

THE 2007 **PHLS** LEADERSHIP SERIES

Improving Quality on the Public Health Frontline: What Every Public Health Leader Should Know

Call #1: Setting the Stage: Quality Improvement on the Frontline

Speaker Biographies

Charles Mahan

Professor Emeritus
College of Public Health, University of South Florida

Charles S. Mahan, MD is Dean and Professor Emeritus in the College of Public Health at the University of South Florida and The Lawton and Rhea Chiles Center for Healthy Mothers and Babies. He holds a joint appointment as Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the USF College of Medicine. He serves as Interim President of the National Board of Public Health Examiners.

He directed the State Health Department in Florida from 1988 to 1995 and was Dean of the College of Public Health at the University of South Florida from 1995 to 2002.

He was elected to the Academy of Distinguished Alumni of West Virginia University and presented the Byford Outstanding Alumnus Award by Northwestern University Medical School. He has also been presented the Irwin Chabon Award by Lamaze International and the 2004 Martha May Eliot Award by the American Public Health Association for exceptional achievements in maternal and child health. He was the Florida March of Dimes Statewide Volunteer of the Year in 2006.

He is Past President of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and Chair of the Advisory Committee to the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from 1997-2003. He is on the Board of Directors of the Frontier Nursing Service, the National Perinatal Information Center and The Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida. He also serves as statewide chairperson for the March of Dimes Florida Prematurity Prevention Campaign. He chairs the selection committee for the Blue Foundation's annual Sapphire Award. He is also on the National HPV Vaccine Advisory Board for the Merck Company.

He is a 1981 graduate of Louisiana State University's School of Journalism, and is a graduate of the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class of 1997.

Joan Brewster

Director, Public Health Systems Planning & Development
Washington State Health Department

Joan Brewster is the Director of Public Health Systems Planning and Development for the Washington State Department of Health. She is responsible for activities designed to improve the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of the state's public health system, including the multi-agency Public Health Improvement Partnership.

Dave Ross

Executive Director
Public Health Informatics Institute

David Ross, Sc.D., is the Director of the Public Health Informatics Institute, a program of the Task Force for Child Survival and Development. Dr. Ross received his doctoral degree in Operations Research from The Johns Hopkins University. He has served as a hospital administrator in both public and private hospitals. In 1983 he joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) where his career involved environmental health research, executive administration, and public health practice. In his career at CDC, Dr. Ross served as the founding director of the Information Network for Public Health Officials (INPHO), a CDC initiative to improve the information infrastructure throughout public health. Dave retired at the rank of Captain from the U.S. Public Health Service in 1988. After retirement from CDC, he joined Kansas City-based Cerner Corporation as an executive in clinical information systems implementation and consulting. In September 2000, Dave became Director of All Kids Count, a national technical resource center sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, supporting the integration of child health information systems. In September 2002, he established the Public Health Informatics Institute, with continued assistance of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.