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Mary von Mohr Graduates from Inaugural Region IV Public Health Leadership Institute

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Fernandina Beach, FL – Mary von Mohr, MSW, Health Strategist, Florida Department of Health in Nassau County, has completed the inaugural Public Health Leadership Institute (PHLI) as a member of the Region IV Public Health Training Center at Emory University.

Selected from over 140 applicants, von Mohr was one of 28 fellows from eight states across the southeastern United States to participate in the inaugural year of the PHLI program.

The Region IV Public Health Training Center at Emory University launched the PHLI in 2018 in partnership with the J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development, a unit of Public Service and Outreach at the University of Georgia, to advance adaptive and strategic leadership skills among public health professionals.

According to Dr. Seidel, agency director, “Mary von Mohr plays a key role as lead Health Strategist for the FDOH Nassau CHD assuring the development and implementation of the third iteration of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) which aligns multiple partnerships and collaboratives in our community. She is a recognized community mobilizer and networks routinely with non-profits, government, healthcare and other leaders. She led the effort for facilitating the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners to apply for and be accepted into AARP Age Friendly Livable Communities Network. She is committed to professional development as evidenced by her completion of leadership institutes, most recently this national Reg IV PHLI program. She demonstrated these skills in serving as a Deputy Incident Commander for our local COVID-19 Incident Management Team. Mary's passion and commitment for public health, our agency, our staff and mission are invaluable to local and state FDOH.”

All 28 PHLI fellows are employed by state, local and tribal public health departments in the Southeast, where they manage programs, supervise staff and/or demonstrate leadership skills.

“The PHLI brought together experts in diverse areas of public health,” said Melissa (Moose) Alperin, Principal Investigator/Project Director for the Region IV Public Health Training Center. “Now more than ever, protecting the public’s health requires leaders who not only have technical expertise in their fields, but also have the collaboration and communication skills to bring together partners from all sectors of the community to promote a culture of health.”

Over nine months, faculty from the Fanning Institute provided PHLI fellows with instruction, along with peer consultation.

“Maintaining and improving the quality of life in our communities requires developing leaders in all sectors ready and able to adapt quickly to address emerging challenges,” said Matt Bishop, director of the Fanning Institute. “We are pleased to help equip these leaders throughout the public health field with the leadership tools they need to do just that, not only now during our current COVID-19 pandemic, but moving forward into the future.”

Applications for the 2020-2021 cohort will be accepted in June 2020. For more information, visit the Region IV Public Health Training Center website at <http://www.r4phtc.org/>.

Funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Region IV Public Health Training Center works to improve the capacity of the public health workforce to meet national, state, and local needs. The Region IV Public Health Training Center is one of ten regional HRSA-funded training centers throughout the U.S. and a member of the national Public Health Learning Network.

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