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May 31, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

There’s not a day that goes by that the information and support that I receive from NPHIC doesn’t directly enhance my ability to support the public health efforts of the State of Alaska. That, combined with the professional development I receive at the annual conference, makes my membership to NPHIC one of my best annual investments.

The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Public Information Team strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Greg Wilkinson
Public Information Officer III
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
June 1, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. Ann Wright, ADH Director of Communications, is a past president of NPHIC, a former Region VI Board Member and has been in the organization since she joined our agency sixteen years ago. She is the current chair of the membership committee and is a member of the health literacy committee. She says that NPHIC is a lifeline for public health communications and a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and crisis situations.

The Arkansas Department of Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Paul Halverson, DrPH, FACHE
Director and State Health Officer

ph: cj

cc: Ann Wright
May 31, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Arizona Department of Health Services has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications' staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Arizona Department of Health Services strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC's approval.

Sincerely,

Will Humble
Director

Leadership for Healthy Arizona
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Idaho Division of Public Health benefits directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. Our communications staff finds the strategic guidance and assistance provided by NPHIC is invaluable, not only to us, but also to our public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource our communications staff have come to depend on in everyday matters of public health promotion and dealing with crisis situations. Through NPHIC's resources and networking, public health and our partners can speak in one unified voice to improve our citizens' health and well-being.

The Idaho Division of Public Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC's approval.

Sincerely,

Jane S. Smith
Administrator
June 1, 2011

William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, Georgia 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Kentucky Department for Public Health has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them, but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Kentucky Department for Public Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

William D. Hacker, MD, FAAP, CPE
Commissioner
May 31, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications' staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC's approval.

Sincerely,

Takeisha Davis, MD, MPH
Assistant State Health Officer
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
1450 Poydras Street, Ste. 2013
New Orleans, LA 708112
June 1, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA  30068

RE:  Letter of Support for FOA - Number:  CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Maine CDC strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sheila G. Pinette, D.O.
Director, Maine CDC
State Health Officer
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

John Jacob
Risk Communications Manager
May 31, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Montana DPHHS public information office is staffed by just two full-time employees for an agency with 3,100 employees – the largest in Montana state government. As you might imagine, our limited resources seem to always be stretched thin. Simply put, much of our work would not be possible without the wonderful assistance we receive from NPHIC on a daily basis.

The Montana DPHHS strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Jon Ebelt
Public Information Officer
Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
May 26, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services benefits directly from the professional services provided by NPHIC throughout the year. The organization played a critical role during H1N1 coordinating with the CDC and passing the latest H1N1 developments, information and messages on to the states. Our communications team believes NPHIC provides invaluable guidance and training not only to them but to other public health communicators in Nebraska and across the nation. NPHIC is a resource our communications team depends on for public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Joann Schaefer, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer – State of Nebraska
Director, Division of Public Health
Department of Health and Human Services
June 2, 2011

William Gerrish, President  
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)  
986 Hidden Hollow Drive  
Marietta, Georgia 30068

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

I recently learned that the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) plans to submit an application for funding from the CDC. After reviewing the objectives of the cooperative agreement opportunity, I am writing to give my full support of your application.

The Ohio Department of Health and its partners benefit directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. The organization has proven itself a national leader in providing timely and consistent messaging on all major public health issues. The State of Ohio’s public awareness efforts are increased exponentially through the work of this coalition of professional communicators.

NPHIC is uniquely positioned to provide the strategic thought leadership, collaboration and professional development needed to protect and improve the health of our citizens as we face more complex and persistent public health issues. It is a resource my agency frequently depends upon in matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Ohio Department of Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and advocates for CDC approval.

Sincerely,

Theodore E. Wymyslo, M.D.  
Director
June 1, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA  30068

RE:  Letter of Support for FOA - Number:  CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance to state and local health departments in their public health communication and social marketing efforts. This was demonstrated most recently in the quick response NPHIC provided in disseminating public information and health resources to state health agencies following the Japan earthquake and nuclear emergency. Of course, the 2009-2010 H1N1 pandemic showcased NPHIC’s ability to link with key CDC resources to assure a coordinated national communications strategy.

