

Friday Facts

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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Highlights

- [WIC Updates](#)
- [Adolescent And School Health Program – New Resource](#)
- [International Boost Self-Esteem Month](#)
- [Celebrate National Poison Prevention Week In March](#)
- [National Eating Disorder Awareness Week](#)
- [FPHS Gap Analysis Module 1 \(Fy24\) Resources](#)

DHSS Corner

- [DHSS Job Opportunities/News](#)

Meetings, Conferences, and Trainings

- [State Emergency Management Agency \(SEMA\) Upcoming Courses](#)
- [Purple Sundays Faith and Health Alzheimer's Webinar – Save the Date](#)
- [2025 Missouri Oral Health Policy Conference -- Igniting Innovation](#)
- [Emergency Medical Services \(EMS\) ECHO](#)
- [FREE Trainings on Cannabis Best Practices and Delta-8 THC -- Registration Open!](#)
- [Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

WIC UPDATES

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

- Missouri WIC Conference Special Funding 5
- Reminder: WIC Updates moving to weekly newsletter email

ADOLESCENT AND SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM – NEW RESOURCE

The Adolescent and School Health Program recently launched a new resource for infection prevention and control in Missouri K-12 schools. This resource is called the Missouri Keeping Infectious Disease out of Schools (MO KIDS) Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Toolkit and is available to Missouri schools and school partners online at: www.mokidstoolkit.org. The Toolkit contains eLearnings, posters, social media posts, job aids, letters to parents, and sample guidelines geared towards educating and empowering the entire school community to prevent and limit the spread of infectious diseases in schools and keep our kids in the classroom where they can learn! Please review the resources found in the Toolkit and share them with your school partners today. The Toolkit will remain available to our schools free of charge through May 2030. For questions please contact: shs@health.mo.gov.

INTERNATIONAL BOOST SELF-ESTEEM MONTH

Self-esteem is how you feel about yourself. It begins to develop early in childhood and changes throughout a person's lifetime. At times, a person's self-esteem may be very high; and at other times it may take a dip downward due to a stressful event or mental health challenge, such as depression. We all have the power to grow our self-esteem without help from others – and the benefits can be striking.

Stop the negative self-talk, accept your flaws, celebrate your strengths, and practice self-care. Boost your self-esteem and help avoid clinical depression. Love yourself first. Happy Valentines Day from the DMH Wellness Team!

Visit: HPA/LiveWell for more information on International Boost Self-Esteem Month.

CELEBRATE NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK IN MARCH!

In celebration of National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW) March 16-22, individuals and organizations around the country come together to raise poison prevention awareness. Please use our [Partner Toolkit](#) if you would like to use any premade graphics, social media messages, and other resources that week on your social media pages. Please remember to use the hashtag #NPPW25. If you need free magnets, brochures or other resources for your public health clients, please contact Amanda Ruback, Community Outreach Coordinator by email at: amanda.ruback@ssmhealth.com or by phone at: 314-612-5719.

[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](#)

NATIONAL EATING DISORDER AWARENESS WEEK

February 24 – March 2 is National Eating Disorder Awareness Week. An estimated twenty-nine million Americans, or nine percent of the population, will experience an eating disorder within their lifetime. Over 10,000 people die each year due to an eating disorder and the economic cost is almost \$65 billion annually. Access a [toolkit](#) that includes flyers, newsletters, infographics, and more to help understand the effects of eating disorders. On-Demand Webinars are available.

The [National Institute of Mental Health](#) points out that people with eating disorders are at higher risk for medical complications and other mental health conditions such as substance use, anxiety and depression. These coexisting conditions can make eating disorders worse. Early detection and treatment are critical for making a full recovery. The [National Eating Disorder Association](#) provides free campaign resources and shareable graphics. Help us recognize those suffering from an eating disorder by showing compassion for our fellow Americans.

FPHS GAP ANALYSIS MODULE 1 (FY24) RESOURCES

The FPHS Gap Analysis team continues to collect Module 1 data from LPHAs.

Agency points of contact, resources to assist LPHAs in reporting FY24 financials to the Gap Analysis team can be found on the FPHS Canvas site [here](#). **Module 1: Current Financials (FY24) are due Thursday, May 1, 2025.** If you have questions feel free to reach out to the FPHS Project Team: (FPHSgap@missouri.edu).

DHSS CORNER

DHSS JOB OPPORTUNITIES/NEWS:

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.

Purple Sundays Faith and Health Alzheimer's Webinar – [Save the Date](#)

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Office of Minority Health and Health Equity is partnering with the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Missouri to offer a **FREE** webinar on Wednesday, February 26 from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. You are invited to join us to learn how to access free care and support services, engage in research and educate members of the faith community about Alzheimer's and other dementias. **Registration is open and can be accessed [HERE](#) or via this link:** <https://stateofmo.webex.com/weblink/register/r7beb2172adcf23613ca85c29966f1940>.

