***Making the Connection 2017: Environmental Health in Wisconsin:***

***Friday-Saturday, February 17-18, 2017, UW-Madison Campus***

***Abstract submission for poster presentations is now OPEN***

***and will close Monday January 23, 2017.***

The Wisconsin Environmental Health Network (WHEN)’s annual conference, Making the Connection 2017: Environmental Health in Wisconsin invites submissions of abstracts for poster presentations Friday and Saturday, February 17-18, 2017 from undergraduate, graduate and health professions students, faculty and community activists working in the fields of health care, environmental science and environmental education. This continuing medical education conference seeks to showcase the latest research on the growing interaction between the environment and human health. Community participation and advocacy are integrated throughout the entire conference. The poster session is designed to extend opportunities to present both current academic research in environmental health as well as community engagement activities and translational clinical projects focused on environmental health education and risk assessment or prevention. The audience for this meeting is expected to be WEHN members, healthcare practitioners, scientists, environmental epidemiologists and those involved in health education/communication as well as community, and environmental health advocates.

This poster session and project exhibition is an opportunity to “show and share” your work on a wide range of environmental health issues in diverse contexts, from basic and translational science research, to community projects, and advocacy work.

We intend that this poster session will present both completed projects and projects at any stage of the design and implementation process that involves issues at the intersection of the environment and health.

Students are strongly encouraged to submit abstracts of their projects, regardless of completion status. In fact, we especially encourage students to submit abstracts for projects that are in planning stages or in active implementation, as the exhibition will be an excellent opportunity to receive feedback and new ideas, which can be incorporated into the ongoing evaluation and execution of your project.

We invite you to submit your abstracts for consideration to be included in the *Poster Session and Project Exhibition* by Monday, January 23, 2017.

**Eligibility**

Non-government organizations (NGOs), community activists, students and post-docs and faculty conducting environmental health-relevant activities and/or research are encouraged to submit abstracts.

Poster presentations must fall in one of the following categories:

* Recent scientific data pertinent to environmental health
* Transdisciplinary research approaches/findings
* Community outreach/engagement and/or advocacy strategies/programs
* Interpreting/communicating research findings to the public
* Translating/applying research findings to treatment, prevention and/or policy

In order to be eligible, you must be registered for the WHEN Making the Connection 2017: Environmental Health in Wisconsin on February 17-18, 2017.

For projects that are complete, you must be able to include data and results, and conclusions. As it is the case that negative findings are under-reported in research, we encourage you to submit abstracts for projects, which have yielded negative findings.

For projects that are in process (not complete), you must be able to present a coherent and compelling vision, strategic priorities, and intended outcomes. We invite you to submit abstracts for projects in various development stages that would benefit from feedback from professional colleagues and peers.

The presenters of the posters should be available\*\* for discussion during the **poster viewing sessions during registration and breaks on Friday afternoon, 2/17/17, noon to 5pm** (in the Atrium of Signe Scott Cooper Hall, UW-Madison School of Nursing) **and again on Saturday, 2/18/17, 8:30am – 4:30pm during breaks and lunch** (in the Atrium Health Sciences Learning Center). **The winning poster’s author, in addition to the $100 award, will be invited to give a short oral summary of their project (5 minutes) to conference participants, if they wish.**

\*\*Please note: Attendance on both days is preferred, but not mandatory for poster evaluation and award. Please let conference organizers know if you are unable to attend both days via WEHNmail@gmail.com.

**Submitting Your Project Abstract**

Abstracts should be no longer than 350 – 400 words and follow a standard format:

1. Background/Vision
2. Methods/Process/Action
3. Results/Impact
4. Conclusions/Connections/Meanings

Ethical considerations for subjects should be mentioned, if applicable.

Submit abstracts via email to wehnmail@gmail.com by Monday January 23, 2017.

**The Selection Process**

Abstracts will be reviewed for acceptance to the project exhibition on the following criteria:

* Vision, innovation, creativity
* Coherency of objectives and action/plan/process
* Impact, meaning, value
* Clarity and organization of abstract

The submitting author(s) of the abstract will be contacted no later than January 25, 2017.

**Abstract and Poster Judging**

Those with accepted abstracts will be asked to submit a pdf of their poster via email to WEHNmail@gmail.com by 10 February 2017.

Accepted projects for the exhibition will be reviewed and judged by a panel of judges prior to the project exhibition. ADD $100 PRIZES

Cash prizes ($100 to an undergraduate category and $100 to a graduate category) will be awarded for the top two completed project posters.

**Publication**

The accepted abstracts will be published on the WEHN website if the author(s) consent.

If you have questions about the abstract submission or the poster session, please contact Dr. Ann Behrmann, atbehrma@wisc.edu or Alex Bryant at WEHNmail@gmail.com.