

**Western MCH Nutrition Leadership Network
University of California, Los Angeles
Public Health Nutrition Leadership Training
MCHB #T79MC00013**

December 23, 2015

Dear Network Member,

The UCLA MCH Nutrition Leadership Training program (“UCLA Partners”) and our collaborators at the UC Berkeley MCH Nutrition Leadership Training Program are pleased to invite you to the annual Western MCH Nutrition Leadership Network (NLN) meeting to be held March 3rd and 4th, 2016 in Los Angeles, CA. Being back in Los Angeles, allows us to again enjoy the views of the Pacific Ocean and a more intimate gathering of our NLN participants to connect and network. Our group will be staying at a hotel in Marina del Rey, that will be confirmed in January.

Results of the survey that we sent you a few months ago asking for your input regarding the focus of the meeting, indicated that there was strong interest in the topic of the upcoming release of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Therefore, for our “cutting edge topic,” we have engaged speakers to discuss their experiences with the development of these guidelines and how the focus on sustainability will impact services for MCH in the coming years. The title of the session, ***2015 Dietary Guidelines: Implications for MCH and Sustainability*** will include a presentation from Anna-Maria Siega-Riz, Professor, University of North Carolina, Gillings School of Global Public Health and member of the 2015 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee. We will ask our participants to conduct a 3-day dietary recall and readings will be suggested as preparation for this session.

After lunch, we will continue our discussion around the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), with presentations by Karen Farley, Executive Director, and Laurie True, Strategic Advisor, California WIC Association, on ***The ACA and Preventive Services: How MCH Practitioners Can Get Involved?*** We will engage in more detailed discussions doing small group work and will work toward each participant leaving the session with a plan of how they can get involved in their own states where appropriate. Readings will be assigned as preparation for this session.

The ACA session will be followed by some free time so that you can stretch your legs with colleagues and enjoy exploring Marina del Rey. For the remainder of the afternoon we will have the “networking” portion of our meeting. As usual, this will be your opportunity to share the exciting things going on in your states with the rest of the Network. As you have done in the past, we will be asking you to **send an abstract of the topic/program** you would like to share so that we can best organize our time. A template with instructions/specifications will be sent under separate cover. We also invite you to e-mail uclapartners@ph.ucla.edu with any **updates to your abstracts** from last year so that we can share your progress on the website.

Friday, March 4th, our usual Leadership Day, is entitled ***“Mentorship for MCH Professionals”***, a workshop led by Phyllis Crowley, Nutrition Coordinator for the National WIC Association in Utah, and long-time NLN participant, together with Jean Weinberg, a nationally sought after consultant with over 40 years of experience in the public interest sector supporting political campaigns, assisting governmental organizations to develop strategic plans, and translate these strategic plans into concrete actions. Both currently serve on ASPHN’s

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Mentoring Task Force as Co-Chair, and Management & Leadership Consultant respectively. We will be posting some activities on our NLN website (<http://www.mchnutritionpartners.ucla.edu/western-nln/nln-meeting-2016>) for participants to do prior to this session, which include reading “Mentoring 101,” by John Maxwell (less than \$10.00, small and easy to read) and taking a free personality test based on Carl Jung’s and Isabel Briggs Myers’ typology, which can be accessed at: www.humanmetrics.com/cgi-win/jtypes2.asp. Please send the results of your personality assessment to Jean Weinberg at: Jean@jeanweinberg.com by February 15th and also bring a hard copy of the results to the meeting. The information from the assessment and the information you gain from reading the recommended book, will be used to guide this session.

All of the Partners in the Western Region (Drs. Donna Johnson, Liz Adams, Leslie Cunningham-Sabo, Beth Yakes Jimenez) join Dr. Marion Taylor Baer, Janet Leader, and myself from UCLA, and Drs. Barbara Laraia and Andrea Garber and Carol Hui from UC Berkeley and UC San Francisco, in looking forward to an informative and collaborative time together and value your ongoing participation in the Network.

As usual, we will also be joined by our graduate-level trainees preparing for a career in MCH nutrition. For those of you who are new to the Network, you can find information related to the UCLA Partners, and soon about the upcoming meeting, on our website: <http://www.mchnutritionpartners.ucla.edu/>.

This invitation is being sent to all NLN members who have participated in the last meeting as well as those who have indicated that they are definitely, or likely, to attend this year’s meeting based on an earlier save-the-date email sent in fall. As usual, the travel expenses will be covered by the training grant (see attached). If you plan to attend on March 3rd-4th, **please return the attached “Travel Information Form” as soon as possible, but by January 15th at the latest** so that we can reserve space at the hotel. Your contact at UCLA for any questions you have regarding the logistics will be Gloria Greengard in the Community Health Sciences Departmental office at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. For questions related to the content, please contact either myself or Jasmine Mercado at the email below.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,



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