

# Communiqué



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*Kristi Campbell*

*Director, Cole County Health Department*

*October 2021*

*Dear Public Health Colleagues,*

I hope this letter finds you well! Ready or not, the cool, crisp mornings and changing leaves of fall are upon us. Soon we will be planning our holidays and looking forward to a new year.

Fall brings the annual public health conference, and I am pleased to announce that the 2021 Missouri Public Health Conference was a success! A virtual conference is not what we hoped for this year and may have taken more work, collaboration and caused more headaches to make happen than an in-person meeting.... minus picking a menu and people complaining that the breakout rooms are freezing!

Thank you to Sandy Boeckman, her S & J team, MOALPHA, MOCphe and all the conference committee members that worked hard to ensure timely and informative speakers. Thank you to Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for their support for the virtual technology. It was an extra bonus to have the conference recorded to be viewed at a later time as schedules allow. And thank you to all who attended virtually this year, I hope you gained knowledge that benefits you or eases your burden.

The theme of the conference this year was "Past, Present & Future of Public Health". Our past has provided experience in implementing public health strategies, educating the public and elected officials, investigating communicable disease outbreaks, providing immunizations and other public health services. Presently, we are in the midst of testing, contact tracing, implementing intervention strategies, vaccination clinics and education about COVID-19 while trying to give attention to other pressing public health issues. We are trying to use the increased attention and funding available for the public health system for our future. We need transformative investments in the public health system to garner more resources and expand services to all Missouri residents. We have also developed and expanded the partnerships that have been formed during the pandemic.



I am hopeful for the future of public health. As the public and our partners learn more about the breadth and complexity of public health, we can explore other collaboration

*(Continued on page 2)*

## The Life of One Public Health Retiree

Linda Cooperstock, MPH



As Missouri Public Health Association members we put a great deal of effort into fostering the upcoming students of public health and mentoring them into their professional development as they graduate. I would like to share the other end of the rainbow: life as a retired public health professional.

Well, some of us never retire because public health was not a job, it is a calling, a vocation. My unpaid positions in public health continue to follow the interests and passions I had in my paid positions: improving public health for everyone broadly; and reducing the harmful impacts of tobacco use, more specifically.

My day usually begins with my own health-promoting activities, walking and fitness class. Although my in-person participation in classes at the Activities and Recreation Center in Columbia gave way to working out at home during the COVID epidemic. We can all look at our lives and enumerate all the ways this pandemic has altered what we do. It has made us more flexible, innovative, busier, and perhaps more patient during delays.

During the height of the pandemic I served as a volunteer COVID Contact Tracer for Columbia-Boone County Department of Health and Human Services. This required taking some CDC-based training as well as RedCap training for the city's data collection system. I spent many hours providing CDC advice, listening to peoples' woes and fears, and deflecting several negative arrows.

In addition to having held several MOPHA board positions, I serve on community committees relating to health, a statewide tobacco prevention organization, and am an active member of #HealthierMO.

But life is not all work. My husband and I manage life avoiding risky COVID situations while still trying to maintain contact with friends. I am a frequent visitor to both Albuquerque and Las Vegas where my adult children's families live. Gardening, cooking, and hosting "Grandma Camp" for my grandson take up most of the rest of my time. And not least, I am a caregiver for my 96-year old mother who lives just down the street.

It would be fun to hear from some of the other MOPHA retirees. I'm sure each has a different story.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

and expansion opportunities. Ideally, as we move out of this pandemic mode, we will be able to focus on the aspects of the public health systems and our jobs that need attention.

As always, thank you all for your tireless work. Keep your chins up and keep fighting the good fight because AMERICA NEEDS PUBLIC HEALTH!!

Respectfully,

Kristi Campbell  
President, Missouri Public Health Association

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# ATTENTION:

## Public Health Leaders

There are two unique opportunities for you to serve in voluntary Public Health Leadership positions in Missouri. The Missouri Institute for Community Health (MICH) and the MO Public Health Association (MPHA) are both seeking nominations for positions on their respective Boards that will become vacant soon.

### Missouri Public Health Association

MPHA is the oldest professional association focused on Public Health in the State. Founded in 1925, MPHA has long been an advocate for advancing public health in the state and was the principal advocate for the creation of a state Department of Health back in 1986. ([www.mopha.org](http://www.mopha.org))

### Missouri Institute for Community Health

MICH is the organization that established the first set of public health standards for voluntary accreditation of local public health departments in the nation. Established in 2007, MICH has recently modified its standards to incorporate the Foundational Public Health Services model and leads the nation in establishing realistic and attainable standards for local agencies.

Both organizations offer unique opportunities for public health practitioners to display their talents and leadership abilities through involvement in advocacy as well as quality assurance and improvement.

