

# Friday Facts

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

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## HIGHLIGHTS

### **\*\*CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS – JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE**

The Missouri Public Health Association, Section for Public Health Nursing, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Missouri Center for Public Health Excellence and Missouri Institute for Community Health invite you to submit a proposal to present at the Joint Public Health Conference. The conference will have approximately 300 in attendance with exhibitors and sponsors and will be held September 23-25, 2025, at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia, Missouri. Please see [flyer](#) for details and Presentation Application.

### **\*\*SHARE WITH YOUR SCHOOLS! THE TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOL POLICY SURVEY IS STILL OPEN!**

More youth are vaping than ever before! Schools have the opportunity to speak up about their needs and challenges with student vaping and tobacco use by completing the Tobacco-Free School Policy Survey! The results will inform the creation of resources to support schools better statewide. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) Tobacco Prevention and Control Program (TPCP) and Missouri State University (MSU) Ozarks Public Health Institute (OPHI) created the voluntary survey to identify the needs of schools in implementing tobacco-free policies and addressing student tobacco use. Superintendents should have received the confidential survey via email. It can also be completed by clicking [this survey link](#). **The survey closes on May 31.** If you have any questions, contact: [motobaccoprogram@health.mo.gov](mailto:motobaccoprogram@health.mo.gov) or 573-522-2820. Thank you for taking the time to share this survey for the health of Missouri's students and schools!

### **\*\*OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH (OAM)**

Each May, the Administration for Community Living leads the celebration of Older Americans' Month (OAM). The theme for OAM 2025 is **Flip the Script on Aging**, which focuses on transforming how society perceives, talks about, and approaches aging. This May, the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) invites everyone to explore the benefits of growing older. No matter the age, it is always possible to honor older adults' contributions, explore the many opportunities to stay active and engaged as we age, and highlight opportunities for purpose, exploration, and connection that come with aging. Likewise, DHSS encourages each of you to also take time to celebrate OAM this month. As you make plans to host an event in your local community or become aware of other community events, please share the event information with us at: [Kathy.craig@health.mo.gov](mailto:Kathy.craig@health.mo.gov) so we may add and promote it on our DHSS website: [Health.Mo.Gov/oam](http://Health.Mo.Gov/oam).

The 2025 OAM Governor's Proclamation will be available soon. We will a link to the Governor's Proclamation page when available. Attached you will find a sample article template, social media messages and a 2025 OAM logo. Here is a social media message that you can use specific to our celebration in MO:

**May is #OlderAmericansMonth and the 2025 theme is #FliptheScriptonAging. Join us this month in embracing the opportunity to finding ways to Flip the Script on Aging, [Health.Mo.Gov/oam](http://Health.Mo.Gov/oam).**

- [Upcoming Narrative Writing Workshop with The Missouri Public Health Institute](#)
- [Certified Peer Specialist Echo](#)
- [Accreditation Coordinator Retreats with the Missouri Public Health Institute](#)
- [Medical Countermeasures: Point Of Dispensing \(POD\)](#)

## **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](#)

### **\*\*FREE CAMPAIGN RESOURCES! "TOBACCO IS CHANGING"**

Tobacco Is Changing launched statewide on April 1 the campaign will educate parents, grandparents, guardians, and caregivers of teens about the dangers of electronic cigarette use and provide resources for those seeking more information. This campaign will raise awareness through the [Tobacco Is Changing](#) website and promote [My Life My Quit](#) to teens as a support resource. New campaign videos can be found and shared from the Healthy Living MO YouTube page [HERE!](#) Free social media assets, along with suggested post copy, are also available on the Tobacco Prevention website [HERE!](#) Please share these free campaign resources with partners, organizations, and schools. Please reach out to: [motobaccoprogram@health.mo.gov](mailto:motobaccoprogram@health.mo.gov) with any questions.

### **MAY IS CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) recognizes May as Children's Mental Health Awareness month. [NCTSN](#) provides a list of helpful resources for parents and caregivers, children, mental health providers, child welfare and juvenile justice professionals, healthcare providers, educators and school staff, military families, and policy makers. Children who suffer from child traumatic stress are those who have been exposed to one or more traumas and develop reactions that persist and impact their daily lives after the events have ended. Research suggests that approximately 25% of American children will experience at least one traumatic event by age 16.

## **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.

### **\*\*Writing Policies & Procedures: Best Practices for Clarity and Compliance**

Learn how to effectively write policies and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that meet accreditation requirements. This training will explore the key differences between policies and procedures, provide best practices for structuring them, and offer tips for ensuring clarity and compliance.

