



# Collaborative on Health and the Environment

## January 2015



### Upcoming Partnership Events

**CHE Partnership call:**  
[Environmental Exposures and Immune Function with Dr. Paige Lawrence](#)  
Wed, Jan 21

**CHE Partnership call:** [A Story of Childhood Leukemia, a Story of Health: Genetic and Environmental Risk Factors for Childhood Leukemia](#)  
Thurs, Jan 22



### ***A Story of Health Launches***

*Elise Miller, MEd*  
Director

If your holidays were like mine, you gathered with extended family to celebrate.

Mixed with the sharing of good cheer, you may have also learned that your cousin has been suffering severe asthma attacks or your young niece was diagnosed with childhood leukemia or your grandson is having difficulty learning and relating to peers. Unfortunately, these stories seem to be woven more thickly into the

Thurs, Jan 22

**CHE Partnership call:** [Only One Chance: How Contaminants in our Environment Impair Brain Development](#)

Wed, Feb 4

*Hosted by the CHE Alaska Working Group*

**Save the date: CHE Partnership call:**

Environmental Influences on the Thyroid System

Thurs, Feb 26

*Details will be available on the CHE website soon*

Visit the [CHE Partnership call archives](#) and [CHE Working Group call archives](#) to listen to MP3 recordings of past calls.

## Special Announcements

**CHE's quarterly Top 10 list now available**

CHE offers this selection of research, news and announcements that were of special significance during the

fabric of our family conversations as various chronic health challenges increasingly dominate the landscape of our lives.

Why is this happening? Are there actions we can take as individuals and as a society so that we more often get to share stories of good health with our family and friends, rather than so many about chronic disease and disability?

*A Story of Health*, a new multimedia, interactive eBook, is being launched this month to try to answer both of those questions. For over two years, CHE has been collaborating with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR); the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, California Environmental Protection Agency (OEHHA); the Science and Environmental Health Network (SEHN); and the University of California, San Francisco, Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (UCSF PEHSU) to develop this first-of-its-kind resource.

Unlike many materials currently available, *A Story of Health* doesn't focus on just one contributor to disease and disability, such as socioeconomic status or toxic chemicals. Instead, using a family reunion as the backdrop for narrative case studies on different health conditions, *A Story of Health*

special significance during the fourth quarter of 2014. Items include research that made a noteworthy contribution to the field, news and announcements that took a conversation to a new level and/or new audience and some welcome action. As before, we offer both the scientific report and media reporting on it, when available, to meet the needs of our various audiences. We welcome feedback and comments.

[View the list](#)

## Resources

[CHE's Toxicant and Disease Database](#)

CHE's searchable [Portal to Science](#) of reports, books, videos, databases, and other resources.

[CHE's searchable calendar](#) of events related to environmental health.

[CHE's blog](#) of commentary on

describes multiple factors that influence our health across the lifespan -- the natural, built, chemical, food, economic, and social environments -- and how they interact with each other and our genes. All of it based on the best available peer-reviewed science.

*A Story of Health* is also unique in that it is neither a synthesis of white papers, which can only be understood by those with a PhD in environmental health sciences, nor a simplistic graphic that glosses over important nuances in the research. Instead, *A Story of Health* is made accessible through fictional stories using engaging illustrations, graphics, videos, and links to hundreds of resources. These references include not only research on specific health concerns, but prevention strategies as well.



Using the setting of a family reunion as a backdrop, "A Story of Health" explores how multiple environments influence our health across the lifespan.

Six case studies will be covered in the eBook -  
- asthma, learning/developmental disabilities,

current topics.

[CHE's podcast](#) of teleconference call recordings.

[CHE's news feed](#) of news articles, studies, reports, calls for proposals, job openings and other announcements. Relevant items are sent to CHE's listservs several times each week, or visitors can subscribe via RSS.

childhood leukemia, infertility, cognitive decline and diabetes/obesity. The first three will be available to download at CHE's website by January 22nd (visit [A Story of Health webpage](#) and sign up to receive updates). Health professionals will be able to receive continuing education (CE) credits through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/ATSDR.

Most important is that these materials are freely offered for public access by anyone concerned with the health of loved ones, community and society. To learn more, please join us on [January 22nd at 10:00 am Pacific/1:00 pm Eastern for CHE's first A Story of Health call](#) which will highlight "Stephen's story" about childhood leukemia.

May the New Year be off to a healthy, inspired and productive start for all of you!

Warm wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and "M".

## Working Groups and Initiatives

Visit the webpages of CHE's groups for the latest news, research, and announcements:

## Topic-based Working Groups

[Asthma](#)

[Autism](#)

[Breast Cancer](#)

[Cancer](#)

[Children's Health](#)

[Climate Change](#)

[Cumulative Impacts](#)

[Database](#)

[Diabetes/Obesity](#)

[Electromagnetic Fields \(EMF\)](#)

[Fertility/Reproductive Health](#)

[Healthy Aging](#)

[Integrative Health](#)

[Learning and Developmental Disabilities](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Pet](#)

[Neurodegenerative Disease](#)

[Science](#)

## State-based and International Groups

[Alaska](#)

[Oregon](#)

[Washington](#)

[Europe/HEAL](#)

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