If you are interested in learning more about these opportunities please contact Bert Malone who serves on the Nominating Committee for both organizations. He can be reached at [Bert.malone923@gmail.com](mailto:Bert.malone923@gmail.com) or via phone at 816.809.9994 or reach out to Sandy Boeckman at 573.634.7977 or [Sboeckman@mopha.org](mailto:Sboeckman@mopha.org).

# Calendar of Events

January 13, 2022

## **MPHA Board Meeting**

MPHA Office  
Jefferson City, MO

April 7, 2022

## **MPHA Board Meeting**

MPHA Office  
Jefferson City, MO

July 14, 2022

## **MPHA Board Meeting**

MPHA Office  
Jefferson City, MO

September 20, 2022

## **MPHA Board Meeting**

MPHA Office  
Jefferson City, MO

September 21-22, 2022

## **Annual Conference & General Membership Meeting**

Columbia, MO

November 5-9, 2022

## **APHA Annual Meeting**

San Diego, CA

Board Meetings are held via Zoom and will begin at 10:00 am unless otherwise noted.

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## AWARD WINNERS

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### **W. Scott Johnson Award**

#### **PEKAREK RECEIVES HIGHEST HONOR FROM MISSOURI PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

City of Joplin's Assistant City Manager Dan Pekarek recently received the highest honor given by the Missouri Public Health Association and was named W. Scott Johnson Award. According to the MPHA website, this is the most prestigious award presented by MPHA to an individual for distinguished service in the field of public health in Missouri. The award is given in commemoration of the skills, integrity, devotion to duty and constructive leadership which characterized the life of W. Scott Johnson.

Pekarek recently announced he will retire on October 4 of this year. He has worked for the City for 35 years. During this time, he served as the Public Health Director for 23 years and was appointed Interim City Manager in March 2019 through March 2020. He was named Assistant City Manager in June 2020.

Pekarek began his career with the City in 1986 as an Environmental Sanitarian (now known as Environmental Health Specialist) and worked in that position for about eight years when he was promoted to Lead Sanitarian of the Joplin Health Department. In 1996 he was named Director of the Health Department and served in that position for 23 years. During his tenure, he provided oversight and direction of the department's operations and championed many public health issues through advocacy and education. Some of these issues include community water fluoridation, improved ordinances for the City's Animal Control division, the City's Tobacco 21 passage, and Joplin's prescription drug monitoring ordinance approval in recent years.

He promoted healthy diets and active lifestyles for citizens, along with Community Health Needs Assessments conducted with affiliated health organizations. He led the Health Department's response to the national disaster in 2011 when Joplin was struck by an EF-5 tornado, and assisted staff during the outbreak and management of the Coronavirus pandemic in early 2020. He served as the Interim City Manager from March 2019 to March 2020. He was named Assistant City Manager in June 2020 with administration and oversight responsibilities of City departments. In this role, he worked with the City's management team to develop programs and processes to address Council's recent goals to benefit the Joplin community. He worked closely with City Manager Edwards to keep him apprised of ongoing projects, financial status, employee relation issues and other progress relating to legislation, economic development, City operations and governmental activities.

Pekarek has served as chairman of several health-related boards in the community, including Jasper and Newton Counties Community Health Collaborative and Joplin, Jasper and Newton Counties Emergency Healthcare Coalition. He also is a member of the One Joplin Steering team. He is a charter member of the Environmental Task Force of Jasper and Newton Counties and is chairman of the Four State Clean Air Alliance. Pekarek has also served on numerous other local and state committees over his 35-year career.

Pekarek enjoys camping, fishing and being outdoors. He has been involved with Joplin Area Catholic Schools in multiple ways over the years as a parent and as a supporter in other capacities. He is an alumnus of Missouri Southern State University. He has two daughters, Emily and Abby, and is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

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## AWARD WINNERS

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### **Media Award**

**KDKD FM 95.3**

**BRITTANY AND CLAY RADFORD**

Since the onset of the pandemic KDKD has been supportive of the Henry County Health Center. Their media department is diligent in posting all COVID-19 information as soon as it is released. They provide community education radio spots at no cost to the Health Center and host a monthly "Spot Light" segment for our staff to update listeners. Don Williams, the on-air personality, has an understanding of the challenges that Public Health continues to face and conducts the interviews in a very supportive manner. The production department is great at developing media info segments for HCHC and they do all of the development and legwork for us. IT is vital that during any emergency, especially a pandemic, media outlets get the word out in an informed and accurate way, and KDKD does just that. Thanks, KDKD from all of us here at HCHC.

**TOD ROBBERSON, EDITOR IN CHIEF**

**ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH**

Tod Robberson, Editorial Page Editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, played a critical role in the publication and dissemination of important public health information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. His thoughtful guidance and patient approach was much appreciated. Tod showed a great deal of passion for assuring that accurate and timely communication for getting quality information to the readership of the Post-Dispatch was published. His patience and great attention to detail was a strong contributor to the op-ed publications.