NPHIC is a resource our communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations. The Oklahoma State Department of Health supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Terry Cline, Ph.D.
Commissioner
Secretary of Health and Human Services
May 31, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA  30068

RE:  Letter of Support for FOA - Number:  CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

Our Department has benefited greatly from the services NPHIC provides. The Department’s PIOs have been members of the organization since 1998 and the staff on my communication team believe NPHIC provides invaluable assistance to their everyday work.

We depend on the access NPHIC gives us to the national network of public health information officers and the CDC information team, including advance copies of press releases, media briefings, and urgent information related to public health emergencies. We also rely on NPHIC’s national database of health education materials, resources, templates, and best practices in public health communication

As NPHIC is the only national association of Communication Directors and Public Information Officers working to improve and coordinate public health communication at the state and federal levels, the Rhode Island Department of Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC approval.

Sincerely,

Michael Fine, MD
Interim Director of Health
June 1, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Tennessee Department of Health has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. The department’s communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Tennessee Department of Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Cooper, MSN, RN
Commissioner

SRC/AT/tls
Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

As commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and incoming president of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

Over the years, DSHS has directly benefited from the services provided through NPHIC, as we work to improve health and well-being in Texas. Additionally, NPHIC membership allows my communications staff to collaborate and exchange information with their counterparts across the nation. This type of information sharing provides an important level of support for our organization, especially during a public health crisis such as the recent H1N1 pandemic.

My communications staff believes NPHIC provides valuable assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource that is regularly used to complement the robust communication tools and support available from the CDC.

DSHS supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and strongly encourages CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

David L. Lakey, M.D.
Commissioner
June 01, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
968 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

Re: Letter of Support for FOA Number CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition for funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources has benefitted directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. As a busy communications professional in a department with more than 6,000 employees, NPHIC’s my conduit to national information dealing with health promotion and public crisis situations. It is my “go to” source.

WVDHHR strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John D. Law
Assistant Secretary

JDL/tbh
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA  30068

RE:  Letter of Support for FOA - Number:  CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department has benefited directly from the professional assistance provided by our colleagues at NPHIC. Our communications staff, as well as many of our health educators and health promotions teams believes NPHIC provides timely and relevant strategic guidance and tools not only to them but also their counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource we have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and during public health emergency events.

The Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Carole Barasch

Communications & Community Development Manager
Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department
Date: May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Bergen County Department of Health Services, in New Jersey, has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Bergen County Department of Health Services strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Hansel F. Asmar
June 1, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA  30068

RE:   Letter of Support for FOA - Number:  CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

Buncombe County Department of Health has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC.  My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation.  NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Buncombe County Department of Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Gibbie Harris
Health Director
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. We serve a population of about 160,000 and, like many health departments across the country, must deal with shrinking budgets while meeting the increased demand for accurate and timely information communicated through an increasing number of mediums. It's been said many times that our NPHIC membership is the best $75 we spend each year. NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance and is a resource I have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Genalee Alexander, PIO
Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA  30068

RE:  Letter of Support for FOA - Number:  CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from the CDC.

Contra Costa Health Services has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance, not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff has come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

Contra Costa Health Services strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

William B. Walker, M.D.
Director and Health Officer
Contra Costa Health Services
May 31, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

Hudson Regional Health Commission has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. Our Health Educator/Risk Communicator believes NPHIC provides invaluably strategic guidance and assistance not only to our agency but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. Monique has often mentioned that NPHIC played an invaluable role during the 2009 H1N1 outbreak, specifically the access to the CDC Media Briefings. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

Hudson Regional Health Commission strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC's approval.

