

## About the Conference

The 2007 conference theme, **Extension on the Move: Advancing Health for Every Body** celebrates Extension's long history of involvement in promoting health and preventing disease across the life span. Named in honor of retired CSREES National Program Leader Jeanne Priester, this conference offers professionals from Cooperative Extension and their community partners an opportunity to share health related educational programs and resources, applied research, and collaborative strategies.

**Conference Tracks** -- General and concurrent sessions are related to four tracks. The tracks allow participants to focus on areas of particular interest. However, participants can attend any presentations of their choosing. The four tracks are:

- *Chronic Disease Prevention and Management* -- chronic care model, positive health behaviors, disease management, prevention and preventive care, school wellness/obesity, reduction of risk factors
- *Healthy Homes* -- children's environmental health, indoor air and water quality, and environmental health
- *Rural Health* -- agricultural health and safety, agro-medicine, natural and man-made disasters, community and economic policy
- *Successful Aging* -- healthy aging, the Baby Boom generation, and retirement planning

**Conference Objectives** -- Participants in the 2007 National Priester Extension Health Conference will:

- ❖ Increase knowledge of community and environmental factors impacting the health status of our nation.
- ❖ Increase knowledge of current health education theory and research.
- ❖ Increase knowledge of effective educational programs and health practices derived from evidence-based research.
- ❖ Increase knowledge of collaborative partnerships which impact health education and policy.
- ❖ Develop a network of colleagues and potential partners for initiating or expanding health initiatives within their areas of interest.

**General Sessions** -- Invited plenary speakers will address community and environmental factors impacting health status and current health education theory and research. The conference begins with the first general session at 1:00 on April 10. Additional information about general session presentations will be added as it become available. Keep watching this website for more details.

April 10 1:30 PM      General Session

### **Rural Health Disparities: Closing the Gap for Every Body**

Dr. Linda Jouridine Alexander, Ph.D.

Academic Dean, University of Kentucky's College of Public Health

The rich tapestry of Rural America is marred by a series of complex cultural, social and economic challenges that result in health disparities for a significant portion of rural populations. Health Care Access, Chronic Disease, Disability, Food Insecurity, and Occupational Hazards are examples of challenges that affect all Americans, but differentially influence poor health outcomes for rural populations and those from small, isolated, and poorer non-metropolitan communities. In addition, rural Americans who represent people of color, disadvantaged groups, or Appalachians often experience a two-fold burden of disparity.

This session is intended to provide those working in or planning to work in rural communities as change agents an overview of critical issues facing rural communities, examples of unique challenges to implementing change, and a discussion of implications for needed policy and other infrastructure modifications at the rural community level.

April 11 10:30 AM General Session

### **Successful Aging**

M.A. Creedon, DSW

Dr. Creedon has over 30 years of experience as a leader and teacher in improving services and programs for the elderly. He has served as a consultant with national, state and local governments as well as overseas governments such as Japan and New Zealand. For the past eight years, Dr. Creedon has concentrated on the topic of transitioning from the workplace to retirement. He has published extensively and addresses a wide range of audiences. Dr. Creedon has his undergraduate degrees in Philosophy and Theology from All Hallows College of Dublin; his Masters in Social Work from the Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia; and his Doctorate in Social Welfare from the University of Maryland.

April 12 10:30 AM General Session

### **Community's Role in Chronic Care**

John Lynch, MD

Associate Professor, Internal Medicine  
Washington University, St. Louis, MO

John P. Lynch, MD, is the Vice Chairman for Clinical Programs for the Department of Medicine, a Professor of Medicine, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, as well as the Washington University Physicians Network Medical Director. The Physician Network is an independent practice association that contracts for 1,700 University affiliated physicians in the St Louis metropolitan area. His clinical focus is that of lung transplantation and the management of end stage pulmonary and pulmonary vascular diseases.

In 1997, Dr. Lynch served as Executive Director of Medical Affairs for Health Management Partners, an MSO sponsored by the Washington University School of Medicine and the BJC Health System®. During this time, Dr. Lynch developed a case management program that focused resources on patients whose complex medical and social challenges required unique interventions. Medical management, care coordination and disease management services were provided for 75,000 lives in the Midwest. Dr. Lynch has published in the area of care coordination and is currently the principal investigator for the St. Louis Medicare Coordinated Care Demonstration Project, a four-year study awarded by The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

**Current Presentations and Workshops** -- In addition, to the general sessions, participants will have an opportunity to extend their learning through workshops and presentations. Workshops are 90-minute sessions intended to provide information about established and innovative curriculum, programs or evaluation resources, or community or policy development strategies through interactive activities and presentations. Presentations are 45 minute sessions intended to present information, research or evaluation results in a lecture format with time for discussion. Decisions about these sessions will be finalized shortly after the first of the year and more details will be added to the program.

**Share Fair** -- This year the share fair will be held on April 10 from 5:15 pm to 7:00 pm. Share Fair will provide conference participants with an informal opportunity to review successful programs, projects, research, evaluation strategies and resources and talk with the extension professionals that developed these materials. Table top displays, sample materials, brochures, and contact information will be available. Share Fair includes a reception with healthy and hearty food.

**Exhibits** -- Health associations, not-for profit organizations, publishers and companies will be invited to exhibit on Wednesday, April 11. Exhibits will provide participants with an opportunity to explore possible new program options and find out about available resources.

**Jeanne M. Priester Award** -- The Priester Award recognizes quality and innovative health education programs on the county/multi-county and state/multi-state level. The award honors Extension programs that positively impact the health of people in communities across the United States and expands Extension's capacity to effectively provide health education programs. Look for award nomination forms and procedures in January 2007 at <http://www.muhealth.org/~cme/Priester07/priester07a.shtml>.

**Entertainment** -- A night at Zona Rosa is being planned for Wednesday April 11. On Wednesday transportation will be provided to Zona Rosa a unique shopping, dining and entertainment district located about 4 miles from the hotel. The streets of the property are reminiscent of downtowns of the past and have a "village-feel". Efforts have been made to sustain and add 'greenspace' to the landscape. Trees, plants and water features are integral to the center's design. Zona Rosa is home to many well-known merchants, including Barnes and Noble, Ann Taylor Loft, Dick's Sporting Goods, Lane Bryant, Children's Place, and Marshall's MegaStore, just to name a few. Dining options include Bravo! Italian Cucina, Rib Crib, Mimi's Café, Abuelo's Mexican Food Embassy, Hereford House, Ted's Montana Grill and Swagat Fine Indian Cuisine. The Majestic Theatre features three theatre venues and the world famous Improve comedy club; food and beverage service is available from your seat. For more information about Zona Rosa go to [www.zonarosa.com](http://www.zonarosa.com). For those who fly into Kansas City, the hotel will provide transportation for small groups of people to area restaurants or shops. Two convenience stores are within walking distance of hotel. There is also a walking/jogging trail available near the hotel.