

MOLLY LAMB, DrPH

Chatham, IL 62629 | 217-473-4788 | mollyjo80@yahoo.com | [linkedin.com/in/molly-lamb](https://www.linkedin.com/in/molly-lamb)

STRATEGIC CHANGE AGENT | PUBLIC HEALTH LEADER | COMMUNITY BUILDER

PROFILE

Proven leader in public health practice and government who develops policy, drives strategic planning and goals, and improves statewide operations. Data-led analyst; relies on evaluation to interpret public health data and assess situations for decision-making. Collaborator and relationship-builder with breadth of experience in community outreach. Emergency response and preparedness expert. Policy leader who works closely with stakeholders to create regulations, using influence to push forward needed change. Highly valued for decision-making abilities. Thoughtful public health speaker. Establishes long-range plans to support values and vision. Steadfast manager who engages staff, maintains accountability, and pushes teams to their potential. Deep understanding of systems and continual improvement process. Interdisciplinary leader with ability to innovate, operationalize, and evaluate programs iteratively, leading to improved individual and community health.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Crafted and led the successful adoption of raw milk sales regulation rulemaking in Illinois.
 - Managed significant organizational structural changes at IDPH to enhance integration with key program areas.
 - Designed centralized grant system to ensure standardization, consistency, and improved decision-making.
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AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

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|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| ▪ Public Health Leadership | ▪ Change Management | ▪ Policy |
| ▪ Emergency Response | ▪ Compliance | ▪ Grant Administration |
| ▪ Strategy | ▪ Community Outreach | ▪ Capacity Building |
| ▪ Organizational Development | ▪ Operations | ▪ Communications |
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois Springfield, Center of State Policy and Leadership | Springfield, IL June 2020-Present
Executive Director

Lead and manage the Center with a mission of applied research, leadership, workforce development, education, innovation and policy. Build relationships with external and internal stakeholders. Institute collaborative strategic management and thinking process to enhance public value, improve operational functionality, address current strategic issues and advance change.

University of Illinois Springfield | Springfield, IL 2021 - Present

Adjunct Faculty, College of Public Affairs and Administration, School of Public Management and Policy

Adjunct Faculty, Doctor of Public Administration

Sponsored an independent study (DPA) and taught PAD561 Graduate Public Service Internship program seminar.

Lincoln Land Community College | Springfield, IL 2007-Present

Adjunct Faculty

Teach Health in Today's Society (HLT-201-OL) as a 200-level public health online course each semester and an eight-week module of HLT in the adult hybrid curriculum when available. Advance curriculum for online accreditation.

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Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Health Protection | Springfield, IL

2008 – 2020

Deputy Director

February 2017 – June 2020

Assistant Deputy Director

March 2016 – February 2017

Continually promoted based on exemplary leadership, efficient change management, relationship-building abilities and strategic operations guidance. Managed 365 employees and a \$250M budget. Developed internal and external policy and collaborated with stakeholders to identify statewide health goals. Led effort to push forward rulemaking agenda and legislative initiatives through influence. Drove strategic planning and process improvement to make needed change. Provide administrative direction and coordination for personnel management and fiscal operations. Delivered integration and coordination of functions. Evaluated ongoing programmatic operations, determine staffing needs to achieve program objectives, and identify and fill gaps through thoughtful planning, evaluation, implementation, and monitoring.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Completed organizational re-structure and instituted operational reform.
- Championed VFC CHIP multi-agency program and launch.
- Led efforts for Infant at Work policy.
- Assumed Health Protection Branch Director for COVID-19 response.
- Crafted immunization policy.

Division Chief, Division of Food, Drugs and Dairies

February 2012 – March 2016

Administered programs, plans, and initiatives designed to protect the public. Managed staff of 45 with 10 direct reports. Implement systematic, organizational development principles to achieve strategic goals. Served as policy-making official accountable for all legislative and rulemaking proposed amendments. Built and maintained relationships with governing bodies and individuals to further policy goals. Coordinate food, dairy, and devices outbreak investigation. Oversaw federal and state operating budget and federal grants and contracts. Perform continual analysis of business processes and efficient change improvement. Served on department-wide committees for advancement of public health initiatives. Department-appointed representative on IL Local Food, Farms and Jobs Council, Farmers' Market Task Force, and IPHI Alliance on Prevention of Obesity Workgroup.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Closed gaps for data collection and analysis by instituting new technology.
- Primary liaison to the FDA for food, dairy, and devices.
- Chair, Illinois Food Safety Advisory Committee (restructured in 2012) (5 standing workgroups).

Training & Exercise Section Chief

March 2010 – February 2012

Division of Disaster Planning & Readiness, Office of Preparedness & Response

As the section leader, built and developed IDPH preparedness and managed the public health and medical training, exercise, and evaluation program, including four staff. Successfully managed relationship with State Emergency Operations Center during 2011 Blizzard and 2011 Flood. Designed and implemented multi-year training and exercise plans, tools, and resources used statewide. Facilitated annual workshops to communicate standards and goals. Provided statistical reports for performance metrics to maintain public health and hospital grants. As communications lead, published training and exercise guidance for grant deliverables. Collaborated with state agency partners and academia, especially IEMA.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Successfully implemented the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) guidelines.
- Authored course curriculum PHEP 101 and Beyond.

