

Friday Facts

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Public Health
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HIGHLIGHTS

RETIREMENT PARTY – CHARLA BAKER LACLEDE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Join the celebration! Laclede County Administrator Charla Baker is retiring! Help celebrate 32 years of service to Laclede County, from 1993 – 2025. Please join us Monday, July 28 from 1 – 4pm at the Wallace Building, 325 Harwood Avenue Lebanon, MO.

SEEKING NOMINATIONS – MISSOURI PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION (MOPHA)

The Mo Public Health Association is seeking nominations for the next administration. Open positions due to term limits include President-elect, Treasurer, and two (2) Board Members at Large. Position descriptions can be found at the Association's website: www.mopha.org. For more information, please contact Bert Malone at: 816.809.9994 or Bert.malone923@gmail.com. This represents a unique opportunity for you to serve the public health system in our state. Please give this careful consideration. You can make a difference!

SENIOR DAY AT THE MISSOURI STATE FAIR IS AUGUST 13TH!

Join the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and the Missouri Area Agencies on Aging (ma4) on Wednesday, August 13 from 9am to 2:30pm, in the Mathewson Building on the Missouri State Fairgrounds. Senior Day festivities include FREE BINGO, line dance lessons, a dance contest and much more! The dance contest, open to those aged 55+, has cash prizes for the top three places in each of the categories of Missouri Waltz, Cha Cha, East Coast Swing, Two-Step, and Line Dancing. For more information, please visit our website at: health.mo.gov/seniorday.

ADMINISTRATOR CHANGE – SHANNON COUNTY

Kandra Counts has stepped down to the Administrative Assistant position at the Shannon County Health Center. Jessie Plunk, RN, BSN, has been appointed as the new Administrator effective July 1, 2025. Jessie's email address is: jessie.plunk@lpha.mo.gov.

HURRY-DEADLINE APPROACHING! MISSOURI PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING AWARDS

We need your help to honor and recognize a Missouri public health nurse who exemplifies excellence in public health nursing practice. The Missouri Public Health Association (MPHA) Section for Public Health Nursing (SPHN) is accepting applications to nominate a public health nurse and public health nurse leader for the 2025 Public Health Nursing Awards. The awards will be presented at the 2025 Joint Annual Public Health Conference in September. To nominate a public health nurse, please complete the nomination form at this link: https://mopha.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/publichealthnursingawardapplication-2024_651.pdf and email the form to Trina Teacutter, Secretary, MPHA Section for Public health Nursing, trina.teacutter@como.gov. The deadline for nominations has been extended to August 11.

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](#)

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.

Keeping the Flow Lactation Conference

Registration is now open!

The CoxHealth Education Center and Greater Ozarks Regional Breastfeeding Coalition would like to invite you to our Lactation Conference on Friday September 12. Attend either virtually or in-person at the Foster Auditorium, Cox Medical Center South in Springfield Missouri. Our keynote presenter is Lisa Marasco, MA, IBCLC, FILCA with topics on Counseling the High Need Parent, Low Milk Production, and Boost Your Prolactin IQ. Attendees can also choose a breakout session on Metabolic Health by Marasco or Breastfeeding and Baby-Led Weaning presented by Ellen Gipson, MA, RDN, LD (ideal for WIC nutritionists and Peer Counselors). Lunch will be provided for those attending in person and education credits will be provided for all attendees (5.75 L-Cerps or 6.58 Nursing Contact hours). Registration cost is \$60 (plus registration fee) and is available on Eventbrite at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/keeping-the-flow-tickets-1301426003209?aff=oddtcreator>.

Pediatric Weight Management Echo

Missouri Telehealth Network is excited to announce the fall kickoff of the Pediatric Weight Management ECHO series. Join us as we return to the virtual collaboration to tackle childhood obesity with renewed energy. Starting August 27, sessions will be held every second and fourth Wednesday from 12–1pm CT via Zoom. This is your chance to connect with peers, share real-world challenges, and gain expert insights, all at no cost and earn free CEUs. With over 30 ECHO topics available, there's never been a better time to get involved. Register today or learn more at: showmeecho.org.

July is National Minority Mental Health Month! -- Minority Mental Health Webinar Series

OMHHE is partnering with the University of Missouri's Department of Psychiatry to offer a free webinar series in July and August. Here is the information to share with partners: [flyer attached](#).

