities
- Support research to improve theories, methods and practice





Partnerships For Environmental Public Health





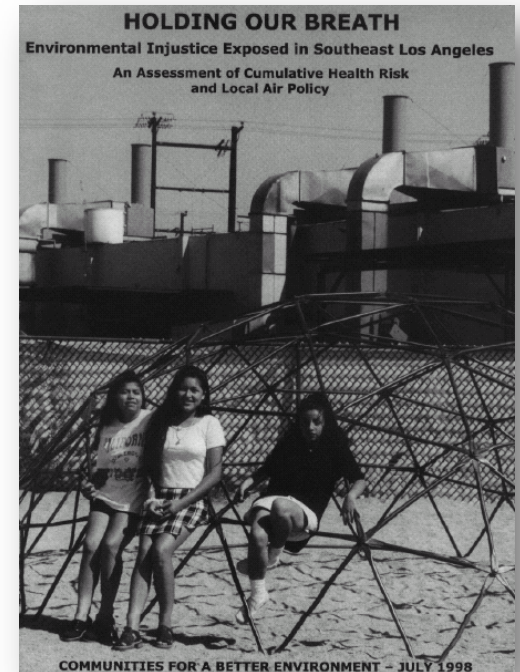
Programs Under the Umbrella

Research to Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Partnerships between researchers and community organization
CBPR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community-based participatory research
Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Developing skills to promote sustainable partnerships in research
Science Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Curriculum development, teacher training, and summer research experiences
Environmental Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Partnerships among communities, researchers and health care professionals
Worker Training Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HazMat training
Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create opportunities for the next generation of researchers
EHS Core Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Outreach and Education Cores
Superfund Research Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Community Outreach and Research Translation Cores
Children's Environmental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Community Outreach and Translation Cores
Breast Cancer Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Community Outreach and Translation Cores
Resource Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Central repository of materials developed by grantees
Evaluation Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Development of tools and resources to evaluate participatory projects



Environmental Justice

- Enable community residents to more actively participate in the full spectrum of research.
- Three partners: a community organization, an environmental health researcher, and a health care professional to develop models and approaches to building communication, trust and capacity, with the final goal of increasing community participation in the research process.





SRP: Research Translation & Outreach

- Research translation cores foster the dissemination of research findings to a variety of audiences including environmental practitioners and federal/state agencies.
- Community outreach cores allow the grantee to partner with communities living in proximity to hazardous wastes sites and support the community's needs in addressing issues related to exposures to hazardous substances.
- All SRP projects have Translation cores.
- Several SRP projects have Outreach cores.





EHS Core Centers: Community Outreach

- The objective of the Community Outreach and Education Core (COEC) is to translate research information into knowledge for various professional and public stakeholders.
- COECs focus on one or more of the following three target audiences of interest: Community, Policy-makers, and Public Health and/or Health Care Professionals.
- Programs developed by COECs will lead the field of environmental health outreach and education at the local and national level.





Community Based Participatory Research

- The program has been instrumental in enhancing and strengthening community-university partnerships in the pursuit of addressing environmental health research and interventions.
- Promote continued research using CBPR approaches through participation in a variety of trans-NIH Program Announcements that encourage
 - intervention research on health promotion, disease prevention, and health disparities that communities and researchers jointly conduct.
 - research that is jointly conducted by communities and researchers and targets medically underserved areas and medically underserved populations



Children's Environmental Health Centers

- Examine the effect of environmental exposures on children's health.
- Use a multidisciplinary research approach including basic, applied, and community-based participatory research
- Community Outreach & Translation Core translates and communicates Center findings to clinical and public health professionals, policy makers, and community organizations to alleviate the burden of environmentally induced diseases in children.





Breast Cancer Centers: Community Outreach

- Basic scientists, epidemiologists, health communication experts, and community advocates work together to study how environmental exposures during specific periods of susceptibility impact future risk of breast cancer.
- Community Outreach & Translation Core is responsible for ensuring the participation of local community members and breast cancer advocacy groups in the research process and working with researchers to disseminate information about study findings and their implications.





