

Joan Wightkin, DrPH
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Education

- 2002 DrPH, Maternal and Child Health, Department of Community Health Sciences, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
- 1978 MPH - Maternal and Child Health
Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
- 1974 BA - Anthropology
Boston University

Professional Experience

- 2005 - Present Assistant Professor, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, School of Public Health. Teach graduate level Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (since 2005) and Independent Study courses. Consultant for Department of Health and Hospitals' Birth Outcome Initiative since 2011, directing the implementation of Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services 1115 Waiver linking primary care centers in the Greater New Orleans region with New Orleans Health Department, Healthy Start Program, to provide a coordinated system of interconception care including primary care and case management/social services for low income women recently delivering a preterm or low birth weight baby. Since 2013, consultant for Michigan State University, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology's 5 year grant from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, *Demonstration of a Community System of Care for Medicaid Insured Pregnant Women*.
- 2011-Present Consultant for Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, Washington, D.C. to provide technical assistance to the federal Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program (enacted by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010) to develop home visiting programs in each state and jurisdiction. Provide training and technical assistance to strengthen capacity at the state and local levels. Provided consultation to U.S. Region V and served as speaker for national webinar on financial sustainability of MIECHV Programs.
- 2011-Present Consultant to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Bureau. Provided training and technical assistance to the Registrars of Vital Records and the Title V-Maternal and Child Health Directors from the Pacific Basin jurisdictions in Hawaii (2011) on the use of birth and infant/child death data for program

development and evaluation. Served as MCH Block Grant reviewer for Guam, the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia (2011 and 2012).

- April 2011 Consultant to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Bureau. Provided consultation to the Guam MCH Program including a week onsite to improve Guam's 2010 Title V Needs Assessment and Annual Plan. Facilitated a planning process with MCH leaders and representatives from the Department of Health and Human Services' Vital Records, Epidemiology, WIC, and Immunization programs, and the University of Guam. Completed a rewrite of the Maternal and Child Health Needs Assessment and a comprehensive plan for the MCH Program with a focus on access to reliable data for performance measurement and evaluation. Developed a logic model and preliminary plan for the State Systems Development Initiative grant which was awarded to Guam MCH.
- 1989 - 2011 Director, Title V-Maternal and Child Health Program, Louisiana Office of Public Health, Department of Health and Hospitals. Director of Louisiana's Title V-Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant Program (federal and state grant totaling \$50 million annually). Responsible for MCH program planning, management, evaluation, policy development, budget, and grant writing/editing. Led a team of physicians, nurses, health educators, epidemiologists, program managers, psychologists, and social workers who implemented public health preventive interventions that promoted the health of Louisiana's pregnant women and children.
- 1987 - 1989 Program Director, Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Food Program (WIC), Louisiana Office of Public Health, DHH
- 1984 - 1987 Health Care Consultant, Self-Employed
- 1979 - 1984 Director, Title V-Maternal and Child Health Program, Louisiana Office of Public Health, DHH (see description 1989-2011 above)
- 1978 - 1979 Director, Improved Pregnancy Outcome Project, Louisiana Office of Public Health, DHH
- 1974 - 1976 Eligibility Determination Worker, Louisiana Office of Family Services, Department of Social Services

Honors/Awards

Directors Award, U.S. Department of Health and Human Service, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Bureau, 2011

“Charles Vanchiere MD Access to Child Health” award, Louisiana Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics, 2006

“Women in Community Service” award, Great Expectations Foundation, 2003

“Champion of Public Health” award, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2003

“Those Who Dare to Care About Kids” Award, Greater New Orleans Section, National Council of Jewish Women, 2003

Recipient, Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Program Stipend, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 2002

Jack R. Aron Scholar, Tulane University, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 1997

“Champions for Children” Award, Louisiana Council on Child Abuse, 1997

Delta Omega Society, ETA Chapter, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

