



2026

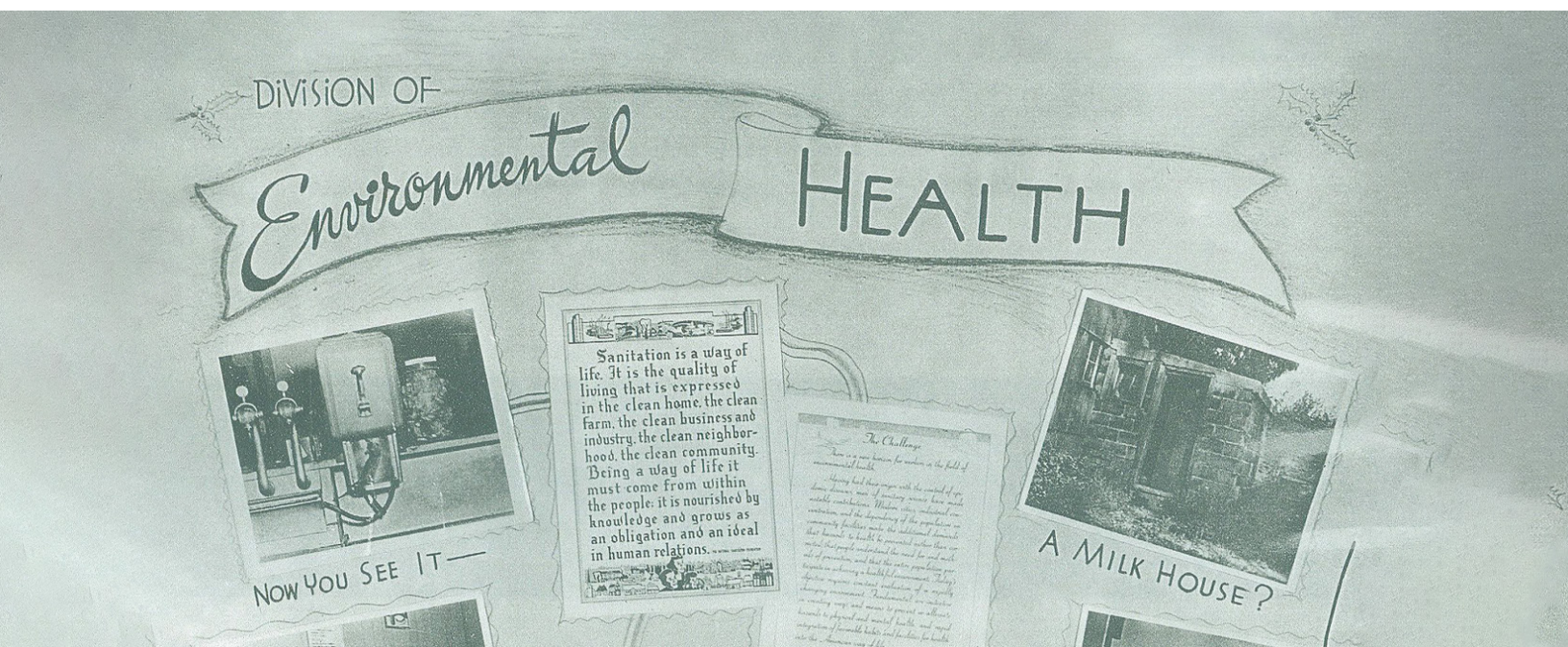
MICHIGAN PREMIER PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

Together for Health: Building Stronger
Communities in an Era of Change

Blue Water Convention Center

Port Huron, Michigan | October 8–9

Partners in Planning



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Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

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Region V Public Health Training Center

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

ELIZABETH HERTEL
DIRECTOR

July 1, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2026 Michigan Premier Public Health Conference, *"Together for Health: Building Stronger Communities in an Era of Change."* At a time of rapid transformation in public health, this gathering offers a meaningful opportunity to reflect on our progress, strengthen our partnerships, and reimagine how we work alongside communities to advance health for all.

This year's program features inspiring keynote speakers, engaging presentations, and interactive workshops designed to foster collaboration and spark new ideas. Together, we will explore innovative approaches, share practical strategies, and strengthen the relationships that help us navigate challenges and build resilient, healthy communities across Michigan.

Our theme underscores a vital truth: lasting impact comes from working with communities. As we confront health inequities, environmental pressures, and emerging public health concerns, authentic engagement remains essential. By listening with intention, learning from lived experiences, and co-creating solutions, we can ensure our efforts are responsive, equitable, and sustainable.

More than a conference, this is a space for connection and momentum. By bringing together professionals from across disciplines, sectors, and counties, we have a unique opportunity to deepen partnerships, elevate community voices, and inspire action that extends well beyond these few days.

Thank you for being part of this important work. Your commitment and leadership are critical to building a healthier, more equitable future. I look forward to the ideas, collaborations, and progress that will emerge from our time together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sarah Lyon-Callo".

Sarah Lyon-Callo, M.S., Ph.D.
Senior Deputy Director / State Epidemiologist
Public Health Administration



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MPHI is proud to sponsor the **Michigan Premier Public Health Conference!**

Pre-Conference Sessions

WEDNESDAY

1:00–4:00pm | Grand Ballroom 1

October 7, 2026

P-101 Community Engagement and Civic Participation for Public Health Improvement

To effectively foster trust, ensure programs are tailored to community needs, and promote sustainable efforts, it is crucial to engage with community members and organizations. There are many ways to involve the community in public health efforts, from informing to assessing to planning and sharing decision-making power. This highly interactive pre-conference workshop will describe how civic participation is linked to health outcomes, provide an overview of the ladder of community engagement, discuss methods and considerations for data collection efforts, and involve participants in a dialogue to identify ways to effectively navigate barriers to and incentives for engagement. Participants will learn from MPHI presenters and public health colleagues and will leave with tools and approaches to use in their engagement efforts.

Jessie Jones, Michigan Public Health Institute

Jeanette Ball, Michigan Public Health Institute

Kara Trimbach Shirley, Ingham County Health Department

Madeline Starr, Michigan Public Health Institute

Ali Rogers, Ingham County Health Department

Pre-Conference Sessions

WEDNESDAY

October 7, 2026

1:30–4:30pm | Riverview Suite AB

P-102 Public Health Law 101

This workshop will review the powers and responsibilities (authority) of Michigan’s Local Health Departments to protect and improve the public’s health. The training will provide attendees with an overview of Michigan’s Public Health Code (Public Act 368 of 1978, as amended) and the legal context in which it operates. Presenters will also provide a framework for incorporating legal and ethical considerations into public health decision-making.

Carrie Waggoner, JD

Ali Rogers, Ingham County Health Department

Haleigh Leslie, Ionia County Health Department

Sangeeta Ghosh, Kent County

1:30–3:30pm | St. Clair Suite AB

P-103 Less Meeting, More Meaning: Rethinking Ethics Committees for Local Health Departments

Local health departments (LHDs) are required by PHAB Standards and Measures to maintain an ethics policy and committee, yet sustaining an active and engaged committee can be challenging due to infrequent need and time-sensitive decision-making. In response, a model ethics policy and procedure was developed that leverages a statewide ethics committee, reducing local burden while ensuring access to ethical guidance. This session will provide an overview of the model policy and introduce an interactive ethics tabletop exercise designed to simulate real-world scenarios. Participants may use this exercise as documentation of implementing an ethics policy for accreditation purposes. Use of this model and exercise does not guarantee a “fully demonstrated” PHAB score.

