



A Message From NECHA's President

*Elizabeth Drexler-Hines, MPH, MCHES
President, New England College Health Association*

Happy Almost Thanksgiving!

As many of us are gearing up for the final (and very busy) push to the end of the semester, I hope that we will all be able to find some time this week to be present in the moments spent with family, friends, and others during this time of Thanks.

I am deeply grateful to all of the professionals who make up NECHA and College Health. As an attendee at the 2019 combined NYSCHA|NECHA meeting in Saratoga Springs earlier this month, I came away (as always) feeling energized and inspired. The wealth of knowledge, innovation, and professionalism that is shared at these meetings is, in my opinion, top-notch. Many thanks to NYSCHA for planning and hosting another fabulous combined meeting. Combined meetings occur every other year and each Affiliate organization takes turns hosting. The next combined meeting will be hosted by NECHA and held in Stowe, Vermont in 2021.

With that in mind, I hope that you will save the date for the **NECHA (non-combined) Annual Meeting: "Health Equity, Light the Way" on November 4-6, 2020**. This will be held in a NECHA "favorite" location: Newport, RI! Please consider attending and encouraging others to go (including institutional partners who do not work directly in College Health). As the scope of our work expands, I do hope the demographic of our Annual Meeting attendees will do the same.

Based on helpful feedback from people attending our "Breakfast with the Board" meeting in Saratoga Springs, the Board has worked to open up the Call for Proposals for the 2020 meeting earlier in the year. Comments were made that people may feel energized after the annual meeting and may feel inclined to submit a proposal and that it may be helpful for those professionals who have a bit of "down time" at the end of the fall semester to have some time to submit. Thank you so much for the feedback and I am happy to announce that **everyone will now be able to submit a proposal starting December 15th**. Please find the link at www.nechaonline.org.

The Board is diligently working to increase our membership. We have taken on a project for the past year to identify campuses throughout New England who have not interacted with NECHA. We plan on reaching out to these campuses, making them aware of NECHA as a resource and invite them to the Annual Meeting in Newport. If you know of any campus or campus contacts who you feel would benefit from a personal outreach by the Board, please email our administrative director, Sarah Cavicchi: sarah@nechaonline.org.

I hope that everyone has a very happy and healthy Thanksgiving. I am certainly grateful for everyone who makes up this amazing organization.

All my best,

Liz