### **Group Merit Award**

**NORTHPOINT DEVELOPMENT**

**NATHANIEL AND SARAH HAGEDORN**

Early on in the pandemic, Nathaniel Hagedorn, CEO of NorthPoint Development, and a group of Kansas City area business leaders came together to source and secure urgently needed healthcare supplies in support of the regions COVID-19 Task Force in response to an immediate need for additional community support. The Task Force worked to purchase 50,000 COVID-19 test kits at a value of 1.2 million directly from a manufacturer. The University of Kansas Health System partnered with the group to ensure the right equipment, staff and supplies were on hand, making it possible to provide free testing to Kansas City area residents at a time of critical need in the community. Later on in the pandemic, when it became clear that residents were facing obstacles to getting vaccinated quickly, Nathaniel and his team came to the rescue once again. Nathaniel and Sarah Hagedorn and the Staff at NorthPoint Development worked diligently to provide the warehouse space and much of the equipment needed to open and operate a mass vaccination site in Riverside, Missouri. Sarah Hagedorn volunteered numerous times and gave an immense amount of her time to work at the clinic to assist in vaccinating as many Missouri residents as feasible. Through the efforts of the Hagedorn's and partners including Heart to Heart International, Kansas city University of Medicine and Biosciences, Platte County Sheriff's Office, Platte County Health Department, and many other wonderful organizations and volunteers, nearly 30,000 vaccinations were administered at the site. Without Nathaniel and Sarah Hagedorn and the resourceful Staff at NorthPoint Development none of this would've been possible. It's clear that the Hagedorn's and NorthPoint Development literally saved lives during the pandemic and are deserving recipients of the Missouri Public Health Association's 2021 Group Merit Award.

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## Missouri Immunization Coalition Update

Lynelle Phillips, RN, MPH

Board President, Missouri Immunization Coalition, Inc.



The Missouri Immunization Coalition, Inc. (MIC) was officially incorporated on January 29, 2020. The mission of MIC is to: promote immunizations, prevent disease, and protect Missourians. The organizational purpose of MIC is to improve the health of Missourians by reducing the spread of vaccine-preventable diseases across the lifespan through immunization education, advocacy, promotion, and statewide partnerships.

The coalition draws from multiple professional individuals and groups from all geographic regions of Missouri. Individual professionals include physicians, public health nurses, school nurses, public health specialists, and pharmacists. Organizations include the Missouri Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Missouri Chapter of the Academy of Family Physicians, Missouri Primary Care Association, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Missouri Section of the Academy of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG), Missouri State Medical Association, Missouri Public Health Association, Missouri Center of Public Health Excellence, Missouri Nurses Association, Missouri School Nurse Association, multiple Federally Qualified Health Centers, many Missouri Local Public Health Agencies (LPHAs), Missouri's Children's Hospitals, both private and Medicaid insurance companies and a multitude of other groups.

In August 2021, MIC was awarded a \$2.5 million contract from MODHSS's Office of Rural Health and Primary Care for COVID-19 Prevention and Immunization Education Services due to being the only immunization coalition in Missouri that has a statewide focus and that is capable of managing the required services on a statewide basis. MIC's Single Feasible Source Purchase document states, "The MIC is unique as it brings together multiple professional

organizations and groups from all over Missouri, representing physicians, nurses, public health officials, pharmacists, community health clinics, schools, professional organizations, and other academic institutions, all dedicated to improving the health of Missourians by reducing the spread of vaccine-preventable diseases."

Since establishment of this contract, the purpose of which is to support Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), Local Public Health Agencies (LPHA), and Rural Hospitals in COVID vaccination efforts and education, MIC has established a partnership with the Missouri Primary Care Association and is in the initial stages of working with the following FQHCs: Preferred Family Healthcare & Clarity Healthcare, Care STL, Katy Trail Community Health, Access Family Care, and Care KC. MIC started dialog with the Missouri Hospital Association (MHA) to support rural hospitals. MIC also partnered with the University of Missouri Center for Health Policy in order to develop survey tools and data collection methods to best assess the needs of FQHC's, LPHA's, and rural hospitals. The first "Quick Strick" survey is currently available.

The Missouri Immunization Coalition is collaborating with the University of Missouri Extension Services to create "myth busting" cue cards in order to address common COVID-19 vaccination myths and education on how to talk with COVID-19 vaccine hesitant personnel. The cue cards were designed to promote subject matter expertise in COVID vaccination among Extension Field staff in rural Missouri.

