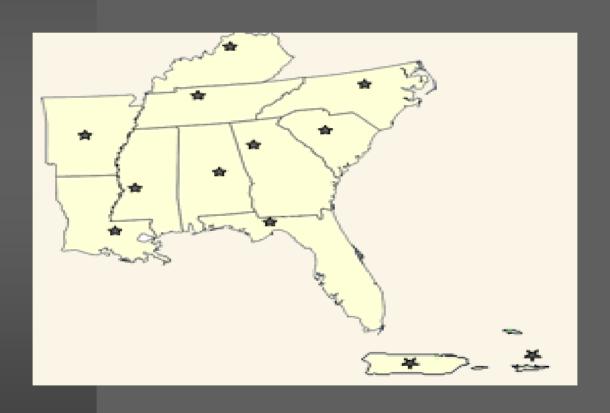
Southeast Regional Academic Center for Environmental Public Health

(SE-RAC)

School of Public Health
University of Alabama at Birmingham

www.se-rac.uab.edu

The SE-RAC Region



Principal Investigators:

H. Kenneth Dillon, CIH, Ph.D. 2001 - 2004; Dr. Dillon died in May, 2004

Reidar K. Oestenstad, Ph.D., CIH, CSP 2004 - Present

Project Director:

Tom Struzick, MSW/ACSW, LCSW; M.Ed 2001 - Present

Why we're involved

- Dr. Dillon's interest in working outside the bench science arena and being involved with environmental public health practitioners at the community level
- Dr. Dillon's work with in the UAB Center for the Study of Community Health and its community-based public health outreach mission (Mr. Struzick's primary appointment)
- Desire to partner with the Bureau of Environmental Services in the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)
- Desire to partner with other state/territorial environmental public health leaders and practitioners
- Desire to partner with the National Center for Environmental Health

What we accomplished in Round One

- Formed new partnerships between UAB and ADPH at the state, area, and county levels
- Created Alabama EHPG
- Conducted first comprehensive needs assessment and enumeration of Alabama's EPH workforce
- Developed and field tested new curriculum emphasizing EPH practitioner skills to work with community members in non-regulatory activities
- Launched PACE EH projects
- Successful application for Round Two

What we hoped to accomplish in Round Two

- Continue partnership with ADPH and NCEH
- Continue working with and expand involvement with PACE EH
- Create new partnerships with other states and territories, based on ADPH experiences
- Describe EPH Practice throughout the region
- Identify EPH workforce development training, consultation, and technical assistance needs
- Initiate new FPH projects with state and territorial partners

What we have accomplished to date

- Completed EPH Practice Profiles for the 10 states in our region; as well as a profile for the region.
- Delivered presentations on our "Core" Elements across the region.
- Expanded expertise with the PACE EH methodology, e.g., projects and major presentation at first national PACE EH Summit
- Revised initial training curriculum and field tested with IHS officers and tribal environmentalists.
- Developed Hurricane Dialogues and special focus on EPH and Natural Disasters
- Launched new core in the UAB CSCH, Community Resilience and Disaster Preparedness; crafting new research agenda on personal emergency preparedness as a health disparity issue

Where we hope to go from here

- Continue working with current partners, including NCEH
- Package and distribute curriculum across (1.5. and train trainers
- Expand engagement in area of EPH and natural disasters
- Expand Community Resilience work
- Explore partnership possibilities in emerging EPH emphasis areas, e.g., built environment and climate change