Sincerely,

Robert Ferraiuolo
Director/Health Officer
June 1, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA  30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The City of Kansas City, Mo., Health Department has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. Through NPHIC’s webinars, website and materials, the communications team believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff and health department staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The ability to interface with CDC representatives and collaborate with colleagues through NPHIC is paramount to the continued success of public health communications at the local level. The City of Kansas City, Mo., Health Department strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Rex Archer, MD, MPH
Director of Health
5/26/11

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My Public Information Officer (PIO) believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to this position but also to public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my PIO has come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Linda Vail Buzas, MPA
Director/Health Officer
June 1, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The services that NPHIC offers have been invaluable to the Lake County Health Department. Such services keep our Communications Office informed of the latest public health issues and CDC updates. The annual conference has been an excellent resource for learning the latest information on social media and other marketing tools. The NPHIC web site also is an excellent resource for keeping up to date on what other health departments are doing to address specific public health issues.

The Lake County Health Department strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Leslie Piotrowski
Communications Manager
Lake County Health Department/
Community Health Center
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance, and coordination of local and national messaging not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource tool my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and during critical emergency response.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Jonathan E. Fielding, MD, MPH
Director and Health Officer

JEF:RAR:1g
May 27, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

Maricopa County Department of Public Health has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications' staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

Maricopa County Department of Public Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Bob England, MD, MPH
Director
Maricopa County Department of Public Health
4041 N. Central, Suite 1400
Phoenix, AZ 85012
May 26, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

Upper Missouri District Health Unit has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

Upper Missouri District Health Unit strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Javayne Oyloe
Interim Executive Officer
Upper Missouri District Health Unit
110 W Broadway, Suite 101
Williston, ND 58801
701-774-6400
joyloe@umdhu.org
www.umdhu.org
May 24, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA  30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The Mohave County Department of Public Health has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff utilizes regularly in everyday matters of public health promotion and they depend on NPHIC in crisis situations. The expert guidance and assistance provided by NPHIC has enabled my staff to fulfill their mission in a much more timely and effective manner.

The Mohave County Department of Public Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Patty Mead
Health Officer
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA  30068

RE:  Letter of Support for FOA - Number:  CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition for funding from CDC.

The Northern Kentucky Health Department has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My public information staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation.

From pandemic flu to smoking cessation, NPHIC has helped connect public health communicators with resources, best practices and the latest information, allowing them to stay ahead of communications needs of the media and the public.

The Northern Kentucky Health Department strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Lynne M. Saddler, MD, MPH
District Director of Health
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

The CNMI Department of Public Health has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The CNMI Department of Public Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Joseph Kevin Villagomez, MA
Secretary of Public Health
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

Re: Letter of Support for FOA-Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The Polk County Health Department have directly benefited from the professional services provided through NHPIC. Our two public information officers believe NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the country. NPHIC is a resource they have come to depend on in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

Polk County Health Department strongly supports the continued efforts of NHPIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC approval.

Sincerely,

Terri Henkels
Director
May 26, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA  30068

**RE:  Letter of Support for FOA - Number:  CDC-RFA-CD11-1101**

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

RiverStone Health, Yellowstone County’s local public health agency in Billings, Montana has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. I am responsible for public health communication for Montana’s most populous county and NPHIC has provided invaluable strategic guidance and assistance, of which I have shared with other colleagues throughout the state. Because of limited human and financial resources I depend upon NPHIC as both as a vital resource for everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

RiverStone Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Schneeman, Director
Communication & Advocacy
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC.

California/Public Health Services has benefited directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. My communications staff believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to them but also their public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. NPHIC is a resource my communications staff have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations.