Hazmat Training

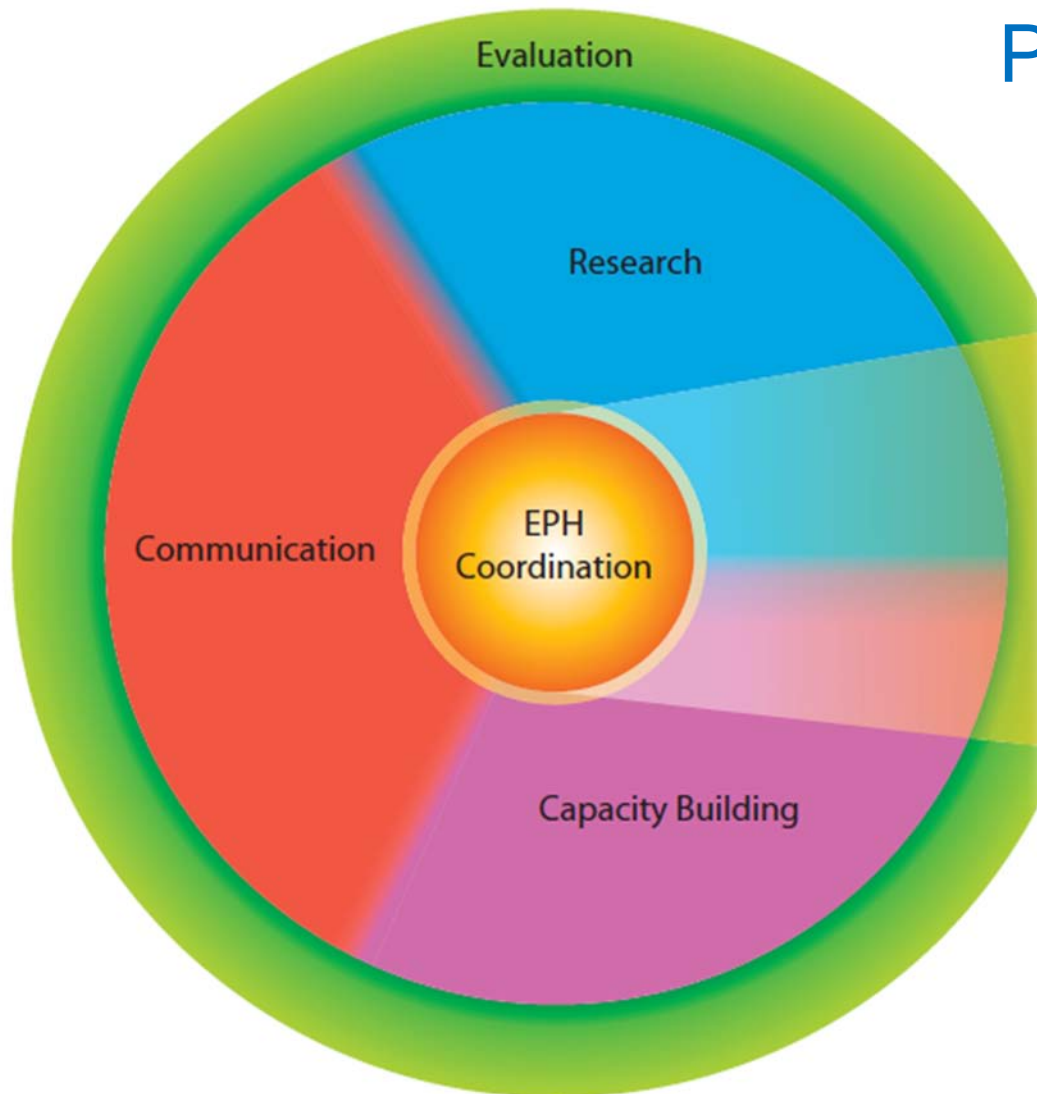
- The NIEHS Worker Education and Training Program (WETP) and its 18 awardee organizations get needed safety and health resources into the field .
- WETP supports training and education of workers engaged in activities related to hazardous materials and waste generation, removal, containment, transportation and emergency response.
- Trains individuals for work in remediation/construction fields through the Brownfields and Minority Training.
- The National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health is the primary national source for hazardous waste worker curricula, technical reports, and weekly news.





