

# Patrick M. Libbey Receives 2016 Maurice “Mo” Mullet Lifetime of Service Award

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is pleased to recognize Patrick Libbey, as the recipient of the 2016 Maurice “Mo” Mullet Lifetime of Service Award. This award honors current or former local health officials for noteworthy service to NACCHO that has reflected the commitment, vigor, and leadership exemplified by Mo’s distinguished career.

Throughout Patrick Libbey’s more than 35 years in public health, he has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to advocating for and strengthening the work of local health departments. He has also served NACCHO in a number of important capacities, amplifying the voice of local health departments at the national and federal levels.

Libbey served as NACCHO’s executive director from 2002 to 2008, where he represented the nation’s local health departments and their staff who protect and promote health, prevent disease, and seek to establish the foundations for wellness in all communities across the United States. During his tenure, NACCHO was increasingly recognized and engaged by a range of federal agencies and national organizations as a critical resource and partner, ensuring the perspective of local public health was considered in policy and program implementation and development.

Libbey initiated the NACCHO Operational Definition, the organization’s effort to create a uniform, nationally shared definition and standards for a functional local health department. The Definition gained national recognition and acceptance and served as a key base for the emerging national voluntary public health accreditation effort. He also negotiated language used in legislative intent and by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to ensure local public health concurrence with state emergency preparedness plans and funding distribution.

Prior to joining NACCHO in 2002, Libbey was the director of the Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department in Olympia, WA. The department was recognized as an early leader in community involvement and population-based approaches to public health improvement.



## Service to NACCHO

Libbey’s involvement with NACCHO has influenced public health professionals nationwide. His leadership and service included the following:

- NACCHO Executive Director
- NACCHO President
- Member, Executive Committee
- Member, Board of Directors
- Chairperson, Education Committee
- Chairperson, County Forum
- Member, NACCHO-ASTHO Joint Council
- Member, Ad Hoc NACCHO-USCLHO Merger Committee

Libbey has provided leadership to a variety of professional organizations in addition to NACCHO. Libbey has been a national leader in the movement for accreditation of local and state health departments and served as a founder and incorporating board member of the Public Health Accreditation Board. He has served as executive committee member and president of the Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials and president of the Washington State Association of County Human Services. He was also actively engaged in developing Washington State's approach to public health, having served as a member of the Washington State Core Government Public Health Functions Task Force; a member of the Public Health Improvement Plan Steering Committee; and chair of the Performance Measures Technical Advisory Committee.

In 1993, he received NACCHO's Award for Excellence in Environmental Health and was a co-recipient of the First Annual Jim Parker Memorial Award for Washington State's systematic incorporation of core functions in its public health system. In 2002 he again was a

co-recipient of the Jim Parker Memorial Award for work in developing Washington State's public health performance measurements. Libbey was also a Public Health Leadership Institute Scholar in 1994.

Libbey is currently co-director of the Center for Sharing Public Health Services, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation project helping public health officials and policymakers improve performance and efficiency through cross-jurisdictional sharing and regionalization. This effort is built on his previous work examining issues, perceptions, and readiness regarding cross-jurisdictional sharing and regionalization of local public health. Libbey provides consultation and facilitation services for other public health organizations, most recently working with the Public Health Accreditation Board. He is also engaged in the development and delivery of ongoing education and information exchange with public health practitioners throughout the Pacific Northwest through his work as a clinical faculty member with the University of Washington.



### About the Award

The careers of Mo Mullet awardees demonstrate the following achievements:

- Leadership among local health departments, demonstrated by energetic volunteer service to NACCHO;
- Significant contributions to the field of local public health practice as a thoughtful leader and representative of NACCHO; and
- Commitment, skill, and effort demonstrated on behalf of NACCHO.

Know someone you would like to nominate? Learn more at <http://bit.ly/29rS0FJ>.

# NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

*The National Connection for Local Public Health*



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice with local health departments.

1100 17th St, NW, 7th Floor Washington, DC 20036

P 202-783-5550 F 202-783-1583

[www.naccho.org](http://www.naccho.org)

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