Karla Black, Kent County Health Department

Anne Barna, Ingham County Health Department

Pre-Conference Sessions

WEDNESDAY

2:00–4:00pm | Grand Ballroom 2

October 7, 2026

P-104 Local Health Department Collaboration and Exploration of Shared Approach to Delivery of Services

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has provided funds to continue the exploration of service sharing agreements and/or collaboration in the operations (role and function) of Michigan’s local health departments. Collaboration and/or a shared approach to delivery of services, also known as Cross Jurisdictional Sharing (CJS), are significant concepts in public health service delivery in America. CJS is recognized by NACCHO and supported by the Center for Sharing Public Health Services. The Center serves as a national resource on CJS, building the evidence, and disseminating tools, methods and models to assist local health departments and policy makers as they consider and adopt CJS approaches. Twenty-two local health departments received dollars to implement CJS projects. A panel of those health departments and MDHHS local health services staff will discuss their road map to include exploration, preparedness and planning, and finally implementation and improvement.



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Schedule at a Glance

THURSDAY

October 8, 2026

7:30–8:15am

Breakfast, Registration, Posters/Exhibitors, and Networking

8:30–9:00am

Welcome

9:00–10:00am

Keynote Address

10:15–11:15am

Breakout Sessions

11:20–12:20pm

Lightning Presentations, Exhibitors, and Posters

12:20–1:20pm

Lunch/Awards

1:30–2:30pm

Breakout Sessions

2:45–3:45pm

Breakout Sessions

3:45–4:00pm

Networking Break and Poster Presentations/Exhibitors
Break Sponsored by Michigan Public Health Institute

4:00–5:00pm

Keynote Address

5:00pm

Wrap Up and Adjourn

Following each session, scan the QR code to fill out an evaluation.

Session Details

9:00–10:00am

KEYNOTE ADDRESS | Lake Huron Hall A



**Evidence-Based Communication –
The Missing Resource to Protect &
Promote Community Health in 2026
and Beyond**

We’re not failing at science. We’re failing at the communication of science. As a result, people are making less evidence-based health decisions and being led into harm’s way. Studies show people still trust their local health professionals. But we squander this trust every day, because health professionals are not trained in communication. All too often, we fail to engage and connect with people in ways that meaningfully impact their health and well-being. This session offers some of the communication insights and information we never received but always needed.

Todd Wolynn, MD, MMM, Public Good Projects

10:15–11:15am

SESSION 101 | Grand Ballroom 2



**Pivoting in an Era of Change:
Building a Cross-Sector Food Access
System Through Partnerships, Youth
Engagement, and Farming of the Future**

This panel explores how organizations can pivot in response to funding changes by integrating food access, youth engagement, and workforce development. Featuring partners from schools, community organizations, and food systems, the session highlights a cross-sector model where students grow food through hydroponics for cafeterias and community distribution. Attendees will learn practical strategies for building resilient, partnership-driven public health approaches.

Bernadette Dore, JD, M.Ed., Psy, Project Healthy Community

Emily Athey, Project Healthy Community

SESSION 102 | Grand Ballroom 1



**Supporting the Public Health
Workforce in an Era of Change:
Practical, Human Centered Uses of
AI for Grant and Administrative Work**

Public health staff are navigating constant change, administrative overload, and increasingly complex grants. This session explores practical, human-centered ways generative AI can support the workforce – without replacing professional judgment. Through real-world scenarios, participants will examine how human-in-the-loop AI can strengthen onboarding and knowledge retention, reduce grant-related administrative burden, and improve documentation and compliance. Attendees will leave with concrete examples and decision tools to support staff capacity and reduce burnout in an era of change.

Hope Rollins, MBA, Michigan Public Health Institute

SESSION 103 | Riverview Suite AB



The Purple Dot Project: Building Better Maps for Better Decisions

We are using GIS mapping technology to create a map of sewage systems and wells to map system locations and help understand if septic systems are affecting drinking and surface waters. Once complete, we can share this data with community partners to help each community decide how to best manage septic systems and wells and create a public map where homeowners, realtors, septic pumpers, and installers can easily find basic information about these systems.

Taylor Irwin, MPA, REHS, Central Michigan District Health Department

SESSION 104 | St. Clair Suite AB



Together for Hearing Health: Strengthening Newborn Screening in Community Birth Settings

Midwives and small independent birthing centers often face barriers in meeting Michigan's newborn hearing screening mandate. This session highlights a statewide interdisciplinary partnership between licensed midwives, audiologists, and public health professionals to address these challenges. Session attendees will gain insight into the model, challenges, and lessons learned from this ongoing collaboration – offering a framework that may be replicated or adapted for other regions or public health challenges.

Nan Asher, MLS, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Shannon B. Palmer, AuD, PhD, MPH, Central Michigan University

Patrice Bobier, CPM, LM, Full Circle Midwifery

SESSION 105 | Lake Huron Hall A



The State of Public Health and Medicine at America 250

America possesses a rich history of medical and public health achievements. Values of individualism, entrepreneurship, and promotion the general welfare informed America's approach to public health and medicine. This presentation will present an overview of American values and Michigan historical events that informed past and current health policy. A reframing of the differing perspectives of medicine and public health is proposed to address leading health challenges of the 21st century.

William Nettleton, MD, MPH, Kalamazoo County Health Department

ESCAPE ROOM 100 | LightHouse



You Can't Be Serious: Using an Escape Room to Increase Knowledge of Disease Investigation

Like puzzles? Like Public Health? Feeling competitive? Come test your skills and see if you can beat the NEW 2026 disease investigation escape room developed by the Kent County Health Department and Ferris State University. Visit the [SignUpGenius escape room website](https://bit.ly/3SIN7yl) (URL: <https://bit.ly/3SIN7yl>) or scan the QR code to sign up for available timeslots.

11:20am–12:20pm

LIGHTNING PRESENTATIONS | Abbey

11:27am

Engaging Partners Across Health Care Settings to Improve Dialysis Infection Prevention Communication

Denise Parr

11:34am

Beyond the Workshop: Virtual Booster Sessions to Strengthen Evidence-Based Fall Prevention

Laura Anderson

11:41am

From Lived Experience to Public Health Impact: Building Healthier Communities

Tyra Moore

11:48am

Closing the Loop: Moving Overdose Fatality Review into Action

Alyse Nichols

11:55am

Fostering Hospital Collaborations to Improve Community Outcomes in Maternal and Behavioral Health and Chronic Disease

Nadia Syed

1:30–2:30pm

SESSION 201 | Grand Ballroom 2



Health Beliefs in Action: Designing Michigan's PFAS Awareness Campaign

This presentation highlights how theory-driven communication supports public health awareness and health protective behaviors. Presenters explain the MDHHS PFAS campaign's scientific foundation, its messaging strategies, and lessons learned. Attendees explore the importance of theory in public health communication, approaches to partner engagement, and methods for building trust and delivering clear, actionable messages.

Ellery Johnson, MPP, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Sarah Allison, MPH, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

SESSION 202 | Grand Ballroom 1



Healthy Community Zones: Improving Health Through Place-Based, Community-Led Action

In 2025, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Physical Activity and Nutrition Unit launched Healthy Community Zones (HCZ), a public health initiative investing in community-led strategies that improve food access, create safe places for physical activity, and strengthen social support networks. In a panel discussion, HCZ grantees will showcase these strategies, reflect on their experience with this funding model, and share guidance on building partnerships that center and empower community voices.

