

Biographical Sketch of Speakers

Michele Ridge, former First Lady of Pennsylvania

During her tenure as First Lady of Pennsylvania, Michele Ridge became a champion for children and families. Through her leadership as Chair of the Children's Partnership and with the support of then Governor Tom Ridge, she oversaw the development of one of the nation's most effective statewide prevention models. Her strategy included shifting public policy toward prevention, coordinating multiple public and private efforts and committing resources to only the most effective evidence-based programs – including Nurse-Family Partnership.

Mrs. Ridge provided a legacy for Pennsylvania families that continues to have an impact today. The Nurse-Family Partnership network in Pennsylvania has grown to 35 counties and serves nearly 3,000 families each year. Mrs. Ridge's commitment to scientifically proven prevention programs has gained her numerous awards, including the Society for Prevention Research 2001 Public Service Award.

Born in Erie, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Ridge is the oldest child of the late Major Howard Moore and the late Margaret Nagle Moore. As a result of her father's military career, Mrs. Ridge, her brother William, and her sister Maureen lived throughout the country and abroad. She returned to Erie in her junior year of high school, graduating from Strong Vincent High School. She received her bachelor's degree in European history from Seton Hill College, and earned her master's degree in library science from the University of Pittsburgh. Mrs. Ridge and her husband, former Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge, have two children, Lesley and Tommy.

Bethany Gadzinski

Bethany Gadzinski has 20+ years in the substance abuse prevention and treatment field. She has worked in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Idaho in the areas of community development, project management, and program development. Ms. Gadzinski is a trained trainer in the areas of prevention programming, non-profit development, strategic planning, grant writing, and project development. Currently Ms. Gadzinski is the Substance Use Disorder Bureau Chief within the Department of Health and Welfare. In this position, Ms. Gadzinski manages the State substance use disorder prevention and treatment program within the Division of Behavioral Health. Funding for the program comes from State general funds, Federal Block grant funds, and Administration for Children and Families funds.

Yolanda Savage

Yolanda Savage graduated from Tougaloo College in 1996 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology, with an emphasis in Social Work and a certification in Gerontology. In 1999, she received a Master of Art degree in Education from Jackson State University.

Ms. Savage's career began in Gerontology as the Director of Activities for an Adult Day Health Center (ADC). In 2001, she was accepted into a fellowship program with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a Public Health Prevention Specialist (PHPS). Ms. Savage spent one year at CDC working at the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) and the Public Health Practice Program Office (PHPPPO). After one year training at CDC, she spent two years at Indian Health Service National Epidemiology Program in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She worked on implementing the National Public Health Performance Standards Program (NPHPSP) at the Indian Health Service/Tribe/Urban setting (I/T/U) and worked with Indian Health Service for 4 years, implementing over 20 NPHPSP assessments throughout the country (local and state assessments).



Annual Conference of Idaho Association of District Boards of Health

Improving Public Health through Evidence Based Practices

The Grove Hotel • Boise, Idaho

May 28 - 30, 2008



Wednesday, May 28, 2008

Opening Reception - On the Terrace, The Grove Hotel
(Aspen Room if raining)

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Opening Reception with Hors D'oeuvres and No Host Bar
Ticket needed for this event
Registration table open from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 29, 2008

General Education Sessions - Aspen Room, The Grove Hotel
Registration table open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. outside the Aspen room

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Buffet Breakfast – Landing I, The Grove Hotel
Ticket needed for meal

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Welcome and Opening Remarks
Commissioner Fred Tilman, Chairman of Ada County Commissioners
Steve Scanlin, Chairman of Central District Health Board of Health

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Evidence-Based Practice: The Pennsylvania Story
Understanding the Nurse-Family Partnership program at a national level and the benefits it brings to a community.

Michele Ridge, former First Lady of Pennsylvania

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Nurse-Family Partnership: From Science to Practice
At a local level, the Nurse-Family Partnership program makes a difference. Learn the details and history regarding this program and the research behind the success.

Professor from University of Colorado - TBD

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Buffet Lunch – Cedar Room, The Grove Hotel
Ticket needed for meal

12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Guest Speaker – Governor's Office
Addressing the state's problems with substance abuse, juvenile crime, and increasing prison populations.

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Substance Use Disorders and Public Health - a Critical Link
How the health districts can play a role in substance abuse prevention in Idaho.

Bethany Gadzinski
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Bureau of Substance Use Disorders

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Break

3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Using the National Public Health Performance Standards in the Governance Setting
Preparing public health districts for voluntary accreditation through implementing the public health assessments and using the National Public Health Performance Standards.

Yolanda Savage, MEd
National Public Health Performance Standards & Accreditation, National Association of Local Boards of Health

4:15 p.m.
Adjourn

6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Social Hour – Evergreen Room, The Grove Hotel
No Host Bar

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Dinner – Evergreen Room, The Grove Hotel
Ticket and entrée card needed for meal

8:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Entertainment by the Oinkari Basque Dancers – Evergreen Room, The Grove Hotel
The Oinkari Basque Dancers will share the art of traditional Basque dance and their culture.

Friday, May 30, 2008

Business Meeting - Aspen Room, The Grove Hotel

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Buffet Breakfast – Landing I, The Grove Hotel
Ticket needed for meal

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Business Meeting

12:00 p.m.
Adjourn