The Missouri Immunization Coalition has hosted several educational events, offering continuing education credits. In June, 2021, MIC produced Missouri's statewide immunization conference. MIC was able to attain two national level Keynote Speakers: *Dr. Peter Marks, M.D., Ph.D.*; Director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, FDA

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## Missouri Immunization Coalition Update

Lynelle Phillips, RN, MPH

Board President, Missouri Immunization Coalition, Inc.

and Dr. Andrew Kroger, M.D., M.P.H.; Medical Officer, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, CDC. The conference had 340 registered attendees and gained 170 new members from the conference attendees. In one year, the MIC has grown from 100 to 339 members statewide.

MIC conducted its Quarterly General Membership Meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>. The following presentations were provided during the meeting: COVID-19 Vaccination During Pregnancy presented by Dr. Albert Hsu; Reproductive Endocrinology/Infertility Specialist; COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates presented by Dr. Lea Brandt; Director, University of Missouri Center for Health Ethics; Medical Director, University of Missouri Hospital and Clinics Clinical Ethics and Consultation Services; Childhood Vaccinations: COVID-19, Back-to-School, and Influenza Immunizations presented by Dr. Taylor Nelson; Division of Infectious Diseases, MU Healthcare.

Interested in joining the Missouri Immunization Coalition or finding out more about our events and education material? Check us out at <https://moimmunize.org/> or e-mail us at [administrator@moimmunize.com](mailto:administrator@moimmunize.com). We are here to help with all of your immunization resource and advocacy needs, and membership is free!



**UP<sup>2</sup>U MISSOURI**

**DON'T FORGET YOUR COVID-19 VACCINATION**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT MOIMMUNIZE.ORG**




**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PROVIDER:**

Don't forget your appointment to have the second dose of the vaccine. You will have the best protection after two doses.

**SECOND APPOINTMENT:**

**DATE:**

**LOCATION:**

This publication was supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$135,344,714 with 100 percent funded by CDC/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CDC/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

## Missouri's Affiliate Representative to Governing Council Report (ARGC)

Nick Collins, MPH, BSN, MCHES

Health Engagement Consultant, UnitedHealthcare



Hello Missouri Public Health Association members! As the newest Affiliate Rep to the Governing Council as well as a board member for MPHA, I wanted to take a minute to introduce myself. My name is Nick Collins and I have been a board member for MPHA now for four years, previously

serving as a board member at large. I am also the chair of the Constitution, Bylaws and Resolutions committee for MPHA. I attended Saint Louis University and received my Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Public Health degrees. I currently work at UnitedHealthcare as a Health Engagement Consultant with the Illinois and New England markets.

While I am the ARGC for Missouri, I am heavily involved with the American Public Health Association as well. I have held various leadership roles in the Health Administration and Public Health Education and Health Promotions sections, as well as being one of the founders of the Annual Meeting Wellness Center, now in its 7<sup>th</sup> year. I am excited to continue representing MPHA and Missouri within APHA, strengthen ties with other affiliates around the country, and work to provide more opportunities for students and early career professionals in Missouri to become involved with MPHA and APHA. My contact information is available at the end of this report and please feel free to reach out with any questions, if you want to set up a call or meet up for a coffee (I live in St. Louis). I look forward to working with and for you!

### MINK Updates

MINK stands for "Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas" and these 4 states make up Region 7 of the Council of Affiliates for APHA. The MINK monthly conference call continues with Eldonna Chesnut, KS ARGC hosting the

calls on Zoom on the first Friday of each month at 9:00am. The calls are open to anyone interested in public health in Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas. The 2021 MINK Annual Conference was hosted by Kansas Public Health Association as part of the 78th Annual Kansas Public Health Association Conference. The MINK portion of the Conference was held virtually on September 22 on the Whova platform. An important session was facilitated by the Midwest Public Health Training Center, IA and included discussions about how public health professionals may reframe messages to gain support from legislators and the public around public health topics. This session will be revisited during the 2022 MINK meeting hosted by Iowa Public Health Association.

### 2021 APHA Council of Affiliates Updates

The APHA Council of Affiliates hosted Affiliate Day on Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021, at the APHA Annual Meeting. Affiliates were able to attend breakout sessions to learn best practices from other affiliates as well as share updates on some of the initiatives we are doing in Missouri and in MPHA. There were also 4 affiliate awards presented at the Annual Meeting:

- **CoA Award for Excellence:** Kim Boyd, Colorado Public Health Association
- **CoA Outstanding Affiliate of the Year Award:** Maine Public Health Association
- **CoA Outstanding Student of the Year Award:** Delaine Anderson, Minnesota Public Health Association
- **Outstanding Affiliate Staff Award:** Kim Dittmann, North Carolina Public Health Association

If you have any additional questions about the Council of Affiliates or the awards, please feel free to reach out.

Again, I am excited to work with you all as the Affiliate Representative to the Governing Council on the MPHA Board and with APHA.



