

Friday Facts

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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Highlights

- [WIC Updates](#)
- [January Is National Mental Wellness Month](#)
- [New Resource Guide For Missouri Families](#)
- [Local Emergency Preparedness And Response -- Gap Analysis Survey](#)
- [Attention Missouri State Public Health Laboratory \(MSPHL\) Customers](#)

DHSS Corner

- [DHSS Job Opportunities/News](#)

Meetings, Conferences, and Trainings

- [State Emergency Management Agency \(SEMA\) Upcoming Courses](#)
- [Save the Date -- Lactation Conference](#)
- [VFC411 training – DHSS Bureau of Immunization](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

WIC UPDATES

WIC Updates have been posted to the WIC webpage at: <https://health.mo.gov/living/families/wic-portal/updates/>

- Upcoming state agency closures
- Job openings new submission form
- Subrecipient annual financial report
- Approved policy 8.1.030 Conflict of Interest and Separation of Duties
- WIC record destruction

JANUARY IS NATIONAL MENTAL WELLNESS MONTH

Many wellness skills have been proven to positively impact mental health. Getting quality sleep, practicing gratitude, playing brain games, being physically active, considering other perspectives and creating a positive social circle each promote mental wellness. Here is an [Emotional Wellness Toolkit](#) from National Institutes of Health with more ideas.

There is an illness-wellness continuum with mental health. Everyone finds themselves along the continuum at various times depending on circumstances, aging and other things that shape life experiences. Start the new year off with a renewed commitment to practicing mental wellness to meet life's successes, setbacks and slow times.

The month of January is dedicated to breaking the cycle of stigma associated with mental illness. Encourage someone to seek help or have a conversation with someone about mental wellness. Find some great ideas [here](#) to honor National Mental Wellness month in the workplace, such as having a charitable event or planning fun activities.

NEW RESOURCE GUIDE FOR MISSOURI FAMILIES

Missouri families now have a new tool at their fingertips: a comprehensive resource guide designed to support parents and caregivers of children from birth to age 12. This guide, developed in partnership by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and LifeCourse Nexus Training and Technical Assistance Center (UMKC Institute for Human Development), provides descriptions, links and phone numbers of various statewide resources and is organized by types of supports which are categorized as discovery and navigation, connecting and networking, and goods and services.

While the guide is useful for all families, it was targeted to assist Missouri families of children with special health care needs and disabilities, highlighting Missouri Family to Family and the Special Health Care Needs Family Partnership. Both programs provide free statewide services and are staffed by parents or family members of individuals with special health care needs or disabilities.

To access the guide online, visit: Health.Mo.Gov/SHCN. To request physical copies of the resource guide, please contact the DHSS Bureau of Special Health Care Needs by phone at (573) 751-6246 or email at: info@health.mo.gov.

[LPHA Job Opportunities](#)

[Links to Valuable Resources](#)

- [Directory of LPHAs](#)
- [Area Agencies on Aging & Services](#)
- [Missouri Association of Local Public Health Agencies](#)
- [Missouri Institute for Community Health](#)
- [Missouri Public Health Association](#)
- [CDC's Weekly Scientific Digest](#)
- [CDC Environmental Health Training Resources](#)
- [FDA Environmental Health Training](#)
- [Missouri Health Information Technology \(MO HIT\) Assistance Center](#)
- [Ozarks Public Health Institute](#)
- [Midwest Public Health Training Center](#)

LOCAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE -- GAP ANALYSIS SURVEY

The Missouri DHSS State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) Priority Issue 4: Emerging Public Health Threat Preparedness has created a Local Emergency Preparedness and Response Gap Analysis Survey. The survey has sections on hazard and threat concerns for communities. It also includes questions on mitigation and response, emergency preparedness, communications and community organizations. We invite any local/city/county/community agency to provide feedback through this survey. The results will be used to inform design of future trainings/SHIP Activities and will also provide data for the 2025 Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant Risk Assessment. The survey will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Once you start you cannot save your answers and go back at a later time. We appreciate your willingness to help us understand the threats, hazards and training needs for Missouri communities when it comes to emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

Survey Link:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/83cd1ddd92404bd99569c0559b027706>.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated. If possible, please complete the survey before Thursday, January 9. If you have questions please email: drms@health.mo.gov.

