

Dear CMHDA Members:

I have been asked to send this message out to you, by the American Public Health Association:

Thanks, Pat.

This year, the American Public Health Association conference is in San Francisco, **making it even more important that innovations catalyzed through MHS funding are made available to a national public health audience.** With Health Care Reform on our heels, it is both critical and timely to disseminate state-of-the-art knowledge about “what works” to help clients and family members learn to build their resilience, manage their wellness and return fully to community life.

With Health Care Reform on our heels, it is both critical and timely to disseminate state-of-the-art knowledge about “what works” to help clients and family members learn to build their resilience, manage challenges and return fully to community life. California’s Mental Health Services Act has introduced innovation and showcased collaboration between consumers, family members and providers in important ways. These contributions are valuable and important to share with the broader public health community.

With this in mind, I encourage you to submit an abstract for the 2012 American Public Health Association Conference in San Francisco on October 27-31st. The deadline for abstracts is Friday, Feb 10<sup>th</sup> (the conference theme is “Prevention and Wellness Across the Lifespan”).

Mental Health Section Call for Abstracts:

<http://apha.confex.com/apha/140am/mh.htm>

There are three options for abstract submission:

- Individual papers
- Sessions. Consider linking with your colleagues and submit a group of papers that offers insight on one topic. We suggest no more than four papers to allow time for presentations and questions/answers.
- Full or half day learning institutes (see link below)

Here are webpages from the APHA site with useful information:

- Submission of Proposals for Full or Half-Day Learning Institutes:  
<http://apha.confex.com/apha/140am/cei.htm>
- APHA Homepage for the Conference  
<http://www.apha.org/meetings/AnnualMeeting/>
- APHA webpage with guidelines for developing abstracts:  
<http://apha.confex.com/apha/140am/oasys.epl>

See you in San Francisco in the Fall (look out for information about the Mental Health Section reception).

**Patricia Ryan**  
**Executive Director**

**California Mental Health Directors Association**  
**2125 19<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Sacramento, CA 95818**  
**916-556-3477, ext. 108**  
**916-804-5300 (cell)**