



# Annual Report

*Fiscal Year 2015*

**National Association of  
Health Data  
Organizations (NAHDO)**



**NAHDO's purpose is to  
develop and facilitate  
networks of health  
information professionals to:**

*.....Advocate for proper  
protections of health information  
while preserving access to such  
data by the appropriate users.*

## **NAHDO's MISSION**

The National Association of Health Data Organizations (NAHDO) is a national, not-for-profit membership organization dedicated to improving health care through the collection, analysis, dissemination, public availability, and use of health data.

NAHDO provides information on current issues and strategies to develop a nationwide, comprehensive, integrated health information system. NAHDO also sponsors educational programs, provides assistance, and fosters collaboration for the exchange of ideas and experiences. By doing so, NAHDO works to enhance the understanding of health data systems and increase the usefulness of health data.





*“Today, the vision remains as relevant as it was in 1986, perhaps even more, as health care and payment reform accelerates...*

*We are stronger together and it is more effective and efficient when states align around common issues.”*

## **Executive Director’s Message**

In 1986, who would have ever dreamed NAHDO would make it to 30? Twenty-nine years ago, in response to a need for health care data, 25 states came together under the leadership from the Washington Business Group on Health to shape a vision for data collection, analysis, and dissemination.

***“In a striking display of multistate cooperation, agencies from New Jersey, Iowa, Colorado, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Maryland, Arizona, and Illinois formed the nucleus of the new National Association of Health Data Organizations.”***

Today, the vision remains as relevant as it was then, perhaps even more, as health care and payment reform accelerates.

NAHDO, like the Millennial Generation, is coming of age during a time of great technological change and economic disruption. While we have experienced financial and membership stability over the past years, these trends could change. Collaboration and strategic alliances will be even more important. Our joint collaboration with the University of New Hampshire in the form of the APCD Council allows us to leverage skills and staff expertise to meet the rapidly-growing needs of states implementing APCDs.

Besides the growth of APCDs, other milestones of note came about in 2015: 1) I will have served as NAHDO’s Executive Director for 15 years and 2) I was honored to be appointed to the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS), which advises the Secretary of HHS on national health policy.

I do not nor cannot serve NAHDO and its stakeholders alone. I rely on NAHDO’s Board, its members, and the health data community across the country to provide technical assistance, advocacy, and shared learning. There are very real challenges to public reporting and data availability, requiring concerted messages and efforts to address these challenges. I appeal to everyone who cares about public data and information to join our efforts and help keep the vision alive.

***Be sure to join us for our 30th Anniversary Meeting in DC, October 2015! We have so much to celebrate.***



## MEMBERSHIP & EDUCATION ...

**NAHDO, through projects and as a Co-leader of the APCD Council Learning Network, continued regular webinars and calls on all things APCD. 2015 webinars:**

- What Is Your Elevator Speech? Tips and Insights for Communicating With State Legislators (NAHDO membership)
- ICD-10 Trainings and Tools (3)—CDC/OSELS funded
- Improving Data Quality for APCDs (AHRQ-Stanford project)
- Improving Cost Transparency, (AHRQ-Stanford project)
- Making an APCD Business Case, (AHRQ-Stanford project)
- West Health APCD Development Manual, (West Health Policy Center)

**Posted on NAHDO WEBSITE:**

[www.nahdo.org/webinars](http://www.nahdo.org/webinars)

## NAHDO IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Connect with us on Facebook & Twitter (@NAHDONews) for conference updates. We will be using #healthdata and #nahdo during the conference.



[facebook.com/NAHDONews](https://facebook.com/NAHDONews)  
[twitter.com/NAHDONews](https://twitter.com/NAHDONews)

*Show really interesting, compelling local data*

*Make the story human;*

- *“Hot-spotting”*
- *“This can save money”*

*Dick Cauchi, National Conference of State Legislatures, Jan. 2015*



## CONFERENCES

NAHDO's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and the 8<sup>th</sup> APCD Workshop were held in San Diego, CA in October 2015.

