



Collaborative on Health and the Environment

September 2014



Upcoming Partnership Events

CHE Partnership call:

[Maternal Bisphenol A Programs Offspring Metabolic Syndrome](#)

Wed, Sept 17

CHE Partnership call:

[Climate Change and Health - What's New and What To Do?](#)

Thurs, Sept 18

CHE Partnership call:



Internationally Speaking: Two "First Time" Events Catalyze Stronger Focus on Health and Environment

*Elise Miller, MEd, CHE
Director*

August is usually a quieter month, but two "first time" international events related to environmental health drew a number of colleagues and CHE members together.

One was the inaugural retreat of the International Society for Children's Health and the Environment ([ISCHE](#)). It was held on

CHE Partnership call:

[Prenatal Exposures: What Do Providers Know?](#)

Tues, Sept 30

CHE Partnership call: [NIEHS and Environmental Health Disparities in Alaska](#)

Wed, Oct 1

Hosted by the CHE Alaska Working Group

Visit the [CHE Partnership call archives](#) to listen to MP3 recordings of past calls.

Special Announcements

New to CHE's listservs

CHE's core mission is to bring attention to emerging science relevant to environmental impacts on human health. In addition, we'll occasionally post to CHE's listservs **Your Health** selections (also referred to as "News You Can Use") which you may find are directly useful to your health and the health of your community. Visit a [news feed of Your Health](#) items on CHE's website.

Whidbey Island, north of Seattle, and dovetailed with the annual scientific conference of the International Society of Environmental Epidemiologists. Though ISCHE was launched in 2011, this was the first time the Society convened a group of researchers and health professionals to discuss the "Future of Children's Health" and ISCHE's potential role in that future. Nine countries were represented, and CHE was actively involved in planning and facilitating the gathering.

Notably, the retreat was not filled with the usual scientific presentations on emerging research. Instead, discussions were peppered with five-minute "ignite" talks on various trends, challenges and opportunities in the field. What was striking for many who attended was the noncompetitive and supportive atmosphere that allowed for open conversations about 'big picture' ideas and issues--from emerging research methodologies to ethics. Participants, including those who were instrumental in launching the children's environmental health field as well as new investigators from different disciplines, seemed hungry to have time to converse in a retreat setting. As one attendee noted, "We so rarely get together with colleagues without the competitiveness and 'one upmanship' I often see at scientific conferences. Really important conversations are happening here that don't elsewhere."

Brave New World posts will focus primarily on the interface of technology and health as well as on other developments of concern that might have implications for environmental health. Partners are welcome to post items from either of these categories.

Resources

[CHE's Toxicant and Disease Database](#)

CHE's searchable [Portal to Science](#) of reports, books, videos, databases, and other resources.

[CHE's searchable calendar](#) of events related to environmental health.

[CHE's blog](#) of commentary on current topics.

Our newsletter format is now leaner, cleaner, and more accessible from mobile

Given the plethora of ideas that emerged, the ISCHE Board will need to take some time to sift through and prioritize next steps, but as was clear from the energy generated at the meeting, ISCHE is poised to make valuable contributions to the field in the coming years.

The other significant event was the first-ever [World Health Organization \(WHO\) Health and Climate Conference](#), held in Geneva August 27-29. More than 200 government ministers, health practitioners, and experts in climate change and sustainable development, including a number of CHE partners, convened to discuss and prioritize strategic actions to promote health and resilience while mitigating climate change. As Dr. Margaret Chen, WHO Director-General, said in the [opening plenary](#), "The evidence is overwhelming: climate change endangers human health. Solutions exist and we need to act decisively to change this trajectory." Genon Jenson, executive director of the Health and Environmental Alliance (HEAL), will highlight some of the conference proceedings on CHE's upcoming partnership call, "[Climate Change and Health: What's New and What to Do?](#)" to be held on Thursday September 18th. Three other leading experts in the field will also present the latest research and its implications for human health internationally, nationally, and regionally. Please join us.

devices. [Let us know](#) how you like it or if you have any problems. We're listening!

Even if you were deeply engaged in meetings or other activities this past month, I hope you also enjoyed some well deserved down time with friends and family. Please stay healthy this fall as you continue to devote your life energy to making our world healthier for all.

Working Groups and Initiatives

Visit the webpages of CHE's groups for the latest news, research, and announcements:

Topic-based Working Groups

[Asthma](#)

[Autism](#)

[Breast Cancer](#)

[Cancer](#)

[Children's Health](#)

[Climate Change](#)

[Cumulative Impacts](#)

[Database](#)

[Diabetes/Obesity](#)

[Electromagnetic Fields \(EMF\)](#)

[Fertility/Reproductive Health](#)

[Healthy Aging](#)

[Integrative Health](#)

[Learning and Developmental Disabilities](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Pet](#)

[Neurodegenerative Disease](#)

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