

# 2007 New England Regional Minority Health Conference

## Health Education Lead Poisoning Conference - Session A-1

This workshop will focus on the challenges, barriers and successes Connecticut agencies are experiencing as they address health and educational issues related to childhood lead poisoning.

New England Regional  
Minority Health Committee  
*presents the 5th*  
New England Regional  
Minority Health Conference

April 2, 3 & 4, 2007

Foxwoods Conference Center  
Mashantucket, CT

- **Conference Brochure**
- Register for **SOLD OUT**
- **Hotel Accomodations**
- **Directions**
- **Keynote Speakers**
- **Sponsors**
- **Exhibitor Information**
- **Cultural Arts**
- **Conference History**
- **Contact Us**

### Eliminating Racial & Ethnic Health Disparities by 2010:

Moral & Economic  
Imperatives

Conference Updates



Co-hosted by the  
State of Connecticut -  
Department of Public Health  
& the Mashantucket Pequot  
Tribal Nation

Supported by US Department of  
Health and Human Services-  
Office of Minority Health-Region I



# Health Education Lead Poisoning Conference Session

## SESSION A- 1

### Description of Workshop Session Document

**Title of Workshop:** CT UPDATE on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, Education, Elimination and Policy

**Intended Audience:** Educators / Health Professionals / Policy Makers / Childcare Providers / Community Organization Representatives

**Presenters:** 1) The Honorable Toni Harp, CT State Legislator; CT Department of Public Health , 2) Public Health Foundation of CT, 3) Linda Moriber, United Way – 211 Info-line 4) Dr. Vivian Cross, Advisory Commission on Multicultural Health and FEA –, 5) Paul Kowalski- New Haven Education Project – Yale / Hill Health Center / New Haven Health Dept and Public Schools, 6) Thomas Menditto - New Britain Public Schools Lead Education Initiative

**Number of Contact Hours for Workshop:** 90 Minutes

Objectives / Expected Outcomes	Course Description	Faculty / Presenter(s)
Attendees will: (1) accomplish the following list of objectives, and (2) complete the participant evaluation response form for this session.:	Provide a description of the content/topic presented ( <i>Make sure that objective(s) and the content are aligned.</i> )	List the presenter(s) for each topic or content area. ( <i>Attach CV / Resume for each presenter</i> )
<p><b>Participants will be able to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss CT's Policy and Legislative History of Eliminating Childhood Lead Poisoning in the State of CT.</li> </ul>	<p><b>The Honorable Toni Harp:</b> Welcome and a Legislators' Perspective and Overview of the CT Childhood Lead Poisoning Elimination Efforts</p>	The Honorable Senator Toni Harp
<p><b>Participants will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate and develop an understanding of CT's public / private partnerships to help eliminate the environmental health disparity of lead poisoning</li> <li>Explore and develop an awareness of CT Dept. of Public Health's current childhood lead poisoning initiatives throughout CT</li> </ul>	<p><b>The Public Health Foundation of Connecticut, Inc., The Connecticut Department of Public Health</b> and <b>United Way of CT – 211 Info Line</b> will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provide a focused presentation on exemplary efforts to coordinate and align the state's childhood lead poisoning health and education services</li> <li>present an overview of current childhood lead poisoning initiatives throughout the state.</li> <li>provide information on CT's implementation of 2005-2006 initiatives for building public/private partnerships to help eliminate childhood lead poisoning</li> </ul>	Michael Purcaro / Linda Moriber, M.A., B.S., B.A.
<p><b>Participants will be able to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore and develop an awareness of CT's Exemplary Health / Education Lead Poisoning Initiatives.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2006-2007 Exemplary Health Education Projects:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The Commission on Children</b> will focus on legislation and policy initiatives in CT regarding the Health / Education Lead Poisoning Issues</li> <li>Action Steps and Positive Outcomes Education of the following: 1) New Haven Health Department, New Haven Public Schools and Yale Regional Lead Program Project and 2) New Britain CT Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Initiative</li> </ul>	Thomas Menditto, New Britain Lead Prevention Youth Leadership Initiative Paul Kowalski, New Haven Health Department – Lead Program Director
<p><b>Participants will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss and make recommendations regarding multi-agency strategic action steps to eradicate barriers that impede public information efforts to provide quality health and education for CT's Children and Families</li> </ul>	VIDEO., PSA and Panel Presentation on Health Advocacy Efforts in CT that include Five State Agencies who have been involved in the Health Education Lead Poisoning Initiative 2005 through 2007	<u>Dr. Vivian Cross</u> , Advisory Commission on Multicultural Health and Greater New England Alliance of Black School Educators, Policy Committee Chair

