
CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH NETWORK

2018
ANNUAL
REPORT



CHILDREN'S
ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH
NETWORK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM NSEDU OBOT WITHERSPOON, CEHN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...	2
GOALS OF THE CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NETWORK.....	3
COMMUNICATING SCIENCE.....	4
ECO-HEALTHY CHILD CARE®	5
EHCC MILESTONES AND COLLABORATION.....	7
PROTECTING CHILDREN THROUGH POLICY.....	11
ENSURING CLEAN AIR AND COMBATTING CLIMATE CHANGE.....	11
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT (TSCA.....	12
SUPPORTING FEDERAL FUNDING AND PROGRAMS.....	13
CHILDREN AND LEAD EXPOSURE: ELIMINATING LEAD RISKS IN SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARE FACILITIES.....	14
PUTTING CHILDREN FIRST - A NATIONAL BLUEPRINT FOR ACTION.....	16
CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DAY.....	17
CANCER FREE ECONOMY.....	19
25TH ANNIVERSARY GALA & 12TH ANNUAL CHILD HEALTH ADVOCATE AWARDS	21
CIRCLE OF CHAMPIONS.....	23
FINANCIAL STATEMENT.....	29

MESSAGE FROM NSEDU OBOT WITHERSPOON CEHN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Major impacts of CEHN's work over this past year have included and been strengthened by our strategic partnerships. We started the year off launching our Children's Environmental Health Movement where we continue to call for the urgent need to place children first in all actions. Part of that movement is Children's Environmental Health Day, a day of action for and with children to assess our successes and realign ourselves to overcome various challenges yet ahead. Another part of our movement is the monthly education to action series where we partner with other organizations to highlight areas of concern and the direct actions anyone can take to make a positive impact for children in those areas.

This year our Eco-Healthy Child Care® program elevated into new and important spaces of work such as engaging with state grantees of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry around safer siting consideration, expansion of our training program to include delivery in Spanish and the launch of our online curriculum.

Considerable amount of CEHN's time has been spent partnering with key organizations to fight various rollbacks around environmental health protections and advancing the work of strategic collaborations in clean air, clean water, lead prevention, and cancer prevention.