The virtual training will be on Tuesday, May 20 from 11:00am-12:00pm.

[Register here.](#)

Questions? Email the accreditation team at: [accreditation@mophi.org](mailto:accreditation@mophi.org).

### **Building Healthy Communities ECHO**

Are you looking to strengthen your community's health through collaboration and evidence-based strategies? Join the Building Healthy Communities ECHO held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday from 10-11am CT. This ECHO connects professionals across Missouri to discuss topics like food access, public safety, health equity, and more. Share real cases, deepen your practice, and earn free continuing education credits, all at no cost. Register today at: [showmeecho.org](http://showmeecho.org).

### **Dermatology ECHO**

Healthcare professionals, join the Dermatology ECHO to expand your knowledge on a wide range of dermatological issues, connect with a community of peers, and earn free continuing education credits. This ECHO is FREE and is held from 12-1pm CT on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month. Learn the top 10 skin conditions affecting patients across Missouri. Register today at: [showmeecho.org](http://showmeecho.org).

## **\*\*2025 Optimizing Benefits for Maternal and Infant Health Meetings**

All MO HealthNet providers and professional community partners are invited to join the MO HealthNet Division, our Managed Care health plans, Show-Me ECHO, and the Office of Oral Health for a unique in-person networking opportunity in cities across Missouri.

Attendees will learn about valuable benefits, incentives, and resources available to pregnant women and their families, including individualized case management, Doula coverage, Non-Emergency Medical Transportation, and more.

May 29 – St. Louis

June 10 – Kansas City

July 17 – Jefferson City

September 16 – Cape Girardeau

October 22 – Joplin

Visit: [Optimizing Benefits for Maternal and Infant Health](#) for specific locations and to register. Seats are limited. For questions, contact: [MHD.Education@dss.mo.gov](mailto:MHD.Education@dss.mo.gov).

## **\*\*PER 410 - Enhancing Planning, Preparedness, and Response to Pandemics and other Large-Scale Public Health Emergencies**

The State Emergency Management Agency is offering **PER 410 - Enhancing Planning, Preparedness, and Response to Pandemics and other Large-Scale Public Health Emergencies** on August 5 – 6, in Jefferson City from 8am to 5pm. This is an introductory course with a goal to improve the ability of public, private, and nonprofit partners to establish more effective and coordinated preparedness and response efforts for public health emergencies related to large-scale biological, natural, or human-caused disasters, including pandemics. The course includes developing a targeted action plan to address issues and gaps that were identified by your state in an initial program assessment. The course audience is SLTT public health, emergency management, mental health agencies and community or private sector organizations with a role in response to public health emergencies. If you are interested in attending, please register on: [sematraining.com](http://sematraining.com) as well as using the registration link on the course [flyer](#). Feel free to reach out with questions! [SEMATraining-Exercise@sema.dps.mo.gov](mailto:SEMATraining-Exercise@sema.dps.mo.gov) or [Emily.Carpenter@sema.dps.mo.gov](mailto:Emily.Carpenter@sema.dps.mo.gov).

## **\*\*Upcoming Narrative Writing Workshop with The Missouri Public Health Institute**

Strong narrative writing can be the key to successfully conveying your department's achievements during the accreditation process. This hands-on workshop will guide you through the essentials of crafting compelling narratives, focusing on clarity, coherence, and alignment with accreditation standards. This training will provide input from a PHAB and MICH perspective.

The workshop will be held on **Wednesday, June 25, 11:00am-1:00pm**. [Register here](#). Questions? Email Erika Holliday at: [eholliday@mophi.org](mailto:eholliday@mophi.org).

## **\*\*Certified Peer Specialist Echo**

Are you a Certified Peer Specialist, on the road to becoming one or want to learn more about peer support? Join the Certified Peer Specialist ECHO held every first and third Wednesday of the month from 11am-12pm CT. All sessions are held virtually, provide free continuing education credits, have a didactic topic and a real-life study. Participants are encouraged to submit a case. No case is too simple or complex. Learn more and register at: [showmeecho.org](http://showmeecho.org).

