

CURRICULUM VITAE

RHONDA AMELIA STEPHENS

Durham, North Carolina

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Dental Public Health Residency Certificate, 2016 – North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services – Raleigh, NC

MPH, Social and Behavioral Sciences, 2014 – Indiana University Fairbanks School of Public Health at IUPUI – Indianapolis, IN

Public Health Leadership Coursework, 2010-2011 – University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health – Chapel Hill, NC

General Practice Residency Certificate, 2005 – Indiana University School of Medicine/Wishard Health Services – Indianapolis, IN

DDS, 2004 – University of Michigan School of Dentistry – Ann Arbor, MI

Biology Coursework, 1996-2000 – University of Michigan College of Literature, Science and the Arts – Ann Arbor, MI

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATIONS

Diplomate, American Board of Dental Public Health

North Carolina Dental License #10231

Indiana Dental License #12010764A (inactive)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professor of the Practice

December 2023 to present

Department of Public Health Leadership and Practice

Gillings School of Global Public Health

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – Chapel Hill, NC

- Currently developing a program of dental public health teaching, practice and research for a diverse student audience, practitioners, and organizations to promote population oral health in North Carolina and beyond.
- Dental Public Health Residency Director (contracted by NCDHHS): Develop, adapt and maintain residency admissions, curriculum, resources and processes in compliance with Commission on Dental Accreditation requirements, program standards and specialty competencies; facilitate resident recruitment, admissions and orientation activities;

provide didactic instruction and mentorship to up to two (2) residents each year; manage agreements with partner organizations and Residency Advisory Committee (RAC) members, and facilitate RAC meetings.

Section Chief and State Dental Director

January 2023 to November 2023

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Oral Health Section – Raleigh, NC

- Provided direction and general oversight of the state’s dental public health programs and services, including budget and human resource management and direct/indirect supervision of thirty-five (35) staff.
- Dental Public Health Residency Director.
- Grants Administrator: Developed, implemented and managed grant applications and activities, including budget and resource allocation, staff supervision, program planning and subcontracts with Area Health Education Centers, academic institutions and other partners to plan and executed grant-funded initiatives.
- Epidemiology Program Supervisor: Led the planning and execution of oral health surveillance activities including development of survey instruments and procedures, sample selection, staff training and calibration, database management, and data extraction and dissemination.
- Led North Carolina Committee for Dental Health: Developed meeting agendas, coordinated meetings and guest speakers, and corresponded with committee members.

Dental Supervisor

January 2017 to December 2022

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Oral Health Section – Raleigh, NC

- Dental Public Health Residency Director.
- Grants Administrator.
- Epidemiology Program Supervisor.
- Led Section’s Professional Growth and Development Team: Facilitated meetings to plan and implement training and growth opportunities for professional staff, including a training resource database to allow staff to identify training opportunities of interest.
- Led North Carolina Committee for Dental Health.
- Supervised four (4) population-specific Program Coordinators and one (1) Warehouse Manager in the development, implementation and evaluation of statewide dental public health programs: Developed and improved program procedures and processes, reviewed and edited educational and training materials, participated on respective program advisory committees, and monitored and provided feedback on day-to-day tasks and progress toward individual work plans.
- Supervised four (4) regional Public Health Dental Hygienists in the implementation of programs in assigned regions: Monitored and provided feedback and suggestions on day-to-day challenges and progress toward individual work plans and supported staff in leading regional oral health partner groups.

- Led Section's Communication Team: Facilitated meetings to gather communication-related concerns and suggestions from staff, tracked progress and/or resolution of concerns and suggestions, and ensured staff were regularly informed of updates both verbally and in writing.