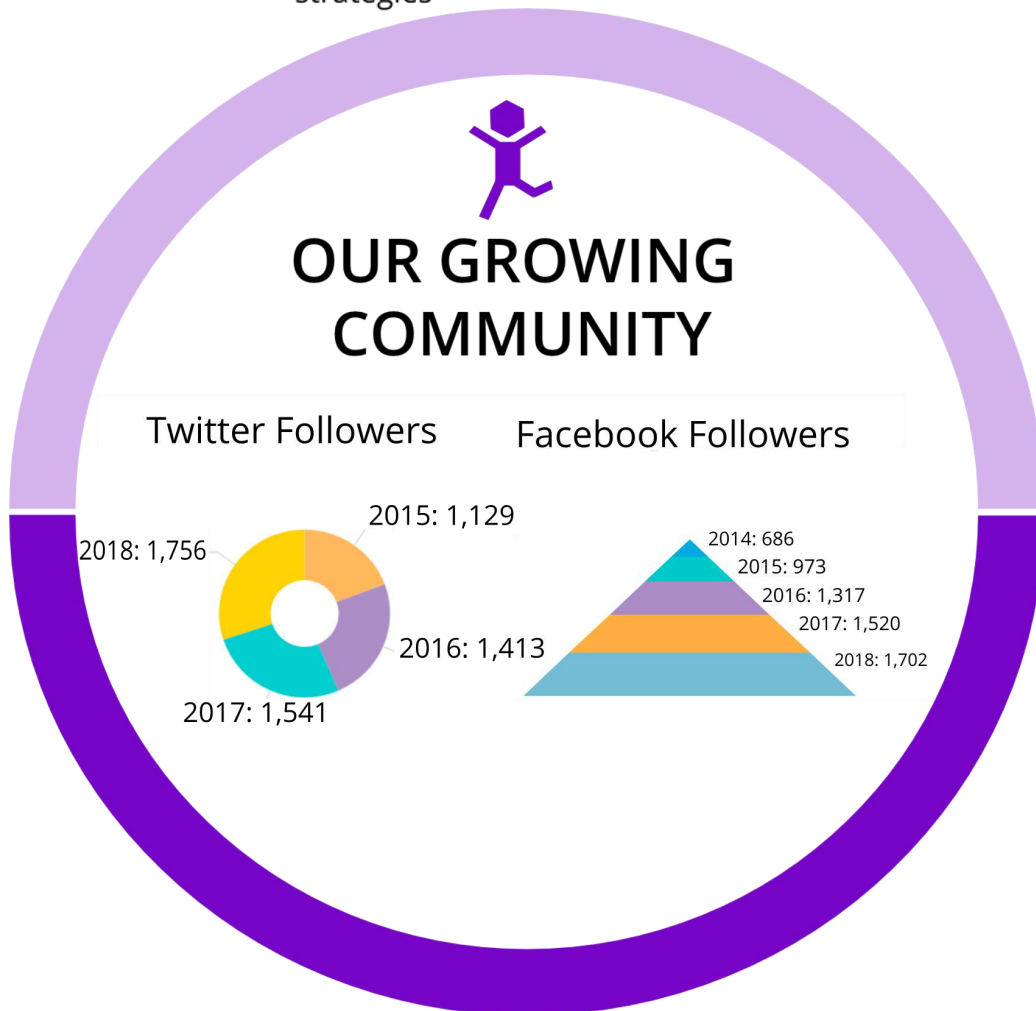
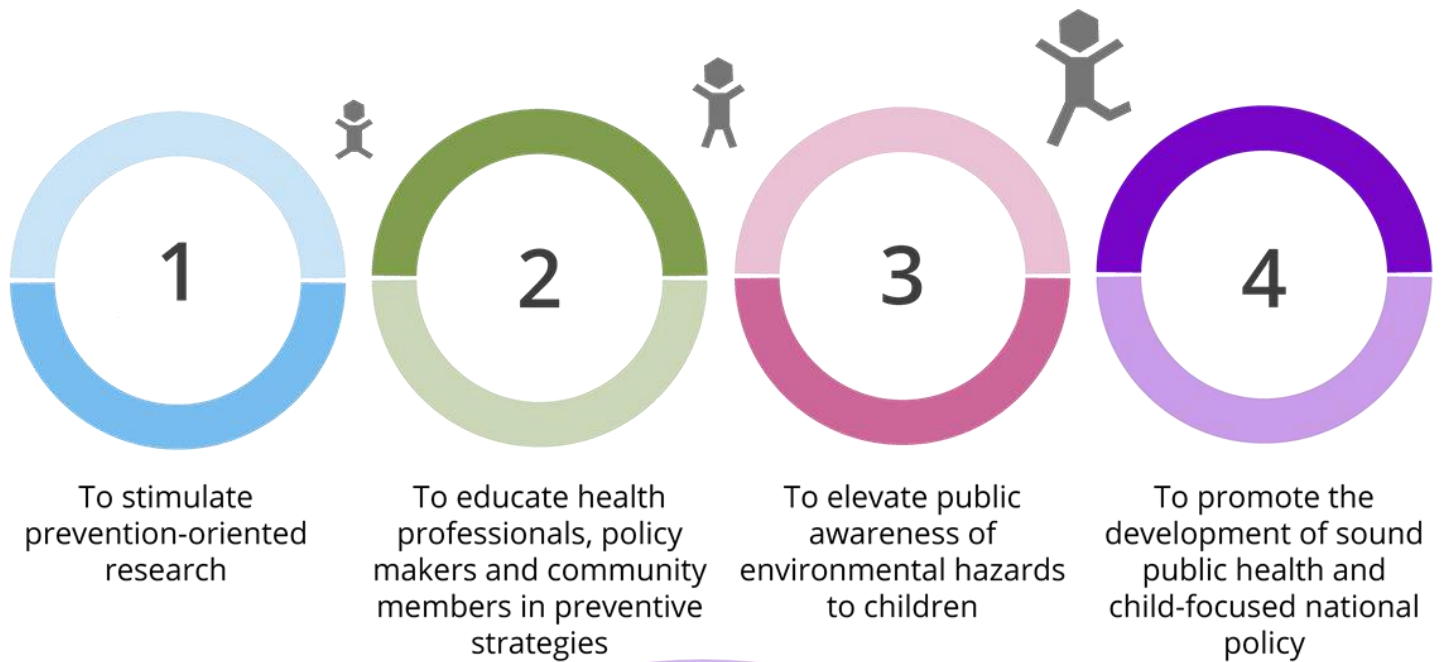
CEHN celebrated 25 years of our national work to protect children and their families through our mission. We took time to acknowledge successes, expand our collaborations and spheres of influence, and fine tune our operations for most effectiveness. I always say that we do not want to have to be around for another 25 years, however, if the needs are still as great we have more than enough ahead of us to keep us focused and productive.

Thank you for taking the time to read about our work over this year and as always we welcome your input, thoughts, and support as we move forward for all children!

In Peace and Health,

Nsedu Obot Witherspoon, MPH

GOALS OF THE CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NETWORK





COMMUNICATING SCIENCE

CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ARTICLE-OF-THE-MONTH / LATEST RESEARCH

For the past ten years, CEHN has been highlighting published, peer-reviewed articles on emerging children's environmental health-related research every month through the Article-of-the-Month (AOM) series. This series was specifically designed to help journalists, policy-makers, child care providers, parents, and the general public better understand complex scientific findings within the field. CEHN's highlighted articles have covered a broad range of current, high-priority children's environmental health topics, and were hand-picked by CEHN's Science Committee and Staff for their relevance and scientific rigor. Study findings were translated for a lay audience, and their potential policy implications and importance were summarized.

Each AOM had been posted at the beginning of the month on CEHN's website, www.cehn.org/our-work/articles-of-the-month/ and promoted through CEHN's e-mail mailing lists and social media outlets.

CEHN discontinued the AOM series in February 2018. However, we remain committed to sharing the latest children's environmental health scientific findings with our audiences. CEHN is now taking a more nimble approach--one that is unconstrained by a monthly timeline, enabling us to react quickly to the latest and most relevant publications so that interested parties learn about them sooner. Research article highlights are now found on CEHN's "Latest Research" web page at: <https://cehn.org/our-work/latest-research/>. These are promoted via the same channels used for the AOM series. CEHN website visitors will continue to have access to our past AOM highlights.