Caelan Keenan, MPH, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Denita Dorsey, Saginaw CAP

Daniel Washington, NW Goldberg Cares

Jessica Savoie, M.Ed., Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District

SESSION 203 | Riverview Suite AB



Creating Stronger and Safer Communities: Public Health's Role in Preventing Gun Violence

This session will elevate the importance of a public health approach to gun violence prevention. Expert panelists will provide an overview of MDHHS-led and/or coordinated work in this space, including recommendations from the Michigan Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, the Office of Community Violence Intervention Services, and the Injury and Violence Prevention Section. Attendees will gain awareness of public health strategies and actionable state/local activities to prevent gun violence, create safer communities, and save lives.

Anita Singh Haynes, MPH, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Jared Welehodsky, JD, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Jennifer DeLaCruz, LMSW, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Alicia Goodman, MSA, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

SESSION 204 | St. Clair Suite AB



The Curb Cut Effect: Building Strong Plans Through Equity

This presentation explores how the curb-cut effect strengthens emergency preparedness by embedding equity into planning. Using survey data from Michigan public health and emergency management professionals, it highlights gaps and practical opportunities to improve outcomes. Attendees will learn actionable strategies to better integrate access and functional needs, strengthen partnerships, and enhance response operations across their jurisdictions.

Tim Mautz, CPH, PEM, NEMAA, Wayne County Health, Human, and Veteran Services

Jennifer Watts, PEM, APIO, Wayne County Health, Human, and Veteran Services

SESSION 205 | Lake Huron Hall A



Let's Chat! Michigan's Governmental Public Health Workforce: Workforce Development Successes, Challenges and Lessons Learned

Michigan's governmental public health workforce continues to face challenges addressing workforce capacity, skill building, funding challenges, and resilience in the face of ever emerging public health threats. This breakout session, led by MDHHS, will highlight workforce development progress and ongoing barriers, and will invite local public health partners to share their perspectives in a panel format.

Tamara Brickey, MS, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Jori July, MSN, RN, ANP-BC, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Elizabeth Suggitt, LMAS District Health Department

Brad Snyder, Genesee County Health Department

Alescia Farr, PhD, MPH, Detroit Health Department

Michelle Estell, RS, MSA, Genesee County Health Department

ESCAPE ROOM 200 | LightHouse



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STUDENT *Networking* SOCIAL



**October 8,
5:30 p.m.**

**Freighters Eatery
& Taproom**

800 Harker Street,
Port Huron, MI 48060

Connect with public health professionals from both state and local organizations in a relaxed, welcoming setting. This informal event offers students a chance to practice their networking skills, explore a variety of public health career paths and build meaningful connections.

Co-sponsored by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Public Health Administration Workforce Development team and the Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH).



2:45–3:45pm

SESSION 301 | Grand Ballroom 1



Collaborative Data Storytelling for Systems Change – Making the Case for Community Thriving

This session explores how the Health Justice Community of Practice equipped community organizers to turn data into powerful narratives that inspire collective action. Presenters will share effective approaches and real-world examples of cross-sector collaboration, coalition building, and sustainable system change – offering practical tools attendees can apply to mobilize broad support for their own community thriving.

Melissa Moorehead, BA, Michigan Public Health Institute

Sonal Subhash, MBBS, MPH, Michigan Public Health Institute

Stephanie Johnson, MPH, Michigan Public Health Institute

SESSION 302 | Lake Huron Hall A



Prebunking: A Proactive Strategy to Boost Community Resilience Against Mis- and Dis-Information in Public Health

This session introduces prebunking, a proactive, evidence-based strategy rooted in inoculation theory that helps people recognize and resist misinformation before they encounter it online or in real life. Participants will explore how misleading tactics—such as emotional manipulation, polarization, and the appeal to nature fallacy—shape public understanding. The session highlights three key applications of prebunking concepts to real life public health scenarios. These elements ensure meaningful participation and help attendees directly connect the material to their own work.

Samantha Radecki, MPH, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

April Stevens, MPH, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

SESSION 303 | St. Clair Suite AB



Community-Engaged Evaluation of Public Perceptions of Water Fluoridation in Kent County, Michigan: An Oral Public Health Initiative

This presentation examines public perceptions of community water fluoridation in Kent County, Michigan using a mixed-methods community-based evaluation conducted with Master of Public Health students. Survey responses and stakeholder interviews reveal significant variability in public knowledge and highlight how information gaps can allow misinformation to shape community attitudes. Findings identify trusted information sources and opportunities for targeted communication strategies to strengthen public health understanding and support for fluoridation as an effective population-level oral health intervention.

Mario Ferrari, DDS, MScD, MscIH, PhD, Grand Valley State University

Kristi Cooper, DNP, MSN, RN, MPH, Grand Valley State University

SESSION 304 | Riverview Suite AB



Findings from an Investigation of Blood Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Concentrations Among Michigan Firefighters

In 2019, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention awarded a five-year grant to MDHHS to expand monitoring of state residents' exposure to toxic environmental chemicals. Under this grant, MDHHS conducted two surveillance projects to determine the levels of PFAS and other environmental contaminants among Michigan adults and firefighters, respectively. This presentation will describe the rationale, methods, stakeholder and community engagement approaches and findings of the statewide biomonitoring in firefighters.

Carissa Hueter, MPH, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Jacob Carrick, MS, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Daniel Bator, MPH, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

SESSION 305 | Grand Ballroom 2



Listening That Leads to Equity: Transforming Organizations Through Relationships

The speakers will share in making a PowerPoint presentation that features highlights of the Look Book developed to summarize our findings. The Look Book is concise and includes photos from our listening sessions. We will also share recorded comments, both in written and audio forms so attendees can experience the inflection of those sharing their experiences and wisdom.

Toni Leaf-Odette, BSN, RNC-NIC, Munson Healthcare

Quran Griffin, MA, CPS, District Health Department #10

Janenne Pung, Health Department of Northwest Michigan

ESCAPE ROOM 300 | LightHouse



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4:00–5:00pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESS | Lake Huron Hall A



A Revolution for Public Health: George Washington's Inoculation Decision

The American Revolution was fought during a smallpox epidemic. Colonists broadly recognized that achieving political independence required protecting their communities from the disease. In this lecture, historian Andrew Wehrman will highlight how individuals and communities across the new United States insisted on inoculation creating a massive demand for public health. As a result, George Washington ordered the inoculation of the Continental Army and set a precedent that the government should protect the public from disease.

Andrew Wehrman, PhD, Central Michigan University



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Schedule at a Glance

FRIDAY

October 9, 2026

7:00–7:45am

Exercise Activity

7:45–8:45am

Breakfast, Registration, and Networking

8:45–9:45am

Keynote Address

10:00–11:00am

Breakout Sessions

11:00–11:15am

Networking Break and Poster Presentations/Exhibitors

11:15–12:15pm

Lunch

12:30–1:30pm

Breakout Sessions

1:30–1:45pm

Networking Break

1:45–2:45pm

Keynote Address

2:45–3:00pm

Adjourn

Following each session, scan the QR code to fill out an evaluation.

Session Details

7:00–7:45am

EXERCISE ACTIVITY (Meet at Registration)

Back by popular demand! Cari Draft is one of the lakeshore's most active and community-involved personal fitness trainers. While she is founder and owner of EcoTrek Fitness (unique outdoor group workouts with several series all over Michigan) she also trains numerous fitness clients, ranging from marathon runners to men and women of all ages interested in losing weight or just feeling more fit.

