HDSA Interpretation Document: Comment Period Ending June 30th

The HDSA Interpretation Document will remain under review and accepting of comments until June 30th, 2009. While receiving comments, the document will remain in draft form. Send your comments to David Stone at david_stone@unc.edu.

The Interpretation document will serve as a supplement to the Health Department Self-Assessment Instrument (HDSA), and will provide health departments and site visitors with a more thorough understanding of each activity within the HDSA. To access the Interpretation document go to http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/materials/index.htm.

The Association of North Carolina Boards of Health (ANCBH) presented the Carl Durham Award to long-time public health advocate Lee Kyle Allen of Craven County who has spent his life advocating for the public’s health.

Allen received ANCBH’s Carl Durham Award in recognition of his service to ANCBH, his signification contributions to public health and his advocacy for public health at local, regional, and state levels.

Allen served 22 active years as a Navy hospital corpsman and eight years as a reserve command master chief. A Craven County Commissioner and a founding member of ANCBH, Allen has been a member of the ANCBH Board of Directors since 1997 and has served as president-elect, president and past president. Allen has served as president and southeast regional director on the National Association of North Carolina Boards of Health. He is a member of the North Carolina Public Health Task Force.

Allen currently serves on the North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation Board as a county commissioner representative. He is a member of the National Association of Boards of Health Board of Directors representing the southeast region.

Dr. Robert Blackburn, who presented the award, was re-elected as President of ANCBH. Dr. Blackburn is Vice-chair of the North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation Board.

Are you using the most current version of the HDSA?

Most likely, many health departments have begun preparing for their site visit in upcoming months or even years. The HDSA was last revised in July, 2008 and became effective January, 2009. Please be sure you are using the most current version of the HDSA. The HDSA is posted at http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/materials/index.htm.

As with most accreditation programs, the process is ever evolving and will remain a continuous work in progress as we all continue to improve.
Accreditation Plaques Awarded to 5 Health Departments

Cabarrus Health Alliance

Macon County Public Health Center

Stanly County Health Department

Catawba County Public Health

Congratulations Cabarrus, Macon, Stanly, Catawba, and Lenoir!
Accreditation Trainings for Local Health Departments:

- Health Departments Participating in FY 2010 and 2011 for the FIRST time: March 24th, 2009 from 1:00 – 3:00pm via web conference
- Health Departments Participating in FY 2010 and 2011 for Re-Accreditation: April 30th, 2009 from 1:00 – 3:00pm via web conference

More information concerning these two trainings has been sent directly to the Health Directors and Agency Accreditation Coordinators (AACs) to which these dates apply! If you didn’t receive this information and feel you should have, please contact Brittan Williams at brittan_williams@unc.edu.

Electronic Documentation Training:

Interested in learning more about how to setup and provide your accreditation documentation electronically? A training will be held on June 23rd, 2009 from 1:30-3:30pm via web conference. The training will be led by experienced local health department staff who have used this approach for their own accreditation site visit. For more information go to: [http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/training.htm](http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/training.htm).

Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)

Vetting Standards Webinar:

PHAB, the organization developing a national voluntary accreditation program for state and local public health departments, has released the draft standards for review and for public vetting. The draft standards can be found at [www.phaboard.org/standards/](http://www.phaboard.org/standards/). There are draft standards for local and state health departments, a glossary of terms, and the scoring system. NC Local Health Departments are encouraged to review the standards, share with their Board of Health, and submit their comments to PHAB, which will be accepting comments through April 30th, 2009.

NC Local Health Department Accreditation will facilitate a webinar vetting session on the standards for those health departments who are interested, on March 30th, 2009 from 10AM – 12PM. Background information on PHAB as well as basic info on the standards will be provided. Participants will have an opportunity to provide feedback during the webinar as well. For more information, go to: [http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/training.htm](http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/training.htm).

Policies, Procedures, & Plans Required by the HDSAI

Feedback has indicated that health departments are interested in having a list of policies, procedures and plans that are required by the HDSAI. Here ya go: [http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/materials/ReqPolProcPlans.pdf](http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/health_depts/materials/ReqPolProcPlans.pdf)

Accreditation Program Policies can be viewed at the following link: [http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/about_nclhda/policies/index.htm](http://nciph.sph.unc.edu/accred/about_nclhda/policies/index.htm)
Forty-four health departments have now been accredited! Taking a look at the map below, you will see that **ALL** health departments are now either accredited or have been scheduled to participate in the process. This map also shows the schedule for Re-Accreditation.