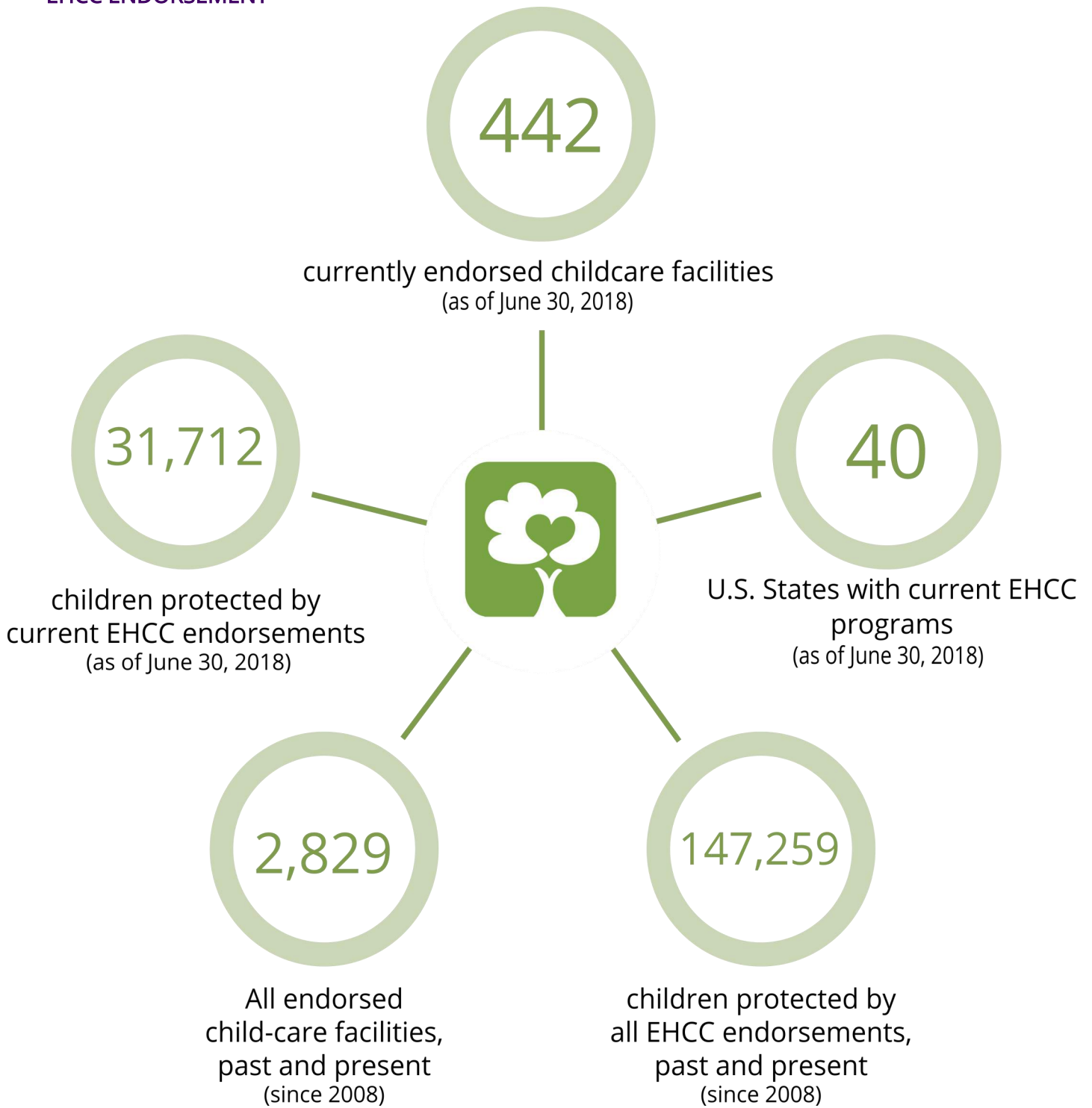
**Eco-Healthy
Child Care®**

ECO-HEALTHY CHILD CARE®

Eco-Healthy Child Care® (EHCC) is a national program that partners with child care professionals to eliminate or reduce environmental health hazards found in child care facilities, thus improving the environmental health of children. EHCC supports child care providers as they make simple choices that benefit the health and well-being of all children in their care. The program offers training, technical assistance, resources, marketing, and an endorsement. By reducing exposure to toxicants like pesticides and lead and improving indoor air quality, the program creates healthier environments in and around child care facilities. EHCC remains the sole, self-directed, national environmental health endorsement program for child care providers.

EHCC has received several awards for our innovative and effective approaches. Awards include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Children's Environmental Health Excellence Award in 2006, the Childcare and School IPM Recognition Award from the IPM Institute of North America, Inc. in 2010, and the Environmental Health Innovation Award from the National Environmental Health Association in 2013.