**Casey Parnell**  
**Former Project Manager, #HealthierMO**



As the #HealthierMO initiative recently reached its four-year anniversary, I have been reflecting on all that has changed and all that has been accomplished in that time. Especially during the past year and half, there have been challenges, but the majority of my time spent on this project has been wonderfully fulfilling.

I have met some of the most dedicated and inspiring public servants, learned from experts and leaders in the field, and facilitated a grassroots change initiative that has begun to transform Missouri's public health system for the better. There is not much more that this public health professional could ask for in a job...

And so, it is with mixed emotions that I announce that I have resigned from my position as Project Manager for #HealthierMO. It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve in this role, and I will carry forward with me the wisdom and optimism from everyone who has offered us support and guidance along the way. #HealthierMO continues to do important work in the coming year on the issues of health equity, public health advocacy, and systems change using Missouri's Foundational Public Health Services model. My hope is that the current window of opportunity for change generated by COVID-19 is seized by all who seek to improve Missouri's public health system, and by working together they will ensure that all Missourians will have increased opportunities to live healthier lives. I wish #HealthierMO and all of you the very best and continued success.

# **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** and **JOIN US!**

## **Joint Annual Conference** and **General Membership Meeting**

**September 21-22, 2022**  
**Columbia, Missouri**

## TSU Nursing Supports COVID Response

Nola Martz, EdD, MSN, RN  
Truman State University



Truman State University nursing students played a critical part in the COVID-19 response in northeast Missouri by helping administer more than 10,000 vaccines.

Students in the Rural Public Health Nursing course provided support at mass vaccinations clinics beginning Jan. 31 through early April. A cohort of only 24 senior BSN students and 2 TSU faculty supported 34 clinics in 62 days across five counties, filling roughly 70 volunteer vaccinator positions.

“Our students were on the front lines helping combat the biggest public health crisis in more than 100 years,” said Nola Martz, assistant professor of nursing, who teaches the course. “They really stepped in and made positive contributions for such an important community outreach program. That says a lot about their skills as health care providers and how well prepared they are for their careers.”

In Adair County alone, nursing students were involved in 10 drive-through clinics sponsored by Northeast Regional Medical Center and 2 large mass vaccination events sponsored by the Adair County Health Department. Other assistance supporting these and

other clinics came from the Truman student health services, Missouri National Guard and State Emergency Management Agency, A.T. Still University, the area vocational technical center, surrounding local county health department staff, local and state first responders and even volunteers from the conservation corps of Ameri-Corp based in Minneapolis.

Martz highlighted their efforts in a presentation given at the Rural Health Outreach Conference in May, demonstrating the benefits of academic health department relationships. As part of their course work, students submitted reflections about their experiences. The following are a few of their quotes:

“I have learned a great deal on how to communicate with other health professionals...how much each community and the government relies on public health departments ... The biggest takeaway is the appreciation I have for the Public Health Departments. I will from now on always advocate for public health and vote for politicians that support public health.”

“Working the vaccine clinics was by far the most

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## TSU Nursing Supports COVID Response

Nola Martz, EdD, MSN, RN  
Truman State University

fulfilling clinical experience I have had as a nursing student. I learned so much about public and community health in terms of emergency health responses and plans. Getting to work at the health department also gave me a different perspective of nursing that ... led to a newfound respect for public health nursing."



"Overall, I am really grateful to have had so much experience with the mass vaccination clinics. I not only learned how to administer IM injections but ... to be a part of such a historical experience and I now know how health departments are trained to deal with public health crises such as COVID-19. I also completed a clinical elective experience in becoming a contact tracer, which also gave me insight on epidemiology."

"I learned that being prepared for disasters, pandemics, or emergencies is so important so we can keep the most amount of people as safe as possible."

"It was amazing to be part of such a historical moment and to be at the forefront of healthcare."

### References:

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Keck, C. W. (2019). Academic health departments: Bridging the gap between town and gown. [Editorial]. *American Journal of Public Health, 109*(5), 665-666. doi: 10.2155/AJPH.2019.305039

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Missouri Center for Public Health Excellence. <https://www.MOCPHE.org>

Public Health Foundation. [https://www.phf.org/programs/AHDLC/Pages/Academic\\_Health\\_Departments.aspx](https://www.phf.org/programs/AHDLC/Pages/Academic_Health_Departments.aspx)



## Building a Healthier Missouri

### Jaci McReynolds, MHA

### Transforming the Future of Public Health in Missouri

Building a healthier Missouri through a stronger public health system has become an even more important vision for public health professionals and stakeholders during the COVID pandemic. Missouri's public health system was strained beyond imagination as its 115 local public health agencies fought to slow the spread of the COVID virus, conduct contact tracing, monitor isolation and quarantine, issue face masking and business closure orders, and administer vaccinations.