**Health Education Lead Poisoning Conference Session**  
**SESSION A- 1**  
**Presenters' Biographies**

**New England Regional Minority Health Conference Workshop Session A 1**  
**A Model for Successful Outcomes – Action Plan and Next Steps:**  
***Environmental Health Education Lead Poisoning Prevention and Elimination***  
***Initiative for Connecticut's Children and Families***

**PRESENTERS:**

- **Senator Toni N. Harp**, Co-Chair of CT Appropriations Committee & Deputy President Pro Tempore (*Presenter – Opening Remarks*)
- **Vivian Cross, B.S., M.S., Ed.D.**, Commissioner – Advisory Commission on Multicultural Health and Executive Director of the Foundation for Educational Advancement (Workshop Developer, Facilitator and Presenter)
- **Michael Purcaro, MS, PT**, Executive Director of the Public Health Foundation of Connecticut, Inc.(Presenter)
- **Alan Buzzetti**, Department of Public Health – Supervisor
- **Paul Kowalski, MPH** – Connecticut State Department of Public Health – Supervisor of Environmental Health (Presenter)
- **Thomas Menditto, MS** - District Coordinator of Science, Technology and Applied Education K-12 (Presenter)
- **Christopher Prokof, LCSW** - Yale Regional Lead Program – Social Work Supervisor
- **Linda Moriber, MA, BS, BA** – Senior Vice President, 2-1-1 Health and Human Services (*Presenter*)



## SENATOR TONI HARP

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE / CV / EXPERIENCE

Senator Toni N. Harp was elected last fall to her seventh consecutive term representing the residents of the 10th Senatorial District including western New Haven and northern West Haven. She was reappointed to lead the budget-writing Appropriations Committee for a second consecutive term as Senate chair. Senator Harp will also serve on the influential Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee and on the legislature's Select Committee on Children.

Senator Harp was also appointed Deputy President Pro Tempore to underscore her leadership role in the Senate Chamber.

During her tenure as State Senator, Toni Harp has championed many initiatives important to her constituents, including managed care reform, providing insurance for uninsured children, raising the minimum wage, advocating economic development for cities, encouraging an early detection system for child abuse, prohibiting drive-through deliveries, supporting truancy court, and ensuring the safety of children in child care. Senator Harp has worked hard to bring state resources to local small businesses and to open the legislative process to constituents.

Senator Harp was recently appointed the Chairperson of the National Conference of State Legislatures' standing committee on Health with responsibility for reviewing policy, coordinating lobbying strategies, and presiding over programs throughout the United States. Her national standing was mirrored closer to home when the American Lung Association of Connecticut presented her with its 2003 Breath of Life Award.

As a result of her hard work in 2002, Senator Harp was recognized by End Hunger Connecticut! for her effort to redistribute food and get it onto the plates of those who struggle to afford it, and she also received the 2002 Legislative Award from the Connecticut Psychological Association for her leading role in maintaining access to mental/behavioral health services for state residents.

Senator Harp was named Legislator of the Year for 2001 by the American Lung Association of Connecticut for her leadership in the areas of public health and lung health. She is leading the fight against Big Tobacco as an outspoken proponent of an initiative to allow individual municipalities to adopt local smoking ordinances. She also helped start Connecticut's Asthma Action Plan, through which health officials will be able to track asthma in Connecticut's public schools beginning in 2003. She was also

recognized by the Connecticut Local Administrators of Social Services (CLASS) for her contributions in that area.

In 2000, Senator Harp received the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Connecticut Psychiatrists Society. She has also selected by the New Haven County Silver Shields to receive the Dedicated Service Award. The Connecticut Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics presented her with its annual award. She has been named the Woman of the Year Award from the African-American Affairs Commission. She was also named 2000 Family Legislator of the Year by the Connecticut Council of Family Service Agencies for her extraordinary efforts to strengthen families in our state. She received the Clarence Daniel Advocacy Award from the Connecticut AIDS Residents Coalition. Senator Harp received the Women's Advocacy Award from the Connecticut Women's Consortium. And, she was honored by Children in Placement--CT/CASA (CIP) for her contribution to a better life for Connecticut's abused and neglected children.