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Office of Minority Health and Health Equity, is partnering with the University of Missouri's Department of Psychiatry to offer free webinars on July 24 and August 28 from: 12:00 to 1:00pm. You are invited to join us to learn how to dispel myths and provide tips to address mental health disparities.

Registration is open and can be accessed [HERE](#) or by this link: <https://stateofmo.webex.com/webappng/sites/stateofmo/webinar/webinarSeries/register/f6ac96b7b6924f41953404762d4c25ef>.

Public Health Nursing Workforce Learning Lab

ASTHO is launching the Public Health Nursing Learning Lab Series, a virtual space for anyone working in a governmental public health agency, focused on exploring solutions to today's public health nursing workforce challenges. This interactive series will focus on leadership development, systems thinking, and strategies to strengthen and support the public health nursing workforce. Participants will learn from one another and share resources and strategies on how to address staffing shortages, burnout, and changing role expectations for public health nurses in governmental public health agencies.

Meet the Facilitator

Shirley Orr is a trusted national leader in public health nursing and workforce development. She is a founding member and past president of the Association of Public Health Nurses. Orr has worked with local, state, and national partners to develop nursing leadership and improve workforce infrastructure.

Participants will:

- Identify strategies to address workforce challenges like recruitment, retention, and burnout
- Strengthen their leadership and systems thinking skills
- Understand how to support and sustain the public health nursing workforce
- Build connections and share ideas with peers from across the country
- This series is designed for public health professionals working in governmental agencies, such as workforce directors, HR personnel, public health nurses, and managers, who are committed to innovative strategies for strengthening the public health nursing workforce. Whether you're new to the field or an experienced leader, you'll gain valuable insights and practical tools to drive change and support your team.

Session Dates: Sessions are virtual. You must be logged in to register. Login or create an account, if you do not have one, use the Login at the top right corner of this page: [Meeting Home Page](#).

- Session 1 (July 23, 3-4pm ET) – Understanding the Landscape: The Role and Impact of Public Health Nurses Today
- Session 2 (August 27, 3-4pm ET) – Evidence-Based Recruitment and Retention Strategies in Public Health Nursing
- Session 3 (September 24, 3-4pm ET) – Public Health Nursing Residency Programs and Leadership Pathways
- Session 4 (October 22, 3-4pm ET) – Leveraging Partnerships to Strengthen the PHN Workforce
- Session 5 (November 19, 3-4pm ET) – Public Health Nursing Workforce Culture

The Community Health Worker Echo Is Starting Again Soon

The Community Health Worker ECHO is a free, virtual learning opportunity designed to support Community Health Workers across Missouri. Mark your calendar for the first series session kickoff which will begin on Tuesday, September 2. Sessions are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 2:00 to 3:00pm CT. Participants will gain practical skills in areas such as patient navigation, communication and connecting individuals with community resources. Topics include Medicaid updates, mandated reporting, housing, transportation services and more. The program offers a collaborative environment where participants can present real-world cases, receive feedback, and connect with peers and experts. Continuing education credits are available at no cost. Don't forget to be an ECHO Champion and submit a case for others to learn from. Cases are the heart of ECHO. To register, submit a case or learn more, visit: <https://showmeecho.org/clinics/community-health-worker/>.

LPHA JOB OPPORTUNITIES

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE – 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 RN/LPN Public Health nurse. The Public Health Nurse adheres to professional community health nursing practices and performs nursing services in community health programs for the public to meet set program goals. Visit: clayhealth.com or Applicants can apply online: [Job Details | Recruitment](#).

ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE (PART-TIME)-- Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services

The Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services is accepting applications for an Advanced Practice Nurse to join the department's Community Health Nursing Unit. The part-time (8-16 hours weekly) position reports to the Community Health Manager and will provide direct care to clients in a clinical setting including: STI screening, education, and treatment, family planning services, cancer screening, and other clinical duties as needed. Applicants must possess a Master's degree in Nursing and hold current National certification. A complete job description, salary information and an online application are available at: <https://www.gocomojobs.com/postings/33286>.

WIC NUTRITIONIST -- Howard County Public Health Department

The Howard County Public Health Department is seeking a dedicated WIC Nutritionist to coordinate nutrition and breastfeeding services for our Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program. This position can be Full-Time or Part-Time. Qualifications are a Bachelor's or Master's degree in nutrition, dietetics, or a related field OR Registered Dietitian (RD/LD) are eligible. Strong knowledge of public health nutrition and counseling.