President's Award, Louisiana Public Health Association, 1984

Professional Activities

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| 2012 | Leadership team member, Every Woman Southeast, a 9-state coalition to improve the health of women and infants in the South, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill |
| 2010-2011 | Adjunct Professor at University of Texas, School of Public Health at Houston; taught courses in maternal and child health |
| 2010-2011 | Faculty, <i>Break the Cycle Program</i> , Emory University, Southeast Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit |
| 2007 | Reviewer, <i>Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved</i> , Institute on Health Care for the Poor and Underserved, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee |
| 2006 | Core Team member, Louisiana Health Care Redesign Collaborative, comprised of 40 health care leaders who designed Louisiana's health care delivery system, which was approved by 2007 Louisiana Legislature and submitted as Medicaid waiver to federal Centers for Medicare and |

Medicaid

2005-2011	Editorial Board, Maternal and Child Health Journal
2004-2012	Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
2004-2005	Member, B.S. in Public Health, Planning Committee, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine,
2003-2005	Curriculum Advisory Committee member, Maternal and Child Health Leadership Skills Training Institute, University of Alabama, School of Public Health
2002	Chair, Maternal and Child Health/Adolescent School Based Health Subcommittee, Mayor-elect Ray Nagin Transition Team on Health
2001-2003	Committee Member, Council on Education for Public Health, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
2000-2002	Committee Member, Search Committee for Dean, Tulane University Medical Center-School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
2000- 2010	Executive Committee member, Louisiana Maternal and Child Health Coalition Board
1998 - 1999	Faculty, South Central Partnership for Public Health Workforce Development, Orientation to the Essentials of Public Health Course
1998- 2004	Committee Member, Chancellor's Teaching Scholar Award, Tulane University Medical Center-School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
1996 - 2000	Committee Member, Louisiana Council on Child Abuse, Public Education and Advocacy
1991 - 2011	Governor appointee, Louisiana Commission on Perinatal Care and Prevention of Infant Mortality,
1993 - 1996	Adjunct Instructor, Department of Applied Health Sciences, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine
1995 - 1996	South Central Public Health Leadership Institute graduate, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Arkansas Department of Health, Louisiana Office of Public Health, Mississippi State Department of Health
1994 - 1995	Healthy Communities Action Project graduate, National Civic League

- 1994 Chair, Louisiana's Health and Safety Child Care Guidelines Implementation Project, in conjunction with American Public Health Association
- 1991 - 1992 Member, Louisiana Council to Prevent Chemically Exposed Infants, Louisiana Legislature
- 1991 - 1996 Steering Committee member, New Orleans Healthy Start/Great Expectations Program,
- 1990 Governor Appointed Committee member, Southern Legislative Summit on Healthy Infants and Families

Publications

- Xiong X, Wightkin J, Magnus JH, Pridjian G, Acuna JM, Buekens P. Birth Weight and Infant Growth: Optimal Infant Weight Gain Versus Optimal Infant Weight. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*. Online September 2006.
- Tran T, Longfellow L, Wightkin J, Trachtman L. Sexually Transmitted Diseases During Pregnancy. *Louisiana Morbidity Report*, July-Aug 2006; 17(4):2.
- Wightkin, J. Magnus, J. H. Farley, T. A. Boris, N. W. Kotelchuck, M. Psychosocial Predictors of Being an Underweight Infant Differ by Racial Group: A Prospective Study of Louisiana WIC Program Participants. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*. Online July 2006: 1-7.
- Nagle, G. A., & Wightkin, J. H. (2005) Tales From the Capitol: Tried, True, and Not True Strategies for Increasing Policy Support for Programs to Enhance Early Attachments. In L. Berlin, Y. Ziv, L. Amaya-Jackson, & M. T. Greenberg (Eds.), *Enhancing early attachments: Theory, research, intervention, and policy*. NY: Guilford Press.
- Boudreaux, M. Miller, J. Wightkin, J. Martin, S. Mather, F. Collaborative Care for Obstetrical Patients at Low and High Risk: An Evolving Model. *Journal of Perinatology*. 1997; 17(1):33-36.
- Wightkin, J. Lambert, L. Caesarean Child Birth Rate Among Women in the New Orleans Area. *Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society*. 1988; 140:39-45.

