

# Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses (MAPHN) – Western Massachusetts Chapter

March 21, 2019  
8 AM – 3 PM

## PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING Clinical Conference

La Quinta  
100 Congress Street  
Springfield, MA 01104

### Description

Approximately 150 public health and student nurses have participated in the semi-annual Public Health Nursing Clinical Conference since its inception in 2017. Past participants represented public health nurses from the health departments in Springfield, Chicopee, Holyoke, Agawam, Southwick and Westfield, as well as senior level nursing students from American International College, Springfield Technical Community College and Bay Path University's RN to BSN program.

The Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses – Western MA Chapter, designed the conference and partnered with the Western MA Nursing Collaborative with the goal of exposing nursing students to viable opportunities in community nursing. Participants are informed on the role and responsibilities of public health nurses and their involvement in promoting and maintaining healthy populations in the community through their association with state agencies, schools and healthcare centers. The chapter members also facilitate a patient surveillance and disease control simulation, providing participants with a first-hand experience on managing a disease outbreak in the community.

### Outline

- OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES: HISTORY & IMPACT
- PRESENTATION ON THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC IN MASSACHUSETTS
- PATIENT SURVEILLANCE AND DISEASE CONTROL SIMULATION: A MOCK HEPATITIS A VACCINATION CLINIC
- PHN PANEL DISCUSSION FOLLOWED BY Q&A

### Special Presentation

Keynote speaker, Annie Potter, MSN, MPH, NP, CARN-AP is a Clinical Educator with the State Technical Assistance and Treatment Expansion of Office Based Addiction Treatment (STATE OBAT) at Boston Medical Center. Annie educates and supports health care providers on best practices in the treatment of substance use disorders. She also serves as an expert on the Opioid Addiction Treatment ECHO team providing opioid addiction training and mentoring to health centers across the country. Her areas of clinical expertise in addition to treatment of substance use include: HIV, Hepatitis C, family planning and LGBTQ health care.

### Participant Feedback

- All content was relevant to learning & professional development*
- This was a great opportunity to hear about public health topics directly from individuals in the field*
- I enjoyed learning about what lengths are necessary during an emergency situation*
- I really enjoyed this. I came in not knowing what to expect but it was very informative. I feel I learned a lot about being a PHN which is the field I am interested in.*

### Contact Information

Sherry Petrucci  
MAPHN- Western Ma Chapter President  
[spetrucci@agawam.ma.us](mailto:spetrucci@agawam.ma.us)

Peta-Gaye Porter  
Manager, Healthcare Workforce Initiatives  
[pporter@rebhc.org](mailto:pporter@rebhc.org)