



WSEHA NEWSLETTER

WASHINGTON STATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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Summer 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Tom Kunesh

Dear Environmental Health Colleagues

This year has been an extraordinary one. All things have been impacted by the Covid pandemic. Alas, it is also true with our Annual Education Conference (AEC) planning.

In spite of extending the speaker submittal deadline and nudging partners to submit presentations, we have received very few presentation proposals. We get it. Everyone is busy and it's really difficult to find the bandwidth to take on more things.

I discussed options with the AEC Planning Committee, the Speaker Committee, the Board of Directors, and our Executive Secretary. We concluded that we just do not have enough content to build a high quality, comprehensive conference agenda. As a result, we are suspending our conference planning efforts for now. This means we will not be hosting a virtual AEC as planned for May. We will reassess things in September to decide whether to hold a fall conference or to focus our efforts on planning for AEC 2022.

We still want to make sure that we:

- Conduct our annual awards ceremony
- Continue with the International Health Committee (IHC) fundraiser; and
- Grant scholarships as usual this spring.

These committees have been busy and we want to bring their work to fruition. I am so sorry to bring this difficult news to you. I appreciate the work and dedication each of you have mustered in service of your communities and the State of Washington.

Stay tuned for
information about
the 2021 WSEHA
Awards!

WSEHA BOARD UPDATES

The WSEHA board meets a few times a year. Meeting minutes can be found on the WSEHA website under About or by using [this link](#).

Recent Board action:

- Approval of the AEC budget;
- Increase of the scholarship amount;
- Commit matching funds to the IHC recipient up to \$2100

Board members are listed on page two of every newsletter. If you ever have any concerns or questions, we have a great panel of Vice-Presidents and Board members. We'd love to hear from you!

Sincerely yours,

Tom Kunesh
WSEHA Board President

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Like [WSEHA's Facebook page!](#) Stay up-to-date with new educational events, job postings, and goings-on in the field of Environmental Public Health.

Another way to keep up with what we're doing is to join our mailing list. Go to wseha.org to join the mailing list or email Megan McNelly at megan@wseha.org.

Next Newsletter Deadline:

September 2021

The Washington State Environmental Health Association Newsletter is the official publication of WSEHA. Membership in WSEHA includes a subscription to the newsletter. Membership in WSEHA is not required for acceptance of articles in the newsletter.

Opinions expressed in articles published in the WSEHA newsletter should not be accepted necessarily as statements of policy or opinions of WSEHA.

2021 IHC Donation

Water1st International is a Washington based non-profit that currently works in low-income areas of Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and Honduras. Their mission is to enable the world's poorest people to implement and sustain community-managed projects integrating clean water supply, toilets, and hygiene education. Their international work includes the completion of 3,286 water systems that have benefited 236,593 individuals in five countries by providing household water and hygiene education.

Please visit their website at www.water1st.org to learn more about the organization and other ways to support their vision of a world where all communities are safe and healthy. You may also visit www.water1st.org/our-work/ip-report/ to see a more detailed report of their work.

Use the *Donate* button located here:

[International Health | wseha](#)

Since we can't do the auction, we're accepting donations for Water1st International.

The WSEHA board has pledged matching funds so help us reach the limit!

Donations will be accepted through May.

