



## A Message From NECHA's President

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President, New England College Health Association*

Welcome to another school year! The fall is a busy time, as we are all recovering from the beginning of a new school year. Orientation programs, housing challenges, immunization compliance, supporting first year students through their transition, and so much more!! Facilitating and addressing these tasks and issues is what makes what we all do so important. Most importantly is how we work TOGETHER to support the many aspects of student health and wellness.

The annual ACHA meeting offers a wonderful opportunity to come together with many colleagues from around the country to share ideas, recent research, best practice, and network to broaden our circle of support. We had a great turnout for our Affiliate meeting at this year's ACHA meeting in June. We joined together to hear updates from our board, as well as a board member from ACHA. We discussed how to become more involved, award descriptions and the nomination process, and employment opportunities. We broke into small groups to discuss current issues of interest and importance. [Here is a synopsis](#) of the issues we discussed. It is intended to offer a general review of our discussion.

The NECHA annual meeting offers the same opportunities, but in a smaller and more intimate setting. We plan a NECHA annual meeting every other year and combine our meeting with NYSCHA every other year. Each combined meeting, we take turns hosting and this year, NYSCHA is hosting the **2019 NYSCHA | NECHA combined annual meeting, *Encourage. Support. Inspire.***, in Saratoga Springs, NY. The [meeting](#) includes three pre-conferences, one keynote speaker, two general sessions and over 40 individual sessions. We will have a NECHA affiliate meeting on Thursday morning from 8:00-8:45am. This meeting is intended for the entire NECHA community to come and meet other NECHA attendees along members of the board. It is an opportunity to hear updates from the board, ask questions, find out how to become more involved and collaborate with one another. We hope you will join us and please feel free to bring your breakfast!

The board met in June and continues to work on outreach to schools that are not currently engaged in NECHA, and may not be aware of our organization. We will be sending [NECHA 2020 postcards](#) to over 100 schools with a personal note from one of the board members. We are also continuing to review and update our by-laws, as many of the other affiliates are as well. The feedback provided from our meeting in Portland is being carefully integrated into the planning of our future meetings.

I have considered it a privilege to be the President of NECHA for the past two years and look forward to remaining an active participant. I hope to see many of you in Saratoga in a few weeks!

All my best,

*Lauri*