The California/Public Health Services strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC's approval.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

William J. Mitchell, MPH, Director
Public Health Services
June 1, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
9086 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

Re: Letter of Support for FOA – Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Southwest District Health continues to benefit directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. NPHIC provides valuable strategic guidance, training, and assistance. Since we are a small, rural health district, NPHIC also connects us to public health communicators and social marketing counterparts across the nation. There is no question that my Public Information Officer depends on NPHIC as a resource in everyday matters of public health promotion as well as in crisis situations. During the H1N1 pandemic influenza response, in particular, we were updated at least several times a day which enabled us to communicate the same talking points as the CDC. In addition, Laura Espino is always an e-mail away to respond to any questions or direction we request. This type of partnership is priceless.

Southwest District Health strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval.

Sincerely,

Bruce A. Krohch, CPM
Director
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish
President
National Public Health Information Coalition
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

Re: Letter of Support for FOA – Number CDC –RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter in support of the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Health (DOH) has benefitted directly from the professional services provided through NPHIC. We function as both a regulatory agency as well as a provider of health care and safety services to the under-insured and uninsured public via a variety of programs including Immunization, Public Health Preparedness (PHP) and Chronic Diseases. Our sole communication staff, Public Relations Director Eunice Bedminster, believes NPHIC provides invaluable strategic guidance and assistance not only to her but to her public health communication and social marketing counterparts across the nation. In fact, much of the information that NPHIC regularly provides is often forwarded to the Department’s executive staff. I can think of several occasions when the Department officials benefitted from the work that NPHIC does accurately and timely such as breaking down the Pandemic Index and issuing talking points during the H1N1 crisis and keeping us apprised of any movement from the CDC.

Ms. Bedminster also serves as our Risk Communication Coordinator with the PHP Program and as such, NPHIC is a resource that she has come to depend on not only in everyday matters of public health promotion but in crisis and emergency risk communications. It was through NPHIC, that she was able to learn and subsequently implement aspects of social marketing to reach specific audiences. I take this opportunity to publicly thank NPHIC, its membership network and diligent staff who have proven time and time again to be a tremendous resource.
May 31, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

This letter is in support of the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding through the CDC's Performance and Management of a Public Health Communication and Community Engagement Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement.

Several staff of the Health Program at the American Institutes for Research (AIR) worked closely with the CDC and NPHIC during the development of Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) in the post 9/11 and post anthrax era. NPHIC was central -- and absolutely essential -- to the dissemination of the CDC's CERC training across the nation. We have observed first-hand the essential role NPHIC has played as the primary means for public health communicators across the U.S. to efficiently share information and resources, on West Nile, emergency response, H1N1, H5N1, pandemic influenza, vaccine safety, and many other important issues facing public health.

As a result of working with NPHIC, several AIR staff became members, recognizing that they would learn a great deal from the information being shared across states and communities, as well as from the professional development services provided by NPHIC. They have participated in several NPHIC conferences, conference calls and other learning opportunities -- enabling them to see first-hand how much public health communicators across the nation rely on each other to communicate their best, most accurate information in the most timely manner possible. NPHIC plays a unique role in making this sharing and efficient dissemination possible.

AIR strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC's approval. We believe the continued existence of NPHIC is a critical asset to public health. Without the relationships that NPHIC fosters, without the sharing of resources NPHIC makes possible, without the advancement of public health communication NPHIC provides, we believe that public health would be less effective and efficient in communicating with the American public.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Moon, PhD
Health Program Director and Senior Vice President
American Institutes for Research
June 1, 2011

William Gerrish, President  
National Public Health Information Coalition  
986 Hidden Hollow Drive  
Marietta, GA  30068

RE:  Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

As executive director of the American Public Health Association, I speak for the entire association in supporting the National Public Health Information Coalition’s (NPHIC) application for financial assistance.

NPHIC plays a vital role in uniting public health communication and social marketing professionals to support efforts of preventing disease and injury and promoting health and safety among all levels of government. NPHIC has provided invaluable advice and consultation on such important matters as communicating public health information to the public, and has consistently helped strengthen outreach around important cross-cutting initiatives such as National Public Health Week and the National Conference for Health Communications, Marketing and Media. We believe it is valuable to have this resource in place.

