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**CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES**

May 5, 2008

Dear CAPHN Colleagues:

I hope that you are feeling renewed with the warmer weather (ah, spring in New England) and are looking forward to taking on the inevitable challenges and tasks that await you as a public health nurse. The CAPHN Board has also become energized in recent months with discussions about the notable growth of our association over the past six years and its potential for the future. A more detailed report of the activities of the CAPHN Board and the Association will be provided at the upcoming Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 28. Hopefully you have already registered or are planning on doing so soon!

As I wrote in a March 18 letter, the main focus of the Board this past year has been strategic planning, with a particular emphasis on the by-laws. The by-laws that were adopted by the membership at the April 21 meeting will allow us to address the concerns and needs of public health nurses in the state and beyond. The updated by-laws are attached and can also be found on the CAPHN website (<http://www.caphn.org>)

The by-laws revision was undertaken in part to assure a formal leadership succession for the association. The officers will now include a President-elect and Immediate Past-President. Since we do not yet have a President-elect who will move into the presidency at the completion of my term at the 2008 Annual Meeting, we need at least two members to step forward to serve as President and President-elect. The viability of our association absolutely depends on current members like you being willing to step into leadership roles. Information on the responsibilities of officers can be found under Article X of the updated CAPHN by-laws. In addition, we are seeking nominations for Treasurer, Members-at-Large and Standing Committee Chairs (Finance, Membership, Practice and Program). The responsibilities of these positions are found in Articles XI and XII of the by-laws.

**In other words, CAPHN needs you!** We hope that you will consider nominating yourself - or a colleague - for one of the Board positions. To declare your candidacy or to nominate someone else, please contact me by May 20 at (860) 584-7682 or [lynnabrahamson@ci.bristol.ct.us](mailto:lynnabrahamson@ci.bristol.ct.us). Elections will be held during the 2008 Annual Meeting. Please note that we also need members to serve on our committees. Committee membership forms will be available during the Annual Meeting.

This is an important and exciting time in the history of the Connecticut Association of Public Health Nurses and public health nursing in general. Much has been done to strengthen the association and advance the profession. It has truly been an honor and a privilege for me to be part of this period of significant growth and development. I will look forward to working over the next year with the Board as the CAPHN Past-President.

As always, should you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Warm regards,

Lynn

Lynn Abrahamson, CAPHN President