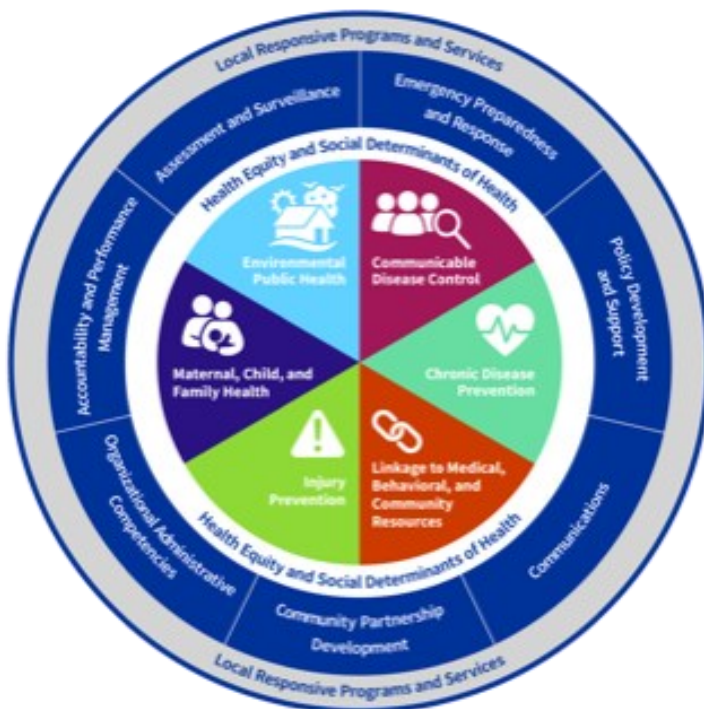
Public health lays the vital foundation for a healthy community, but its work is often invisible. The pandemic brought public health into the spotlight, and yet, in many ways, it is still widely misunderstood.

#HealthierMO and its public health system partners worked together in 2019 to develop a visual model that identifies the foundational public health capabilities and areas of expertise that must be available in every community for Missouri's public health system to function. The pandemic is visibly demonstrating the necessity for public health strength in capabilities like policy development, communication, community partnership development, and emergency response. Data from #HealthierMO's 2020 Capacity Assessment show that when LPHAs have strength in these and other capabilities, they are more likely to have the capacity to assure areas of expertise like Communicable Disease Investigation, Environmental Public Health, and Injury Prevention.

As the demand for COVID response begins to ease, #HealthierMO invites LPHAs to review Missouri's Foundational Public Health Services model and the 2020 Capacity Assessment findings to identify capabilities where capacity gains are most needed. An interactive version of the FPHS model, found at HealthierMO.org, offers LPHAs the chance to review each component of the model in detail, examine regional findings from the Capacity Assessment, and investigate tools and resources that can help them build capacity. The interactive version of the model also demonstrates the interconnectivity of the model's components. By dragging one of the capabilities (blue ring) to align with one of the areas of expertise (pie pieces), LPHAs can explore the connections, read case studies, and utilize additional tools to increase their own capacity.

As LPHAs become more familiar with the FPHS model and begin to implement it in their own work, they will be better equipped to explain to partners, stakeholders, and the public what the foundational public health services are and why they are so vital to laying a strong foundation for community well-being, to build a healthier Missouri for all of us.

To learn more and join the #HealthierMO initiative, visit [HealthierMO.org](https://HealthierMO.org), Facebook @HealthierMO.



# INVEST IN PUBLIC HEALTH FOR ALL MISSOURIANS

Effective public health strategies will lower costs for our healthcare system, but we must invest in public health in order to earn financial savings and healthier communities. Public health creates an environment where the economy grows, communities thrive, and all of us have the fair opportunity to reach our full potential. Public health is a shared responsibility between federal, state, and local governments. COVID-19 demonstrates that public health must have the resources and capacity to build community resilience and preparedness, issue and enforce public health orders, share information with key partners and the public, and lead the health and medical response to public health emergencies.

## COVID RESPONSE COSTS

LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AREA BY POPULATION	 < 150,000 PERSONS	 150,000—480,000 PERSONS	 480,000+ PERSONS
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST FOR 2020	\$490,298	\$5,152,264	\$28,829,920
COST PER PERSON	\$6 <sup>71</sup>	\$19 <sup>55</sup>	\$45 <sup>51</sup>

Based on an average of six jurisdictions reporting estimated COVID costs for 2020. Source: MOCPE, September 2020.

## COVID RESPONSE FUNDING

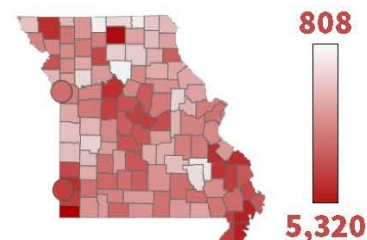
### % OF COMMISSION HELD CARES FUNDING SHARED WITH LPHAS



### FUNDING TO LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES FOR COVID RESPONSE



### COVID CASE RATE HIGHEST IN RURAL COMMUNITIES



Based on reporting from 99 of 114 Missouri local public health agencies. Source: DHSS, September 24, 2020.