NAHDO experienced record attendance for the meetings:

*Innovations in Health Care Data Collection,  
Analytics, and Reporting  
&  
Planning for the Future of APCDs  
Awards:*

- *Dr. Karen Bell, Elliot M. Stone Award of Excellence*
- *Doris Peter, Consumer Reports: Data Dissemination Award*
- *Dian Kahn, APCD Pioneer Award*

*Most useful is the opportunity to meet and hear from a variety of people who are "on the ground" doing the work needed to accelerate adoption of APCDs.*

*The conference is a chance to network with colleagues from other states/agencies that are grappling with big data issues, particularly the struggle between data transparency and confidentiality for patient data.*



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## GRANTS & CONTRACT HIGHLIGHTS

NAHDO's grants and contracts help sustain the organization and promote NAHDO's mission. All grants and contracts are aligned with NAHDO's mission and are geared to improving the health data infrastructure.

### **Technical Assistance to CDC Surveillance Programs for ICD-10 Transition**

CDC programs use ICD-9-CM codes to conduct surveillance (e.g., chronic disease and injury surveillance, health care utilization, health care-associated adverse events), for case finding lists to identify cases of reportable cancers and certain birth defects, disabilities, and blood disorders, and to provide public use data files for public analysis. With the University of California Davis (UCD) Team as subcontractors to provide clinical and coding expertise, NAHDO is working with high-priority programs to assess readiness and map source data sets and analytic concepts into the ICD-10 structures.

### **NAHDO-CDC Environmental Public Health Tracking Network**

NAHDO continues to facilitate the access to and use of hospital discharge and claims databases for creating standardized health indicators measuring morbidity and health outcomes related to environmental exposures. Goals for the project include:

- Promoting access to and the use of health care data in tracking applications
- Providing education and outreach on priority topics
- Facilitating CDC tracking program goals

### **Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) Standards HCUP-US Partner Website Support to Partners**

The Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) has engaged NAHDO for data standards work related to the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP). This work is funded through a subcontract with Truven Health Analytics under the HCUP contract. NAHDO's Data Measurement Scientist Consultant, Barbara Rudolph, Ph.D. serves as the state voting member on the National Uniform Billing and Claims Committees (NUBC) and (NUBC). This representation is important to promote standards that align with state administrative data practices and analytic uses.

### **West Health Policy Center Project, State APCD Development Manual**

As a part of the All-Payer Claims Databases Council, NAHDO will work with the University of New Hampshire to develop a "Manual for APCD Development" that compiles collective learning from states in all aspects of APCD implementation and use.

### **Inventory and Prioritization of Measures to Support the Growing Effort in Transparency Using All-Payer Claims Databases (APCD) Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality/Stanford University**

NAHDO and the APCD Council are subcontracted to provide guidance and input to develop and facilitate the use of evidence-based health care quality and efficiency measures.



**NAHDO is a co-leader and founder of the All Payer Claims Database Council to promote the implementation of statewide APCDs.**

*“The APCD Council team has been supporting Maryland’s development of two new APCD reports. In addition to providing valuable technical knowledge, they leveraged their learning network of state APCD’s to enrich our analysis and ability to collaborate with other states and insurance carriers.”*

## **KEY PARTNERSHIPS**

### **All-Payer Claims Database Council**

NAHDO is a Co-Leader and Co-Founder of the APCD Council. The APCD Council is a collaboration between the New Hampshire Institute for Health Policy and Practice (NHIHPP) at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) in Durham, New Hampshire, and NAHDO.

NAHDO works closely with the APCD Council to advocate for and provide technical assistance to states planning and implementing statewide APCD systems. While the Council’s work is not funded (provided by in-kind services from UNH and NAHDO), the Council has received funding for specific deliverables.

During 2014, the Council received funding through its Vendor Showcase and was awarded various contracts with states and other organizations to provide technical support and contribute to papers featuring APCD topics.