Partnerships For Environmental Public Health

PEPH Model: Advancing



Resource Center Contract
Evaluation Contract
ARRA: Capacity Building
ARRA: STEM Education
Research To Action
Partners in Research
PEPH Supplements



Partnerships For Environmental Public Health

PEPH Supplements

Brody, Julia G (R25)	Linking Breast Cancer Advocacy and Environmental Justice
Dalton, Madeline (R01)	Environmental and Family Influences on Adolescent Overweight
Eaton, David L (P30)	Center for Ecogenetics and Environmental Health
Gilliland, Frank D (P30)	Environmental Exposures, Host Factors and Human Disease
Grattan, Lynn M (R01)	Domoic Acid Neurotoxicity in Native Americans
Groopman, John (P30)	Johns Hopkins Center in Urban Environmental Health
Hertz-Picciotto, Irva (R01)	The Charge Study: Childhood Autism Risks from Genetics and the Environment
Hiatt, Robert A (U01)	Bay Area Breast Cancer & the Environment Research Center
Liu, Lee-Jane Sally (R01)	Children's exposures/health effects/diesel exhaust
Moreno, Nancy P (R25)	The Environment as a Context for Opportunities in School
Robins, Thomas G (R01)	Role of Diesel and Other Vehicular Exhaust in Exacerbation of Childhood Asthma
Rundle, Andrew G (R01)	Obesity, Physical Activity and Built Space in New York City
Shepard, Peggy M (R25)	Developing An Effective Community Ethical Review Model



Research to Action: Purpose & goals

- Collect information on environmental/occupational exposure or exposure-related disease of concern to the community
- Use this new information to support public health action
- Evaluate the project's processes and/or outcomes
- **Projects must be co-developed by scientists and community members**



Partnerships For Environmental Public Health

University of Washington
Yakima Valley, WA

University of Cincinnati
Libby, MT

Harvard University, SPH
Boston, MA

University Of Connecticut, SCH MED/DNT
Multiple locations; Hartford (Primary Location)

