

RIFC Attends the 28th Annual Meeting of the Rhode Island Public Health Association

(Cranston, RI, November 20, 2024) At the 2024 Annual RIPHA Meeting, over 100 public health professionals gathered to discuss their work and attend a keynote panel entitled “Pathways to Equity: Approaches to Addressing Health Inequities in RI.” The panel consisted of 4 esteemed RI public health leaders as panelists and the new RIPHA President as a moderator. Our new CEO, Jessica Eagles, and our Patient & Volunteer Services AmeriCorps VISTA, Elise Erickson, were in attendance.

This event was a great opportunity to learn about health equity initiatives in RI while making connections with various health-focused entities across RI. RIFC is always looking to expand our community partnerships, connections, and collaborations to make the greatest possible impact on RI public health. As the old proverb says, “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”

Organizations Jessica and Elise connected with at the meeting included: Just ASK Aphasia Stroke Knowledge, the Rhode Island Department of Health, United Way of Rhode Island, Care Transformation Collaborative, Partnership to Reduce Cancer in Rhode Island, Community Health Network, CODAC, TCSRI, and Community Care Alliance. It was a pleasure coming together with so many dedicated, passionate, and inspiring public health professionals as we all work towards the common goal of a happier, healthier Rhode Island.

About the Rhode Island Free Clinic (RIFC): Founded in 1998, the Rhode Island Free Clinic’s mission is to provide free, comprehensive medical, dental and behavioral care and preventative services to adults who have no health insurance and cannot afford those services. The Free Clinic also serves as an educational training site for aspiring health care professionals. Located at 655 Broad Street in Providence, the Free Clinic operates with a lean staff and over 500 volunteers and serves over 2,000 patients each year.

About the Rhode Island Public Health Association (RIPHA): RIPHA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax-exempt professional organization that works toward the advancement of public health. It is the Rhode Island affiliate of the American Public Health Association (APHA). APHA is the oldest and most diverse organization of public health professionals in the world, working to improve public health since 1872. The vision of RIPHA is a safe and healthier Rhode Island and the mission of RIPHA is to influence public health policy and promote public health practice in Rhode Island.

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