2025 Missouri Oral Health Policy Conference -- *IGNITING INNOVATION*

Thursday and Friday, March 6-7

Join us for the 2025 Oral Health Policy Conference Health, featuring the latest in oral health with presentations by national speakers, oral health champions, exhibitors, networking reception, and the best in policy discussion about improving Missouri's oral health! Capitol Plaza Hotel & Convention Center, Jefferson City, Missouri

Register to attend: <https://www.oralhealthmissouri.org/conference-registration>

Conference Information Page: <https://www.oralhealthmissouri.org/2025-conference-information>.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) ECHO

Expand your expertise in Emergency Medical Care with our Emergency Medical Services (EMS) ECHO, designed for EMS professionals. These interactive sessions cover critical topics to enhance patient care and response strategies. Sessions are held every 2nd Wednesday from 11 AM – 12 PM CT. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, collaborate with experts and explore real-life cases. Participants are encouraged to submit a case. Register today at: showmeecho.org.

FREE Trainings on Cannabis Best Practices and Delta-8 THC -- Registration Open!

We are excited to announce two upcoming free trainings hosted by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) in partnership with the Rescue Agency. These sessions are designed to improve understanding of cannabis-related topics and best prevention practices, especially concerning youth. Please see the details in the flyers attached and make sure to register for both sessions through the designated links or QR codes.

Training #1: Social Marketing Best Practices to Address Youth Cannabis Prevention

Date: February 27

Time: 1:30 to 2:30 PM CST

This session will cover the accessibility of cannabis among teens, factors influencing early experimentation, and effective communication strategies for reaching adolescents and young adults.

Register here: <https://info.rescueagency.com/missouri-training-1>

Training #2: Delta-8 Deep Dive

Date: March 20

Time: 1:00 to 1:45 PM CST

Join us for an exploration of Delta-8 properties, legal status, current sales regulations, and effective messaging strategies for engaging youth and parents.

Register here: <https://info.rescueagency.com/missouri-training-2-delta8>

Please feel free to share these trainings with other partners and organizations. Don't miss the chance to engage in informed discussions about cannabis use and prevention—secure your spot today!

Questions regarding the trainings may be addressed to: anna.meyer@health.mo.gov.

Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training

March 25-27 -- Columbia, MO

The application deadline is February 28! People from many disciplines can benefit from this training, including nurses, doctors, respiratory therapists, and other clinical professionals; pharmacists; dental professionals; community health workers; staff from community-based organizations; substance use disorder and behavioral health counselors; and others. The training is fully accredited by The Council for Tobacco Treatment Training Programs (CTTTP). It provides a comprehensive approach for individuals to learn the core competencies necessary to apply for the National Certificate in Tobacco Treatment Practice (NCTTP). Prerequisites and a deposit of \$100 are required. Deposits are fully refunded after the completion of the entire program. Visit: <https://tobaccofree.missouri.edu/tts-training/> to complete an application and find additional information. Please email: quitnow@health.missouri.edu with any questions.

LPHA JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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.

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.

NUTRITIONIST -- Cole County Health Department

The Cole County WIC program is seeking applicants for a Registered Dietitian or Nutritionist. Submit Resumes to Melinda Ridenhour at: mridenhour@colecounty.org.

View the full job description and benefits here: <https://colecounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/9910/WIC-Dietitian-Nutritionist-PDF>.

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE -- Columbia/Boone County Public Health And Human Services

The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services is accepting applications for a Licensed Practical Nurse to join the department's Community Health Unit. The full-time position reports to the Community Health Manager and includes the following: perform intake and screening and provide test results, collect and package specimens for testing, provide nurse visits for medication dispensing and education, monitor and maintain stock of medical supplies and medication inventory, assist with outreach and educational programming.

Applicants should have at least one year of relevant nursing experience and must be licensed to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse by the Missouri State Board of Nursing. A complete job description, salary information, and an online application are available at: <https://www.gocomojobs.com/postings/32717>.

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.

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 Arduser 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.