EHCC ENDORSEMENT



EHCC TRAIN THE TRAINER

The EHCC Train the Trainer (TtT) curriculum is scientifically based, peer reviewed, and comprehensively covers environmental health hazards within child care settings. Between July 2016 and July 2017, CEHN staff offered five-hour EHCC TtT sessions to child care trainers, child care health/nurse consultants, licensing staff, and Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) staff in Arizona (in partnership with First Things First); Maryland (in partnership with the Maryland Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood Development- Office of Child Care); California (in Spanish; in partnership with the California Child Care Resources and Referral Network); Washington (in partnership with the University of Washington, School of Public Health, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences; and New York (in partnership with the Southern Adirondack Child Care Network). Since 2008, the EHCC TtT has been offered in 32 states. Since 2008, EHCC staff have trained 1,277 upper-level child care professionals using the EHCC TtT curriculum. We look forward to working with child care professionals in Louisiana in October of 2018.

EHCC LEADERSHIP

CEHN staff members chair the EHCC National Advisory Committee (NAC) and the EHCC Science Task Force. Since 2008, the EHCC NAC has ensured the growth, development, and rapid adoption of the EHCC program. Leaders of both state and national child care agencies and national children's environmental health organizations comprise this committee, including: Child Care Aware of America, The National Association for the Education of Young Children, The National Association for Regulatory Administration, The National Association for Family Child Care, and the Environmental Law Institute, among others. Committee members review materials to ensure appropriate content, advise how to conduct effective outreach, and make sure that the program is culturally sensitive. EHCC's Science Task Force, a committee of seven nationally renowned pediatricians, toxicologists, and other children's environmental health experts, advise the EHCC curriculum with regard to the latest scientific research.

EHCC MILESTONES AND COLLABORATION

ONLINE CURRICULUM

Eco-Healthy Child Care[®]'s e-learning course launched in April of 2017 and is available through both [Healthy Housing Solutions](#) (HHS) and [ProSolutions](#) (PS). The course is engaging and interactive. Learners discover how children are exposed to chemicals in their everyday environments and why these exposures are concerning. This course is ideal for providers, parents/caregivers, school administrators, nurses, child care licensing professionals, and anyone interested in protecting children from environmental hazards commonly found in early learning environments.

[Healthy Housing Solutions'](#) (HHS) Learning Management System offers the online course via 15 distinct modules. Thirteen modules contain a unique interaction to keep learners engaged and to facilitate active learning. The remaining two modules contain pre and post tests to evaluate the learner's acquisition of new knowledge. [ProSolutions](#) (PS), one of the primary

e-learning hubs for early childhood education also offers the course. The same 3-hour course is broken into three 1-hour segments on this platform. The primary audience for the EHCC course through PS is child care professionals; 48 states recognize the EHCC e-learning course and offer adult learning clock hour credit to those who have successfully completed it. The target audience for the EHCC course through HHS is parents, grandparents and the general public. The cost to take the course is \$30, whether accessing it through HHS or PS. Upon course completion, learners will be equipped with best practices for implementing easy and realistic changes to improve the environmental health of settings where children spend the majority of their time.

NORTH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY ACTION (NAPECA)



With the goal to address environmental health concerns locally and to directly support communities across North America, CEHN's EHCC program was awarded funding from the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) under the North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action (NAPECA) program. Within the purview of this 18-month grant, the entire EHCC TtT curriculum was translated into Spanish. Additionally, EHCC's 5-hour TtT session was delivered to child care professionals in U.S.-Mexico border states: Arizona and California.

On August 3rd, 2017, EHCC's 5-hour Train the Trainer course was delivered in Spanish for the first time! Offered in Los Angeles, a total of 13 attendees from various regions of California participated in the interactive training. Dr. Lesliam Quirós-Alcalá from the University of Maryland, School of Public Health at the University of Maryland College Park and Melissa DeSantiago, a recent Master in Public Health graduate from the University of Maryland, School of Public Health facilitated the training. The attendees were child care trainers, health/nurse consultants and licensing staff.

ATSDR - CHOOSE SAFE PLACES

In 2017, CEHN's Eco-Healthy Child Care® program began collaborating with the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) and the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) to assist the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in providing support and assistance to their 25 APPLETREE (ATSDR's Partnership to Promote Local Efforts to Reduce Environmental Exposure) grantees (state health departments), and other unfunded local and state partners in implementing the "[Choose Safe Places for Early Care and Education](#)" guidance manual. The manual encourages child care providers to consider environmental hazards when locating early learning facilities. To ensure that the staff from the 25 health departments had a concrete understanding of the early care and education landscape, EHCC staff and partners arranged informational bi-monthly webinars conducted by staff of [Child Care Aware of America](#), the [National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education](#), and the [Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families](#), among others. After the formal presentations, "peer sharing" took place between state agency representatives, as they relayed progress and lessons learned. A key next step for this project work includes assessing where and how the best practice recommendations from the Choose Safe Places for Early Care and Education guidance manual can be incorporated into national health and safety indicators and standards for early care and education.