ATTENTION MISSOURI STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY (MSPHL) CUSTOMERS

Providing the highest quality services to our customers is very important to us. We value your opinion and would like to know how we can make your MSPHL experience better. Please take a few minutes to fill out the following survey with responses that represent your experience with the MSPHL.

https://missouriwic.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b1WhVUNAtuZbGR0

DHSS CORNER

DHSS JOB OPPORTUNITIES/NEWS:

ONSITE WASTEWATER SPECIALIST – Bureau of Environmental Health Services (Division of Community and Public Health)

The Bureau of Environmental Health Services is seeking a self-motivated individual who can understand and apply environmental health regulations and scientific principles within the field of wastewater regulation. This position is in the onsite wastewater treatment program. Job responsibilities include:

- Assist with the overall administration of the onsite wastewater treatment program
- Lead classroom training for onsite wastewater professionals
- Evaluate onsite wastewater treatment system construction permit applications and variance requests
- Conduct site visits/inspections of onsite wastewater treatment systems and issue construction permits
- Provide training and technical guidance to industry, local public health agencies, and the public
- Conduct field investigations of onsite wastewater treatment system complaints

For more information on qualifications and how to apply visit: mocarers.mo.gov.

For additional DHSS Job Opportunities, please visit the MO Careers website [here](#).

MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, AND TRAININGS

State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Upcoming Courses

Please view upcoming courses being offered by the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA). See [flyer](#) for registration status. This section contains courses that have a target audience that includes Public Health, Medical (Hospital) or Healthcare.

Save the Date -- Lactation Conference

The CoxHealth Education Center and Greater Ozarks Regional Breastfeeding

Coalition would like to invite you to Save the Date for our next Lactation Conference on Friday September 12, 2025. It will be offered virtual or in-person at the Foster Auditorium, Cox Medical Center South in Springfield Missouri. Our keynote presenter will be Lisa Marasco, MA, IBCLC, FILCA with topics on Counseling the High Need Parent, Low Milk Production, and Boost Your Prolactin IQ. A breakout session on Metabolic Health or Breastfeeding and Baby-Led Weaning will also be offered. Lunch will be provided for those attending in person and education credits will be provided for all attendees. Registration will open on Eventbrite July 2025!

For more information see [flyer](#).

VFC411 training – DHSS Bureau of Immunization

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' Bureau of Immunizations is pleased to announce the return of the VFC411 training throughout the state. VFC411 is designed to update providers on vaccine storage and handling, Vaccines for Children (VFC) visits, vaccine ordering, immunization schedules, best practices, and many other helpful topics. This training is a great way for providers to fulfill their yearly educational requirement while meeting other providers from around their area. Please see the [attached flyer](#) for dates and locations. To register, please visit: <https://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/immunizations/vfc411form.php>.

LPHA JOB OPPORTUNITIES

FULL-TIME NUTRITIONIST/DIETITIAN -- Camden County Health Department

The Camden County Health Department has an immediate opening for a full time (35 hours/week) Nutritionist/Dietitian in the WIC program. The candidate must have graduated from an accredited four-year college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Public Health Nutrition, Dietetics, Home Economics, or closely related field; including or supplemented by at least fifteen (15) semester hours in food and nutrition including diet therapy and community nutrition. The selected candidate will provide nutrition education to WIC eligible participants and assess their nutritional needs for certification eligibility. Resumes will be accepted by email, at: jennifer.finley@lpha.mo.gov or mail, PO Box 816 Camdenton, MO 65020. This institution is an equal opportunity employer.

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER – Clay County Public Health Center

The Community Health Worker (CHW) plays a crucial role in improving the health and wellbeing of the community. A staff member in this role will conduct education, outreach, patient advocacy, function as a community liaison, provide care coordination resources, and function in various administrative duties. Visit: clayhealth.com.

ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST – Clay County Public Health Center

Under the supervision of the Program Manager of Accounting, the Accounting Specialist is responsible for carrying out assigned accounting and administrative duties in a professional manner to meet program goals. Visit: clayhealth.com.

COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATOR – Clay County Public Health Center

The Health Center seeks candidates for the position of a Community Health Educator to perform activities within the Community Health Promotion Team. The Community Health Educator (CHE) collaborates with community members to determine health needs, deliver health education, and implement evidence-based health interventions. CHE's are responsible for community outreach, establishing new partnerships, and bolstering existing community relationships. Visit: clayhealth.com.

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES/SECTION CHIEF OF OPERATIONS – Clay County Public Health Center

With guidance from the Deputy Director, the Section Chief of Operations/Director of Human Resources is responsible for carrying out section objectives- including managing all human resource functions- as well as evaluating program services and ensuring compliance with local, state and federal laws, contract requirements and Section policies and procedures. The Section Chief also supervises, and coordinates activities of personnel engaged in carrying out program goals. Visit: clayhealth.com.

NUTRITIONIST – Clay County Public Health Center

The WIC Nutritionist provides accurate nutrition assessments, assigns risk factors, and provides appropriate nutrition and breastfeeding education to all participants according to the state WIC Program policies and procedures. Visit: clayhealth.com.

