Environmental Law Institute’s Emerging Leaders Initiative, and am a member of the National Recreation and Park Association’s Climate and Health Advisory Panel. Outside of work, I enjoy time with my family and dabble in photography and graphic design.

Since becoming a NEHA member in 2015, NEHA’s members, staff, programs, and activities have inspired me and afforded me opportunities to become a stronger environmental health professional. Because of that, I am all the more grateful to serve NEHA through my position.

Joyce Dieterly
I began working at NEHA in November 2018 when I was hired on as evaluation coordinator. My role centers around assessing and strengthening the quality and impact of NEHA’s work. This past year I have conducted program evaluation on funded projects supporting hurricane preparedness, response, and recovery. After serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in Mozambique, I discovered a passion for public health, went back to school, and received my Master of Public Health from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Though it was through on-the-job learning, I found that evaluation allowed me to work with data while telling a story about the long-lasting impacts of public and environmental health programs.

I was able to continue learning from evaluation experts during my time as an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) fellow at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia, working with national heart disease and stroke prevention programs. After about 2 years, I made the move to Denver to begin working at NEHA and have enjoyed the opportunity to discover exciting things the area has to offer, including taking my dog out on the trails that run through the city.

As I am approaching 1 year with NEHA, I am looking forward to finding ways we can continually improve, as well as work with internal and external partners to build evaluation capacity across the association. I am excited to apply my evaluation expertise to the field of environmental health and ensure that the work we are doing is beneficial, useful, and impactful.

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cesses, everything else happens organically. Relationships matter.

Talent Type #2: Someone who is intellectually engaged and applies themselves. Notice I didn’t say smart. The world is rife with bright people who don’t fully apply their talents productively or never seem to finish their work or finish on time. I believe organizations that try more things are more successful. Period. We benefit from a blend of employees who are linear thinkers and those who are more eclectic. We then figure out how to maximize the juice of both types, preferably in the same room at the same time.

Talent Type #3: Someone who is switched on. This characteristic is an intrinsic human quality that I can’t figure out if it’s inherent in the individual, a timing issue, or trickles to surface through organizational culture. This kind of person genuinely cares about members, their member experiences, and goes the extra step without being cajoled to meet that need. I was in Puerto Rico a couple weeks ago in support of our workforce efforts when a department of health employee gushed about the personal and individualized treatment she received at our 2019 AEC in Nashville, Tennessee. That’s what I’m talking about.

We have experienced rapid growth over the last 4 years and it is unlikely we can maintain this rate into perpetuity. This dynamic environment has introduced amazing opportunities for us to demonstrate leadership. At the same time, let’s embrace the truth that there are few opportunities to achieve great things. By hiring the wrong people, organizations sized similar to ours tend to be like Calder Mobiles, you touch one part and the entire apparatus bounces and jiggles. This response is great if you are an infant experimenting with the effects of tactile stimulation but not so much if the machinery is firing on all cylinders, as it is for us now.

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The National Environmental Health Association staff on July 24, 2019. Photo courtesy of Santiago Ezcurra