In 1999, the Connecticut Chapter of the NAACP selected Senator Harp to receive its Clarence Mitchell Political Action Award. She was cited for her outstanding leadership in a number of issues, including managed care reform, the increase in the minimum wage, economic development for cities and making insurance coverage available to uninsured children, among others. Also in 1999, Senator Harp received the Phoebe Bennett Award from the Connecticut Association of Mental Health Clinics for Children.

In 1998, she was selected by the Council of State Governments for its prestigious Toll Fellowship Program. In 1997, Senator Harp was named Legislator of the Year by the Connecticut Psychological Association for her work on managed care legislation. In 1996, many groups honored her, including her peers in the Connecticut State Senate in a bi-annual recognition ceremony at the Old State House when she was named "the conscience of the Senate." She was also honored by the U.S. Congress as the 1996 Woman of the Year from Connecticut's Third Congressional District for "her achievements and contributions in public service and the advancement of women's issues."

Senator Harp has twice been honored by the Connecticut State Medical Society, first for her "advocacy on behalf of patients," and most recently with their Legislative Service Award for her record of preserving and enhancing quality medical care.

In 1995, she was awarded citations by the National Association of Social Workers, the Connecticut Association for Human Services, the New Haven Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the New Haven Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Incorporated. She was also honored as one of New Haven Business' 20 Noteworthy Women. Senator

Harp received her Bachelor of Arts in English from Roosevelt University in Chicago, Illinois, and a Master of Environmental Design from Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut.

For five years Toni Harp served as the Alderwoman for the Second Ward in New Haven. During her term, she served as President Pro Tempore, Vice Chairwoman of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, Chairwoman of the Select Committee on Homelessness, a member of the Human Resources Subcommittee on Discrimination and Harmony, and the Public Service and Substance Abuse Committee. On behalf of the Board of Alderman, she also served on the Affirmative Action Commission. She is a member of Links, Inc., the New Haven Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated, a public service sorority, and The Coalition of 100 Black Women.

Senator Harp has lived in New Haven for 24 years and is currently employed as the Homeless Service Director at the Hill Health Center. She is married to Wendell Harp, an architect, and she is the proud mother of three children--Djana, Jamil, and Matthew.

**Paul A. Kowalski**  
38 Hillside Avenue  
New Haven, CT 06512  
Home: (203) 467-2492 ♦ Office: (203) 946-8173 ♦ Fax: (203) 946-6509

## **Experience**

*Environmental Health Program Director* 09/1982 - Present  
*City of New Haven Health Department, New Haven, CT*

- Generated over \$7,000,000.00 in grant revenue for lead abatement of private residential housing. Through collaborative efforts, an additional \$26,000,000.00 has been leveraged towards this program.
- Restructured overall operation of bureau through policy changes resulting in tightened fiscal control, enhanced data collection and redesigned service areas.
- Responsible for the preparation of grant applications, reports, testimonies, budgets and legislative proposals. Present and defend said material before various interest groups.
- Supervise staff of 16 professional and non-professional employees. Services provided by staff range from classic public health requirements, such as communicable disease control through food service licensing and inspection, to pediatric lead poisoning detection and prevention.
- Proposed and continue to manage a comprehensive computerized data handling system to facilitate data collection and analysis.

*Special Assistant to Director of Public Health* 09/1980 - 09/1982  
*City of New Haven Health Department, New Haven, CT*

- Planned, executed and evaluated departmental programs in various service areas.
- Researched the need, performed marketing analysis, and secured funding for the establishment of a pediatric primary care center in New Haven.
- Organized and managed health fairs, screening clinics, wrote publicity and gave press conferences.
- Proposed, defended, and supported legislation before city and state legislative bodies.
- Planned, prepared and coordinated capital and operating budgets, analyzed budget requests, and supervised purchasing requisitions. Drafted all annual reports and position statements.

*Sanitarian* 5/1979 - 9/1980  
*City of New Britain Health Department, New Britain, CT*

- Researched and managed a program to coordinate all inspection and rehabilitation procedures with legal procedures being proposed by the State Housing Court. Designed and conducted epidemiological investigations.

