



NEWS RELEASE
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**Department of Health & Hospitals (DHH) Office of Public Health's
(OPH) Clair Millet Chosen as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Public Health Nurse Leader**

***She Is One of Just 25 Public Health Nurses Selected for
Prestigious Leadership Development Program***

Baton Rouge, LA – Clair Petit Millet, DNP, APRN, PHCNS-BC, the Director of Nursing at DHH OPH, is one of just 25 nurses from across the country to be selected as a Public Health Nurse Leader (PHNL) by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). She will participate in a two-year leadership development program designed to strengthen the capacity of senior public health nurses to improve population health, address social determinants of health, respond to emerging trends in health and health care, influence policy, and lead collaboration in their communities.

The program's goal is to support nurses who are ready to lead public health departments in building a Culture of Health in their communities. Since PHNLs participate in partnerships across all sectors and disciplines that lead to collaborative action, they can leverage new and existing opportunities for even healthier communities. As part of the [Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action](#), the PHNLs will work closely with the Action Coalitions in their states to implement recommendations from the Institute of Medicine's [Future of Nursing report](#).

"At RWJF, we are working to build a Culture of Health that enables everyone in the United States to live the healthiest lives possible, supported by a system in which nurses are essential partners in providing care and promoting health," said Susan Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN, RWJF's senior adviser for nursing and director of the *Campaign for Action*—a joint initiative of RWJF and AARP. "We are so proud of all 25 nurses accepted into this program and excited about the many ways they will strengthen their state Action Coalitions by bringing public health expertise to their work. Every one of the nurses in this program will help make their communities healthier and our health care system stronger."

“I am thrilled to have been selected for this honor, and look forward to strengthening my skills so I can do even more to improve the health of my community and help to transform the nursing profession,” Millet said. “I know this experience will be a rewarding one that will ultimately improve population health and support nursing in the state. I look forward to working even more closely with the Louisiana Action Coalition (www.campaignforaction.org/state/Louisiana) in the months ahead.” Millet has worked for 23 years with the Department and has been the Director of Nursing since March 2006.

RWJF’s *Public Health Nurse Leaders* program was open to registered nurses who hold leadership positions in governmental public health organizations. Its goal is to help the PHNLs develop their leadership skills and connections with key influencers so they can build and spread a Culture of Health. Participating nurses will spend their first year focused on individual leadership development. Second-year activities are designed to enhance the leadership competencies and coaching skills of both the nurses in this program and key members of the Action Coalition in their states.

The Public Health Nurse Leaders selected for this program are from: Montgomery, Ala.; Phoenix, Ariz.; Little Rock, Ark.; Lakeport, Calif.; Los Angeles, Calif.; Marietta, Ga.; Honolulu, Hawaii; Belleville, Ill.; Mason City, Iowa; Hutchinson, Kan.; Paulina, La.; Baltimore, Md.; St. Cloud, Minn.; Jackson, Miss.; Jefferson City, Mo.; Lincoln, Neb.; Santa Fe, N.M.; Syracuse, N.Y.; Charlotte, N.C.; Columbus, Ohio; Marysville, Ohio; Austin, Texas; Brownsville, Texas; Seattle, Wash.; and Martinsburg, W.Va.

The RWJF *Public Health Nurse Leaders* program is located at the [Center for Creative Leadership](#), a global thought leader in the leadership development field for 45 years.

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For more than 40 years the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has worked to improve the health and health care of all Americans. We are striving to build a national Culture of Health that will enable all to live longer, healthier lives now and for generations to come. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org. Follow the Foundation on Twitter at www.rwjf.org/twitter or on Facebook at www.rwjf.org/facebook.