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Emergency Response Coordinator, Peoria Region

June 2008 – March 2010

Division of Disaster Planning & Readiness, Office of Preparedness & Response

Provided best practice guidance and technical assistance to local health departments. Served as Public Health Liaison during 2008 flood and 2009 H1N1 outbreak, reducing impact on residents. Conducted sub-recipient grant monitoring, evaluation and audited emergency response and preparedness plans. Led SNS site visits, evaluating progress and plans and making recommendations for change. Coordinated with stakeholders, including regional hospitals. Represented department statewide as a member of numerous committees at the federal, state, and regional levels.

Logan County Health Department | Lincoln, IL

February 2006 – June 2008

Emergency Response Coordinator

Transformed programs and strengthened planning through diligent stewardship of priorities. Developed, implemented, and evaluated plans and policies. Directed LCHD Preparedness Team and managed internal training based on LMS assessments. Administered PHEP and other grants, maintaining budget and meeting reporting deadlines. Conducted surveillance and gathered epidemiological data. Piloted RAND Corp performance measures manuals. Managed compliance for Illinois Accreditation Development Project Pilot. Led community outreach; collaborated with and educated community members.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Formed and coordinated the Pandemic Influenza Community Coalition (Chair) and MRC.
- Appointed to Logan County HSEEP Planning Team.
- Revamped SNS Plan for CDC CRI TAR compliance, including managing increased MOUs.

EDUCATION

DrPH, Doctor of Public Health in Leadership University of Illinois at Chicago Chicago, IL	2021
MPH University of Springfield Springfield, IL	2005
MPA University of Springfield Springfield, IL	2005
BA, Psychology Illinois Wesleyan University Bloomington, IL	2003

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Illinois Department of Professional Regulation Licensed Environmental Health Practitioner (LEHP) (#183000912)	July 2013
Public Health Practitioner Certification Board, Inc. (PHPCB) Certified Emergency Response Coordinator (CERC)	April 2010
National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. (NCHEC) Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) (#12689)	April 2006

SELECT HONORS & AWARDS

PELP Nominee	2021,2022
FDA awards for leadership in various outbreak response	2012-2019
Certificate of Recognition for DPH Strategic Plan Committee	2014
Member, UIS MPH Advisory Committee	2010
NACCHO Project Public Health Ready Review	2010
ASPPH Public Health Preparedness Competency Leadership Group	2009
Risk Communication PHEP Performance Measures Subgroup	2008
Logan County LEPC Co-Member & Member of the Year	2006, 2007
Homecare Across Illinois Annual Conference Speaker	2007

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NACCHO National Public Health Preparedness Summit Speaker	2007
NACCHO Metrics Workgroup	2006

SELECT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

CSPL Public Policy Series	2021-present
UIS COVID Webinar Series	2020-22
IGPA Policy Incubator Workshop	2021
ISU Partnered Wicked Problems Health Equity with Dr. Ngozi Ezike (moderator)	2021
Leadership Lab for Innovate Springfield	2021
Secrets of College Planning TV Show	2021
State Health Assessment: Public Policy	2021
WFMB Interview	2021
WCIA Interview	2021
Citizens Club of Springfield Panelist	2021
Sangamon CEO Program	2021
Office of Women's Health Conference – Infant at Work Policy (Lead Developer & Implementer)	2018
Keynote at IL Annual Food Safety Symposium	2013, 2015
AIMFES Spring Meeting Speaker	2015
Food Safety Symposium Session FoodEx2014 Improvement Plan	2014
Illinois Rural Public Health Conference Session	2013
FDA Retail Food Regional Seminar Opening Remarks	2013
Healthy Farms, Healthy People IPHI Conference	2012
AIMFES Fall Meeting Emergency Outbreak Response	2012
IL Environmental Health Association Session	2012
PHEP 101 and Beyond Training Course for Annual PHEP Pre-Conference (>200)	2010
Peoria West Pandemic Influenza Task Force Workshop	2009
National NACCHO PHEP Conference Session	2007
Homecare Across Illinois Conference Speaker	2007
Illinois Rural Health Institute Session Logic Models	2007
Women's Health Conference	2007
National Weather Service	2007
Lincoln Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce	2006

PUBLICATIONS

Lamb, Molly J. (2021). Sustainability of Policy, Systems and Environmental Strategies: A Mixed Methods to Advance Change and Public Health Outcomes: A Mixed Methods Multiple Case Study of We Choose Health in Illinois. *Indigo*.

Lamb, Molly Jo, Pinsker, Eve, and Jarpe-Ratner, Elizabeth. (2022). Sustainability of Policy, Systems and Environmental Strategies to Advance Change and Public Health Outcomes. *Illinois Municipal Policy Journal*. 7(1), 49-92. <https://www.iml.org/file.cfm?key=25386>.