University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH

Cornell University Ithaca
New York City, NC

University of South Carolina at Columbia
North Charleston, SC


Medical University of South Carolina
Coastal Sea Islands, SC

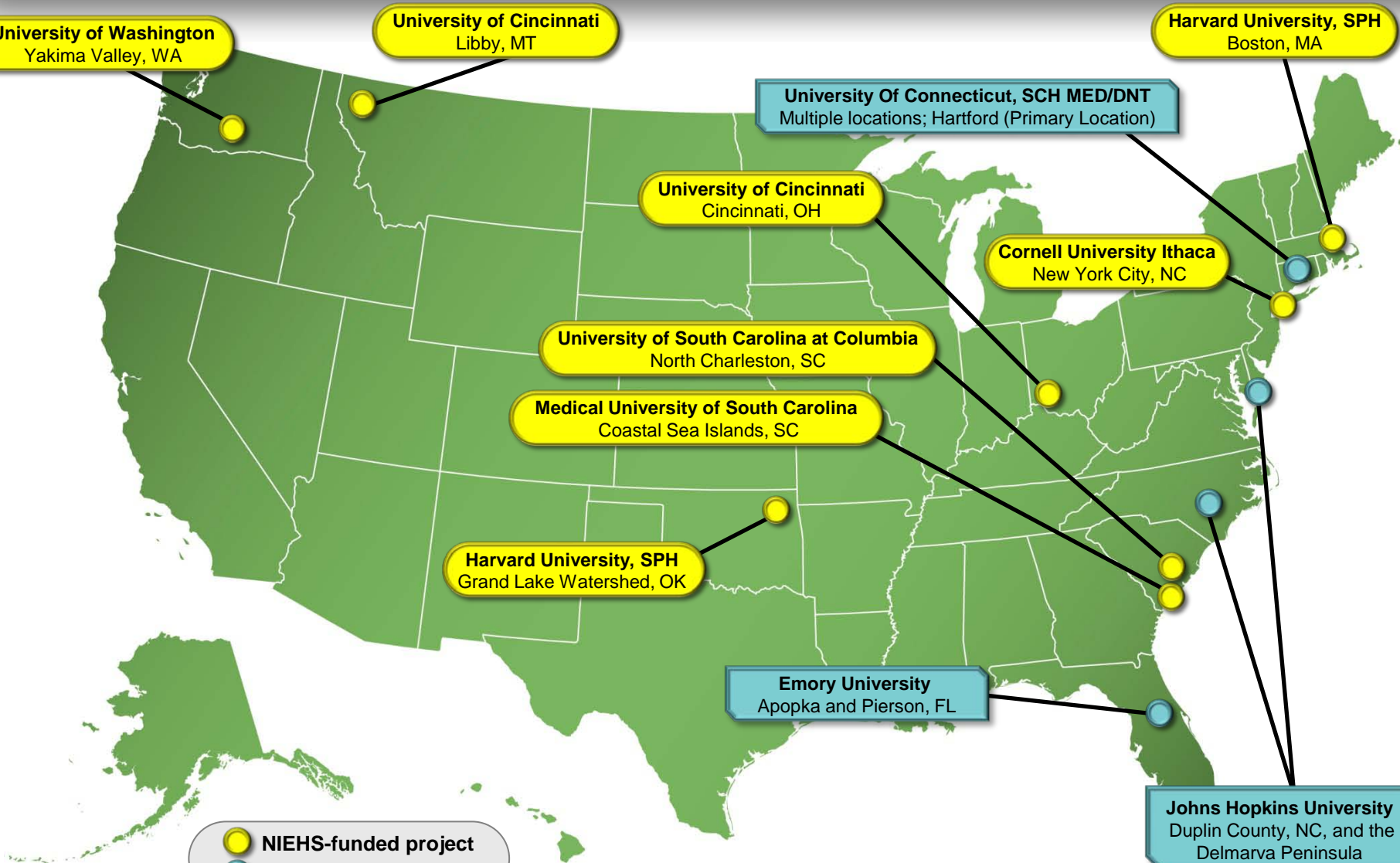
Harvard University, SPH
Grand Lake Watershed, OK

Emory University
Apopka and Pierson, FL

Johns Hopkins University
Duplin County, NC, and the
Delmarva Peninsula

 NIEHS-funded project

 NIOSH-funded project





ARRA & PEPH-related Topics

Health Disparities:

Building trust between researchers and communities through capacity building in Environmental Public Health

PI	Title
Ward (MT/AK)	Air Pollution Outreach, Education, and Research Capacity Building in Alaska Natives
Wallace (CA)	Assessment of Local Environmental Risk Training
Weitzman (NY)	Preventing Child Residential Lead Exposure By Window Replacement
Reynolds (CA)	Community Mapping of Environmental Hazards and Barriers in an Immigrant Population
Miranda (NC)	African Americans and Environmental Cancers: Sharing Histories to Build Trust
Watkins (NY)	Increasing Capacity & Public Trust: A Strategy for Building Effective Sustainable Partnerships
Howell (PA)	Recruiting the Next Generation of Environmental Toxicologists
Dereski (MI)	Integrating Environmental Health-Based Biotechnology into STEM Teaching
Sicker (MA)	Teachers' Domain: Environmental Health

STEM Education:

