



*Issue 6 - November 2013*

## Welcome to qualitymatters!

With more than 1,000 users, PHQIX has a lot to be thankful for this holiday season. Wonderful partners, an engaged community, and new quality improvement (QI) efforts abound. You can find it all on [www.phqix.org](http://www.phqix.org). Happy reading!

Feel free to reach out to us via e-mail ([contact@phqix.org](mailto:contact@phqix.org)) or Twitter ([@PublicHealthQIX](https://twitter.com/PublicHealthQIX)) with your questions or contributions. We'd love to hear from you!

-The PHQIX Team

## News and Updates

### New and Active QI Initiatives

Explore these new QI initiatives:

- [Improving the Retention Rate of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC Clients in Yellowstone County, Montana](#) by [RiverStone Health](#)
- [Increasing Revenue Through Enhanced Billing Practices](#) by [Madison County Health Department](#)
- [Increasing Enrollment into Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs](#) by [Nebraska Division of Public Health](#)
- [Forest County Potawatomi Car Seat Safety Program](#) by [Forest County Potawatomi Community Health Department](#)
- [Striving to Create a Welcoming Environment for Limited English Proficiency Clients](#) by [Harford County Health Department](#)

More new QI initiatives for November will be posted [here](#).

### Discussions on Our Community Forum

Check out the recent activity on our [community forum](#)!

- [Network Needed for a Beginner in QI/QA](#)
- QI webinar - [Input Needed](#)
- [Performance Management Series virtual training](#)
- [Performance Management](#) - How do I begin?
- [PHAB Accredited Health Departments Future Cycle Planning](#)

### Recent Drawing Winners

October was a busy month for the PHQIX community with two drawings involving PHQIX partners, the National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI) and the American Public Health Association (APHA). Congratulations to the conference sponsorship winners:

**APHA in Boston, MA**

- Brittney Jones (Kentucky) - *pictured right*

### Open Forum in Memphis, TN

- Sarah Oleniczak (Michigan)
- Rob Perry (Ohio)
- Cherstin Callon (Oregon)

And congratulations to the following Fitbit activity tracker winners:

- Venice Ng (Colorado)
- Isra Ahmad (California)
- Jennifer Olsen (Rhode Island)
- Jennifer Walters (Iowa)

Thank you for your contributions to PHQIX!



*Brittney is a senior majoring in public health at Eastern Kentucky University.*

## Upcoming Events

### American Public Health Association Conference

We are currently at the [APHA](#) Annual Meeting & Exposition in Boston through Wednesday, November 6, 2013. Please tweet to [@PublicHealthQIX](#) or reach out if you are at the conference! We'd love to say hello!

### Open Forum for QI in Public Health

This meeting, from November 20 through 21, 2013, convenes leaders and practitioners who shape quality in public health today. PHQIX is planning to be there! For more information, click [here](#).

### Drawings

**Current APHA New User Drawing:** Until November 6, 2013, APHA conference attendees can register to become PHQIX users and will be entered into a drawing to win an iPad!

During the Open Forum, we will be holding a special participation drawing called "Find Your PHQIX Match!" Visit the PHQIX Internet Cafe at the Open Forum to learn how you can participate, win cool prizes, and further network within the QI community.

Last, on November 15, 2013, PHQIX will be announcing an exciting opportunity for public health practitioners to nominate their QI leaders for their hard work in championing a QI effort. Keep a lookout on [www.phqix.org](http://www.phqix.org) for more information!

### Performance Improvement Learning Congress in Utah

We want to send an advance thank you to the organizers and attendees of the Performance Improvement Learning Congress that will take place on November 12, 2013 for featuring PHQIX as a resource. The meeting will feature a number of local health departments and their performance improvement efforts. We hope that it is a successful gathering!

### December Twitter Chat

We'll be hosting a Twitter chat about QI on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 from 12 PM to 1 PM ET. Search #QITogether on Twitter to follow the conversation!



## Featured Resources

### **Now Available: New Funding Opportunity for Local Health Department Accreditation Preparation Support**

With funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Office for State, Tribal, Local, & Territorial Support, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is pleased to announce a funding opportunity for local health departments (LHDs) to engage in accreditation readiness activities. The 2013-2014 Accreditation Support Initiative awards are intended to stimulate QI and promote LHD readiness to seek voluntary national accreditation through PHAB.

Application requirements and full details about the ASI opportunity are provided in the [Request for Applications and the application reference document](#). Applications, via the online submission form, are due Wednesday, November 13, 2013.

### **Improvement: A Philosophy to Live By**

Meghan Johnson, senior project manager at the National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality, talks about the [power of using QI to lead more efficient and effective systems](#).

### **A Roundup of Accreditation Questions and Answers**

PHAB's latest e-newsletter features a helpful section on various accreditation questions from LHDs. Read them [here](#).

## QUALITY IMPROVEMENT TOGETHER

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PHQIX | 1440 Main Street | Waltham | MA | 02451