*Research Assistant* 9/1977 - 5/1979  
*Yale University, Yale Arbovirus Research Unit, School of Medicine, New Haven, CT*

- Participated in an effort to identify the agent and vector involved in the transmission of Lyme Disease (arthritis). Also maintained surveillance of encephalitis virus in Southern Connecticut.

## **Boards/Affiliations**

Hill Heath Center, 400 Columbus Avenue, New Haven, CT 1981- Present  
*(Past Treasurer, Past President, Finance Committee since 1984)*

Hill Development Corporation, 649 Howard Avenue, New Haven, CT 1983- Present

Lecturer: Yale University School of Epidemiology and Public Health, Yale University School of Nursing, Southern Connecticut State University, School of Public Health, and various conferences sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

## ***Education***

M.P.H. Environmental Health

1979

Yale University, School of Medicine, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health  
New Haven, CT

B.A. Biology/Microbiology

1977

Clark University  
Worcester, MA



**Linda B. Moriber**  
733 Booth Hill Road, Trumbull, CT 06611  
(860) 571-7531  
E-Mail:

## Education

M.A., Rehabilitation Counseling, New York University, New York, NY      **June 1982**  
B.S./B.A. Biology/Psychology, State University of NY at Binghamton      **June 1980**

## Certification

CRC, the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification      **June 1982**

## Employment

**United Way of Connecticut, Rocky Hill, CT      May 2006 - Present**  
Senior Vice President, 2-1-1 Health and Human Services

- ◆ The administrative operations of United Way of Connecticut 2-1-1 programs.
- ◆ Responsible for the overall management of all 2-1-1 call centers, information services, and outreach and marketing efforts.
- ◆ Work with management staff to maximize the efficiency and quality of service delivery.
- ◆ Oversee the provision of service related to the requirements of special projects for specific constituency groups.
- ◆ Oversee all aspects of call statistics from case recording to the dissemination of data in published reports.
- ◆ Oversee development and maintenance of 2-1-1 database on human services as well as directories, mailing labels, etc.
- ◆ Development and administration of grants and contracts including responsibility for meeting the reporting and quality assurance requirements for these projects.
- ◆ Responsible for establishing ongoing relationships with state and federal departments, senior staff, and legislative leaders.
- ◆ Attend state department meetings related to special projects.
- ◆ Preparation and monitoring of operational budgets.

- ◆ Oversight of all program records to ensure compliance with funding sources.
- ◆ Responsible for all Human Resource requirements of the programs.

**AIM – Abilities in Motion, New York, New York**

**March 2001 – December 2005**

**and Bridgeport, CT**

President and Chief Operating Officer

- ◆ The clinical and administrative operations of AIM
- ◆ Provision of direct supervision for all programmatic operations that include behavioral health, cognitive rehabilitation, chemical dependency, vocational evaluation, case management, vocational training, job development and placement
- ◆ Coordination of external regulatory audits
- ◆ Development and administration of new grants and contracts including the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, The Veterans Administration, The Department of Children and Family Services, Acquired Brain Injury Medicaid Waiver Program, The Division of Workers' Rehabilitation, The Department of Mental Retardation and The Board of Education Services for the Blind totaling \$15 million
- ◆ Preparation and monitoring of operational budgets
- ◆ Responsible for all Human Resource requirements of the programs
- ◆ Program marketing liaison with state and federal funding sources
- ◆ Oversight of all program records to ensure compliance with funding sources

**ICD – International Center of the Disabled**

**April 1999 - March 2001**

**New York, NY**

Chief Operating Officer

- ◆ The clinical and administrative operations of ICD
- ◆ Coordination of both the vertical and horizontal integration of ICD's three major service delivery lines of business
- ◆ Provision of direct supervision for all programmatic operations that include physical medicine and rehabilitation, primary medical care, physical and occupational therapy, speech therapy, learning disability, behavioral health, cognitive rehabilitation, chemical dependency, vocational evaluation, case management, vocational training, job development and placement and off-site clinical services
- ◆ Coordination of external regulatory audits and accreditation
- ◆ Development and administration of new grants and contracts
- ◆ Preparation and monitoring of operational budgets
- ◆ Oversight of medical records to ensure compliance with funding sources