## **Accreditation Coordinator Retreats with the Missouri Public Health Institute**

The Missouri Public Health Institute will be hosting a series of Accreditation Coordinator Retreats across the state. The retreats will be an opportunity for regional Accreditation Coordinators (or staff who wear that hat) to gather and share resources, discuss challenges, and approach burnout and wellness as a group. The four regions that were selected were based off the greatest amount of interest from counties who filled out a previously sent out survey. The retreats are a pilot, and in the remainder of the regions will have retreats occurring in the coming seasons. The selected regions, and the links to register are below:

- **Region A:** Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at the Jackson County Health Department, 9am-5pm

**Register:** <https://forms.office.com/r/JKkeiFjAYb>

- o **Region D:** Friday, August 8, 2025 at Springfield-Greene County Health, 9am-5pm

**Register:** <https://forms.office.com/r/1X1wuuGn51>

- o **Region E:** Friday, August 22, 2025 at the Bollinger County Health Department, 9am-5pm

**Register:** <https://forms.office.com/r/DXfyHzzr6K>

- o **Region F:** Friday, August 1, 2025 at Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services, 9am-5pm

**Register:** <https://forms.office.com/r/XEcrxh24Dv>

Anyone can register for any of the retreats, but we are prioritizing people who live in the region and will add people outside the region closer to time depending on the total number of registrants. Hope to see you there! Please email: [accreditation@mophi.org](mailto:accreditation@mophi.org) with any questions.

**\*\*Medical Countermeasures: Point Of Dispensing (POD)**

The Region D administrators' group has arranged to have TEEX (Texas A&M University) present a 'Medical Countermeasures: Point of Dispensing (POD), Planning and Response' course in Springfield on October 29 & 30. This course is a guide for local health officials and their partners to coordinate plans to provide mass distribution of medical countermeasures in response to a large-scale public health incident. This course focuses on planning considerations, recommendation to achieve the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) 48-hour standard for Mass Prophylaxis, and the local community's Mass Prophylaxis and Point of Dispensing (POD) site preparedness. The course material is applicable to pandemic influenza, bio-terrorism, and other public health emergencies.

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will be able to:

- Discuss the roles and responsibilities for local, state, and federal levels across a broad range of complex preparedness challenges related to medical countermeasures
- Identify the different POD models and standards for selecting POD locations
- Apply the POD command structure for initial planning, execution, and demobilization of a jurisdictional response in POD operations
- Demonstrate the essential functions of POD setup and operations
- Identify the planning and training needs to operate a POD site
- Discuss the concerns of the community jurisdictional medical countermeasures plan.

There is no cost for the course, and class size is limited to the first 35 to register. Registration may be accomplished by going to:

<https://my.teex.org/TeexPortal/Default.aspx?MO=mCourseCatalog&D=FP&C=MGT319&S=662> .

## LPHA JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**\*\*ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST – Clay County Public Health Center**

The Clay County Public Health Center, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has an opening for a full-time Environmental Health Specialist. The Environmental Specialist enforces public health sanitation laws and regulations and investigates public health issues. Visit: [clayhealth.com](http://clayhealth.com).

**\*\*PROGRAM MANAGER OF ACCOUNTING – Clay County Public Health Center**

The Clay County Public Health Center, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has an opening for a full-time Program Manager of Accounting. With guidance from the Section Chief of Operations, the Program Manager of Accounting establishes and maintains effective programs through hands-on, collaborative, and strategic program management. The manager also supervises, and coordinates activities of personnel engaged in carrying out program goals. Visit: [clayhealth.com](http://clayhealth.com).

**\*\*CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT COORDINATOR – Clay County Public Health Center**

The Clay County Public Health Center, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has an opening for a full-time Continuous Improvement Coordinator. With guidance from the Section Chief of Health Planning & Policy, the Coordinator coordinates and integrates performance management (PM), quality improvement (QI), strategic planning, workforce development and evidence-based decision making into organizational practice while considering health equity. The coordinator assures that health center QI initiatives are focused and aligned to improve operational and program efficiencies and effectiveness, provides direction for QI policy development, and researches and develops QI training programs that focus on enabling the workforce to achieve improvements with priority health concerns. The coordinator also coordinates CCPHC national accreditation activities and manages documentation requirements to ensure continued compliance with all current Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) measure and serves as CCPHC's designated contact with PHAB. This position does not have direct reports, and the program manager/Section Chief will have overall accountability for staff.

Visit: [clayhealth.com](http://clayhealth.com).

**\*\*ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST -- Howell County Health Department**

Howell County Health Department is accepting resumes for a full time EPHS/40 hours a week. Must have a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum of 30 credit hours in one or a combination of Biology, Chemistry, Bacteriology, Food Science, Soil Science, Sanitary Science, Environmental Health, or in closely related physical or natural sciences and/or environmental experience within the public health setting. Employee will perform routine inspections on food establishments, daycares and lodging facilities, evaluate private well water tests and regulate onsite wastewater treatment systems. For more information call: 417-256-7078. Deadline-Open until Filled. For more information, qualifications, benefit details and how to apply visit: <https://howellcountyhealth.com/>. Howell County Health Department is an equal opportunity employer.