### **Joint Public Health Informatics Task Force (JPHIT)**

NAHDO is a founding and voting member organization of the Joint Public Health Informatics Taskforce (JPHIT). JPHIT is a collaboration of public health associations committed to improving population health through informatics, health IT and information exchange, serving as a thought leader on emerging informatics issues for public health. NAHDO Board member, Patricia Merryweather, is serving with Denise Love on this task force.

### **Public Health Community Platform Steering Committee**

As part of the Steering Committee, NAHDO has the opportunity to guide development and provide community based insights as CDC begins the next phase of the Public Health Community Platform project.



## REPRESENTING HEALTH DATA PROGRAMS NATIONALLY

### Advocacy for Data Program Interests

NAHDO's Executive Director continues to advocate for and represent state and health data program interests via the following:

- As Co-Lead of the APCD Council (in collaboration with Josephine Porter, UNH), NAHDO continues to respond to media and other inquiries about APCD initiatives and to provide technical assistance and guidance to states in the form of the APCD Learning Network and individual state contracts.

In addition to participating in teleconference webinars for local and state APCD stakeholders, The NAHDO Executive Director presented at the following venues:

- State APCD Initiatives: National Conference of State Legislatures, Washington DC
- State APCD Overview: American Medical Association, New Orleans, LA
- RWJF Transparency Summit, State APCDs, Washington DC
- APCD Standards Roadmap: Milliman Conference, Tuscon, AZ

NAHDO is convening experts to address next steps in addressing emerging issues in hospital public use file release.

***NAHDO is recruiting members and experts in health care data collection, analysis, and reporting who are willing to represent NAHDO and our members in various conferences and webinars. Let the NAHDO staff know if you are interested ([info@nahdo.org](mailto:info@nahdo.org)).***

### ***Publications, in collaboration with UNH for the APCD Council***

- ***All-Payer Claims Database Development Manual: Establishing a Foundation for Health Care Transparency and Informed Decision Making***
- ***New York's All-Payer Database: A New Lens for Consumer Transparency***
  - ***Model All-Payer Claims Database Legislation***

***NAHDO's Executive Director has been appointed to a four-year term on the National Committee for Vital and Health Statistics. The 18-member Committee provides advice, consultation, and assistance and makes recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services on national health information policy.***

## TREASURER'S REPORT, FISCAL YEAR 2015

NAHDO'S fiscal year ends September 30, 2015, after the publication date of this annual report. NAHDO continues its solid financial performance by ending the year in a positive financial position, thus building organizational financial reserves.

### NAHDO Financial Report

	9/30/2011	9/30/2012	9/30/2013	9/30/2014	9/30/2015*
<b>Revenue</b>					<i>Unaudited</i>
Membership	\$ 133,667	\$ 130,375	\$ 152,042	\$ 147,979	\$149,959
Grants and Contracts	\$ 572,736	\$ 362,556	\$ 234,427	\$ 381,846	\$612,668
Conferences	\$ 92,245	\$ 90,425	\$ 119,350	\$ 125,975	\$177,985
Other	\$ 2,089	\$ 318	\$ 146	\$ 327	\$91
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$ 800,737	\$ 583,674	\$ 505,965	\$ 656,127	\$940,703
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 625,144	\$ 539,671	\$ 429,979	\$ 636,309	\$917,800
<b>Gain/Loss</b>	\$ 175,593	\$ 44,003	\$ 75,987	\$ 19,818	\$23,660
<b>Fund Balance</b>	\$ 537,385	\$ 581,388	\$ 657,375	\$ 677,193	\$ 700,853

\*Year-to-date numbers and not audited.

# NAHDO BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY 2015

## **Chair**

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### **Michael Lundberg**

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## **NAHDO gives special thanks to:**

*The University of New Hampshire Institute for Health Policy and Practice for their collaboration in all things APCD.*

*NAHDO members and supporters throughout the country who believe in the power and value of publicly available health care data bases and the importance of quality, pricing, and health system performance reporting.*

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