Research Director

August 2016 to December 2016

North Carolina Oral Health Collaborative – Cary, NC

- Assisted in establishment of practical program goals and objectives.
- Planned and directed projects to build evidence for oral health advocacy, including development of the *Portrait of Oral Health in North Carolina* report.
- Developed core communications materials, including slide deck and fact sheets highlighting oral health statistics and disparities.
- Served as oral health resource for leadership team and workgroups.
- Developed and maintained relationships with new and existing stakeholders.
- Made presentations to external groups upon request.

Dental Director

August 2006 to June 2015

Raphael Health Center – Indianapolis, IN

- Facilitated opening of dental clinic in September 2006: procured equipment and supplies, established clinic policies and protocols, hired and trained staff.
- Provided primary oral health care services and education to under- and uninsured residents of Indianapolis and surrounding areas.
- Supervised dental professional and support staff.
- Continually monitored clinic operations and made policy, procedural and/or staff adjustments to ensure continued growth of clinic.
- Facilitated transition to Dentrax Enterprise electronic dental records and Dexis digital radiography.
- Adjunct Volunteer Faculty, Periodontics and Allied Dental Programs, Indiana University School of Dentistry, 2007-2011: established health center as clinical rotation site for dental assisting and dental hygiene students; mentored students and supervised delivery of patient care.
- Clinical Site Preceptor, Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet High School, 2010: established health center as practicum site for senior high school students of the Health Professional Program; supervised and mentored students interested in dentistry.
- Secured and administered small grant from a national medical/dental supply company foundation to host medical and dental screenings for children and caregivers: coordinated a health fair, including layout, staff and volunteer coordination, design of promotional materials and attendee screening record.

Dental Director

August 2005 to August 2006

Madison County Community Health Center – Anderson, IN

HONORS

- American Association of Public Health Dentistry Foundation – Herschel Horowitz Scholarship recipient, 2014
- National Dental Association/Colgate-Palmolive Bessie M. Delaney Postdoctoral Scholarship recipient, 2013
- Emerging Pearls Foundation ‘Honor Her’ Award - Health Promotion, 2011
- Crispus Attucks ‘Dream Builder’ Award, 2010
- Pierre Fauchard Academy Merit Award, 2004
- Student National Dental Association Darryl Hawkins Memorial Scholarship recipient, 2002
- National Dental Association Foundation/Colgate-Palmolive Scholarship recipient, 2001 and 2003

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Board of Dental Public Health, 2021-present.
- Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, 2019-present.
- North Carolina Public Health Association, 2017-present.
- American Association of Public Health Dentistry, 2011-present.
- National Dental Association – Indiana component 2006-2015, North Carolina component 2018-present.
- National Network for Oral Health Access, 2006-2016, 2022-present.
- American Dental Association, 2004-present.

TEACHING

Guest Lectures

- DENT 652 Public Health II: *State and Federal Oral Health Delivery Systems*
- DENT 601 Clinical Correlations: *The Pregnant Patient*
- University of North Carolina Adams School of Dentistry and East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine (2016-2023): *Dental Public Health in North Carolina.*
- North Carolina Central University Department of Public Health (2021-2023): *Public Health Pathways.*

MENTORING

- Introductory meetings with ten Gillings students with known background or interest in dentistry.
- Advising two students on dental career pathways and job opportunities.
- Advising development of new Gillings student interest group for undergraduate and graduate public health students interested in oral health.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Peer-reviewed Publications

1. Norris, J. R., Irwin, S. P., Park, J., **Stephens, R. A.**, Moss, M. E., & Weintraub, J. A. (2021). Risk Indicators of Urgent and Extensive Dental Treatment Needs in US Air Force Recruits. *Military Medicine*, 186(1-2), e194-e202.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/milmed/usaa393>
2. **Stephens, R.**, Quinonez, R., Boggess, K., & Weintraub, J. A. (2020). Perinatal oral health among underserved women: A call to action for North Carolina patients, providers and policymakers. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 24, 351-359.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10995-019-02868-4>
3. **Stephens, R.**, & White, B. A. (2019). Oral health status of adults in North Carolina assisted living facilities. *Journal of Public Health Dentistry*, 79(3), 198-206.