Grants

- 2012-2014 Principal Investigator, Louisiana Birth Outcomes Initiative and Healthy Start New Orleans, W.K. Kellogg Foundation to University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology EveryWoman Southeast, \$43,500 for a 14 month public information campaign and professional education on reproductive health
- 2008-2013 Principal Investigator, Louisiana Oral Health Program, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Grant # 5U58DP001584, \$274,856 first

of five year funding for improving oral health in Louisiana by increasing fluoridation of water systems, prevalence of childhood dental sealants, and other public health approaches to improved oral health status. Transferred Principle Investigator to Oral Health Program Director in grant year two.

- 2006-2011 Principal Investigator, State Systems Development Initiative, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Grant # H18MC00021, continuation grant of \$100,000 per year to strengthen the epidemiologic, assessment and evaluation capacity of the Louisiana Title V Maternal and Child Health Program.
- 2006-2011 Principal Investigator, Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Grant # 5 UR6 DP000471-02, five year grant of \$145,982 per year to conduct population based surveillance of women who recently gave birth, in order to identify risk factors for poor pregnancy outcomes.
- 2006-2009 Principal Investigator, Grants to States to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Grant # T12HP07700, three year grant of \$111,267 per year to build infrastructure within state government to support preventive oral health interventions.
- 2001-2006 Principal Investigator, Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Grant # U50/CCU617128, five year grant of \$125,000 per year to conduct population based surveillance of women who recently gave birth, in order to identify risk factors for poor pregnancy outcomes.
- 1999-2002 Principal Investigator, Covering Kids Initiative, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Grant # 035740, three year \$984,956 grant to identify and enroll children into the Child Health Insurance Program through outreach activities and simplified enrollment procedures.
- 1999-2001 Principal Investigator, State Systems Development Initiative, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Grant # 2 H18 MC 00021, two year \$200,000 grant to strengthen the epidemiologic, assessment and evaluation capacity of the Louisiana Title V Maternal and Child Health Program.
- 1996-2000 Principal Investigator, Health Systems Development in Child Care, Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Grant # MCJ-22KCC6, four year \$200,000 grant to improve health and safety in child care settings by training health consultants and promoting the use of these consultants with child care centers statewide

- 1994-1996 Principal Investigator, Home Visiting for At Risk Families Initiative, Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Grant # MCJ-22KHV, two year \$100,000 grant to promote the use of home visiting interventions for improving maternal and child health status and establish home visiting interventions in the state.
- 1994-1996 Principal Investigator, State Systems Development Initiative, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Grant # MCJ-22T051, three year \$275,000 grant to establish infrastructure to develop community based, coordinated health systems for children.
- 1991-1993 Principal Investigator, Technical Assistance for Comprehensive Primary Health Care Systems, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Health Resources and Services Administration, Grant # MCJ-22B031/MCJ-22B051, three year \$57,500 grant to conduct an assessment primary health care needs of children in Louisiana.

Invited National Presentations

“Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant Needs Assessment,” Maternal and Child Health Bureau, DHHS training video for new MCH directors and grant reviewers, June 2006.

“From Needs Assessment to Action: Integrating Science and Data Into Priority Setting in Louisiana,” Tenth Annual Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Conference, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, December, 2004.

“Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant Review,” Maternal and Child Health Bureau, DHHS training video for new MCH directors and grant reviewers, June 2004.

“Periodontal Disease and Preterm Delivery: From Research to Practice,” Maternal and Child Health Bureau, DHHS, Federal/State Partnership Annual Conference, October 2003.

“Prediction of Underweight and Short Stature in Infants 12 Months of Age – A Study in Local Health Department Clinics,” Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Monthly Broadcast, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, DHHS, November 2002

“Mental Health and Maternal and Child Health Programs,” Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Bureau-DHHS, Federal/State Partnership Meeting, October 2001