DHSS. Cases per 100,000. October 26, 2020.

“Health departments are already understaffed and underfunded...These professionals do important work that most people don’t even realize is happening...They also play an essential role in keeping communities healthy and safe, every day.”

— BRIAN CASTRUCCI, CEO, DE BEAUMONT FOUNDATION

**12 LPHA ADMINISTRATOR POSITIONS VACATED SINCE MARCH 1, 2020**

**10.5% TURNOVER IN LEADERSHIP**  
Loss of institutional expertise and increased costs up to 200% of salary



# HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

## 2021 Scholarship Recipient

### EMILY FESSLER

#### Missouri State University

“Emily is one of the most capable and committed students that I have had the pleasure of working with. I serve as her supervisor for her Graduate Assistantship in the Missouri State University Ozarks Public Health Institute (OPHI) and as one of her professors in the Master of Public Health program. Emily is extremely intelligent, driven, hardworking, organized and highly motivated. She requires very little guidance or instruction—the very definition of a quick study. She sees what needs to be done and accomplishes it. I have yet to give her a task where I wasn’t extremely pleased with the outcome. Emily is definitely in the top 1% of most capable and promising students that I have worked with in my 30+ years of University experience. As an example, OPHI is working with the CDC to address the vaccine hesitancy issue in Springfield. Emily has been the point person in arranging focus groups, conducting training with CDC, developing focus group questions, organizing focus group teams, deploying teams to different locations, transcribing responses and organizing ongoing meetings with CDC. She is truly an exemplary student and I am fully confident that she will be an equally exemplary Public Health Professional.”

Dalen Duitsman  
Director, Ozarks Public Health Institute  
Professor, Missouri State University - MPH Program

## Call for Articles

As a member of the Missouri Public Health Association, you are invited to submit articles for our newsletter. We welcome submissions on any public health related topic.

**Please include the following information with your article submission:**

- Name
- Professional Affiliation or Academic Institution (if a student)
- Title of Article
- Reference List
- A Headshot or Photo of You Doing Public Health Work

Please keep your article within 300-500 words. Articles from members will be reviewed by the Missouri Public Health Association Board and the Newsletter Editor. Please email your articles and any questions to Lisa Marshall at [lisa.marshall@lpha.mo.gov](mailto:lisa.marshall@lpha.mo.gov) or Sandy Boeckman at [sboeckman@mopha.org](mailto:sboeckman@mopha.org).

#### 2020 NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

**FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER** ~ *Article submissions are due by February 1st*

**JUNE NEWSLETTER** ~ *Article submissions are due by June 1st*

**OCTOBER NEWSLETTER** ~ *Article submissions are due by October 1st*

## MPHA Members,

Now in existence since 1925, the Missouri Public Health Association (MPHA) continues to strive to expand our services to meet the needs of public health across Missouri. We hope that you took part in one or more of the many events that we offered this past year.

It is our mission to be the voice of public health in Missouri through advocacy, membership services and our Education Foundation. In order to meet our mission and provide services in our state, MPHA relies on the generosity of individuals and organizations for support. Without the investment of members like you, MPHA wouldn't be able to continue to be the voice for public health across Missouri.

We are asking you to help us continue the public health message by a donation to MPHA Education Foundation. Every dollar counts in the advancement of public health. If each member would make a donation, imagine the progress and impact we could make in Missouri. Your generosity will make a difference in the future of MPHA by allowing us to continue in our work advancing public health in Missouri. ***The MPHA Education Foundation is a 501(c)3 corporation which means that donations to the Foundation are tax deductible.***

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Andrew Warlen, MPH  
MPHA Foundation Chair

*Donating is easier now more than ever. Visit [www.mopha.org](http://www.mopha.org) and click on the Scholarship/Awards tab. Your generous donations will help support educational opportunities for public health professionals and students and*



## AmazonSmile

Missouri Public Health Association Education Foundation is now registered with AmazonSmile. Anytime you shop on Amazon for eligible items, they will donate 0.5% of the price of the eligible smile.amazon.com purchase to the Missouri Public Health Association Education Foundation.

**Missouri Public Health Association Education  
Foundation's unique charity link:**

**<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/43-1652927>**

Are you a member of APHA but not currently a member of MPHA? We need your membership to further the message of public health in Missouri.



The benefits of being a member of MPHA include:

- Three newsletters a year filled with up-to-date information
- Legislative updates on Missouri issues as well as national topics impacting Missourians
- Annual meeting with other public health professionals
- Statewide network of public health professionals

If you are interested in membership in MPHA, please contact Dan Luebbert, Platte County Health Department, 816-858-2412, Dan.luebbert@plattehealth.com or complete the membership form on the back page and return it to the MPHA office.