COORDINATOR OF EPIDEMIOLOGY SERVICES -- Springfield-Greene County Health Department

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department is seeking qualified applicants to join the Communicable Disease Division as a Coordinator of Epidemiology Services. In this role, you will lead comprehensive investigations into reportable diseases and conditions, provide disease prevention education to clients, and analyze disease trends to ensure an effective and coordinated response to disease prevention. You will also stay informed on emerging pathogens, applying this knowledge to enhance disease surveillance and outbreak control efforts. As a key resource for local healthcare partners and community organizations, you will offer expert guidance on disease prevention and control strategies. This position requires strong investigative skills, excellent communication, and the ability to collaborate across multiple sectors to protect and improve community health. For more information visit: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/springfieldmo>.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST -- Taney County Health Department

The Taney County Health Department will be accepting resumes for a full time, 40 hours a week, non-exempt Environmental Public Health Specialist. Duties include administering and enforcement of Federal, State and local statutes, ordinances and regulations related to public health and sanitation; to encourage sound sanitary and environmental health practices; and to protect the environment and the public. The Taney County Health Department is a thriving Local Public Health Department located in Branson and Forsyth Missouri. TCHD is committed to the community and to its employees. The TCHD leadership team is committed to provide a work environment that provides staff with communication, transparency, collaboration, forward thinking, staff development, trust, and fun. Deadline- Open until Filled. For more information, qualifications, benefit details and how to apply visit: <https://www.taneycohealth.org/>.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE -- Taney County Health Department

The Taney County Health Department (TCHD) will be accepting resumes for a full-time, non-exempt, 40 hours a week Public Health Nurse. Responsibilities include specializing in our family planning clinic along with general community health nursing, vaccinations, family planning, pregnancy testing, lead testing, and response, and other public health program responsibilities as assigned. TCHD is a thriving state and nationally accredited Local Public Health Department located in Branson and Forsyth Missouri and is dedicated to the community and to its employees. The TCHD leadership team is committed to provide a work environment that provides staff with communication, transparency, collaboration, forward thinking, staff development, trust, and fun. Deadline-Open until Filled. For more information, qualifications, benefit details and how to apply visit: <https://www.taneycohealth.org/>.

PANEL MEMBERS NEEDED — Direct Service Worker Advisory Panel

We hope this email finds you well. As stakeholders committed to enhancing the lives of older adults and individuals with disabilities, we are excited to share an opportunity for your organization to actively participate in shaping the future of direct service work in Missouri. DSDS is recruiting DSWs for an existing statewide Direct Service Worker Advisory Panel. The Advisory Panel gathers feedback **from frontline DSWs** on various aspects of their roles, including identifying training needs, addressing barriers to retention and advancement, and exploring support mechanisms to enhance job satisfaction and quality of care. DSWs that work in adult day care settings, residential care facilities, assisted living facilities, personal care services, and individual homes are encouraged to apply, whether employed by agencies or a consumer-directed option. Given your organization's extensive involvement with DSWs, we are reaching out to request your assistance in broadly disseminating this crucial information to them. The Panel has been meeting every other month since May 2024 and will continue to meet through early 2026. DHSS appreciates the participation of board members and knows their time is valuable. Gift cards will be provided to board members for each meeting attended. If there are DSWs within/employed by your organization who would be interested in participating in this important initiative, please encourage them to complete [this form](#) or reach out to Holly Riley at: hriley@advancingstates.org or 202-898-2578 by **Monday, March 3**. Please see [flyer](#) for more information.

DIRECTOR OF PREVENTION AND OUTREACH -- Missouri Network Against Child Abuse

Missouri Network Against Child Abuse (MO-NACA) is a nonprofit organization with a mission of empowering adults with solutions to support the safety of children. As the accredited state chapter of the fifteen regional child advocacy centers (CACs), the coordinator for the Missouri SAFE-CARE Network—the state’s medical response to child abuse—and the seat of Prevent Child Abuse Missouri, we are the expert in training, community education and advocacy for professionals, community members and partners, providing children with access to safety, justice and healing.

MO-NACA is currently seeking applicants for Director of Prevention and Outreach.

Salary and benefits: \$70,000-75,000 with major medical, dental and vision insurance, paid leave and 401(k) with match.

Location: Position may be based in MO-NACA’s Jefferson City office or remotely in Missouri.

Position overview: The role of the Director of Prevention and Outreach is to provide oversight, development and direction to the organization’s primary child abuse prevention programming and community outreach efforts. The position works collaboratively with partners and stakeholders at the national, state and local levels to advance best practices in the field of child abuse prevention. The Director of Prevention and Outreach is a supervisory position supported by state and federal grants and contracts, thus requiring compliance with state and federal requirements. The Director of Prevention and Outreach reports to the Executive Director. This is a full-time salaried position.

View the full job description [here](#). All applicants should complete [online application](#) and upload resume and optional cover letter. Preference will be given to applications received before March 10 but applications will be reviewed, and interviews granted, on a rolling basis so we encourage interested applicants to apply as soon as possible.

Sarah Willson, DHSS Acting 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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