



National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Claude-Alix Jacob Takes Office as President of the National Association of County and City Health Officials

Washington, DC (August 16, 2016) —Claude-Alix Jacob, the new President of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) described his personal journey to the presidency during the opening general session of the organization’s 2016 [Annual Conference held in Phoenix, July 19-21](#).

Calling NACCHO his “professional home” Jacob, Chief Public Officer at the Cambridge Health Alliance for the City of Cambridge, MA said, “When I arrived in Cambridge nearly a decade ago, I was encouraged by mentors and colleagues to become an active member in NACCHO. I joined one of the workgroups which focused on leadership and workforce development for new local health officials.”

Jacob went on to say, “The work of our membership association creates linkages that set the standards for our profession, represent our profession, improve our profession, and safeguard our interests. To be a local health official today is to feel a range of complex emotions about our work, our communities, and our futures together. Conferences such as NACCHO Annual allow us to address health, equity and security in our communities.”

Describing Jacob, NACCHO Executive Director LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH offered, “Claude is a confident public health leader with a career full of successes. He is passionate

about tackling critical local health department issues such workforce development, quality improvement and health equity. We are very pleased to have him serve as NACCHO's president at a time when many of our members are being forced to do more with less while always working to protect the public's safety and well-being."

"We had one of largest turnouts for this year's annual meeting which speaks to the need for our members to hear from national experts while mobilizing to address the pressing issues in their respective communities. I look forward to sharing the NACCHO story in the season ahead," said Jacob.

In his address, Jacob congratulated the elected members of the NACCHO Board of Directors for the 2016-17 term. He also singled out NACCHO Board Member Bob England, MD, MPH, Director of the Maricopa County Health Department to thank him and his team, many of whom volunteered at the conference and helped make it a success.

Claude-Alix Jacob, MPH, is the Chief Public Health Officer for the City of Cambridge, MA. He has over 20 years of experience in public health and has led the operations of the Cambridge Public Health Department since 2007. Serving a population of 107,000 residents and hundreds of businesses, the Cambridge Public Health Department is a city department administered by Cambridge Health Alliance, a regional health care delivery system.

During Jacob's tenure as Chief Public Health Officer he has overseen federally funded initiatives for addressing health disparities among men of color and reducing obesity in children and adults. Under Jacob's direction, the Cambridge Public Health Department is developing a model in which local government and the community are partners in improving health. This collaborative spirit is reflected in the department's recently completed Community Health Improvement Plan, which has set the city's health agenda through 2020.

His previous work experience includes serving as a senior health administrator at the Illinois Department of Public Health, Baltimore City Health Department, and Sinai Health System in Chicago.

In addition to being NACCHO's President, Jacob also serves on the Board of Directors for the Public Health Foundation, the Massachusetts Public Health Association, and the National Advisory Board of the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship.

As President of NACCHO, Jacob chairs the Board of Directors of the association. The Board establishes NACCHO's strategic direction and initiatives, ensures that annual goals are met, sets the annual legislative agenda, and provides financial oversight. The Board is NACCHO's public face and represents members in matters of policy, public health practice and collaboration with partners in the public and private sectors.

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About NACCHO

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) represents the nation's 2,800 local governmental health departments. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to protect and promote health and well-being for all people in their communities. For more information about NACCHO, please visit www.naccho.org.