James A. Rada, REHS

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OBJECTIVE

To establish myself, and the organization for which I work, as a leader in the field of environmental health in my community and beyond.

WORK HISTORY

Environmental Health Manager
Garfield County Public Health
Garfield County, Colorado
2005 – Present

Hired to establish a comprehensive environmental health program for Garfield County Public Health. Initially managed an ambient air quality study and community health risk analysis to examine potential impacts of the oil and gas industry on human health and the environment. Established an ongoing ambient air quality monitoring network, supervised grant-funded targeted air monitoring of oil and gas facilities, and managed a county-funded health impact assessment for a planned oil and gas development project, looking at potential health impacts and developing recommendations for mitigation of those impacts. Managed an EPA-funded, countywide environmental health issues assessment as foundational work toward development of a forthcoming programmatic strategic plan. Currently manage a new, countywide, grant-funded initiative working toward implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. Oversee staff-led environmental health initiatives primarily around air quality issues. Provide extensive technical assistance to the Board of County Commissioners, many County departments, and municipalities regarding a wide variety of environmental health and public health issues ranging from onsite wastewater systems and watershed protection to mosquito abatement and land use planning. Direct field investigation of local environmental health issues and complaints. Serve as Public Information Officer for Garfield County Public Health and provide support to the primary County PIO. Represent Garfield County Public Health on a variety of state-level public health and environmental health policy making efforts. Participate with a number of local environmental health-oriented partnerships.

Environmental Health Manager
Summit County Environmental Health
Summit County, Colorado
1988 to 2005

Initially hired as program coordinator and primary staff to implement a Colorado Department of Health Consumer Protection Contract and to supervise the existing staff with county environmental health programs under the supervision of the County Engineer. Promoted to Department Head in 1994 to manage daily operations of the newly formed Environmental Health Department. Participated in annual budget preparation, development of environmental health program data management systems and annual work programs. Worked directly with Board of County Commissioners, Public Health Director, other county and local government agencies, and non-profit organizations to coordinate efforts concerning long-range planning and local environmental public health issues. Participated in the legislative process involving environmental health issues of importance to Summit County. Conducted substantial fieldwork primarily in on-site wastewater systems permitting and inspection, retail food plan review and construction inspection as well as institutional inspections. Worked extensively to coordinate County and Town building permits, land use applications, special event permits, liquor license application reviews, and child care licenses with state and local government agencies. Worked as a designated first responder for environmental and hazardous materials emergencies and supported the Public Health Director with local emergency planning activities. Served as a County point-of-contact during the 2003 West Nile Virus outbreak. Position involved extensive activities and public contact aimed at increasing community awareness of environmental public health matters.

Environmental Health Specialist
Tri-County Health Department
Englewood, Colorado
September 1986 - August 1988

Worked in predominantly urban areas of the Tri-County district with responsibilities involving inspection and investigation work in the food protection and communicable disease control programs. Other work responsibilities included childcare facility inspection, swimming pool inspection, nuisance control, private sewage disposal system inspection, vector control, and animal bite investigations. Work extensively involved food service compliance activity and proceedings. Conducted numerous in-service training programs about food service sanitation and communicable disease control.

Registered Sanitarian
DuPage County Health Department
Wheaton, Illinois
August 1981 - August 1986

Worked in all major environmental health programs of this suburban health department with emphasis on food sanitation. Other activities involved institutional sanitation, communicable disease control and investigation, pest control, nuisance control and private water and sewage disposal systems. Additionally, participated on policy making committees, conducted training programs, and led group discussions concerning various environmental health topics.

EDUCATION

B. S., Environmental Health, Illinois State University, Cum Laude Graduate, August 1981

Completed fellowship with the Regional Institute for Health and Environmental Leadership, July 1998 – May 1999

Colorado Hazardous Materials First Responders Operations Certification, June 1997

NIMS ICS 100, 200, 300, 400, 700, 800 Level Training, FEMA IS-00814 Trained, DHS Threat and Risk Assessment Training

CDEM G290 Basic Public Information Officer Training

Accumulated 539 hours of continuing education credits through the National Environmental Health Association

AWARDS / SERVICE / ACCOMPLISHMENTS

National Environmental Health Association, Registered Environmental Health Specialist Credential, April 1982

Colorado Environmental Health Association 2002 Milton M. Miller Award

Certificate of Appreciation from the Colorado State Board of Health for outstanding contribution to the science and practice of environmental health in the State of Colorado, July 1995

Co-chair of the newly created PIO Group of Garfield County 2010-2011

Summit County Incident Management Team, 2004 - 2005
Summit County Health Advisory Board, 1993 – 2000
Summit Recycling Project Advisory Board, 1991 – 1998
Summit County Hazardous Materials Advisory Committee, 1995 – present
Summit Water Quality Committee, 1995 – present
Shaping Our Summit Environment Team, 1998 – 2000
Summit County Local Emergency Planning Commission, 1995 – present
French Gulch Remediation Opportunity Group, 1996 – 2000

Snake River Task Force, 1999 – 2000
Summit County Cooperative Extension Service Advisory Board, 1999 - present

Fifth Judicial District Environmental Task Force, 1994 – 1995
Fifth Judicial District Regional Emergency Planning Committee, 1997 – 1998
Denver Regional Council of Governments ISDS Task Force, 1996 – 1998

President, Colorado Directors of Environmental Health 2006-2008
President, Colorado Professionals in Onsite Wastewater, 2004 - 2005
President, Colorado Environmental Health Association, 1994 –1995
Chairman, Colorado Environmental Health Association Onsite and Alternative Wastewater Systems Section, 1995 – 1998
Chairman, Colorado Individual Sewage Disposal Systems Technical Advisory Committee, 1998 – 2001

Technical Appointment to Governor Romer's Smart Growth Natural Resource and Environment Task Force, 1995
Technical Appointment to CDPHE Executive Director Jane Norton's ISDS Steering Committee, 2001-2003

Co-author, *Using GIS to Investigate Septic System Sites and Nitrate Pollution Potential*, Journal of Environmental Health,
April 1999

Primary collaborator in the development of the Colorado Food Safety Seal of Commitment Program, 2004

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Extensive experience with public speaking in various settings on various subjects.

Experienced with or exposure to several common computer software programs.

OTHER ACTIVITIES / INTERESTS

Married with three grown children
Actively involved with New Hope Church, New Castle, Colorado
Music, Landscaping, Horticulture, Outdoor activities, Genealogy, Sports