Cari Draft, EcoTrek Fitness

8:45–9:45am

KEYNOTE ADDRESS | Lake Huron Hall A



Imagine Doing Better: Improving Population Health with Imagination, Reflection, & Action

In this presentation, Dr. Paul Fleming will discuss how to think about and approach creating communities—in our workplaces and where we live and play—where all people can be healthy and thrive. He will highlight key themes from his book *Imagine Doing Better: Why policies backfire and how prevention thinking can change everything* which will help attendees imagine better futures, reflect on the status quo, and take action to create a better future in their organization and their world.

Paul J. Fleming, PhD, MPH, University of Michigan School of Public Health

10:00–11:00am

SESSION 401 | Grand Ballroom 2



Collaboration Is a Discipline, Not a Buzzword: Lessons from BWell Saginaw

If collaboration were easy, we'd already have the outcomes we're chasing. This session takes an honest look at why collaboration is often overused and underdeveloped. Through BWell Saginaw, we'll explore the discipline required to move beyond partnership talk and into trust, alignment, and measurable impact.

Christina Harrington, MPH, Saginaw County Health Department

SESSION 402 | Riverview Suite AB



Understanding and Applying the Latest Cervical Cancer Screening Guidelines

Discover evidence-based strategies for modern cervical cancer screening using primary HPV testing. This session examines randomized trial data demonstrating superior disease detection with fewer tests, colposcopies, and false positives compared to traditional co-testing. Learn practical implementation of screening algorithms incorporating dual-stain triage and self-sampling techniques. Gain actionable knowledge to integrate federally endorsed guidelines into clinical practice, overcome patient barriers, and expand screening participation toward achieving WHO cervical cancer elimination goals.

Thomas John Bender, MD, PhD, Bay County Health Department

Diane Harper, MD, MPH, University of Michigan

SESSION 403 | St. Clair Suite AB



Test Fast, Report Faster: Speed as a Beach Public Health Tool

Ottawa County Department of Public Health (OCDPH) serves a Lake Michigan shoreline community where beach water quality monitoring is a seasonal public health priority. Through a 2025 EGLE grant, OCDPH upgraded to the IDEXX TECTA system, reducing turnaround time and automated public health reporting through a Power BI dashboard. This session covers OCDPH's first full TECTA season, implementation realities, lessons learned and the public health impact of faster data reporting.

Drew Shaw, Ottawa County Department of Public Health

Kimberly Moore, Ottawa County Department of Public Health

SESSION 404 | Grand Ballroom 1



The Grass Isn't Always Greener: Cannabis Trends and Poisoning Risks in Michigan

This presentation will show an analysis of 2018–2024 Michigan ED data, demonstrating a brief decline followed by sustained increases in cannabis-only visit rates. It will cover geographic differences, with rural counties experiencing higher overall rates. It will also summarize key demographic patterns, including elevated risk among older adults and disparities across racial/ethnic groups, and discuss how these trends can inform targeted prevention and response efforts.

Jacob Moosekian, MPH, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

SESSION 405 | Lake Huron Hall A



Equity in Uncertain Times: A Fireside Conversation on Sustaining Health Equity Work

Public health professionals are navigating increasing political tension around health equity. This session explores lessons from implementing the Dignity in Health Assessment at MDHHS and reflects on how practitioners can sustain equity-focused work during uncertain times. Through a candid conversation with Health Equity Strategists, the session will highlight strategies for navigating language shifts, building staff capacity, and maintaining focus on equitable outcomes.

James Bell, DSW, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Jasmine Hardy, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Melanie Ward, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

ESCAPE ROOM 400 | LightHouse



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12:45–1:45pm

SESSION 501 | St. Clair Suite AB



Advancing Health Equity Through Statewide Fall Prevention Partnerships and Policy Strategies

This session explores how cross-sector partnerships and policy strategies can advance health equity in fall prevention. Attendees will examine barriers affecting access to prevention resources and learn scalable approaches to strengthen collaboration between public health, healthcare, and community organizations. Practical strategies will support efforts to reduce disparities and improve outcomes for older adults aging in place.

Christopher Wilson, PT, DPT, DScPT, Oakland University

Sara Arena, PT, MS, DScPT, Oakland University

SESSION 502 | Grand Ballroom 2



Advancing Diabetes Prevention for Priority Populations in Southeast Michigan Through Hospital Collaboration

The Southeast Michigan Hospital Collaborative (SEMIHC) unites five health systems – Ascension, Corewell Health East, Henry Ford Health, Trinity Health, and the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan and the Michigan Public Health Institute to advance diabetes prevention among African Americans in Southeast Michigan. This panel will share best practices, challenges, and innovations in cross-sector partnership, community engagement, and program implementation, offering replicable strategies for addressing health equity and chronic disease prevention.

Keoshia Banks, MPH, Michigan Public Health Institute

Mary Niester, MPH, RD, Trinity Health Livonia

Phyllis A. Nelson, APRN, FNP-C, PMHNP-C, Henry Ford Health

SESSION 503 | Riverview Suite AB



Bridging Law and Medicine in Rural Michigan: A Qualitative Study of Interprofessional Dynamics in Medical-Legal Partnerships

This presentation examines how rural Michigan MLPs strengthen the public health workforce by fostering collaboration between physicians and attorneys to address health-harming legal needs. Drawing on qualitative research, it explores how

Canceled

professional differences, and build shared strategies to improve outcomes. The session highlights practical approaches for engaging partners and adapting interventions to the unique needs of rural communities.

Rong Kohtz, JD, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

SESSION 504 | Lake Huron Hall A



Then and Now: The Evolution of Environmental Health Issues in Michigan Across 100 Years

Test your knowledge of environmental health history and explore how issues from the past may be some of the same challenges we face today. Using documented examples from professional journals, newspapers, and State of Michigan records, this presentation examines historical environmental health incidents alongside modern examples and case studies. Participants will see how environmental health practices have advanced over the last century while also recognizing the barriers that prevent the full elimination of long-standing concerns.

Dana DeBruyn, BS, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy

Ariel Zoldan, MPH, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy



ANNOUNCEMENT: We're Rebranding!

The Region V Public Health Training Center is changing its name to the **Great Lakes Public Health Training Center**.

Sign up for our newsletter to stay updated on our technical assistance offerings, trainings, student funding, and more!



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SESSION 505 | Grand Ballroom 1



From Data Streams to Community Impact: Empowering Use of Statewide Systems for Local Needs

This presentation highlights three statewide surveillance systems that can provide actionable data for local partners. Attendees will learn how to access and use information on maternal attitudes and experiences across the perinatal period, adult health behaviors, preventive care and key chronic diseases. These systems offer valuable insights to help communities assess health outcomes and guide local public health efforts.

Mary Kleyn, MS, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Olivia Barth, MPH, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Jill Hardy, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

ESCAPE ROOM 500 | LightHouse



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1:45–2:45pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESS | Lake Huron Hall A



Reimagining Maternal and Infant Health Through Rx Kids

This keynote explores Rx Kids, the nation's first prenatal and infant cash prescription program, designed to reduce poverty, improve birth outcomes, and strengthen family well-being. Panelists will share early insights from implementation, discuss cross sector partnerships, and highlight how unconditional cash support can reshape public health practice and policy to better serve families during the most critical stages of life.

Luke Shaefer, PhD, City of Detroit

Christina Harrington, MPH, Saginaw County Health Department

Ali Abazeed, MPH, MPP, City of Detroit Health Department

Conference Objectives

Conference Takeaways

- Relate Michigan's public health history to contemporary public health practice and science.
- Explore strategies to support Michigan's public health workforce in a rapidly changing landscape.
- Examine best practices for engaging partners in building healthier communities.
- Describe approaches to effectively communicate with stakeholders to strengthen public health initiatives.
- Identify factors and characteristics of Michigan's diverse communities that can be used to inform effective public health interventions.