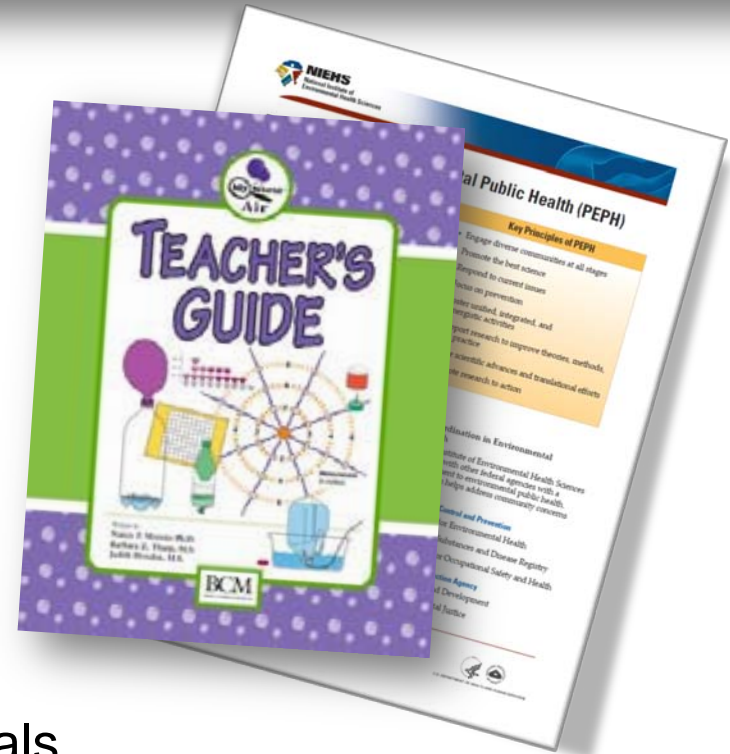
Material Development and Professional Development



Partnerships For Environmental Public Health

PEPH Resource Center

- Contract signed 9/29/2009
- Awarded to MDB, Inc.
- 5 year Contract
- Primary Tasks
 - 1. Maintain database and website
 - 2. Evaluate quality of materials
 - 3. Disseminate and develop materials
 - 4. Coordinate Environmental Public Health activities
 - Annual PEPH meeting
 - Monthly webinars





PEPH Meeting

- **Friday, March 12** – Principal Investigators/Project Directors must submit their Conference Scholarship Request (if needed).
- **Friday, March 19** – Poster presenters must submit Poster Abstract forms.
- **Friday, April 2** – Participants must complete the Registration form.
- **Friday, April 2** – Principal Investigators/Project Directors must submit their Project Summary.



PEPH Webinars

- Provide opportunities for NIEHS grantees to share strategies, successes, outcomes, and lessons learned from their on-going activities.
- Enhance progress toward the shared goal of advancing the impact of science-based inquiries of the interactions between environmental exposures and human health
- **Web Seminar #2:** “PEPH Resource Center, Material Development and Section 508: What they have in common.”
 - Date: March 23, 2010
 - Presenter: Gary Morin, NIH
- Input from grantees on cross-cutting topics is welcome.



PEPH: Next 10 Years

- Provide and promote multiple ways for researchers and communities to obtain support for innovative and creative activities that will place them under the PEPH umbrella
 - On-going Program Announcements
 - Funding announcements with set-sides
- PEPH Website
 - Program descriptions
 - Funding opportunities
 - Products and highlights





PEPH Working Group

Liam O'Fallon, SPHB

Kimberly Gray, SPHB

Claudia Thompson, SPHB

Caroline Dilworth, SPHB

Beth Anderson, CRIS

Mike Humble, COSPB

Frederick Tyson, COSPB

Cindy Lawler, COSPB

Pat Mastin, COSPB

Chip Hughes, WETB

Sharon Beard, WETB

Helena Davis, PAB

Jerry Phelps, PAB

Christie Drew, PAB

Carolyn Mason, GMB

Dorothy Duke, GMB

Terry Nesbit, SRB

Sally Eckert-Tilotta, SRB

Rachel Gross, DERT/OD

Gwen Collman, DERT/OD

Stefani Hines, Council Liaison

Hillary Carpenter, Council Liaison