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Letter from the President

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Letter from the President

The first year of the next century of public health in Michigan is now upon us as the Michigan Public Health Association celebrated our 100th year of incorporation in 2019.

Before moving forward, we look back over the past century to appreciate an amazing transformation in the state of public health in our state and nation. One can easily find online lists of public health achievements from the 20th century with some of my personal favorites including Vaccinations; Seat Belt laws; Fluoridation; and Tobacco use reductions. Today, we continue to defend those hard-won battles as we look to the horizon to see a future filled with astounding new opportunities.

Your public health association in Michigan is currently working to support the groups fighting against tobacco's "*newest assault vehicle*" with vaping technologies that have become ubiquitous across the land. We're also engaging with the American Public Health Association to publicize an opportunity for Michiganders to personally participate in the dawning of a new medical age with the advent of "precision medicine". Look for new information on this "All of Us" campaign during National Public Health Week in April. Members of MPHA can personally join these efforts and more by emailing our membership director for opportunity information at: membership@mipha.org.

What public health accomplishments do you take the most pride in? Maybe you were personally and actively involved, or you simply recognize the foundational importance of certain achievements? I've taken a personal initiative to become more vocally supportive of public health issues on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter and it would be great to see more people standing up for public health with us. Be sure to like our MPHA page and posts on Facebook, and on Twitter you can tag us @MiPublicHealth for solidarity.

And for anyone who hasn't officially joined MPHA yet, you can go to www.mipha.org/join to take advantage of our low membership costs or consider establishing an Organizational Membership with your employer or school to enroll multiple new MPHA memberships for further reduced prices. Your membership gives you more than the opportunity to publicly engage in fighting for the advancement of public health, but also the opportunity to publish your work in the Michigan Public Health Journal, and to attend our annual membership meetings in June at the Michigan Public Health Summit. Come and join the discussions within our sections and committees and meet the President of the American Public Health Association, Lisa Carlson!

Please enjoy this edition of the Michigan Public Health Journal.

To clean living and good health,



Roger A. Racine, MS
MPHA President