Overarching Conference Outcome

Every learner will examine key milestones, movements, and lessons from the history of public health to identify the knowledge, skills, and collaborative strategies needed to build stronger and healthier communities today.

CHES/MCHES [Continuing Education]

SOPHE, including its chapters, is a designated provider of continuing education contact hours (CECH) in health education by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. This program is designated for Certified Health Education Specialists (CHES®) and/or Master Certified Health Education Specialists (MCHES®) to receive up to 9 total Category I Continuing Education Contact Hours (CECH). Maximum Advanced-level continuing education contact hours available are 9.

OCME and Nursing Credits [Continuing Education]

The MSU CHM Office of Continuing Medical Education (OCME) has approved this activity for 9.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. The MSU-CHM OCME will maintain physician attendance records for at least six (6) years and will provide transcripts to CME participants upon request.

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Poster Presentations – Thursday & Friday (Pre-function Hallway)

Barriers to Oral Health Care Utilization Among LGBTQIA+ Individuals: A Mixed-Methods Study of Inclusivity, Trust, and Access

This presentation examines barriers to oral health service utilization among LGBTQIA+ individuals using a mixed-methods study conducted in West Michigan. Survey and focus group findings highlight how perceptions of inclusivity, prior negative experiences with providers, and concerns about discrimination influence hesitancy to seek dental care. The session will discuss structural and interpersonal factors affecting access and outline practical strategies for improving culturally competent dental environments and reducing oral health disparities within LGBTQIA+ communities.

Mario Ferrari

RSV-NET: Analysis of Factors Surrounding Severe Illness in Children Under 1 Hospitalized With RSV in Michigan, RSV-NET October 2024–September 2025

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) causes significant disease. Abrysvo was approved in 2023 for pregnant persons between 32–36 weeks and RSV monoclonal antibodies, including Beyfortus/nirsevimab and Enflonia/clesrovimab for infants. This study examines RSV-associated hospitalizations of children less than or equal to 1 year in Michigan following product approval, analyzing the effect of vaccine receipt on severe illness.

Sarah Rojewski and Lauren Leegwater

Extreme Heat Event Risk Factors: An Epidemiological Analysis

Extreme heat events (EHEs) are an emerging public health concern in Michigan and there are a number of factors that can increase risk of adverse health outcomes during these events. These factors, and the strength of their connection to extreme heat, are investigated in this research. The prevalence of chronic diseases and environmental risk factors are spatially mapped, and regions of increased risk are identified. For regions at increased risk, CBPR strategies are discussed.

Brendan May, Ranelle Brew, and Amanda Buday

Using Hospitalization Patient Encounter Files to Enhance Michigan Maternal Death Case Pulling Process

Using MHA data file as additional source can enhance current MDVRHS case pulling case process as: 1) The MHA data files can confirm pregnancy status for cases that are unable to be confirmed under the current method. 2) The MHA data files can uncover maternal death cases that were potentially missed in the current practice.

Lindsey Myers

Characteristics of Michigan Chemical Exposure Monitoring (MiChEM) Program Participants With Elevated Blood Lead Levels

This poster describes characteristics of adult Michigan residents with blood lead levels above the NHANES 95th percentile (2.62 ug/dL) and the blood lead reference value (3.5 ug/dL), using biomonitoring surveillance data from the MDHHS MiChEM Program (2022–2024). Findings highlight groups at increased risk and common exposure pathways. Results support ongoing lead abatement efforts in Michigan and can inform targeted public health prevention strategies to reduce lead exposure.

Victoria Brown and Rachel Long

The Association between Disordered Eating and Educational Attainment and Employment Status

A brief overview of disordered eating's association with educational attainment and employment status on a cross-sectional and longitudinal basis, as well as the role socioeconomic status plays in moderating such associations.

Carson Clark

Foundations of the Present: The Role of Archives in Mapping Public Health Evolution

This poster will detail the benefits of archive development for local public health practice and describe how Washtenaw County Health Department leveraged an Academic Health Department initiative to develop their own organizational archive. Specific benefits for understanding modern public health concerns and supporting equity-focused work will be shared alongside actionable recommendations for archival development and sustainability.

Patricia Krause and Ruth Kraut

Evaluating a Community-Based Culinary Academy to Improve Youth Nutrition Attitudes and Self-Efficacy

This poster examines the impact of a hands-on culinary education experience on youth nutrition education, confidence, healthy habits, decision making, and food-related self-efficacy. Using pre- and post-survey measurements and qualitative data, findings demonstrate improvement in youth attitudes and self-efficacy. Results suggest that a hands-on culinary education may positively influence attitudes, and findings support the feasibility and value of short community-based interventions.

Ranelle Brew, Madeline Krawciw, Bella Andreski, and Arielle Haywood

The Association Between State Physical Education Policies and Youth Organized Sports Participation Rates Across the United States

This project examines the relationship between state-level physical education policy environments and youth participation rates in organized sports in the United States. Using national surveillance data, results indicate a weak but statistically significant negative association between policy strength and sports participation. Findings suggest that broader social and environmental factors may play a larger role in influencing youth physical activity, highlighting the need for multi-level public health strategies beyond school-based policies.

Zoe Srackangast

Social Determinants and Mental Health in Detroit: Associations With Anxiety, Worry, and Depression

This presentation looks at how social and structural factors shape mental health outcomes among adults in Detroit using data from the Detroit Metro Area Community Study. It focuses on how healthcare access, income, and neighborhood conditions are linked to anxiety, worry, and depression, and highlights what these findings mean for reducing disparities and improving access to care.

Oscar Rodriguez-Franco and Syeda Sakina Tahera

Elevated Blood Lead Levels Among Michigan Children Under Multiple Case Definitions

An analysis was conducted to compare elevated blood lead level (EBLL) metrics for Michigan children using case definitions from current surveillance, nursing case management (NCM), and proposed CTSE case definitions. Children were assigned EBLL status based on these case definitions, and the numbers and percents of tested children with EBLL were generated. Case definitions requiring confirmation (elevated venous test or a second elevated capillary test) classified fewer EBLL but reflect clinical practice and NCM programmatic activities.

RoseAnn Miller

Grow Your Own, Grow Your Health

This poster presentation highlights the success of the “Grow My Own” program which supported participants in establishing home gardens and improving access to fresh produce. Findings highlight increased knowledge of nutrition, enhanced gardening skills, and measurable improvements in participants’ confidence and healthy eating behaviors.

Alexys Leach and Charity Zimmerman

CARGOS: Strengthening Detection and Response to Resistant Gonorrhea

This poster aims to highlight the collection, testing, treatment, and education of this project partnership granted by the CDC with MDHHS and OCHD at the local level, highlighting our patient population while underscoring the critical role of robust surveillance, provider education, and adherence to appropriate testing and treatment protocols.

Melissa Williams-Bowman, Jim Kent, and Bonnie Carter

Engaging Families to Elevate Their Voices on Practicing Infant Safe Sleep

This poster presentation will provide an overview of the collaborative storytelling project, share your WHY—Your stories on practicing infant safe sleep, that was developed to hear from families who practice infant safe sleep. An overview of the project and the results will be shared. Participants will be invited to think about how this project could be adopted to fit other programs and how others could use these stories. They will be asked to complete a brief survey on how they might use these stories in their work.

Colleen Nelson and Audra Brummel

Academic Detailing

Academic Detailing (AD) is an evidence-based, educational outreach method where trained consultants provide current and unbiased information on best practices in a particular topic to improve patient health outcomes. Studies have shown a need for clinician support in EH literacy due to worsening climate change, anthropogenic environmental contamination and loosening environmental policy. Increasing health care provider recognition of risk factors in patient's environments gives context to symptoms and develops a more complete patient health story.

