

**EMAIL SUBJECT LINE:** PRESS RELEASE: New Hampshire Public Health Association Welcomes Dr. Sai Cherala to 2019-2020 NHPHA Board of Directors

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The New Hampshire Public Health Association (NHPHA) announced that it has welcomed Dr. Sai Cherala, Bureau Chief for Population Health and Community Services in the Division of Public Health Services (DPHS) at NH Department of Health and Human Services, to its 2019-2020 Board of Directors. NHPHA made the announcement during its annual meeting at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center on April 9.

In her current role, Dr. Cherala oversees all of NH DPHS' population health programs, including Nutrition Services (WIC, CSFP), Maternal and Child Health, Tobacco Prevention and Control Program, and Chronic Disease Prevention and Screening. Dr. Cherala also holds a faculty appointment as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health at University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Prior to joining the State of New Hampshire, Dr. Cherala worked at University of Massachusetts Medical School. In that role, she provided oversight on analytical and QI activities for clinical practices participating in the Massachusetts Patient Centered Medical Home Initiative (MA PCMHI). She served as a subject matter expert to the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission on the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) certification project, helping to create PCMH certification standards for practices in MA. She was the lead expert in incorporating clinical and community linkages in the Massachusetts Prevention Wellness Trust Fund activities in Worcester, MA. She has implemented a cancer registry in the State of New Hampshire funded by the CDC's National Program of Cancer Registries.

In addition to Dr. Cherala's experience as an analyst and administrator, she has 19 peer-reviewed publication credits and numerous speaking engagements. She enjoys working directly with students, staff, and peers as a mentor and coach and has a passion for continuous improvement and goal achievement.

**About NHPHA**

NHPHA is a statewide membership organization composed of health care and public health professionals. For over 25 years, it has brought together members who share a common goal of making sure that all of New Hampshire citizens live, learn, work, and play in safe and healthy environments. For more information, visit [nhpha.org](http://nhpha.org) or call 603-228-2983.

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