

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

Attachments:

- Lunch and Learn Series: Enhancing Communication
- Updated measles talking points

UPDATES

Happy National Public Health Week!! Please know how very much you are appreciated this week and every week!

We understand **funding cuts and uncertainty** continue to weigh on your mind. Director Willson issued the following statement in regards to the funding cuts.

The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) was notified on the morning of March 25 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that three funding streams were terminated effective March 24, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. These funding streams total \$255 million.

The termination of this funding impacts a number of projects currently underway supporting Missouri's public health system, totaling about \$135 million.

The funding reduction is anticipated to impact employees of local public health agencies and team members within DHSS who are either partially or fully supported by this federal funding. An additional \$119 million, of which projects were still being determined, was also cut. The majority of the total funding was set to expire July 2026.

DHSS is working to understand the full impact of this federal action and searching for options to carry on some of this work.

You can [share your stories](#) with DHSS to help explain how funding cuts affect local public health services and the health of Missourians in your jurisdiction.

CHIP H.S.I. Net expenditure report for Quarter Ending 03-25 (January 1, 2025, to March 31, 2025) is due by COB **May 13, 2025**. Please use the previous report that you submitted by clicking the QE 03-25 tab at the bottom of the sheet to insert this quarter expenditures. All forms must be signed and submitted via email to CLPHSCHIPHISIReports@health.mo.gov. The form will allow an electronic signature to certify expenditures.

PHIG Evaluation Monitoring Assessment changes are now in effect to 1) collect better quality data that was less prone to reporting error, 2) adjust to a new CDC PHIG guidance document released in February, and 3) attempt to make the assessment easier to complete for LPHAs. Updated guidance documents are available on the LPHA Hub under the PHIG Evaluation section of the [Contracts page](#). Look for the **NEW!** indicator.

[Fluoride safety talking points](#) may help you respond to local questions in light of [Robert F. Kennedy Jr's recent recommendation](#) that states ban fluoride in drinking water supplies.

As the **measles outbreak** continues in Texas and surrounding states, now is the time to prepare for the first case or cases in Missouri.

- DHSS plans to announce the first case in Missouri through a press release in coordination with the LPHA who is affected. DHSS will run point for media inquiries on that case and as requested by LPHAs in subsequent cases.
- After the first case in Missouri, DHSS will leave announcements up to LPHAs, but will provide support upon request to the DHSS Office of Public Information (OPI).
- Updated measles talking points are **attached**.
- The county-level facts sheets available at <https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/measles/> have been updated with current data.
- DHSS is also preparing updated guidance for schools and child care centers in the event of a case or exposure within one of these facilities.
- Please let us know what else you need.
- Additional resource: [Public Health Preparedness Checklist: Measles Clusters and Outbreaks](#), CDC

April 13 – 19 is **STI Awareness Week**. Missouri-specific stats include the following:

- At a state level, [Missouri ranks 18th](#) in Chlamydia infection rate (CDC)
- Missouri was [14th for Gonorrhea](#) (CDC)
- Number of infections and rates peaked in 2022 for [Chlamydia](#) and [Gonorrhea](#) (CDC)
- For Primary and Secondary Syphilis, [Missouri ranked 12th](#) (CDC)
- For Primary and Secondary Syphilis, rates and [number peaked in 2022](#), but for total syphilis (including early non-latent, latent, unknown duration, and congenital syphilis) [numbers continued to increase in 2023](#) (CDC)
- Missouri [ranked 11th for congenital syphilis](#) (CDC)
- Missouri continued to see [increased CS cases in 2023](#). Cases of syphilis in women of childbearing age decreased in 2024. (CDC)

View more Missouri-specific data on DHSS's [STI Dashboard](#). The Dashboard contains preliminary data by local jurisdiction. It is updated monthly and can be filtered and sorted. [Social media, posters, rack cards, audio files, and more communication resources](#) are also available for download and local use.

The **Friday Facts** will be returning to publication this week. DHSS has been reviewing all internal and external communication, but recognizes that the Friday Facts reaches DHSS staff, students, and a broad group of public health system stakeholders. You may see some duplication with content shared in this Bulletin and on the LPHA Hub, but we want to make sure information is available to you where you are looking for it.

The next **ShowMe WorldCare implementation** is scheduled to occur on Monday, April 28, 2025. This implementation will transition the vectorborne and zoonotic conditions from WebSurv to ShowMe WorldCare. See April 7 email from Tiffany Bayer/Becca Mickels for details.