Stephanie Embry and Halima Abdullah-Al-Basir

The MDHHS Emerging Threats Surveillance and Investigation (ETSI) Program: Identifying and Responding to Novel Environmental Health Hazards in Michigan

The Emerging Threats Surveillance and Investigation (ETSI) Program at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services monitors and responds to unconventional environmental public health threats that fall outside of existing program areas. This presentation highlights the program's identify-investigate-intervene framework, surveillance strategies, and multidisciplinary collaboration efforts. Previous response examples will illustrate how ETSI identifies emerging threats, evaluates risks and supports coordinated responses to protect Michigan communities.

Chris Rudski, Kallan Sawyer, and Eva Kool

Data to Action: Injury and Violence Data Resources to Support Local Public Health Practitioners

This presentation will provide an overview of injury and violence data resources that are available to support local public health practitioners and community organizations in Michigan. Attendees will learn about statewide injury trends, new injury and violence data-related resources and current MDHHS programs focused on improving injury and violence data. Additional discussion will highlight how these resources can be used by local public health in injury prevention efforts.

Ali Bianco, Anya Morozov, and Tory Troeger

Artificial Intelligence for Health: Educating and Empowering Michigan's Communities and Providers

AI is transforming healthcare, but is Michigan's public health workforce ready? This poster explores how community-based education can strengthen AI literacy and readiness among clinicians, community health workers, and communities. In partnership with Corewell Health and ACCESS, we co-developed educational materials designed to help frontline health workers understand AI, communicate its benefits and risks to patients, and navigate a rapidly changing healthcare landscape. We aim to build a more informed and equitable public health workforce.

Morgan Sielaff, Samaa Syed, and Jodynn Platt

From Coastal Waste to Dental Regeneration: A Public Health Analysis of Oyster Shell-Derived Biomaterials for Vital Pulp Therapy in Santa Catarina, Brazil

To estimate the public health and environmental impact of integrating oyster shell-derived calcium carbonate into regenerative hydrogel scaffolds for vital pulp therapy (VPT).

Mario Ferrari, Adriana Poli Castilho Dugaich, and Yuli Mello Dugaich

Evaluating Care Integration Between a Local Health Department and Community-Based Organizations: Lessons From a Community Partner Evaluation

This presentation examines how community-based organizations and a local health department collaborate to address chronic disease through integrated care. Using survey and focus group data from community partners in Ingham County, findings highlight gaps in communication, referral pathways, and service awareness. Recommendations focus on strengthening coordination, improving referral systems and enhancing partnership to support more effective, patient-centered community health delivery.

Brenda Gray, Neil Nakkash, and Shema Mhajabin

Improvement in Dental Antibiotic Prescribing Following Educational Intervention

This poster presentation shows how the Collaboration to Harmonize Antimicrobial Registry Measures (CHARM) project quantifies and visualizes antibiotic prescribing patterns in dentistry before and after education on antimicrobial stewardship. This cross-sectional study used EHR extracts including medication and duration of therapy from four dental clinics. Comprehensive education on antibiotic stewardship for all dental staff at an FQHC was effective in decreasing the rate of clindamycin use and the duration of amoxicillin.

Elianna Bootzin, Michael Klepser, and Minji Sohn

Transitioning From Low to High Incidence Lyme Disease

Effective January 1, 2026, Michigan joined 16 jurisdictions within the high-incidence status (HI). HI jurisdictions are those that have had an average Lyme disease incidence of greater than or equal to 10 confirmed cases per 100,000 population for a period of three consecutive years. MDHHS implemented a hybrid approach to case investigation to reduce the workload on highly burdened local health departments, while requiring more detailed investigations in areas with a low burden.

Rachel Burkholder

Hidden Danger Understanding Lead Hazards in the Home

This home model provides easy to follow educational information about potential lead risks in and around the home.

Rebecca Hartman

Reporting Elevated Results to Biomonitoring Participants: Lessons Learned From the Michigan Chemical Exposure Monitoring Program

The Michigan Chemical Exposure Monitoring program (2022–2024) quantified nearly 200 chemicals in 1,786 adults. The program developed materials to report individual lab results to participants and notified those with elevated results of exposure reduction strategies. The MiChEM program team, with partners, developed streamlined notification protocols—prioritizing notifications regarding higher results, examining patterns among analyses, and using mailings for standardized messages—to guide messaging to participants on reducing chemical exposures.

Rachel Long, Alex Rafalski, and Jen Gray

Are Michigan Health Care Professionals Prepared for Tick-Borne Diseases? Assessing Workforce Knowledge and Risk Perceptions in the Tri-Cities Region

Tick-borne diseases (TBDs) are an emerging public health concern in Michigan. This study assesses health care professionals' knowledge of TBDs and explores how risk perceptions influence engagement

Canceled

critical knowledge gaps and behavioral drivers, offering insights that inform targeted workforce education strategies to strengthen clinical recognition, reporting and prevention efforts.

Ann Yaroch

Statewide Evaluation of MDHHS Office of Community Violence Intervention Services Grant Partners

The poster will present quantitative data on the projects' activities, outputs and short-term outcomes (e.g. hours of service, total participants served, gun violence and physical violence interruptions). Findings from qualitative data will include facilitators and barriers to successful project implementation, ways in which project staff have seen participants and communities change, and impact of OCVIS programming on organizations.

Ebony Reddock, Keoshia Banks, and Jennifer DeLaCruz

Disability, Mental Distress and Unmet Health Care Need Due to Cost Among U.S. Adults

This presentation examines disparities in unmet health care need due to cost among U.S. adults using BRFSS data. It focuses on how disability and mental distress are linked to higher unmet needs and highlights the role of financial and social factors. The findings point to the need for improving affordability and addressing mental health to reduce gaps in access to care.

Oscar Rodriguez-Franco and Syeda Sakina Tahera

Social Determinants and Self-Reported Mental Health Distress Among Pregnant Individuals in the U.S.

This study uses 2024 BRFSS data to examine how social determinants influence self-reported mental health distress among pregnant individuals.

Nour Tellow, Oscar Rodriguez-Franco, and Brandon Fey

The “Spot-on” Approach to Measles Outreach

When measles cases emerge, rapid active monitoring of exposed individuals is critical to prevent further spread. We will show how partnerships between the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, local health departments, and People Health enabled us to utilize the LHD Connect platform for measles response. This streamlined daily symptom monitoring and allowed for timely identification of potential cases among exposed individuals.

Briana Putrus, Mat Myers, and Sarah Pruett

Implementing Electronic Results Reporting for Biomonitoring and Response Programs – MiResults

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Environmental Health Bureau (EHB) has created an online results reporting portal for their biomonitoring projects and other activities called the Michigan Environmental Public Health Results Portal (MiResults). Participants will receive all their EHB results electronically in one location. Results will be visualized in graphs and interactive tables and accompanying resources. This presentation will share MiResults' design features and demonstrate improvements in efficacy.

Carissa Hueter and Bianca Winward

Using a Referral-Based Process to Recruit and Engage Adults in Community-Based Health Programs

Chronic diseases are pervasive in the United States and adults need help managing their chronic diseases. Yet gaps in healthcare access and education lead to health disparities. Community-based health education is one solution to fill gaps in healthcare. Michigan State University Extension uses a QR code and web link to receive referrals into 10 free, online health programs through both active (e.g., healthcare provider referrals, Extension educators, family/friends) and passive methods (e.g., flyers, messages on social media).