APHA is committed to collaborating with NPHIC on this grant and in other future endeavors. I strongly urge the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to approve NPHIC’s application for funding.

Sincerely,

Georgias C. Benjamin, MD, FACP, FACEP (E)  
Executive Director
May 27, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

The California Immunization Coalition strongly supports the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition for funding under the CDC's "Performance and Management of a Public Health Communication and Community Engagement Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement."

The California Immunization Coalition (CIC) works in partnership with the National Public Health Information Coalition to implement the Virtual Immunization Communication Network (VIC Network) which has developed a "virtual immunization community" of health educators, public health communicators and others who promote immunizations and encourages the exchange and sharing of resources, materials and best practices. The CIC and NPHIC have developed webinars and an on-line 'virtual symposium' that has enabled hundreds of participants to receive information on vaccine safety and communication tools via the internet.

Through our partnership on the VICNetwork project and our participation in other state and national projects, we are well aware of NPHIC's importance as a resource hub for public health information officers/health promotion specialists/health risk communicators and urge CDC to continue to support the organization that serves as the "Voice of public health communication." Our members count on the expertise of NPHIC's members to set public health policies and accomplish health promotion and education priorities throughout state, local, tribal and territorial jurisdictions.

The infrastructure NPHIC has established over the past two decades and the NPHIC membership's expertise in public health communication have made NPHIC an invaluable partner for the California Immunization Coalition. We look forward to continuing to work with NPHIC in the future to accomplish our shared public health priorities.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Catherine Martin
Director
California Immunization Coalition
To Whom It May Concern:

I support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition for funding under the CDC's "Performance and Management of a Public Health Communication and Community Engagement Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement."

I am well aware of NPHIC's importance as a resource hub for public health information officers/health promotion specialists/health risk communicators and urge CDC to continue to support the organization that serves as the "Voice of public health communication." I count on the expertise of NPHIC's members to set public health policies and accomplish health promotion and education priorities throughout state, local, tribal and territorial jurisdictions.

The infrastructure NPHIC has established over the past two decades and the NPHIC membership's expertise in public health communication have made NPHIC an invaluable partner for me. I look forward to continuing to work with NPHIC in the future to accomplish our shared public health priorities.

Sincerely yours,

Julie Gazmararian, PhD, MPH
Associate Professor
Department of Epidemiology
Emory University Rollins School of Public Health
June 1, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish,

I am writing this letter to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding from CDC. NPHIC has been a key partner for University of Georgia’s Center for Health and Risk Communication. It was an integral part of our Southern Center for Communication, Health and Poverty, which was a CDC-funded Center of Excellence in Health Marketing and Communication funded from 2005 to 2010.

In collaboration with NPHIC, the Southern Center conducted a needs assessment of state and local public information officers. Results of that assessment were recently published in Health Promotion Practice. On the basis of that needs assessment, our Center produced a number of training materials, for example, a workshop on adapting web-based health information sites for Latino audiences. The Southern Center presented four workshops on health communication to reduce health disparities at various NPHIC conventions. For example, in 2006 we presented a featured panel on "Working with Minority Media." Thus the strong partnership between NPHIC and University of Georgia’s Center for Health and Risk Communication has amplified the reach of both organizations, to the mutual benefit of the health communication research community and the profession of public information officers.

The University of Georgia Center for Health & Risk Communication strongly supports the continued efforts of NPHIC and its cooperative agreement application and urges CDC’s approval. Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Vicki S. Freimuth, PhD
Center Director
June, 1, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Legacy, the national public health charity that develops programs that address the health effects of tobacco use, I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding under the CDC’s “Performance and Management of a Public Health Communication and Community Engagement Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement.”

As a NPHIC member, I know first-hand the organization’s important role in public health communication and the many benefits it provides to communication professionals at the local, state and national levels. NPHIC, a critical connection among communicators, consistently provides timely information and practical advice on a wide range of relevant public health issues, including tobacco control and prevention, through its electronic publications, web site, conference calls and annual conference.