EPA REGION III—TRAININGS AND SITE ASSESSMENTS

Beginning in October of 2017, CEHN received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region III to organize and conduct 6 training within the following locations: Washington D.C. (2 trainings), Baltimore, MD (2 trainings), Prince Georges County, MD (1 training), and Philadelphia, PA (1 training). The audience for the trainings were cities/counties with high rates of lead poisoning and childhood asthma. The training content focused on children's environmental health content that is pertinent to each of the participating communities. Additionally, CEHN has worked to conduct 4 site assessments, in each of the target areas, to evaluate the adoption of eco-healthy best practices among child care providers endorsed by the EHCC program. The success of this project work is largely due to the partnerships CEHN has with local, state and national organizations including: the Baltimore City Child Care Resource Center; Johns Hopkins University, School of Education, and the Center for Technology in Education (which houses and manages Maryland Excels (Maryland's Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS)); the American Federation of Teachers; the Washington Teacher Union; the DC Child Care Connections @ Kids Comprehensive Services and Pennsylvania's Southeast Regional Key at Public Health Management Corporation.



EHCC PROVIDER OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

The *Eco-Healthy Child Care® Provider Spotlight Series* showcases a sampling of endorsed child care programs that have gone above and beyond the best practice suggestions listed within the Eco-Healthy Child Care® Checklist. Programs are recognized for their commitment to protecting the health and well-being of the children within their care. Child care providers that are highlighted in the *Eco-Healthy Child Care® Provider Spotlight Series* are identified by nominations and EHCC site assessments. Each Spotlight is featured via CEHN emails, social media and our [EHCC webpage](#).

EHCC CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- ◆ National Association for Family Child Care Conference Annual Conference
- ◆ National Association for Regulatory Administration Licensing Seminar
- ◆ American Public Health Association Annual Conference
- ◆ National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Annual Conference/ Expo
- ◆ Lead-Safe and Healthy Housing Collaborative
- ◆ Child Care Aware of America Policy Summit
- ◆ Annual Young Child Expo and Conference
- ◆ National Association for the Education of Young Children Professional Learning Institute
- ◆ National Association for Family Child Care Conference Annual Conference
- ◆ National Environmental Health Association
- ◆ National Association of City and County Officials (poster)

PROTECTING CHILDREN THROUGH POLICY

Protecting the health of children and the environments where they live, learn and play, through policy, is a priority for CEHN. The past year environmental public health advocates were met with some setbacks, many challenges, and several small victories. CEHN was accompanied in its policy work by a united community of advocates and champions for children's environmental health. Policy efforts focused primarily on clean air and water, TSCA, and appropriations.



ENSURING CLEAN AIR AND COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE

Through participation in the healthy air coalition (lead by the American Lung Association), CEHN signed onto several letters and provided comments supporting clean air and climate change (e.g., opposition to the Ozone Standards Implementation Act of 2017 support for regulation of methane, ozone, and other greenhouse gas emissions; public health infrastructure and climate change).

As a member of the Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health, CEHN sponsored (and CEHN's executive director attended) the consortium's annual meeting in the spring.

CEHN also co-sponsored and participated in Mom's Clean Air Force's annual Play-In for Climate Action.



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT (TSCA)

Implementation of TSCA was a priority for CEHN and partners this past year; a small amount of funding from the Broad Reach Foundation supported CEHN staff in TSCA related policy efforts. CEHN participated in monthly webinars and calls coordinated by the Rapid Response Network (RRN), an effort of the UCSF Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment, which covers pressing issues related to toxics, TSCA and more. CEHN also participated in calls concerning TSCA implementation led by the Environmental Defense Fund. CEHN will continue to participate in TSCA-related activities in the RRN and any partner-led policy relevant activities.

One small victory: Public health advocates, including CEHN, were successful in opposing the confirmation of Michael Dourson, a chemical industry executive, to head EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP), which is responsible for implementing TSCA reform).

CEHN prepared and submitted comments to EPA on Risk Evaluation Scoping Efforts Under TSCA for Ten Chemical Substances.

CEHN, along with key partners, signed a letter to the acting EPA administrator Andrew Wheeler calling for better systematic review of toxic chemicals by the EPA.

CLEAN WATER

CEHN, along with other members of the Clean Water for All Coalition, signed onto a letter urging members of the U.S. House of Representatives to keep any anti-environment riders from the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2018.

CEHN signed onto the Lead-Safe Housing for Kids Act of 2017.

SUPPORTING FEDERAL FUNDING AND PROGRAMS

CEHN worked with the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) coalition, Friends of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and other groups on letters to the U.S. House and Senate Appropriations Committees in support of appropriations that promote children's health and safety.

CEHN signed onto a letter, through the CDC coalition, with other public and environmental health groups to the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies in support of increased FY19 funding levels for CDC's National Center for Environmental Health.

CEHN also signed onto two letters with the Friends of NIEHS: one letter to Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies in support of NIH and NIEHS funding for FY19, and the other a letter to the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Subcommittees on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies in support of funding for NIEHS's Superfund Program (SRP).

CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFINGS AND MEETINGS

CEHN partnered on a legislative briefing titled: Is the new Toxic Substances Control Act working as Congress intended? The briefing was co-hosted by UCSF's Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

CEHN's executive director participated in a facebook live conversation on water equity and infrastructure sponsored by U.S. Representative Raúl M. Grijalva, Ranking Member of the Committee on Natural Resources, and in a round-table on air quality and public health sponsored by U.S. Representative Nanette Barragán. As a follow-up to these events, CEHN's executive director participated in a round-table conversation on public health and the environment sponsored by the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources.

ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP

CEHN submitted comments on NIEHS's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan Advancing Environmental Health Science: Improving Health 2.0. CEHN highlighted the need to focus on children's health and the importance of the Children's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research Centers.