TEMPORARY NEED: Currently, we have an **IMMEDIATE** temporary need for a WIC Nutritionist on Thursday's every week to support ongoing program needs to support our team until full-time or part-time position is filled. This can be done virtually.

To apply or Inquire email: rajitha.voleti@lpha.mo.gov or michelle.r.reynolds@lpha.mo.gov.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST – Miller County Health Center

Are you a DHSS employee ready to retire or wanting a change, interested in working elsewhere for ANOTHER PENSION? Are you employed at a LPHA but was considering living at Lake of the Ozarks? Are you passionate about helping local businesses and organizations be successful by assuring a safe and healthy environment? Well, this is going to make your day! The Miller County Health Center has an open position that comes with a competitive salary and an amazing set of benefits including health insurance, a retirement pension, paid time off, and many others! Plus, only a 37.5-hour work week! For a full list of benefits and additional information visit: www.millercountyhealth.com. Please submit your intent and resume to: mchc@millercountyhealth.com.

WIC BREASTFEEDING PEER COUNSELOR – Osage County Health Department

The Osage County Health Department (OCHD) seeks candidates for a part-time, 12 hours weekly, WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor. OCHD is a thriving Local Public Health Department located in Linn Missouri. Position responsibilities include providing basic breastfeeding information, support and encouragement to help mothers achieve their personal breastfeeding goal. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent and must have personal breastfeeding experience. For more information, including essential functions and how to apply, please visit: osagecountyhd.org.

WIC DIETITIAN/NUTRITIONIST – Osage County Health Department

The Osage County Health Department (OCHD) seeks candidates for a part-time, 4 hours weekly, WIC Dietitian/Nutritionist within the WIC Clinic Team. This professional position includes conducting nutrition assessments, assigning nutrition/health risk factors, providing nutrition and breastfeeding counseling, setting nutrition/health goals, and prescribing food packages to WIC participants based on medical/nutritional needs. Applicants must meet one of the following:

- Graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's or master's degree in the field of nutrition. The degree must include or be supplemented by at least 15 semester hours in food and nutrition with at least one course in nutrition counseling, nutrition education (theories and practice), nutrition in the life cycle and food science; or
- Completion of an undergraduate curriculum accredited or approved by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics-Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) resulting in a verification statement from a didactic program in nutrition and dietetics; or
- Completion of a dietetic internship program accredited or approved by ACEND resulting in a verification statement; or
- Registered dietitian (RD), licensed dietitian (LD) in the state of Missouri (registration or current eligibility for registration by the Commission on Dietetic Registration [CDR]).

For more information, including essential functions and how to apply, please visit: osagecountyhd.org.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST – Stone County Health Department

Join our team as an Environmental Public Health Specialist! This full-time (40 hrs/week), entry-level position offers the opportunity to work in an active and robust local environmental public health program. The position involves inspecting and investigating environmental health concerns such as wastewater, septic systems, and other potential public health risks. The specialist helps ensure compliance with environmental health standards to protect the well-being of our community.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in environmental health, public health, or related field (experience substitutions may be considered)
- Strong communication, organization, and problem-solving skills
- Willingness to learn regulatory processes and apply public health guidance

If you're passionate about protecting community health and the environment, we want to hear from you! Email us with your resume or application to: maria.wells@lpha.mo.gov or mail or submit to: 701 Old Wilderness Rd, Reeds Spring, MO 65737. You can find our application on: www.stonecountyhealthdepartment.com.

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

JOB OVERVIEW: The purpose of this position is to perform a variety of clerical support within the WIC Program. The work is performed under the supervision of the WIC/Nutrition Manager.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

- Greets clients, determines nature of visit within a clinic setting, and answers general questions regarding immunization or W.I.C. clinic services.
- Participates with outreach clinics to provide W.I.C. or immunization services. Collects and transports materials and/or equipment to outreach clinics. Prepares for outreach clinics by calling clients or sending mail reminders.
- Provides program information and eligibility to WIC clients. Schedules appointments and interviews. Interviews potential clients for WIC program eligibility and explains program services. Assists new participants with program services.
- Assigned to clinic Spends time working at the Satellite Site location as coordinated with supervisor. Enters client information including name, address, date of birth, gender, race, immunizations administered, etc., into computer records. Tracks, verifies and updates client files.
- Accurately gathers and records required certification information such as height, weight, hgb obtaining bloodwork via fingerstick on adults and children.

Visit website to apply: <https://www.sccmo.org/Jobs>.

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