**\*\*REGISTERED DIETITIAN OR NUTRITIONIST -- McDonald County Health Department**

The McDonald County WIC program is seeking applicants for a Registered Dietitian or Nutritionist. Submit Resumes to: [mike.hall@mcdonaldcountymo.gov](mailto:mike.hall@mcdonaldcountymo.gov).

View full job description and benefits at: <https://www.indeed.com/job/nutritionist-7e36e5d880aeaf53>.

**\*\*NUTRITIONIST, CPA, RN, OR LPN -- Pettis County Health Center**

Pettis County Health Center is looking for a bilingual (Spanish/English) nutritionist, CPA, RN, or LPN to join their team for the WIC program. This position will involve assisting with the administration of the WIC program, providing nutritional counseling and education, and coordinating breastfeeding services for participants. If you're interested in this opportunity, you can apply by submitting your resume to: [robin.bartlett@lpha.mo.gov](mailto:robin.bartlett@lpha.mo.gov) or by visiting the Pettis County Health Center at 911 E 16th Street, Sedalia, MO 65301.

**\*\*CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANT -- Perry County Health Department**

Perry County Health Department is currently accepting applications for a Certified Medical Assistant. The full-time position reports to the Director with clinic duties under the supervision of a Registered Nurse. Qualifications required are a valid driver's license, completion of Medical Assistant training and successful completion of CMA certification exam, minimum one year of experience and certified in first aid and CPR. Please visit: [www.perrycountyhealth.com](http://www.perrycountyhealth.com) for a full job description. Send cover letter, resume and references to: [Trent.Mullis@lpha.mo.gov](mailto:Trent.Mullis@lpha.mo.gov) or call 573-547-6564 for more information.

**\*\*HEALTH EDUCATOR / WIC-- Perry County Health Department**

Perry County Health Department is currently accepting applications for a Health Educator / WIC position. The full-time position reports to the Director. Qualifications required are a valid driver's license, Bachelor's degree from an accredited College or University in Nutrition and/or Dietetics. Previous public health experience as a health educator or WIC is preferred. Please visit: [www.perrycountyhealth.com](http://www.perrycountyhealth.com) for a full job description. Send cover letter, resume and references to: [Trent.Mullis@lpha.mo.gov](mailto:Trent.Mullis@lpha.mo.gov) or call 573-547-6564 for more information.

**\*\*COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR — Saint Louis County Dept. of Public Health**

This position will educate the public on program goals and collaborate with external agencies to deliver services. This position will work specifically within the Public Health Department's Emergency Preparedness Program. The Outreach Coordinator will have responsibilities related to public health emergency preparedness and response activities including work with the Access and Functional Needs registry, community resilience efforts, Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), and outreach related to medical countermeasure Points of Dispensing (PODs). Minimum qualifications: Equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree and three years of related experience. For more information, visit our website [here](#).

**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/>.

**\*\*WIC BREASTFEEDING PEER COUNSELOR -- Taney County Health Department (TCHD)**

The Taney County Health Department (TCHD) will be accepting resumes for a part time, 24 hours a week WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor. TCHD is a thriving Local Public Health Department located in Branson & Forsyth Missouri. The TCHD leadership team is committed to our core values of Caring, Serving and Protecting in our community as well with our staff. TCHD does this by providing a work environment that provides staff with communication, transparency, collaboration, staff development, trust, and fun! Responsibilities include providing basic breastfeeding information, support and encouragement to new mothers and help mothers achieve their own breastfeeding goal. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent and must have personal breastfeeding experience. The ideal applicant would need to be a team player, make our values a top priority, and have excellent communication skills. For more information, including essential functions and how to apply, visit: <https://www.taneycohealth.org/>.

**\*\*SAFE-CARE PROGRAM SPECIALIST - Missouri Network Against Child Abuse (MO-NACA)**

The Missouri Network Against Child Abuse (MO-NACA) is looking for our next SAFE-CARE Program Specialist! SAFE-CARE (Sexual Assault Forensic Examination-Child Abuse Resource and Education) is a state-funded program that develops and maintains a coordinated medical response to child abuse and neglect in Missouri. Our organization serves all of Missouri and this position can be based in our Jefferson City office or remotely. Learn more and apply at: <https://mo-naca.org/about/careers/>.

Sarah Willson, 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.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Healthy Missourians for Life

