

**Name of Nominee:**

Tara Thomas-Gale

**Nominee's Employer/Agency:**

Denver Health

**Nominee's County of Residence:**

Park

**Nominee's Self-Identified Area of Public Health Expertise:**

Maternal Child Health

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**For which position would you like to submit a nomination?:**

ARGC (3-year Term Commitment)

**Describe your background, education, and experience relevant to the CPHA Board. (200 words maximum):**

I have more than 20 years of experience building collaborative relationships with public health, government, and community partners in diverse working environments to implement initiatives in the areas of public health and health service delivery. Since moving to Colorado in 2007, I've worked as a public health professional with several local organizations including Denver Health (DH) and the Nurse-Family Partnership. I currently lead implementation of family planning & health education services for Denver Health, and support related DH and partner initiatives in the areas of maternal child health and adolescent health. I'm a current CPHA board member (2018-present), APHA member (2004-present), and a volunteer mentor with the Colorado Public Health Mentoring Program (2017-19). I have been active on CPHA's Policy Committee, served as a PHIR abstract reviewer, and organized member events for National Public Health Week (2019-20). I completed the RIHEL advanced leadership program in 2011 and an International Healthcare Management Fellowship in Ethiopia. I hold an MPH from George Washington University and a BA from the University of Kansas.

**What are your goals in serving on the CPHA Board? (150 words maximum):**

I have served on the CPHA Board since 2018 in the role of interim Affiliate Representative to the APHA Governing Council (filling a mid-term vacancy) and am running for a new term to provide role continuity and support for established relationships with APHA staff and our Region VIII Affiliates (MT, UT, SD, WY, ND). My goals include fostering communication and affiliate involvement with APHA initiatives (e.g. National Public Health Week, legislative actions & letter sign-ons), while representing the interests and policy directions of CPHA's membership. I have been a member of APHA for 15 years, presenting at its annual meeting since 2013 and voting on behalf of CPHA at its Governing Council 2018-19. As a continuing board member, I will explore opportunities to grow CPHA membership, increase the visibility of public health across Colorado, and actively support CPHA advocacy, policy, and health equity efforts.

**What specific contributions do you expect to make to CPHA? (150 words maximum):**

Having worked in the public and private health sectors for more than 20 years, I will bring to the CPHA Board experience in program implementation, strategic planning, policy, and grant-funded initiatives. While COVID-19 has impacted many planned activities this year, I'm optimistic we'll be able to bring the public health community back together in-person for National Public Health Week and Public Health in the Rockies in 2021. As ARGC, I look forward to organizing the next Public Health Advocacy Talks (PHATalks) and an advocacy workshop with guest presenters from the University of North Carolina / Network for Public Health Law. Building on 2019 efforts, I would like to strengthen CPHA's relationship with Colorado's members of Congress and their local offices. I will continue to represent CPHA at APHA's national meeting and meet regularly with our Region VIII Affiliate team.

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**Please use the scale below to indicate your level of experience with the following:**

- 0 No knowledge or experience
- 1 Some knowledge around this skillset but no experience putting it into action
- 2 Moderate knowledge and experience applying the skillset
- 3 Extensive knowledge and experience applying the skillset

**Accounting:**

2

**Community Organizing:**

1

**Event Planning:**

3

**Financial Literacy:**

3

**Grant Writing:**

3

**Legal:**

2

**Marketing/PR:**

2

**Organizational Management:**

2

**Public Policy:**

2

**Risk Management:**

2

**Strategic Planning:**

3

**In which areas of CPHA do you think you could make the most contributions?:**

Fostering & maintaining CPHA's relationship with the American Public Health Association and Region VIII Affiliates, including event planning for National Public Health Week, federal policy letter sign-ons, etc. Supporting CPHA Policy Committee member surveys, legislature day and related work.

**Which areas of CPHA's work would be more difficult for you to make contribution?:**

Accounting or legal advising