These efforts are in no small part why Legacy recognizes NPHIC as a resource hub for public health information officers/health promotion specialists/health risk communicators. We urge CDC to continue to support the organization that serves as the “voice of public health communication.” My public health colleagues and I count on the expertise of NPHIC and its membership to set public health policies and accomplish health promotion and education priorities throughout state, local, tribal and territorial jurisdictions.

The infrastructure NPHIC has established over the past 20 years and the NPHIC membership’s expertise in public health communication have made the organization an invaluable partner for Legacy. We look forward to continuing to work with NPHIC in the future to accomplish our shared public health priorities.

Sincerely,

William L. Furmanski
Senior Vice President, Collaboration & Outreach
3 June 2011

William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

The Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) is pleased to offer this letter of support for the National Public Health Information Coalition’s (NPHIC) application for the above referenced RFA to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

SOPHE has been pleased to collaborate with NPHIC on both current and past health communication initiatives and believes NPHIC has the capacity to accomplish the objectives of this project. NPHIC plays a valuable role in uniting public health communication and social marketing professionals to support efforts of preventing disease and injury and promoting health and safety among all levels of government and between the various ASTHO affiliate organizations.

SOPHE is a 501 (c)(3) professional organization whose mission is to provide global leadership to the profession of health education and to promote the health of society through advances in health education theory and research, excellence in professional preparation and practice, advocacy for public policies conducive to health and the achievement of health equity for all. SOPHE’s membership comprises some 4,000 individuals with formal training and/or an interest in health education and health promotion throughout the United States and 25 international countries. There are currently 19 SOPHE chapters covering more than 30 states, northern Mexico, and Western Canada.

SOPHE is committed to collaborating with NPHIC on this initiative and in other future endeavors. I strongly urge the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to approve NPHIC’s application for funding.

Sincerely,

M. Elaine Auld, MPH, MCHES
Chief Executive Officer
May 31, 2011

Laura Espino  
National Public Health Information Coalition  
986 Hidden Hollow Drive  
Marietta, GA 30068

To Whom It May Concern:

Wayne State University is pleased to support the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition for funding under the CDC's "Performance and Management of a Public Health Communication and Community Engagement Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement."

NPHIC's importance as a resource hub for public health information officers/health promotion specialists/health risk communicators is widely recognized. We strongly urge CDC to continue to support the organization that serves as the "Voice of public health communication." Our members count on the expertise of NPHIC's members to set public health policies and accomplish health promotion and education priorities throughout state, local, tribal and territorial jurisdictions.

Wayne State University has worked with NPHIC on a wide variety of projects including crisis and emergency risk communication training for public information officers, revision of the Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication manual and in a variety of state and local conferences for both public health and emergency management. Communication is a critical component of any public health enterprise and NPHIC is an invaluable resource for improving the effectiveness of health communication.

The infrastructure NPHIC has established over the past two decades and the NPHIC membership's expertise in public health communication have made NPHIC an invaluable partner for Wayne State University. We look forward to continuing to work with NPHIC in the future to accomplish our shared public health priorities.

Sincerely yours,

Matthew W. Seeger  
Professor and Interim Dean  
College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts
June 1, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

The University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute's (UWPHI) Population Health Assessment and Community Engagement (PHACE) Team supports the application of the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) for funding under the CDC's "Performance and Management of a Public Health Communication and Community Engagement Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement."

We are well aware of NPHIC's importance as a resource hub for public health information officers/health promotion specialists/health risk communicators and urge CDC to continue to support the organization that serves as the "Voice of public health communication." Each year as we prepare for the release of the County Health Rankings, NPHIC has served as an important connecting point with key communication staff in both state and local health departments. As we move into the next phases of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH) project, we look forward to working with NPHIC members to discuss ways we can further promote action-oriented responses to health challenges in communities around the nation.