PRODUCTS OF SCHOLARSHIP IN PRACTICE

Non-refereed Papers

Stephens, R., NC Department of Health and Human Services (2021). Historically Marginalized Populations Engagement Toolkit for Healthcare Systems and Providers. Accessible at <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/2393/open>.

Stephens, R. and Santiago, Z. (2017). Portrait of Oral Health In North Carolina: An Overview of Our Current Realities and Opportunities for Change. North Carolina Oral Health Collaborative, Foundation for Health Leadership & Innovation. Accessible at https://oralhealthnc.org/primary_resources/portrait-of-oral-health-in-north-carolina/.

Non-refereed Presentations

- 2024 All-Grantee School-Based Oral Health Initiative Conference, Charlotte, NC (2024): *Importance of Storytelling* panelist
- North Carolina Institute of Medicine Annual Meeting, Raleigh, NC (2022): *Opportunities in Oral Health: Workforce, Payment Reform, and Innovations* panelist.
- North Carolina Community Health Center Association Clinical Conference (2022): *21st Century Perinatal Oral Health Management*.
- Old North State Dental Society Meetings (2020-2021): *Dental Practice COVID-19 Exposure and Response* and *COVID-19 General Updates*.
- North Carolina Public Health Association Fall Educational Conference, Charlotte, NC (2018), Keynote lecture organizer and moderator: *Launch of North Carolina Perinatal Collaborative Practice Framework*.
- National Oral Health Conference, Louisville, KY (2018): *Oral Health Status of Adults in North Carolina Assisted Living Facilities*.
- North Carolina Dental Public Health Educational Conference, Wrightsville Beach, NC (2017): *The Changing Landscape of Public Health*.

- North Carolina Dental Public Health Educational Conference, Wrightsville Beach, NC (2016): *Hypertension: Role of the Dental Team.*
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation, Raleigh, NC (2016): *Oral Health in North Carolina: Disparities & Opportunities for Improvement.*
- Indiana Primary Health Care Association Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN (2009): *Starting a Dental Clinic.*

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

- **Contracts**

North Carolina Division of Public Health

Principle Investigator – ARPA Public Health Workforce Development, Dental Public Health Initiative

December 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024
Direct \$50,000
Other \$0
Total \$50,000

Principal Investigator/Project Director – Dental Public Health Residency and Consultative Support

April 2, 2023 – May 31, 2024
Direct \$50,490
Other \$0
Total \$50,490

- Grants to States to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities CFDA 93.236 Health Resources and Services Administration

Principal Investigator/Project Director

Sept 1, 2015 - Aug 31, 2018	Sept 1, 2018 - Aug 31, 2022	Sept 1, 2023 - Aug 31, 2026
Direct \$1,102,248 Other \$440,900 Total \$1,543,148	Direct \$983,078 Other \$653,846 Total \$1,636,924	Direct \$935,056 Other \$374,585 Total \$1,309,641
Related Subcontracts		
N/A	Dental Public Health Training and Education, subcontractor: NCIPH Dental Opioid Training, subcontractor: UNC Adams School of Dentistry	N/A

- Preventive Health and Human Services Block Grant CFDA 93.991

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Principal Investigator/Project Director

2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Direct and Total \$550,000	Direct and Total \$150,000	Direct and Total \$150,000	Direct and Total \$150,000	Direct and Total \$150,000
Related Subcontracts				
N/A	Dental Public Health Residency support,	Dental Public Health Residency support,	N/A	Oral Health Data Dashboard, subcontractor:

	subcontractor: UNC Gillings	subcontractor: UNC Gillings		UNC Sheps Center
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PRACTICE AND SERVICE