CEHN partnered with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) to assist U.S. Senator Robert Casey in a Senator sign-on letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies to oppose EPA's proposed dissolution of the Agency's National Center for Environmental Research (NCER). Fifteen U.S. Senators signed the letter. CEHN also wrote and coordinated sign-ons to a letter to the Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Science at EPA's Office of Research and Development in opposition to the dismantling of NCER. Key medical and public health partner organizations signed onto the letter. Among many programs, NCER funds the Star grant program, which funds the Children's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research Centers.

CHILDREN AND LEAD EXPOSURE



ELIMINATING LEAD RISKS IN SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARE FACILITIES

CEHN, together with the Healthy Schools Network and the Learning Disabilities Association of America, organized a facilitated workshop in December 2017. The 40 participants were experts in varied fields—toxic chemicals, pediatrics, economics, education, environment, and public health—who came together for the first time to learn, discuss, and map near-term steps in a comprehensive strategy for eliminating lead exposure in schools and child care facilities.

After a well-facilitated workshop process, seven ambitious strategic areas emerged as priorities:

1. Win policies to eliminate sources of lead risks in schools and child care facilities.
2. Improve, promote, and enforce regulations and standards for these settings.
3. Encourage or persuade the private sector to commit to lead-free solutions.
4. Identify and prioritize sources of lead in schools and child care facilities.
5. Press for increased government funding to eliminate lead exposures at school and child care facilities.
6. Develop a strong message and communications campaign on lead for diverse audiences.
7. Seek expanded foundation and other sources of support for NGO campaigns and actions to eliminate risks of lead in school and child care facilities.

It will take considerable funding in order to effectively and comprehensively reach these collective goals. In the meantime, CEHN continues to advance efforts to reduce lead exposures in child care settings. This includes our work: managing the Eco-Healthy Child Care[®] program; advising the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs as they build state capacity to improve systems of care to address the needs of maternal, infant and child populations that are at risk for or experience exposure to lead; and serving on the steering committee for the Lead Service Line Replacement Collaborative.

A full report on the workshop with expansion on these identified strategic areas, short-term goals and 5-year indicators of success, can be found on [CEHN's website](#).

LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT COLLABORATIVE

In the aftermath of the Flint lead in drinking water crisis, 26 diverse organizations came together to form the Lead Service Line Replacement Collaborative (“Collaborative”). The Collaborative’s goal is to accelerate full removal of the lead pipes providing drinking water to millions of American homes. Collaborative members include national public health, water utility, environmental, labor, consumer, housing, and state and local governmental organizations.

CEHN continues to serve on the Collaborative’s Steering Committee, and leads efforts to engage public health professionals in helping to accelerate full lead service line replacement in their communities by using the Collaborative’s online toolkit materials including: a roadmap for getting started; suggested practices to identify and remove LSLs in a safe, equitable, and cost-effective manner; policies to consider to support local efforts; and links to additional resources that may be helpful when developing local programs.

The Collaborative’s website and online toolkit resources are geared toward parents, public health professionals, community members, water professionals, and elected officials, and emphasis is intentionally focused on matters of accessibility and health equity. Select pages, resources, fact sheets, and even webinars from the toolkit have been [translated into Spanish](#).

Several webinars, conference presentations, and other outreach efforts and events have helped to promote awareness of the LSLRC toolkit, and the Collaborative continues to seek feedback, particularly from communities who are engaged or interested in LSL replacement initiatives.

Read more about the [Collaborative](#).

PUTTING CHILDREN FIRST—A NATIONAL BLUEPRINT FOR ACTION



CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MOVEMENT

Despite a better understanding about the connection between environment and health and the unique vulnerabilities of children to these impacts, the health of children today is no better than it was a decade or more ago. Further, children from families with low incomes, and children of color, experience multiple health stressors and exposures, and as a result face an increased risk for poor health outcomes.



In 2015 CEHN, together with children's environmental health advocates, partners, and leaders, developed a new proactive vision and framework for children's environmental health for the 21st century, [A Blueprint for Protecting Children's Environmental Health: An Urgent Call to Action](#). The Blueprint emphasizes urgent action to make children's health a national priority. It outlines the steps that are necessary for progress towards protecting children's environmental health, and for developing a solid foundation to support future commitments moving forward.

A key priority action item from the Blueprint is the development of a children's environmental health movement to put these critical issues in the forefront of the national consciousness and decision-making, with a particular focus on action and equity. With encouragement and support from trusted partners, CEHN launched the Children's Environmental Health Movement (CEH Movement).

The CEH Movement, titled: #ChildrenAtTheCenter, seeks to:

- Increase awareness and understanding of children's environmental health among key audiences
- Mobilize action on children's environmental health issues
- Establish/expand the community and network of partners working on children's environmental health issues

CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DAY

The first key element of the movement CEHN spearheaded was the establishment of Children's Environmental Health (CEH) Day (observed the 2nd Thursday every October which is Children's Health Month). The inaugural CEH Day was held on October 13, 2016.

