

Visit the [LPHA Info Hub](#) for news and links to resources.

Attachments:

## UPDATES

**Director Willson** plans to attend the LPHA Update call on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> to share a few opening remarks.

**Press Release:** DHSS has issued a Request for Proposal in order to procure a Cannabis Market and Economic Impact Study. The results of the study will be used as a resource to determine whether or when the Department will be required to issue additional cannabis facility licenses and, if so, how many, where, and of what type.

**Missouri-specific communication materials** to help promote National Public Health Week (NPHW), April 7 – 13 will be ready for release by March 20<sup>th</sup> on the Resource page of the [LPHA Info Hub](#)

**LPHA Regional Meetings:** If you missed the March 5<sup>th</sup> deadline to register for a Regional LPHA meeting near you and would still like to attend, please contact [Mary Blevins](#) or [Tiffany Bayer](#). Meeting dates and times are below.

- April 2 – Boone County – Stoney Creek 2601 South Providence, Columbia, MO
- April 3 – Adair County – Holiday Inn 2523 S, Franklin, Kirksville, MO
- April 16 – Platte County – Platte County Health Dept. 7925 NW 110<sup>th</sup> St, Kansas City, MO
- April 30 – Butler County – Holiday Inn 2781 N Westwood Blvd, Poplar Bluff, MO
- May 1 – St. Charles County – Drury Plaza 380 Mulholland Dr, St. Charles, MO
- May 6 – Greene County – Doubletree 2431 N Glenstone Springfield, MO

**County Health Rankings and Roadmaps (CHRR)** will release their newest data set on March 19<sup>th</sup> along with a revised public health model and new indicators and strategies. Jaci McReynolds will present a brief overview during the March 18 LPHA Update Call.

## NEWS

*News items are posted for your situational awareness only and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of either DHSS or OPHI. News stories behind pay walls will not be included in order to ensure fair access to all.*

**3/12/2025:** Mehmet Oz will testify Friday before a Senate Committee. He was nominated by President Trump to head CMS. <https://tinyurl.com/3yfxeyef>

**3/12/2025:** Cuts to NIH grants for studying vaccine hesitancy and how to improve immunization levels may be next to be cut according to NPR. <https://tinyurl.com/a8rec67t>

**3/12/2025:** Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey tells Planned Parenthood to stop performing medical abortions without an approved complication plan from state officials.

<https://tinyurl.com/5t5y97rb>

**3/12/2025:** Texas measles outbreak surpasses 250 cases and has expanded into New Mexico and Oklahoma. <https://tinyurl.com/4h5ctkpf>

## OPPORTUNITIES

The Department of Social Services (DSS) is working to respond to the national and statewide fentanyl crisis. This includes services to families impacted by fentanyl in rural communities and where service providers are not always available, particularly in the field of drug testing and mobile drug testing services. DSS is looking for vendors to respond to the **Invitation for Bid for Children's Treatment Services**. Through this contract, Children's Division will serve families in many ways, such as Therapeutic Services, Drug Testing, and Parent Aide Services. Children's Division desires to contract for more than 20 services. DSS encourages vendors across Missouri to respond to the Invitation for Bid; however, there are some areas in Missouri with a greater need for drug testers and mobile testers in addition to the other services mentioned above. Counties they especially hope to see responses from include Schuyler, Scotland, Clark, Adair, Knox, Lewis, Macon, Shelby, Monroe, Ralls, Marian, Pike, Lincoln, Atchison, Nodaway, Holt, Worth, Gentry, Buchanan, Andrew, Harrison, Mercer, Grundy, Putnam, Sullivan, Lynn, Chariton, Ray, Carroll, Cooper, Moniteau, Morgan, Bates, Henry, St. Clair, Benton, Vernon, Barton, Ceder, Dade, Dunklin, Mississippi, Osage, Gasconade and Franklin. The Invitation for Bid is located at: <https://dss.mo.gov/bids/>

## RESOURCES

**EJScreen** is an environmental justice screening and mapping tool that utilizes standard and nationally consistent data to highlight places that may have higher environmental burdens and vulnerable populations. Short overview video: [EJScreen in 5: A Quick Overview of EJScreen](#). [View full tool](#)

**A Guide for Sustainable Public Health Accreditation**, from ATSHO, includes organizational and business process improvements, along with examples and templates.

<https://www.astho.org/493274/globalassets/resources/guide-for-sustainable-public-health-accreditation.pdf>

## WEBINARS/TRAINING/CONFERENCES

Mar 18, 12:00 – 1:00 pm, **Addressing Disparities in Alzheimer's: A Religiously-Tailored Approach**, hosted by DHSS Office of Minority Health and Health Equity in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Missouri and University of Missouri-Kansas City. Learn how researchers and faith communities from Kansas City to St. Louis are creating innovative methods and building integrative spaces for Alzheimer's education and screening. [Register](#)

Mar 25, 1:00 pm, **Public Health and Private Sector Partnerships – Part 2: Public Health and Chamber of Commerce**, hosted by Public Health Communications Collaborative. [Register](#)

Mar 26, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, **TB or Not TB: Case Management in Missouri**, hosted by DHSS at Ste. Genevieve County Health Department. [Register](#)

Mar 26, 12:00 – 3:45 pm, **Insights to Practice: A Conference to Inspire Public Health Communications**, hosted by Public Health Communications Collaborative. Save the date. Registration details to be released soon.

Mar 26, 2:00 – 3:00 pm, **Best Practices and Insights for Designing Effective Performance Management Systems in Public Health**, ASTHO and the Public Health Foundation. Explore best practices for establishing and enhancing performance management systems in public health departments. Featuring insights from two jurisdictions, this session will provide practical strategies and lessons learned from real-world experiences. [Register](#) (will need an ASTHO account to register).

April 1, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, **Birthing and Raising the Next Generation: Holistic Approaches to advance Racial and Social Equity**, Boston University School of Public Health. Speakers will share on recent advances, persistent challenges, and point to new directions for advancing equity in childrearing and family health in the U.S. [Register](#)

April 1 – 2, **Rural Health Workforce Development Conference**, Missouri Rural Health Association. [Register](#)

April 2, 10:00 am, **Regional LPHA meeting** at Stoney Creek, 2601 South Providence, Columbia.

April 3, 10:00 am, **Regional LPHA meeting** at Holiday Inn 2523 S, Franklin, Kirksville.

April 16, 10:00 am, **Regional LPHA meeting** at Platte County Health Dept, 7925 NW 110<sup>th</sup> St, Kansas City.

April 30, 10:00 am, **Regional LPHA meeting** at Holiday Inn, 2781 N Westwood Blvd, Poplar Bluff.

May 1, 10:00 am, **Regional LPHA meeting** at Drury Plaza, 380 Mulholland Dr, St. Charles.

May 6, 10:00 am, **Regional LPHA meeting** at Doubletree, 2431 N Glenstone, Springfield.

May 5 - 9, **Basic Inspections and Investigations Course for New Manufactured and Retail Regulators**. \$350 fee and class size limited to 18 people. [Register](#)

Sept 16 – 17, **Missouri Rural Health Conference**, Camdenton, MO. Save the date.