Maggie Magoon, Cheryl Eschbach, and Miloni Rathod

Evaluating the Effectiveness of MI Antibiotic Resistance Reduction Coalition Education Programs in Diverse Middle and High School Students in Michigan

This research is part of a program called the Michigan Antibiotic Resistance Reduction Coalition (MARR) at Ferris State University. Over the past year, we visited several middle and high schools to give educational presentations on antibiotic stewardship and emphasize the importance of this ongoing public health crisis. We collected pre- and post-surveys to evaluate the program, and the results were significant. These findings indicate that the presentations were effective.

McKenzie Allen, Emily Morrone, and Isabel Muglia

Please feel free to use the Water's Edge room if you need a little quiet time.

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MPPHC 2026 Keynote Speaker



Todd Wolynn

MD, MMM

PUBLIC GOOD PROJECTS

*Evidence-Based Communication –
The Missing Resource to Protect & Promote Community
Health in 2026 and Beyond*

Todd Wolynn is a pediatrician with 30+ years of experience in primary care, vaccine research, and public health advocacy. He co-founded Kids Plus Pediatrics in 2010, served as its CEO for 12 years, and led the practice to nationally recognized expertise in innovation, patient engagement, and clinical quality. Todd most recently served as VP of Medical Affairs in Communication and Integration for Pediatric Associates Family of Companies.

In 2019, he co-founded Shots Heard Round the World, a nonprofit dedicated to protecting the online safety of health care providers and practices. For his pioneering work in health care innovation and science communication, Todd has been named an EY Health Care Entrepreneur of the Year, a People magazine national Vaccine Hero, and an AAP Holroyd-Sherry Award winner.

Andrew Wehrman

PhD
CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



*A Revolution for Public Health:
George Washington's Inoculation Decision*

Dr. Andrew Wehrman is a professor of history at Central Michigan University where he specializes in early American history and the history of medicine and disease. He earned his PhD in history from Northwestern University in 2011. He is the author of *The Contagion of Liberty: The Politics of Smallpox in the American Revolution*, which was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for history and was named one of the “best books of the year” by Harvard Public Health. In 2023 he was honored by being named a Distinguished Lecturer from the Organization of American Historians.

MPPHC 2026 Keynote Speaker



Paul J. Fleming

PhD, MPH

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

*Imagine Doing Better:
Improving Population Health with
Imagination, Reflection, & Action*

Paul Fleming is an Associate Professor at the University of Michigan's School of Public Health and co-founder of the Collaborative for Transformative Public Health. His research and teaching focus on the root causes of racial health inequities and strategies to address them. In this work, he partners with community-based organizations, local health departments, and community organizers to help bring equity and anti-racism principles into public health practice. He is a sought-after thought leader on how to advance health equity and create communities and organizations that enable all people to thrive. He and his work has been featured in top journals and in media outlets such as NPR and The Detroit Free-Press. His latest book, *Imagine Doing Better: Why policies backfire and how prevention thinking can change everything*, aims to provide a hopeful roadmap for leaders and do-ers who want to transform their organizations, their communities, and the world.

Reimaging Maternal and Infant Health Through Rx Kids



Luke Shaefer

PhD
CITY OF DETROIT

H. Luke Shaefer, PhD, is the City of Detroit's first Chief Executive of Health, Human Services, and Poverty Solutions, overseeing the City's Health Department and the new Department of Human, Homeless and Family Services. He is on academic leave from the University of Michigan, Ford School of Public Policy, where he is the Hermann & Amalie Kohn Professor of Social Policy. From 2016 – 2026, Shaefer served as the founding director of U-M Poverty Solutions, a presidential initiative that partners with policymakers and communities to find new ways to prevent and alleviate poverty.

Shaefer has presented at the White House and has testified before Congress on multiple occasions. His research has been published in top academic journals, has been featured in media outlets such as the Washington Post, USA Today, and The Wall Street Journal, and he has appeared on programs such as PBS NewsHour. Shaefer's co-authored book, *\$2.00 a Day*, was named one of 100 Notable Books of 2015 by the New York Times. His co-authored book, *The Injustice of Place*, received the Lester Award in labor economics given by Princeton University's Industrial Relations Section. The New York Times and Time have credited Shaefer's co-authored research as one of the driving forces behind the expanded Child Tax Credit of 2021 that led to a historic decline in child poverty.

Shaefer is the co-founder of Rx Kids, the nation's first community-wide prenatal and infant cash prescription program launched in Flint, Michigan in 2024 and now active in more than 60 rural and urban communities across Michigan including Detroit. He received his PhD from the University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration and is a recipient of an Andrew Carnegie Fellowship.

Reimaging Maternal and Infant Health Through Rx Kids

Christina Harrington

MPH
SAGINAW COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Chris Harrington is the Director and Chief Health Officer for the Saginaw County Health Department and recently served as President of the Michigan Association of Local Public Health. With more than two decades in public health, Chris is known for building strong cross-sector partnerships and turning collaboration into measurable community impact.

Chris is the driving force behind BWell Saginaw, a cross-sector collaborative recognized with the 2025 Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director's Award for its work to align community partners around shared priorities and improve health outcomes. She also led the local implementation of Rx Kids, bringing Michigan's innovative maternal and infant support program to Saginaw County communities and helping demonstrate how local public health can translate innovative policy into meaningful action for families.

Chris is passionate about strengthening the role of local public health as a convener, strategist, and catalyst for systems change. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Physiology and Master's degree in public health from Michigan State University.

