



April 7, 2009

Neha Kantamneni  
University of Louisville  
School of Public Health and Information Sciences  
485 E. Gray St.  
Louisville, KY 40202

Dear Neha:

On behalf of the staff at the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness, I want to say "THANK YOU" to you, the Student Government Association, and Public Health students for treating us to such a generous appreciation lunch today. What a great way to kick off National Public Health Week!

I want to thank you personally for approaching us with the idea and for working so hard to put the event together. I hope the students enjoyed networking with staff. I know our staff enjoyed them! In fact, on the following pages are some comments I received from our staff about the lunch. Please share these with your fellow students and event planners.

Sincerely,

*Kathy*

Kathy Harrison  
Communications Director

400 E. Gray St.  
Louisville, KY 40502  
502-574-6520  
[www.louisvilleky.gov/health](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/health)



*What a fabulous idea!*

*Thanks so much to the students for taking the initiative to introduce themselves, to some networking and provide a fun, healthy luncheon as a conversation starter! This event was well planned, well orchestrated, and provided a great opportunity to talk with the MPH students in a more relaxed setting.*

**Leanne M. French, MS**

Administrator

Community Health Education & Promotion

*I would like to thank the UofL School of Public Health and Information Sciences for their hospitality this afternoon. It was nice to see so many folks studying to get into the field of Public Health to become tomorrow's Public Health leaders.*

*Wayne Grabtree*

Administrator

Communicable Disease Prevention

*One student was particularly interested in Healthy Start and HANDS. She is completing her MPH this year. Another wanted to talk about smoking cessation and pregnant women. I tried to recruit him to become a Cooper/Clayton instructor. I gave him my business card and he is to email me and I will refer him to Ellie Schweizer.*

Ben Shobe

Manager, Healthy Start

*The lunch was very nice and I met 4 students who were very interested in hearing about what the diabetes program is doing. It was great to network with the students. Thanks, Kim Jackson, Community Health Nurse*

*I'd like to say that it was wonderful meeting students and to see the excitement on their faces made me feel hopeful that some of these same students will be future employees! Michelle Smith*

*I attended and enjoyed talking to two of the MPH students. We had a nice discussion regarding the future opportunities in Public Health, especially with the retirement of the workforce (i.e. baby boomers). We also discussed Healthy*

400 E. Gray St.

Louisville, KY 40502

502-574-6520

[www.louisvilleky.gov/health](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/health)



*Start and the successes of this infant mortality project and how projects like this take years to yield good results. Thanks for the healthy food! Naze*

*The responsible party deserves recognition for the clever idea of bringing people together over a free lunch. That's a hook for almost anyone, but especially a public health person. It was a mutual experience where we became acquainted with the students and they were able to pose questions of interest. Some of the students may have even scored practicum ideas and/or host sites. I strongly commend the planning group and whoever served as the financial support. Finally, thank you for a tasty meal and good conversation. It is a joy to witness the zeal of these current and future public health professionals.*

*Thanks,*

Matt Rhodes, Deputy Director

*I participated and thought it was great. Hopefully the students feel a little more comfortable approaching members of our health dept. to ask questions or develop projects.*

Matt Zahn, Medical Director

*It was a lovely luncheon. The food, company, and conversation had been a breath of fresh air. Networking is a plus in our field of work as we can learn for each other. Please send them our gratitude with a big thank you.*

Charlene.A Jones RN

Community Health Nurse Specialist

*Lunch was great!! Please thank the School of Public Health for me. That was very kind and thoughtful of them. Debbie Embers*

*As a new employee, it was a great way to connect with some of the students and talk to potential recruits. Hopefully, there will be other opportunities in the future. Not to mention the box lunches were pretty good. Thanks.*

Makeda Harris, Director – Office of Policy Planning and Evaluation

*Thanks, so much for the lunch today. It was a very kind and generous thing for you to do. Lynn Ingram.*



*I enjoyed participating in today's lunch with the SPHIS. Having graduated from the SPHIS Master of Public Health program last May, I only wish that this would have occurred when we were students. I found it helpful to meet with the students, to find out their interests and to offer support and advice to them on working in the public health field. I also think it's a good opportunity for LMPHW and SPHIS to meet and potentially collaborate on student projects, practicums, etc.*

*My only suggestion would be to encourage SPHIS faculty and staff to participate in the event, in hopes of encouraging any collaborative projects between the two organizations.*

*Thank you for the lunch! I enjoyed speaking with the students.*

Elizabeth Carter, MPH  
Health Education Specialist II

*I really appreciate the luncheon today and the opportunity to talk with 2 students about their experiences and the prospects for the future.*

Kay Heady, RN BSN  
Administrator/Director of Nursing

*The lunch was excellent! I have heard nothing but good comments about it. It was very nice of them to do this for us. Thanks very much. Dorothy May*

*Thank you very much for coming over to the Health Dept and giving us a much needed break and smile. The choice for the lunch was very good and the company shared was just as nice.*

*Susan Petty, LPN, Case Manager*