**The Kennedy Center, Inc., Trumbull, CT**

**July 1985 – April 1999**

Vice President of Rehabilitation Services

- ◆ Administration of rehabilitation programs for individuals with mental retardation, psychiatric disabilities, acquired brain injuries, cognitive disabilities, physical disabilities and sensory impairments
- ◆ Development and implementation of employment and community based training programs
- ◆ Development of proposals in the areas of employment, clinical services, residential services, supported education, and transition from school to work totaling over \$4 million
- ◆ Program marketing liason with state and federal funding sources
- ◆ Development of fee-for-service clinical and rehabilitation service programs, including the creation of The Kenndey Institute of Behavioral Health
- ◆ Development of managed care contracts
- ◆ Implementation of Medicaid Waiver Programs
- ◆ Implementation of service coordination and case management
- ◆ Development and Implementation of Behavior Management Programs
- ◆ Program marketing liason with state and federal funding sources
- ◆ Development of program budgets
- ◆ Personnel supervision

**Graduate School of Health Education Nursing & Arts Professions, 2000 - present**  
**New York University, New York, NY**

Adjunct Professor

- ◆ Teach Graduate level course entitled “Medical and Psychological Aspects of Rehabilitation II.”

**Graduate School of Education, Fairfield University,**

**1991 – 1993**

Adjunct Professor

- ◆ Teach Graduate level course entitle “Development and Implementation of Individualized Transition for Students Transitioning from School to Work.”

**Dr. Vivian Cross**

**19 Elaine Drive  
Simsbury, CT 06070**

**[vacwsc@aol.com](mailto:vacwsc@aol.com)**

**Work: 860-214-6472**

**Home: 860-658-2597**

### ***Objective:***

To contribute extensive administrative, educational, multicultural advisory health, strategic planning and interpersonal skills to a challenging, growth-oriented, state, regional or national administrative position where my professional and versatile experience will have valuable application to improve the quality of education and health for children and their families

### **Summary of Experiences and Qualifications:**

Over twenty years of varied and progressively responsible experience managing administrative educational functions within local, community/faith based, state, regional, academic and health related environments in the following positions: (1) Multicultural Advisory Health Commissioner (present); (2) Facilitator for **Health Education Lead Poisoning (H.E.L.P.) Initiative** for CT's Children in collaboration with five state agencies, four state commissions, community based organizations and non-profit organizations (current); (3) Coordinator of Community / Community based Educational Support Service for Kindergarten through College level students (present); (4) Executive Director of the Foundation for Educational Advancement, Inc. (present); (5) CT Certified Professional Educator with multiple certification endorsements (present); (6) University Assistant Professor (2001 - 2002); (7) Public School Administrator (8) Coordinator of Strategic Planning and School Improvement (previous), (9) Special Education Coordinator and Supervisor (previous); (10) Program and Curriculum Developer (current), (11) Professional Development Specialist (current), (12) Psycho-educational and Neurodevelopmental Diagnostician (current), (13) Parent and Teacher Trainer; and (14) Connecticut Continuing Education Course Developer / Provider with teaching experience ranging from Preschool (Early Childhood) through High School and University levels.

### **Education and Qualifications:**

**Degree of Doctor of Education** - Teachers College, Columbia University, N.Y., N.Y., 1991

*(Dissertation: "Facilitating Change: A Study of the Professional Development and the Implementation Processes of a Site-Based Management Cognitive Education Initiative".* This regular / special education study investigated teacher perceived change during the program's professional development and implementation phases within two public schools. Corporate funding was provided through an Aetna Foundation Grant.

**Master of Science Degree** - Special Education (Personnel Services, Educational and Social Planning and Placement for Exceptional Children) Central Connecticut State University, 1979.

**Yale University - Certificate of Achievement** - 1993 Leadership Development Program

Yale University (Yale Child Study Center School Development Program) Comer Project for Change in Education

**Diploma - Teacher Trainer Certification** - Hadassah-Wizo-Canada Research Institute, Jerusalem, Israel (1987) - Teacher Trainer for Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment and the Learning Potential Assessment Device

**Bachelor of Science Degree** - Elementary Education (*English Concentration*)-Central Connecticut State University, 1968.

