



**Ohio Public Health
Conference**

Celebrating Public Health:
People and Purpose

Tuesday-Wednesday, April 28 – 29, 2026

at

The Ohioan Hotel and Event Center

100 Green Meadows Dr. S.

Lewis Center, OH

Organized by the Following:

Association of Ohio Health

Commissioners

Northeast Ohio Medical University

Ohio Association of Boards of Health

Ohio Department of Health

Ohio Environmental Health

Association

Ohio Public Health Association Ohio

Public Health Institute

Ohio Society for Public Health Education

“Celebrating Public Health: People and Purpose”

Tuesday-Wednesday, April 28 – 29, 2026

Conference Goal & Objectives

Conference Goal:

To advance the mission of public health in Ohio and celebrate the people behind the achievements.

Overall Conference Objectives:

1. Promote awareness and enhancement of the people that strive to impact various public health challenges.
2. Recognize achievements in public health and institutions that impact health outcomes.
3. Develop networks for participants to partner together with experts across the field of public health.
4. Identify strategies for deploying practices that will protect entire populations and contribute to innovative future ideas about public health.

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

- 8 – 9 a.m. **Registration & Continental Breakfast**
- 9 a.m. **Welcome & Opening Remarks**
Laura Rooney, MPH, Conference Planning Chair, Ohio Department of Health
- 9:30 a.m. **An Update on Public Health in Ohio**
Bruce Vanderhoff, MD, Director, Ohio Department of Health
- 10:30 a.m. **Exhibits, Student Posters, & Networking**
- 10:45 a.m. **Building a Future-Ready Public Health Workforce**
Anne Goon, MS, RD, LD, Executive Director, Public Health Services Council of Ohio
- 11:45 a.m. **Lunch & AOHC Business Meeting**
- 12:45 p.m. **Exhibits, Student Posters, & Networking**
- 1:15 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions**
- A. A Community Engaged Approach to Help Local Health Departments Strengthen Prevention Messaging**
Philip Welch, PhD, Ned E. Baker Distinguished Professor of Public Health, Bowling Green State University
Lauren Maziarz, PhD, MSN, Associate Professor, University of Toledo
Anne Goon, MS, RD, LD, Executive Director, Public Health Services Council of Ohio
- B. Violence as a Public Health Issue in Ohio: Improving Outcomes Through Prevention**
Representative Darnell Brewer, MLS, CHW, Ohio House of Representatives
- C. Empathy Through Knowledge: Trauma-Informed Approaches for Communities**
Jami Dellifield, MA, 200 RYT, Family and Consumer Sciences Educator, The Ohio State University Extension
Candace J. Heer, MS, LSW, CPFFE, Assistant Professor, The Ohio State University Extension
Kelly Cabral, MA, Project Director, The Ohio State University, Ohio Youth Development Collaborative
Sofia Carter, BA, Family and Consumer Sciences Educator, USAF Veteran, The Ohio State University Extension
- D. Partnering with Ohio’s Pediatricians to Improve Pediatric Blood Lead Testing**
Andrew Schumacher, MPH, REHS, Health Planning Administrator 2, Ohio Department of Health
Nick Newman, DO, Director of the Environmental Health and Lead Clinic at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, Associate Director for the Region 5 Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit
Joel Davidson, MD, General Pediatrician, Medical Director of Multidisciplinary Lead Education and Detoxification (LEAD) Clinic, Associate Director of Ambulatory Informatics Systems at Akron Children’s Hospital

E. Student Oral Presentations

- 2:15 p.m. **Break - Exhibits & Networking**
- 2:30 p.m. **Fighting Misinformation to Save Lives: *Crisis Communications for Public Health Leaders***
Mark Weaver, Esq., Communications Counsel, Inc.
- 4:45 p.m. **Closing Remarks, Student Awards, & Evaluation**

Wednesday April 29, 2026

7:30 a.m. **Registration & Breakfast**

7:30 a.m. **AOHC District Meetings**

9:15 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

- F. Community Perspectives on Emergency Preparedness and Response: Insights from Listening Sessions with Five Refugee and Immigrant Communities**
Erreannau Zellous, MA, BS, PhD Student, Miami University, Scripps Gerontology Center
- G. What Teaching in a War Zone Taught Us About Extending Care in Rural Ohio**
Richard Hodges, MPA, Executive Director, Ohio University Health Collaborative
Kerri Shaw, MSW, LISW-S, Director of Community Health Workforce Programs, Ohio University
- H. Advancing Epidemiologic Workforce Competencies: a Skills-Based Assessment and Approach for Implementation of a Workforce Development and Training Strategy**
Jana Rush, MPH, MA, BBA, Director of Epidemiology, Surveillance & Informatics, Cuyahoga County Board of Health
Takisha Fuller, MPH, CHES, Deputy Director of Epidemiology, Surveillance & Informatics, Cuyahoga County Board of Health
- I. Food Safety Violation Data Review to Help Evaluate Licking County Health Department's Enhanced Enforcement Program**
Traven Wood, MS, REHS, Director of Indoor Environmental Health, Licking County Health Department

10:15 a.m. **Break – View Exhibits & Networking**

10:30 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

- J. Beyond Boring: Turning Data into Eye Candy Your Community Actually Wants to Read and Use**
Stephanie Moxley, MPH, CEO, Moxley Public Health

K. Addressing Workforce Shortages: Building a Pathway to Community Health Worker Careers for Immigrants

Kerri Shaw, MSW, LISW-S, Director of Community Health Workforce Programs, Ohio University
Jessica Ashe, EdD, MA, MBA, ESL Program Director, Cross Over Community Development

