



# PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

"Protecting the health of all Californians"

APRIL 3, 2017

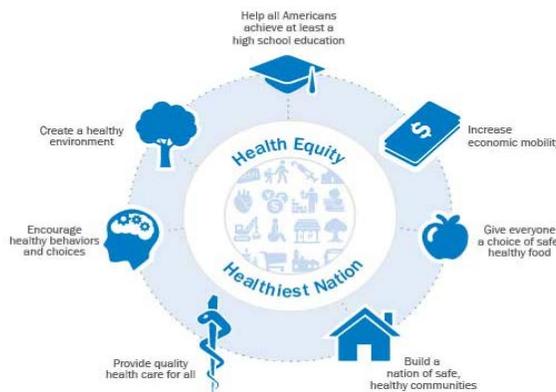
## National Public Health Week: April 3-9

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) welcomes you to join us in observing National Public Health Week 2017 and become part of a growing movement to create the healthiest nation in one generation. The goal of National Public Health Week is to acknowledge contributions made by public health and to raise awareness of issues important to improving the nation's health.

In honor of Public Health Week, CDPH is hosting its annual Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 3:00 at 1500 Capitol Avenue. More than 125 CDPH employees will be honored with PHAME (Public Health Acknowledging My Efforts) awards. At this event, we will also present the highest award given by the Department, the Beverlee A. Myers Award for Excellence in Public Health. This year, the award goes to

### Generation Public Health

helps us create conditions to improve health, achieve health equity, and increase life expectancy.



Dr. Kelly Pfeifer, a practicing family doctor and director of high-value care at the California Health Care Foundation. She leads the Foundation's efforts in maternity care, end-of-life care, and the care of populations with complex behavioral health and medical conditions, including a focus on the impact of opioid overuse. Dr. Pfeifer is one of California's leaders in the fight against the opioid epidemic.

Addiction to opioids is often a descent into despair, or death, for those addicted and for their families. The average time from the first prescription of a pain medication to an overdose death, is 31 months. Every hour, four people will die in the United States from an opioid-related overdose. Dr. Pfeifer has brought together people and coalitions from every corner of California in the fight against this epidemic.

During the first full week of April each year, communities across California and the United States come together to observe National Public Health Week as a time to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improving our nation.

### CONNECT

To ensure everyone has a chance at a long and healthy life, we must tackle the underlying causes of poor health that are rooted in how and where we live, learn, work and play. These are the conditions that shape the health and well-being of our people and communities.

Thankfully, public health can do something. If we partner with community members, public and private entities across our state to ensure decisions are made with people's health in mind, California can build healthier communities and become the healthiest state in the nation. For more information, please visit [letsgetthehealthy.ca.gov](http://letsgetthehealthy.ca.gov).