**Certification: Professional Educator - Connecticut State Department of Education – (current)**

**Certificate: – Neurodevelopmental & Forensic Evaluations** - Halstead/Retain -Washington, D.C. 1991

**Certificate:** Neurodevelopmental Assessments – Schools Attuned, 2004

**Standard II Committee Member** - 2002 CT Department of Education - EST Program Portfolios  
Special Education - EASTCONN - Independent Consultant

**Mentor Teacher Training** – Connecticut State Board of Education, 1987.

**Awards, Special Recognition and Appointments:**

**Connecticut General Assembly Official Citation of Recognition** (May 9, 2006)

**Advisory Commission on Multicultural Health** (Current) - Appointed by the Senate President Pro Tempore of the Connecticut State Legislature to serve as a Connecticut Advisory Commissioner on Multicultural Health.

**CT Department of Children and Families Training Academy Advisory Board** (January 2004) –  
Appointed by DCF Commissioner

**State of Connecticut General Assembly – Special Citation of Recognition** (May 8, 2003)

**Public Service Award**–Selected by Secretary of State of Connecticut for Distinguished Service (2003)

**CCSU University Human Studies Council Researcher** - (2002) State-wide Research Project entitled,  
“The Study of the Most Frequently used Standardized Assessments used in CT Public Schools for  
Special Education Assessment and Placement Purposes”

**Regional Advisory Council for the Department of Children and Families** – Appointed as Advisory  
Board Member by the Connecticut State Commissioner of Children and Families (1997 – 2003)

**Phi Delta Kappa** - Research - Service - Leadership Award - In recognition of exhibited qualities of  
leadership and distinguished service. (May 22, 2000).

**Congress of the United States, House of Representatives** - Recognized by a member of Congress as a  
person committed to the educational achievement of all children (August 15, 1996)

**Board of Education Commendation:** Awarded a Commendation for demonstrated excellence in the  
area of Special Education Administration (November 25, 1995)

**Community Service Award** (June 2, 1996) - Recognized and awarded for dedicated community service,

**Marquis Who’s Who in American Education** (5th Edition): selected for inclusion.

**Who in American Women** (1996) and **Who’s Who in the World** (1998)

**Who’s Who in America** 2002-2005 nominated

**Who’s**

**Professional Experience:**

**Current - Executive Director - Foundation for Educational Advancement, Inc.** - Simsbury, CT

Management, planning, professional training, curriculum development and program implementation of educational and health initiatives.

Professional development incorporates providing continuing education training for educators, health professionals and social services personnel.

Currently working in collaboration with the CT State Department of Public Health, CT State Department of Education, and other organizations and agencies to provide professional development and continuing education units for educators and health professionals.

***Current – Examples of Educational and Professional Development training initiatives:***

- **2005 – Current** - Director and Facilitator of the Health Education Lead Poisoning Coalition for CT’s Children Coalition Sponsors / Supporters and Participating Agencies include the following: Connecticut Health Foundation, Inc., Foundation for Educational Advancement, Inc., CT State Commission on Children, Yale New Haven Hospital, CT State Advisory Commission on Multicultural Health, CT Citizen Research Group, Connecticut’s Children’s Medical Center Lead Program, CT’s Voices for Children, Center for Urban Research, Education and Training, Inc., CT Department of Public Health, CT State Department Education, CT State Department Children and Families, CT State Department Social Services, CT State Department Mental Retardation – Birth to Three System, and the CT State Office of Protection and Advocacy.
- **2004 – 2005** New England Regional Health Conference –Childhood Lead Poisoning Session: Assessing the Impact – Meeting the Challenge - This session was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services-Office of Minority Health-Region 1, the New England Regional Minority Health Planning Committee and the Foundation for Educational Advancement, Inc
- **2003** Unlocking Learning Potential Conference entitled: *“Relentlessly Pursuing Closing the Achievement and Health Disparities Gap for Connecticut’s Children”*. Approximately 200 participants attended (i.e., School superintendents, teachers, psychologists, social workers, parents, state education and health officials, etc.). The Foundation for Educational Advancement, the Connecticut Association of Urban Superintendents and Central Connecticut State University were sponsors. Additional corporate, state agency or foundation sponsors included Connecticut Health Foundation, Inc., Connecticut State Department of Public Health, Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation, and Educators’ Publishing Service.
- **2003 – 2004** Connecticut Schools Attuned Comprehensive Training and Practicum held at CCSU for four school district teams (i.e., Hartford, Wallingford, Meriden, New Britain school districts). A Bronx, New York educator also participated. (August 4-8, 2003 Thirty-five hours - Initial Training ; November 7, 2003 Practicum I and March 5, 2004 Practicum II)
- **2003** Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children – Fourth Edition ( WISC IV ) and Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence - Third Edition ( WPPSI III ) Training Initiative held at CCSU in collaboration with Psychological Corporation, the Psychology Department at CCSU, the Foundation for Educational Advancement. Participants included school psychologist from five CT school districts (i.e., Bristol, Meriden, New Britain, Southington, and Watertown, CT).