DIRECTOR OF EPIDEMIOLOGY -- Dent County Health Center

The Dent County Health Center in Salem, Missouri is looking for a Director of Epidemiology. This position oversees the fetal and infant mortality review board for Southwest/South Central Missouri and supervises two case investigators. A Master of Public Health degree and management experience is preferred. Also available are two case investigators, one which focuses on fetal and infant mortality review and one that focuses on communicable diseases. A degree or experience in a health-related field is required. Please go to: <https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Dent-County-Health-Center> for the full job descriptions.

ADMINISTRATOR -- Howard County Public Health Department

The Howard County Commission is seeking applications for a full-time Administrator position in the Howard County Public Health Department, located 30 minutes northwest of Columbia in Fayette. This position answers directly to the Commission and oversees the daily operations of the health department. Qualifications for this position include leadership skills, budgeting and financial management, the ability to multitask, proficiency in Word and Excel software, and excellent verbal and written skills. A bachelor's degree in business administration/management or health administration, and/or administrative experience with public health experience is preferred. A Missouri State Registered Nurse license is preferred but not exclusionary dependent upon other skills and experience. Interested parties should email Michelle Reynolds and Marsha Broadus at: michelle.r.reynolds@lpha.mo.gov and marsha.broadus@lpha.mo.gov. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. For questions, call the Public Health Department at 660-248-3100. The County of Howard is an equal opportunity employer.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE II -- St. Charles County Department of Public Health

The St. Charles County Department of Public Health is hiring a full-time Public Health Nurse II. The purpose of this position is to perform communicable disease nursing including food borne illness, infection control with hospitals, tuberculosis case management, and clinic staff nursing. The work is performed under the direction of the Epidemiologist. Requirements include a minimum associate degree, current Missouri Registered Nurse License with three to five years Registered Nursing experience, and valid motor vehicle operator's license required. Employment is contingent on successfully passing a full criminal background check. This 40 hour per week position includes a full range of benefits including Paid Time Off, Extended Medical Leave, Holidays, Employee Health, Dental, Life, Disability, Retirement, and Tuition Assistance programs. For more information and to apply visit: <http://hr.sccmo.org/hr>.

PART-TIME NURSE -- St. Clair County Health Center

St. Clair County Health Center, Osceola, MO is seeking a part time nurse to join our team. It would be 2 days a week, doing blood draws, TB test, Communicable Disease case work, Public Health Duties. We are located at 530 Arduer Drive, Osceola, MO 64776. Please contact us at 417-646-8332 ask for Melissa or Evelyn. Send resume to: evie.taylor@lpha.mo.gov or melissa.cone@lpha.mo.gov. We look forward to hearing from you.

NURSING PROGRAM ASSISTANT -- St. Charles County Department of Public Health

The St. Charles County Department of Public Health is hiring a full-time Nursing Program Assistant (Passport Program). Duties include assisting public with processing passport applications, answering incoming phone calls, and utilizing QLess for appointment management. Must complete online training and receive certification to execute passports within first 30 days of employment. Requires successful completion of computerized clerical skills testing. May be assigned according to department needs to support other programs such as Immunizations, Health Services, or WIC. This 40 hour per week position includes a full range of benefits including Paid Time Off, Extended Medical Leave, Holidays, Employee Health, Dental, Life, Disability, Retirement, and Tuition Assistance programs. For more information and to apply visit: <http://hr.sccmo.org/hr>.

VETERINARIAN -- St. Louis County Department of Public Health

The veterinarian position will oversee the health of all animals at St. Louis County's animal shelter. This position requires on-call and weekend hours as needed. These requirements can be negotiated with the candidate upon start date. Examples of duties include overseeing the health of all animals at St. Louis County's animal shelter, determining the nature of and treating health conditions in animals medically and/or surgically, and performing spay/neuter operations as required. Requires licensure as a Veterinarian with the Missouri Veterinary Medical Board or a Provisional Missouri License. New graduates are encouraged to apply. For more information, visit: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/stlouis/jobs/4680365/veterinarian>.

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN -- St. Louis County Department of Public Health

The veterinary technician position will examine and oversee the general health of all animals at St. Louis County's animal shelter. Examples of duties include examining and evaluating the overall health of all animals in the shelter, administering medication, assisting the veterinarian during surgery, and monitoring animals during recovery period, conducting pre-adoption health examinations, as well as preparing animals for adoption. Minimum requirements: registered as a Veterinary Technician. New graduates are strongly encouraged to apply. For more information, visit: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/stlouis/jobs/4680304/veterinary-technician>.

Paula Nickelson, DHSS Director, DHSS Staff

County Presiding Commissioners, Board Chairs

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services enhances quality of life for all Missourians by protecting and promoting the community's health and the well-being of citizens of all ages.

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