Reimaging Maternal and Infant Health Through Rx Kids

Ali Abazeed

MPH, MPP
DETROIT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

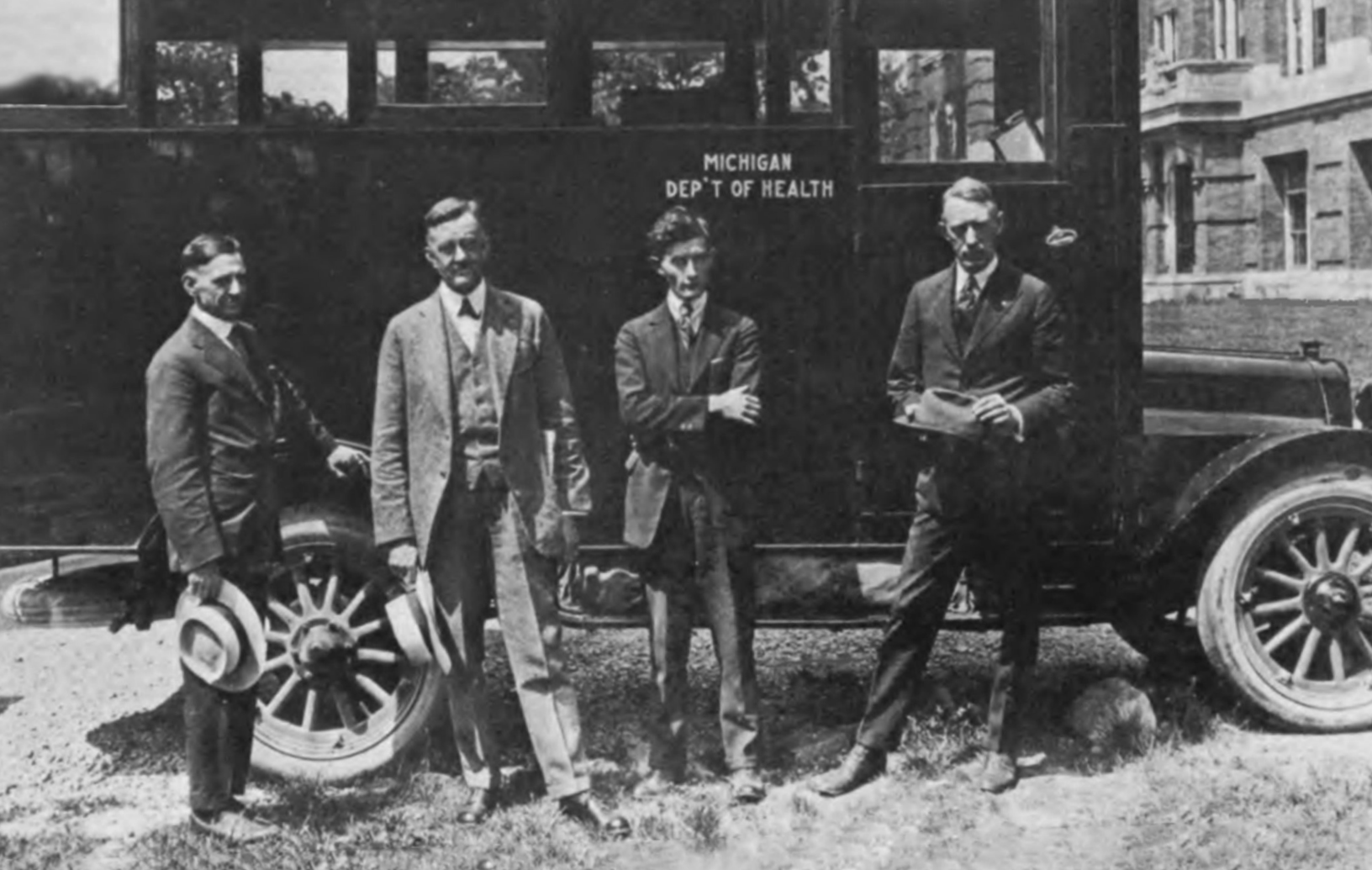


Ali Abazeed is the Chief Public Health Officer and Director of the Detroit Health Department, appointed by Mayor Mary Sheffield. He leads a department of more than 280 public health professionals and oversees a nearly \$60 million budget, advancing a Health in All Policies approach that embeds health across city government and centers the needs of Detroit residents.

Born in Detroit and raised in Dearborn along the Tireman border, Abazeed's work is shaped by a lived understanding that place matters. He believes health outcomes are not inevitable. They are shaped by policy, investment, environment, and whether public institutions are willing to act.

Before returning to Detroit, Abazeed served as the founding Director and Chief Public Health Officer of the Dearborn Department of Public Health, where he built one of Michigan's newest municipal health departments from the ground up. He previously served across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as a Presidential Management Fellow and Public Health Advisor at the National Institutes of Health.

He is also a faculty member at Wayne State University, where he teaches Health in All Policies and mentors emerging public health leaders. Abazeed holds graduate degrees in public health and public policy from the University of Michigan and completed executive education at Harvard Kennedy School.



Event Conduct Policy

All attendees are expected to conduct themselves professionally and with good judgment. The Michigan Premier Public Health Conference (MPPHC) planning committee aims to provide a safe event experience for all attendees and does not tolerate inappropriate behavior or harassment of any form. If you feel threatened or harassed while attending the MPPHC, you are encouraged to report the incident directly to the police. Attendees who violate this event conduct policy may be asked to leave the event without a refund. In addition, the attendee may not be permitted to participate in future MPPHC events.

As an MPPHC attendee, please be aware of all exits in case of an emergency. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask property staff or an MPPHC planning committee member.

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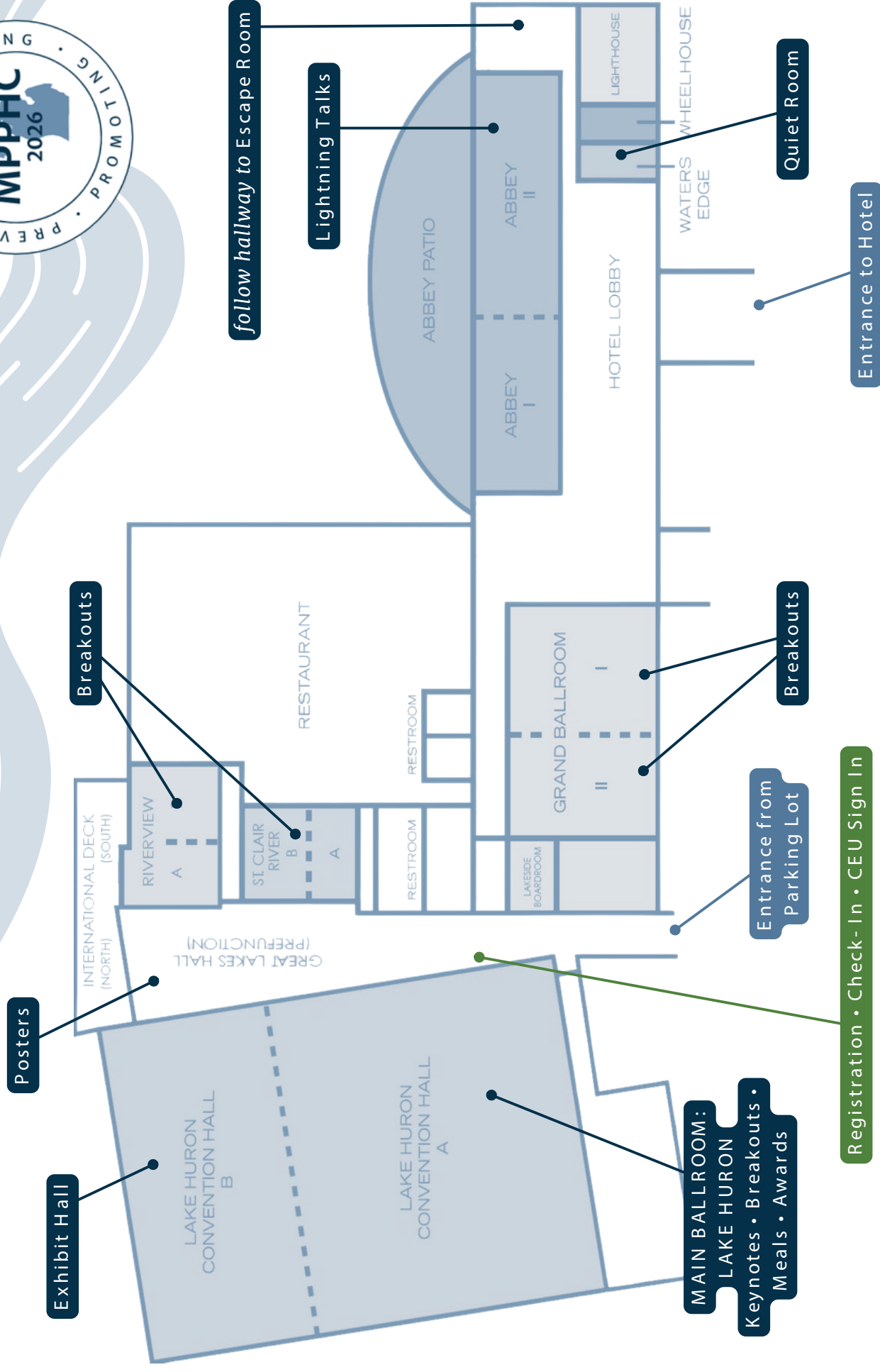
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An Evaluation on the 2026 MPPHC.