- UNC Adams School of Dentistry, Department of Pediatric Dentistry and Dental Public Health, Chair Search Committee, April 2024-present.
- UNC Gillings Department of Public Health Leadership and Practice, Graduate Certificate Program Director, April 2024-present.
- UNC Gillings Department of Public Health Leadership and Practice, Community Collaborations Committee, February 2024-present.
- Dental Public Health Qualifying and Certifying Board Exam Workshop Faculty, 2024-present.
- North Carolina Division of Public Health, Dental Public Health Residency Director, April 2024-present (funded).
- North Carolina Division of Public Health, Early Childhood Oral Health Collaborative, Member 2023-present.
- North Carolina Division of Public Health, Special Care Dentistry Advisory Committee, Member 2023-present.
- North Carolina Division of Public Health, Perinatal Oral Health Advisory Committee, Member, 2023-present.
- North Carolina Dental Society, Council on Prevention and Oral Health, Member 2023-present
- North Carolina Institute of Medicine, Oral Health Transformation Task Force, Steering Committee and Action Network, Member 2023-present.
- North Carolina Oral Health Collaborative, Collaborative Acceleration Team, Member 2023-present.
- North Carolina Committee for Dental Health, Member, 2023-present.
- American Association of Public Health Dentistry: Council of Educational Affairs, Advisor 2024-present, Co-Chair 2022-2024, Secretary 2017-2019.
- Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors: Perinatal Oral Health Workgroup 2019-present.
- North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation Board: Appointed Member 2021-2023.
- North Carolina Division of Public Health, Public Health Workforce Training and Capacity Building Workgroup Co-Chair, March 2022 to March 2023: Co-facilitated meetings to plan and implement use of American Rescue Plan Act funds to support the development of Division workforce through training and other supports. Engaged external partners to negotiate training development and delivery.
- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, COVID-19 Response Team:
 - Historically Marginalized Populations (HMP) Prevention Workstream, September 2020 to August 2021 (workstream co-lead, January to August 2021): Planned and facilitated workstream meetings and action items, attended additional meetings to inform workstream activities and make HMP-

related recommendations to NCDHHS COVID-19 response teams; led development of a toolkit to support local health departments engage HMP, developed and facilitated a weekly initiative to provide technical assistance to local health departments in implementation of toolkit; provided Vaccine 101 presentations to community groups as requested.

- Testing and Capacity Planning Workstream, April to September 2020: Helped develop initial indexing system to prioritize counties for testing expansion and routinely gathered population demographic and testing data from various sources to update priorities; evaluated monthly Requests for Qualifications from potential testing vendors and attended weekly workstream meetings.
- University of Michigan Triangle Area Alumni Club: Communications Chair 2018-2019, Board of Directors 2017-2019.
- Health Resources and Services Administration: Grant Reviewer 2016.
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated: Women’s Health Committee, 2018-2019, Emerging Young Leaders Program Chair 2013-2015, Emerging Young Leaders Committee Member 2010-2012, Technology Committee Chair 2010-2013.
- Mapleton-Fall Creek Development Corporation: Board member 2008-2010.
- Indiana Black Expo, Black and Minority Health Fair: Volunteer Dentist 2006, 2009 and 2010
- Indiana University School of Dentistry; Summer Dental Institute Panelist 2009.
- Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet High School: Health Professional Program Presenter 2009 and 2010: “Careers in Dentistry”.
- Indiana Statewide Planning Council: Safety Net Workgroup 2009.
- Indiana Primary Health Care Association Annual Conference: Planning Committee and Presenter 2009.
- National Dental Association: Indianapolis Component President 2008-2011, Secretary 2006-2008.
- Dean Search Advisory Committee, University of Michigan School of Dentistry: Student Representative 2002-2003.
- University of Michigan, Undergraduate Office of Career Development: Health Professions Panelist 2001-2003.
- American Dental Education Association: Appointed school representative to ADEA Council of Students 2000 – 2004.
- Student National Dental Association, University of Michigan Chapter: President 2002 and President-Elect 2001.
- University of Michigan School of Dentistry: Class President 2000-2001.