L. Housing and Public Health

Lauryn Floring, MSW, LSW, Youth Homelessness Consultant for Homeless Youth and Homeless Pregnant Youth, Ohio Department of Health Bureau of Maternal, Child and Family Health

M. Meeting Communities Where They Are: Regional Partnerships and Local Strategies for Linkage to Care

Mahjida Berryman, BA, Supervisory of Injury Prevention, Toledo-Lucas County Health Department
Anthony Dible, MPH, Overdose Prevention Health Educator, Toledo-Lucas County Health Department

11:30 a.m. **Break, View Exhibits, & Networking**

12:15 p.m. **Lunch & Awards**

12:30 p.m. **Rural Health Deep Dive**
Bobbi Krabill, Deputy Director, Center of Public Health Excellence

1:45 p.m. **Closing Remarks & Evaluation**

2 p.m. **Adjourn**



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CONTINUING EDUCATION:

Continuing education credits will be provided in several fields once approved. As additional information becomes available pertaining to continuing education, that information will be updated and shared.

Ohio Department of Health is approved as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

Ohio Department of Health is approved to provide continuing education credit to Counseling, Social Work, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board licensees per rule 4757-9-05 of the Ohio Administrative Code”.

PRIORITY AUDIENCES:

This program is planned to meet the needs of public health professionals including administrators, medical directors and physicians, nurses, sanitarians, health educators, chiropractors, optometrists, local public health board members, social workers, community health workers, pharmacists, dieticians, academicians, and students.

PHOTOGRAPHY:

There will be photography throughout the conference. If you do not want to be photographed or videotaped, please see one of the staff at the conference registration desk to discuss your options.

WIFI:

Complimentary wireless Internet service is available in all hotel guest rooms, throughout the hotel lobby, and in the meeting rooms during the conference.

DRESS CODE:

Dress for the conference is business/business casual. Please note that it is often difficult to regulate the temperature in the educational sessions to everyone’s satisfaction. You are advised to consider your own comfort and dress in layers.

2026 Ohio Public Health
Conference Registration Form

[Or register online through the AOHC website!](#)

NAME/CREDENTIALS (for name badge) _____

JOB TITLE _____

AGENCY _____

AGENCY ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS _____

FIRSTTIMEATTENDEE CHECK HERE TO INDICATE YOUR PERMISSION TO SHARE CONTACT INFORMATION WITH VENDORS

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE ACCOMODATION NEEDED

CIRCLE PRIMARY DISCIPLINE:

Physician
Chiropractor

Nurse
Pharmacist

REHS Health Educator
Community Health Worker

Social Worker
Academician

Dietician
Student

FULL MAIN CONFERENCE

\$ 250.00

TUESDAY ONLY – April 28

\$ 125.00

WEDNESDAY ONLY – April 29

\$ 125.00

STUDENT or RETIREE REGISTRATION*

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

FULL MAIN CONFERENCE

\$ 100.00

AOHC

OABH

OEHA

OPHA

SOPHE

TUESDAY ONLY – April 28

\$ 85.00

WEDNESDAY ONLY – April 29

\$ 85.00

In order to qualify for the student rate, you must be registered as a **full-time student and not be employed in a full-time position.*

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE DUE \$ _____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, April 17, 2026

PLEASE SELECT ALL SESSIONS YOU ARE ATTENDING

TUESDAY – April 28

CONCURRENT SESSION I (A-E) Your Choice _____

WEDNESDAY – April 29

CONCURRENT SESSION III (F-I) Your Choice _____

CONCURRENT SESSION IV (J-M) Your Choice _____

Make Check Payable to:

PUBLIC HEALTH COMBINED CONFERENCE (PHCC)

Tax ID #20-3664970

Mail Payment to:

PHCC c/o Ohio Public Health Institute

110A Northwoods Blvd. Suite A2

Columbus, Ohio 43235

Phone: (614) 781-9556

E-mail: aohc_2@aohc.net

HOTEL INFORMATION:

The Ohioan Hotel and Event Center
100 Green Meadows Dr. S.,
Lewis Center, OH 43035
Phone: (614) 880-4300

A block of rooms has been reserved for conference participants at the rate of **\$173.00/night**. You may reserve rooms by [contacting The Ohioan Hotel and Event Center](#) at (614)880-4300 (indicate you are attending the **Ohio Public Health Conference**). Participants are responsible for making their own room reservations. Use conference code **2604PUBLI** when reserving your hotel room. **The deadline to register for the room block is Thursday, March 26, 2026.** Warning: Avoid third-party booking sites like Expedia or Orbitz. To make sure reservations are placed in the conference block, they should be booked directly through the hotel.

TRAVEL ASSISTANCE: Travel assistance is available through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Workforce Development Grant. A maximum of \$200 per paying registrant is available for one overnight stay OR mileage. To receive the hotel grant assistance, your room must be booked at The Ohioan Hotel and Event Center in the room block by Thursday, March 26, 2026.

If you are not staying overnight at the conference hotel, mileage reimbursement is available at **58 cents per mile**. An expense form with mileage documentation will need to be submitted to AOHC. You may obtain the expense form at the registration desk.

DEADLINE FOR ROOM RATES: Thursday, March 26, 2026.

After this date, room availability and group rates are no longer guaranteed.

CONFERENCE REFUND POLICY:

Refunds (less a \$10.00 administrative fee) will be made for cancellations received on or before Friday, April 17, 2026.

THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATIONS RECEIVED AFTER FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026. SUBSTITUTIONS ARE WELCOME!