Statewide Rabies Testing Dashboard: (link added under Data box on LPHA Hub)

<https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/rabies/dashboard.php>

PHAB readiness assessment training will be held May 13, August 14, and November 6, 2025. The assessment must be completed by January 1, 2027.

FPHS Gap Analysis: Module 1 is due by **Thursday, May 1, 2025**. Module 2 does not need to be completed in 2025. Training will be held **April 15** on [Tab 07. Current Spending Tab Instructions](#). Reach out to the FPHS Project team at FPHSGap@missouri.edu with any questions or to request assistance.

Regional LPHA Meetings coming up:

April 16 – Platte County – Platte County Health Dept. 7925 NW 110th 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

Lunch and Learn Series: Enhancing Communication launches in May. See **attached flyer** for session descriptions and registration information.

New Administrator Orientation will be held at DHSS Wildwood Campus in Jefferson City on July 29th and 30th and halfway through the day on the 30th, DHSS will open this training up to ALL ADMINISTRATORS and continue from early afternoon on July 30th thru later afternoon July 31st. DHSS and external speakers will present. A mental health first aid training course will be offered, which will complete a part of the LPHA incentive for next year for those who attend and complete it. Complete a [1-question survey](#) to indicate (not obligate) your interest in attending.

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.

4/10/2025: Misinformation about fentanyl exposure is creating hesitancy among some first responders to responding appropriately. <https://tinyurl.com/4pwrkk62>

4/10/2025: One fifth of American receive Medicaid benefits, but because of more consumer-friendly names like MO HealthNet, SoonerCare, Apple Health, or TennCare, they may not realize cuts to Medicaid may affect their health insurance benefits. <https://tinyurl.com/2j4y5x4m>

4/9/2025: In his first television interview in his new role, RFK Jr encouraged people to get the MMR vaccine and acknowledged its efficacy, but said the government shouldn't mandate it. <https://tinyurl.com/5bdyk8js>

4/9/2025: Some Texas lawmakers are pushing bills to roll back vaccine requirements and expand access to exemptions, even as more than 500 cases of measles have occurred in the most recent outbreak. <https://tinyurl.com/4amrtf2c>

4/9/2025: Idaho becomes the first state to ban vaccine mandates in businesses and schools by passing a revised “medical freedom” bill. It prohibits denying admission or services to a person because they haven’t received a vaccination. <https://tinyurl.com/4pv8mtxy>

RESOURCES

[Missouri Medicaid Basics](#) (2025), Missouri Foundation for Health

[Missouri Medicaid Basics At a Glance](#) (2025), Missouri Foundation for Health

Unbiased Science podcast series debunks health science myths and breaks down complex topics to combat disinformation. (Thanks to Brianne Zwiener at JeffCo for the share!).

<https://www.unbiasedscience.com/podcast>

OPPORTUNITIES

Applications are due Friday, June 6, 2025 for the **Great Plains Leadership Institute**, designed for emerging, mid-level, and senior leaders from the Great Plains Region (Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, and more) who play essential roles in keeping communities healthy. Scholars come from academia, governmental public health, insurance companies, community health centers, civic and elected positions, community-based organizations, the business community, and more. Some partial scholarships are available for Region VII (NE, IA, MO, KS) Applicants. Review [competencies and curriculum](#) and visit the [Institute website](#) or contact director [Brandon Drozd](#) for more information.

WEBINARS/TRAINING/CONFERENCES

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

April 17, 12:00 – 1:30 pm, **Public Health Law Under the New Administration**, Network for Public Health Law. Learn how intertwined regulations at the federal, state, and local level regarding raw milk, water fluoridation, and school-required vaccinations may be subject to change based on the new federal administration. [Register](#)

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

May 1, 12:00 pm, **Public Health and the New Administration: the First 100 Days**, Boston University School of Public Health. [Register](#)

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](#)

NEW! July 29 – 31, **New and Seasoned Administrators Meetings**, hosted by DHSS. New Administrator Orientation will be held at DHSS Wildwood Campus in Jefferson City on July 29th and 30th and halfway

through the day on the 30th, DHSS will open this training up to all administrators thru later afternoon July 31st.

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

Oct 29 – 30, **TEEX: Medical Countermeasures: Point of Dispensing (POD), Planning and Response**, Springfield, MO. Hosted by the Region D LPHA administrators. Learn how to coordinate plans to provide mass distribution of medical countermeasures in response to a large-scale public health incident in order to meet CDC's 48-hour standard. There is no cost to attend, but class size is limited to 35 participants. [Register](#)