## **New MISSOURI PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION Members**

**STACEY WHITE, WARREN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**SHELBY ROARK, WARREN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**ELAINE PROUHET, WARREN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**LINDA HOEFT, WARREN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**PEGGY PRIVETT, WARREN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**KARA CHRISTOPHER, SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY-SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

**KRISTIN WILSON, HEARTLAND CENTER**

**BENJAMIN PRINGER, MODHSS**

**CATHERINE RODEMYER**

**ASHLEE GRIFFIN, MODHSS**

**TIFFANY TAYLOR, MODHSS**

**SARA DAVENPORT, MODHSS**

**ALEESHA JONES, MODHSS**

**JADA WINCHESTER, A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY**

**BARBARA BRENDEL, MODHSS**

**MISTY DENNIS, MODHSS**

**MACEY SHINN, MODHSS**

**AMY BRADSHAW, MODHSS**

**SARA HECKMAN, MODHSS**

**JODY SPIESS, WEBSTER UNIVERSITY**

**MICHAEL ELLIOTT, SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**DARCY SCHARFF, SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**KRISTIN WILSON, SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**TOM BURROUGHS, SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**MICHAEL ROZIER, SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**EDDIE IGNACZIAK, SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**DEVIN HURSEY**

**SARA GORMAN, MODHSS**

**TIFFANY TUUA, MODHSS**

**MISTY PHILLIPS, MODHSS**

**CATHY WOOD, MODHSS**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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##### **Kristi Campbell (2021-2022)**

Cole County Health Department  
3400 W. Truman Blvd.  
Jefferson City, MO 65109  
573-636-2181  
kcampbell@colecounty.org

#### **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

##### **Dan Luebbert (2021-2022)**

Deputy Director  
Platte County Health Department  
212 Marshall Road  
Platte City, MO 64079  
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dan.luebbert@plattehealth.com

#### **VICE PRESIDENT**

##### **Lynelle Phillips, RN, MPH (2021-2023)**

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#### **SECRETARY**

##### **Nola Martz, EdD, MSN, RN (2020-2022)**

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#### **TREASURER**

##### **Dr. Dalen Duitsman (2021-2023)**

Missouri State University and  
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#### **IMM. PAST PRESIDENT**

##### **Andrew Warlen, MPH (2021-2022)**

Platte County Health Department  
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andrew.warlen@plattehealth.com

#### **AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE APHA GOVERNING COUNCIL (ARGC)**

##### **Nicholas A. Collins (2020-2023)**

United HealthCare  
721 Lami Street  
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*NOTE: The Executive Committee is made up of the President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and the ARGC Representative.*

#### **BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE**

##### **Peggy Bowles (2020-2022)**

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##### **Marjorie Cole, RN (2020-2022)**

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##### **Kathryn Metzger (2021-2023)**

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##### **Kayla Riel (2021-2023)**

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#### **STUDENT LIAISON**

##### **Emily Fessler**

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#### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

##### **Bert Malone**

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

##### **Sandra C. Boeckman**

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Jefferson City, MO 65101  
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#### **MPHA FOUNDATION CHAIR**

##### **Andrew Warlen, MPH**

#### **NEWSLETTER CHAIR**

##### **Lisa Marshall**

Taney County Health Department  
PO Box 369, 15479 US Hwy. 160  
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lisa.marshall@lpha.mo.gov

#### **TFPH BOARD LIAISON**

##### **Linda Cooperstock**

## Communiqué



722 E. Capitol Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Visit us at  
[www.mopha.org](http://www.mopha.org)

## COMMUNIQUE' Editor

**Lisa Marshall, MS, RD, LD**

Send comments and/or articles to:

[Lisa.marshall@lpha.mo.gov](mailto:Lisa.marshall@lpha.mo.gov)

# MPHA MEMBERSHIP

# YES

I want to help fulfill MPHA's mission to promote health in the State of Missouri

- ☐ Regular Membership \$60.00
- ☐ Full-Time Student \$30.00
- ☐ Retiree \$30.00

*I'd Like to make a donation to the MPHA Educational Foundation \$\_\_\_\_\_*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Professional Interest:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Citizen Health Involvement | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health Nursing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Promotion           | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Infectious Disease         | <input type="checkbox"/> Support Services      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Official            | <input type="checkbox"/> Food and Nutrition    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Health       | <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Diseases      |

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Committee Interest:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education            | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/Public Policy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership           | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health Week     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Meeting       | <input type="checkbox"/> History                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions & Bylaws |   |

## PAYMENT OPTIONS

- ☐ Check enclosed ☐ Master Card/VISA/Discover/American Express

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form to MPHA, 722 E. Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

If you have questions, call 573-634-7977.