The infrastructure NPHIC has established over the past two decades and the NPHIC membership's expertise in public health communication have made NPHIC an invaluable partner for the MATCH staff at UWPHI. We look forward to continuing to work with NPHIC in the future to accomplish our shared public health priorities.

Sincerely,

Julie A. Willems Van Dijk RN PhD
Community Engagement Director

University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute
Laura Espino  
Executive Director  
NPHIC  
986 Hidden Hollow Drive  
Marietta, GA 30068

Dear Ms. Espino:

As the Executive Director for the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD), I speak for the entire association in supporting the National Public Health Information Coalition’s (NPHIC) application for financial assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) provides leadership to promote a governmental oral health presence in each state and territory, to formulate and promote sound oral health policy, to increase awareness of oral health issues, and to assist in the development of initiatives for prevention and control of oral diseases (www.astdd.org). Organized in 1948, it is one of 17 affiliates of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials.

ASTDD recognizes the vital role NPHIC plays in providing strategic guidance and assistance to the public health communication and social marketing professionals who work for our member agencies. The ASTDD Communications Committee finds your newsletter information and other resources helpful and shares them with our members.

ASTDD is committed to collaborating with NPHIC on this grant and in other future endeavors. I strongly urge the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to approve NPHIC’s application for funding.

Sincerely,

Christine Wood  
Executive Director  
ASTDD

ASTDD is an affiliate of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
William Gerrish  
President  
National Public Health Information Coalition  
986 Hidden Hollow  
Marietta, GA 30068

May 31, 2011

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

As the Executive Director for the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), I am pleased to offer ASHTO’s full support for the National Public Health Information Coalition’s (NPHIC) application for financial assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through Planning and Management of Public Health Communication & Community Engagement Technical Assistance cooperative agreement.

ASTHO recognizes the vital role NPHIC plays in providing strategic guidance and assistance to the public health communication and social marketing professionals who work for state and territorial health agencies. NPHIC is a resource these communication professionals have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations. Training provided through NPHIC makes our members and their agencies more adept, effective communicators with the public.

NPHIC is an indispensable organization. As an ASTHO Affiliate has access to a wide range of programmatic directors and public health subject matter experts throughout each agency. This access combined with NPHIC members’ communications and marketing expertise enables their organization to provide essential support to our members necessary to make improvements in health outcomes throughout the nation.

Over the past several years, NPHIC has proved to be a great resource to our members and ASTHO has collaborated with NPHIC on many occasions. NPHIC was a critical partner during the H1N1 pandemic response. In follow-up, we worked together to develop guidelines regarding what information should be released about deaths, epidemics, emerging diseases or illnesses. In the future, we plan to partner with NPHIC on messaging related to prevention of chronic disease prevention and health promotion related to the improvements in health achieved by state and territorial health agencies through the Prevention Block Grant, Communities Putting Prevention to Work Grants, and Community Transformation Grants.

ASTHO is committed to collaborating with NPHIC on this grant and in other future endeavors. I strongly urge the CDC to approve NPHIC’s application for funding.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Jarris, MD, MBA
May 25, 2011

Mr. William Gerrish, President
National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC)
986 Hidden Hollow Drive
Marietta, GA 30068

RE: NPHIC Letter of Support for FOA - Number: CDC-RFA-CD11-1101

Dear Mr. Gerrish:

The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) is pleased to send a letter of support for the National Public Health Information Coalition’s (NPHIC) application for financial assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the above referenced FOA.

CSTE recognizes the important role NPHIC plays in providing strategic guidance and assistance to the public health communication and social marketing professionals who work for our member’s agencies. NPHIC is a resource these communication professionals have come to depend upon in everyday matters of public health promotion and in crisis situations. Training provided through your organization makes our member organizations more adept and better able to communicate effectively with the public and media.

CSTE will be pleased to collaborate with NPHIC on the activities in this grant application and in other future endeavors. We strongly support your application to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for funding.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. McConnon, MPH
Executive Director

Patrick J. McConnon, MPH