

# PHAIWA Advocacy e-Mentoring Program



## ***Who can be involved?***

The program is open to anyone working in public health, health promotion, health research or allied health. We also welcome applications from emerging leaders outside the health sector, if their work has some interest in health and wellbeing. Your geographic location will not be a barrier as the majority of communication and support will be done electronically or via telephone. PHAIWA strongly encourages expressions of interest from:

- Indigenous people;
- People working with disadvantaged/priority population groups; and
- Those working in rural and remote areas.

Please note there are limited places.

## ***What is involved?***

The focus of the Advocacy e-Mentoring Program supports emerging leaders in public health to ensure a level of succession planning is achieved. A mentee is provided with:

- An experienced public health advocacy professional as their mentor;
- Orientation to the program, including a meet and greet with other mentees and mentors (via skype or teleconference where necessary);
- Online support documents and an advocacy toolkit;
- Access to a mentee blog, where advocacy strategies conducted locally by the mentees will be collected, discussed and showcased to other mentees;
- On the ground support such as advice for media, interviews, meetings with management or decision makers, etc.;
- Special invitations to attend PHAIWA advocacy skills based workshop either as participants or presenters (conducted statewide).

### Mentees are expected to:

- Complete ten advocacy activities in which you can seek feedback from your mentor. PHAIWA will assess these activities and provide feedback;
- Contribute to discussion on the blog;
- Make contact with their mentor on a regular basis ensuring they are aware of their advocacy goals;
- Provide PHAIWA with updates on your progress;
- Proactively look for windows of opportunity - sign up to PHAIWA Mediawatch and e-news services, read newspapers regularly and monitor local media and policy, etc;
- Keep both mentors and PHAIWA informed of outcomes of all advocacy (e.g., send newspaper clippings, transcripts of radio interviews); and
- Attend at least one PHAIWA professional development event over the course of the program.

Please note it is expected that the activities and contact with your mentor will total approximately 1-2 hours per month.

### Mentees and mentors are expected to agree on:

- How regularly you make contact with each other. PHAIWA expect mentors and mentees catch up no more than once a month for the duration of the mentoring program with the occasional phone call for specific questions or requests for advice.
- What medium of contact is most suitable – this could be Skype for long-distance mentors, phone contact, meeting in person for a coffee, or by email. We suggest that initially you have at least one face-to-face meeting to get to know each other (Skype for long-distance pairings). Mentors are able to set limits on how much time they can provide to the mentee.

### ***Who are the mentors?***

The experienced mentors have been invited from local, state, national and international organisations as well as from within PHAIWA. Mentees will be matched as far as is possible, with a mentor who has experience in the preferred areas of interest.

Examples of the mentors who participated in previous programs include:

- Prof Mike Daube AO – Professor of Health Policy, Curtin University
- Michael Moore – CEO, Public Health Association Australia
- Elizabeth Chester – Director of Communications & Development, Telethon Kids Institute
- Jim Dodds - Director of Environmental Health, Department of Health WA
- Dr Cameron Webb – Medical Entomologist, University of Sydney & Westmead Hospital
- Nikki Percival – NHMRC Research Fellow & Senior Lecturer Public Health, University of Technology Sydney

### ***Expression of Interest***

If you are interested in becoming a mentee in the next program please contact [melinda.edmunds@curtin.edu.au](mailto:melinda.edmunds@curtin.edu.au).