CEH Day is intended as a day of raising awareness and motivating society to advocate for child protective policies and practices and to take action themselves in creating healthier environments for children and promoting wellness. The Day is also intended to create a strong network of advocates, including a more connected and vibrant CEH community. It serves as a new platform, one with a specific child health lens, for partners to galvanize their efforts across disciplines, sectors and levels of government towards the common goal of clean air and water, safer food and products, and healthy places for all children. Finally, CEH Day is meant as a Day to anchor the Movement, #ChildrenAtTheCenter.

The second annual CEH Day was observed on October 12, 2017 and began with a breakfast event that was attended by approximately 100 CEH champions at Ancient Rivers in Washington, DC. Images from the event are available [here](#). The event program was well received, especially a youth panel of local high school and college students who shared their unique perspective on environmental health issues. The District's Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services, Ms. Hyesook Chung, also attended to present CEHN with the District of Columbia's 2017 CEH Day Proclamation, demonstrating DC's Commitment to children's environmental health.

CEHN developed a [proclamation toolkit](#) for individuals and organizations to use to easily request CEH Day proclamations each year from their mayors and/or governors. With the dedicated help from leaders throughout the country, the governors of Maryland, Virginia, and Vermont proclaimed October 12, 2017 as Children's Environmental Health Day, as did the mayors of Washington, DC, Anchorage, Alaska, Norfolk and Alexandria, VA, and Omaha, NE.

In addition to the proclamation toolkit, CEHN established additional [online tools](#) for folks to use to take action for CEH Day, including downloadable postcards and an electronic messaging platform to send quick messages to elected officials; a portal to share personal CEH stories and thus help build a narrative to mobilize society; and a promotional toolkit with ready-to-use social media posts to amplify the Day. Visitors to the CEH Day webpage were asked to join the CEH Movement, and so far there are over 170 subscribed.

CEHN also hosted a robust one-hour CEH Day Twitter chat (#CEHchat) in the afternoon. Chat participants and promoters included National Center for Healthy Housing, American Lung Association, the Center for Disease Control's National Center for Environmental Health, ecoAmerica's Climate for Health program, WE ACT for Environmental Justice and many more!

Sixteen respected organizations served as official CEH Day Partners and helped to promote the Day to their networks, attend the breakfast event, and participated in the Twitter chat.

MONTHLY EDUCATION-TO-ACTION SERIES

CEHN launched a second component of the CEH Movement in February 2018—a monthly [CEH Education-to-Action Series](#). CEHN has been working with a partner organization(s) each month to highlight a specific issue (or "theme") of concern with regard to children's environmental health.

The themes reflect CEH issues of high relevance coordinated with national observances, and elevates some of the excellent and important resources and campaigns already created or spearheaded by others in the field, using a children's environmental health lens. Each thematic month of the series includes an educational component to raise awareness and simple calls to action that individuals and/or organizations can undertake to either advocate for child-protective policies or to promote children's wellness. Partners develop an engagement plan for cross promotion of our partnership.

CEHN looks forward to continuing to improve on and grow CEH Day and the CEH Movement, thereby nurturing a powerful, unified voice of CEH professionals, researchers, decision makers, educators, parents, community leaders, and youth committed to healthy environments, healthy children, and a healthy future for all.

CANCER-FREE ECONOMY NETWORK



This year CEHN participated in our third collaborative year as the Co-Lead for the Science and Health Node for the Cancer Free Economy Network (CFEN). The CFEN is cultivating an inclusive movement to prevent people from developing cancers associated with exposure to harmful chemicals in the places they live and work. The network is committed to expanding the movement to protect people from chemicals that can cause cancer by uniting advocates and researchers working on issues as diverse as public health, fossil-fuel reduction, and economic justice.

The long-term CFEN goal (our “Guiding Star”) is deliberately audacious: *Within a generation we will lift the burden of cancers and other diseases by driving a dramatic and equitable transition from toxics to effective, clean and safe alternatives.*

CFEN currently operates in several areas across many fields that influence the use of cancer-causing chemicals: health organizations, grassroots environmental justice, labor organizing, law, public policy, corporate advocacy, green chemistry, and the development of safer materials. The network is organized into three “nodes:” Building Power, Health/Science, and Market Shift. The nodes receive support from two cross-network hubs that offer expertise in Communications and in Policy and Legal strategies.

We believe the most effective change will unite experts and policymakers with the people who suffer because of toxic chemicals in their homes, jobs, and neighborhoods. We seek to complement existing movements by networking with everyone from farm workers to firefighters who are protecting their communities from chemicals that contribute to cancer.

We are committed to continued learning over time, so we can amplify what is working to stop the spread of chemicals that can cause cancer, learn from what isn't working, and

make more progress in a shorter time than would otherwise be possible by working alone.

The Health/Science node is advancing strategies that the network prioritized via a process of mapping the entire system of incentives that influence the use of cancer-causing chemicals:

1. Change the dominant narratives held by health professionals about cancer, its causes, and the role of chemicals;
2. Strengthen the evidence of links between toxic chemicals and cancer, as well as the viability of safer alternatives; and
3. Develop health and scientific champions to bring new authority and power to initiatives to reduce the use of toxic chemicals.

The Health/Science node also provides technical support and science-based resources to the CFEN as a whole.