**THOMAS M. MENDITTO**  
45 Ice Pond Lane  
East Berlin, Connecticut 06023  
(860) 828-7670

**EDUCATION:**  
Fall 1994-1997

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT -Storrs, Connecticut  
Doctoral Study in Curriculum and Instruction

1982

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY -New Britain, Connecticut  
Intermediate Administrator/Supervisory Certification and  
planned Sixth-Year in Supervision, Evaluation and  
Curriculum Development

1979

M.S. Biology with an Environmental Specialization

1974

B.S. Elementary Education with a concentration in  
Environmental Education



State of Connecticut Teaching Certification (Grades Pre-K through 12)

**HONORS:**

- Consolidated School District of New Britain, Administrator of the Year (2003).
- Selected as a Fellow of the Connecticut Academy for Education in Mathematics, Science & Technology (2000).
- Selected as a PIMMS Fellow (Project to Increase Mastery of Mathematics and Science), Vanguard, at Wesleyan University (1985).
- Instructor for PIMMS (1986-1998).
- Selected for membership in Beta Sigma Chapter of Pi Lambda Theta, National Honor Society and Professional Association in Education, at University of Connecticut (1997).
- CT Quality Improvement Award Partnership Inc. Silver Prize (2005).

**EXPERIENCE:**

CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

New Britain, Connecticut

2000-Present

District Coordinator of Science, Technology and Applied Education K-12

SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS Suffield, Connecticut

1997-2000

Science/Technology Education Coordinator K-12

MIDDLETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS Middletown, Connecticut

1974-1997

Middle School Teacher

1979-1994

Science Instructional Leader/Science Coordinator

**PROFESSIONAL**

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) Science Framework Writing Team member (1993-present).
- Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) Interdisciplinary Task Advisory Committee member (1999-present).
- Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) Science Advisory Committee member (1991-present).
- Connecticut Academy for Education in Mathematics, Science & Technology Science Assessment Project Writing Team member (1998-2000).

**Michael J. Purcaro, MS, PT**  
**Executive Director, Public Health Foundation of Connecticut, Inc.**



Michael J. Purcaro is the Executive Director of the Public Health Foundation of Connecticut, Inc.

Mr. Purcaro began his professional career as a licensed physical therapist, working for Yale New Haven Hospital. While in New Haven he worked on the Trauma Service and in the Burn Treatment Unit, completed his Master's degree in Healthcare Management from Rensselaer, became a certified clinical instructor of physical therapy, and was an assistant professor at Sacred Heart University.

Mr. Purcaro currently is the Section Chief of the Contracts and Grants for the Connecticut Department of Public Health where he is responsible for the management of approximately 650 contracts totaling \$250 million in state and federal funds. Throughout his career, Mr. Purcaro has emphasized and advocated for public health and prevention. An important focus of his work has been to develop and promote programs that have an overall impact on Connecticut's residents. As the Foundation Executive Director, he has introduced a special focus on a "systems approach" in the Foundation's work, thereby linking state agencies, not-for-profits and private organizations to combat the public health dilemmas that face the residents of Connecticut.

**Community involvement:**

- Health Minister certified by the Capitol Region Council of Churches
- Director of Emergency Management for the Town of Vernon Volunteer Fire Department
- Board of Directors for the National Kidney Foundation of Connecticut
- Board of Directors for the Southern New England Arthritis Foundation

- Board of Directors for the Trust House of Hartford
- Governor's Council on Physical Fitness for Connecticut
- Public Affairs Officer for Connecticut's federal Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT)
- Recent recipient of the Hartford Business Journal's '40 Under Forty' award
- Former Commission of Zoning for the City of Waterbury, Connecticut
- Former member of the Association of State and Territorial Chronic Disease Direct