This year the node expanded the health and science base of the network through the following activities:

Science for the Network. The node provides the network with information and interpretation of relevant science, both on environmental links with cancer and on the development of new technologies for accelerating the transition away from toxic chemicals and toward safer materials. The node has developed factsheets on CFEN's seven priority chemical classes and reviewed materials developed by other nodes to ensure scientific accuracy.

Outreach to Engage Health Professional and Cancer-Focused Organizations. The node is bringing new power to the work of the network by activating health and cancer-focused leaders and constituencies, especially those representing people who face the biggest threats from harmful chemicals. This is a "champion building" strategy that inspires and equips health and cancer-focused leaders and organizations to learn about, disseminate information and take action on connections between environmental exposures and cancer.

As part of this project, the Health/Science node has drafted and begun circulating a sign-on statement that calls attention to the role of chemicals in causing cancer, and asks for greater action to prevent cancer by reducing environmental risk factors. The node has also entered collaborative agreements with the National Medical Association (NMA), Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (ANHE), and the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN) to build new champions for the work of CFEN.

Catalyzing Research for a Cancer-Free Economy. The node is identifying priorities and opportunities for increased funding for research to fuel the transition from toxic chemicals to safer alternatives. They are influencing the content of cancer-focused research meetings to include the role of chemicals and environmental exposures, and will be providing a series of workshops that expand opportunities for collaboration among experts from a range of currently disconnected health and scientific disciplines.

The node convinced the American Association of Cancer Research (AACR) to convene a stand-alone multi-day meeting on environmental carcinogenesis. *Pathway to Prevention* will be the first meeting that AACR will have ever held that is focused on the harms of chemicals that we eat, breathe, and drink. It is scheduled for June, 2019 and The Health node is planning the final “where do we go from here” session. In addition, the node is planning a “Leveraging Cancer Research to Design Safer Chemicals and Products” workshop prior to the AACR 2019 meeting.

CEHN'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY GALA & 12TH ANNUAL CHILD HEALTH ADVOCATE

CEHN celebrated an important milestone this past year – 25 years of advocating for strong children’s environmental health protections at all levels of society! Friends and partners from all over the country filled the rooms of the Josephine Butler Parks Center, a historic mansion in DC overlooking Meridian Hill Park, to celebrate our 25th Anniversary Gala and 12th Annual Child Health Advocate Awards.

The evening began with partner reflections of CEHN’s impact on improved health protections for children over the years, followed by a tribute to the late Dr. Herbert Needleman who was a true child health champion and trailblazer, particularly in his research on the effects of lead in children. Dr. Needleman served on CEHN's Science Committee for years and received our Child Health Advocate Award in Science in 2011. Following Dr. Needleman’s tribute, CEHN honored five exemplary leaders for their contributions to the field of children’s environmental health as part of CEHN's 12th Annual Awards event.

Science Award: Dr. Michael L. Weitzman, Professor of Pediatrics, Environmental Medicine and Global Public Health at New York University

The Carol Stroebel Health Policy Award: Dr. Jerome Paulson, Principal of EnviroHealthDoctor, LLC, a national consulting firm focused on children's environmental health.

Child Health Advocate Community Award: Dr. Robert D. Bullard Distinguished Professor of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy and Administration of Justice at Texas Southern University.

Child Health Advocate Community Award: Ms. Annabelle Allison, Senior Field Assignee, Tribal Support Unit, Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support, The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention.

The Nsedu Obot Witherspoon (N.O.W) Youth Leadership Award: Sophie Bernstein, Founder of Grow Healthy.

CEHN's generous award event sponsors included: Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Children's Environmental Health Center, Sierra Club, ecoAmerica's Climate for Health program, AmFund, Ecoprint, Bacchus Wine Cellar, Crown Trophy Waldorf, Richard and Sussanna Finnell, Paul and Elizabeth Locke, Brenda and Muhammad Afzal, and Scott and Emily Afzal.

CEHN is quite grateful for all who joined us in person and provided support in various ways from around the country for this incredible event which included live music and a silent auction of excited travel packages.

We hope to see even more of you at our 13th Annual Child Health Advocate Award Reception on October 22, 2018!

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This report is dedicated to the legacy of Dr. Herbert L. Needleman, a true child health champion.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

INCOME

Grants

Government/Federal - \$62,800

Foundations -\$488,291

Corporations - \$25,000

Awards Gala - \$9,832

Contributions -\$7,917

Program Fees - \$35,981

FY 2016 Carry Over = \$115,000

Total Income = \$768,119

EXPENSES

Personnel/Labor Personnel - \$360,962

Fringe Benefits - \$25,732

Payroll Taxes -\$27,009

Unemployment Tax - \$710

Pension Expense - \$22,229

Professional/Consultant Fees -\$53,854

Temp/Contract Labor - \$10,350

Program Expenses - \$264,450

Travel -\$17,801

Insurance - \$4,474

Registration Fees - \$1,464

Rent -\$56,742

Utilities -\$500

Phone -\$5,531

Equipment Rental -\$5,734

Postage/Delivery - \$3,935

Printing & Reproduction -\$1,613

Computer/Web Services -\$6,816

Meeting Expenses - \$5,865

Office Supplies -\$5,359

* Net income amount reflects timing of incoming grant cycles. Majority of CEHN's grants post over the summer and fall months.

Total Expenses = \$882,699

Net Income = -\$114,580