

# ON BOARD

July 10, 2023



News and Views from the New Jersey Local Boards of Health Association

Saturday, July 15, 2023  
**NJLBHA Board Meeting**  
10:00 AM EST

Meeting  
Details

## Current Articles and Requests for Participation



### Public Health Advisory

**Public Health Advisory : Call for Enhanced Surveillance and Testing for Travel-Associated Cases of Legionnaires' Disease -- Atlantic City**

[Full Story](#)

Public Health  
Communications  
COLLABORATIVE

### New Messaging: CDC Recommendation on RSV Vaccines

Today, the CDC **recommended two new Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccines** for adults age 60 and up. The single-dose vaccines, one developed by Pfizer and the other developed by GSK, are expected to be available to the public this fall.

We've updated our **Answers to Tough Questions** to reflect the CDC's latest vaccine recommendations for RSV and help you answer questions in your community.

Read  
On



**RUTGERS**

Robert Wood Johnson  
Medical School

**Join Us Sept. 13!**

**Learn about:**

- Culturally sensitive approaches to reduce hesitancy by parents for children's COVID-19 vaccine
- Development of comprehensive resources for clinicians and community
- Continued initiatives to address vaccine hesitancy with Spanish-speaking families

Short Video  
**FAQs**  
with Pediatric  
Specialists about  
Vaccines

Comprehensive  
Resources in  
**10**  
Languages

[go.rutgers.edu/kidscovidinfo](https://go.rutgers.edu/kidscovidinfo)

**Post-pandemic Perspectives on  
COVID-19 Vaccines**

**WEBINAR FOR CLINICIANS**

**Wednesday, September 13, 2023**

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/C-19Vacs>



The New Jersey Department of Human Services is pleased to support “Cover All Kids,” an expansion of NJ FamilyCare to all of New Jersey’s children, regardless of their immigration status. Children who do not have lawful presence in the U.S., live in New Jersey, and whose family income qualifies are eligible to receive NJ FamilyCare healthcare coverage. NJ FamilyCare provides a variety of health services, such as doctor/specialist

visits, mental health, vision, dental, vaccinations, and a number of other benefits to keep children healthy. To find out more about Cover All Kids, please visit [nj.gov/coverallkids](https://nj.gov/coverallkids). There are a number of resources, including FAQs, printable flyers, and shareable social media graphics, to help you learn more about the program.

In addition, if you or your family get healthcare from NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid, we have important news about your benefits. NJ FamilyCare has returned to regular annual renewals. From April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024, NJ FamilyCare will mail the first renewal packets since 2020 to its members. Please make sure your mailing address is up-to-date with NJ FamilyCare by calling 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711). When you receive mail from NJ FamilyCare, make sure you follow the instructions and return your packet. If you have questions, visit [nj.gov/StayCoveredNJ](https://nj.gov/StayCoveredNJ), or call 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711).

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## MWC & NJLM Launches Mental Health Grant Opportunity



MWC, in partnership with the NJLM, has announced funding opportunities for municipalities working to address local mental health needs. Thanks to the generosity.....

[Read On](#)

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# Applications now open for new public health leadership initiative

June 6, 2023  
Health



Applications are now open for a new initiative that will bring rising public health leaders together with community leaders to co-create sustainable collaborative solutions that advance health and well-being for all.

Supported by an investment of more than \$8.5 million from The Kresge Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the de Beaumont Foundation, the PHEARLESS (Public Health Regenerative Leadership Synergy) initiative will integrate regenerative leadership education and experiential learning with innovative collaborative tools that will help public health and community leaders build the skills they need to tackle the complex issues facing their communities today.

As a holistic, strengths-based and adaptive approach, regenerative leadership focuses on creating positive change and restoring balance in complex living systems, said Monica Valdes Lupi, managing director of Kresge's Health Program.

"Regenerative leadership prioritizes empathy, collaboration, collaborative learning and systems thinking over traditional top-down hierarchical models of leadership," Lupi said. "By creating positive relationships and nurturing the interconnected elements within a system, regenerative leaders aim to generate outcomes that benefit everyone."

"New challenges that public health departments are facing require

governmental public health leaders to develop and grow new skills and relationships in order to meet the needs of the people and communities they serve,” said Simbo Ige, managing director at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The rapid shift and scale-up of responsibilities for state and local governmental public health agencies during the COVID-19 pandemic has had a dramatic impact on the public health workforce.

According to a **recent analysis of data** from the **Public Health Workforce Interests and Needs Survey (PH WINS)**, conducted by the de Beaumont Foundation and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), nearly half of state and local public health employees left their jobs between 2017 and 2021, exacerbating an existing workforce shortage.

“This critical loss of public health expertise and experience puts communities at significant risk for infectious diseases and other health crises,” said Brian C. Castrucci, president and CEO of the de Beaumont Foundation.

For the 2023-2024 cohort of the initiative, 15 teams of PHEARLESS leaders will be selected from communities around the country. Each four-person team will include two rising public health leaders and two rising community leaders. Together, the cohort will form a network that will learn from one another and help create new models for community-led efforts to improve equitable health outcomes community-wide.

Participants in the 12-month program will work through four modules and a culminating capstone activity, including both virtual sessions and an in-person component. Each team will receive a grant of \$100,000 to support their activities. Drs. Marissa Levine and Jennifer Marshall of the **University of South Florida (USF) College of Public Health** (COPH) and Dr. Triparna de Vreede at the **USF Muma College of Business** (MCOB) will co-lead the design and implementation of the training and technical assistance. COPH will also partner with the **Association of State and Territorial Health Officials**, the **Big Cities Health Coalition**, and the **National Association of County and City Officials** as an interdisciplinary support network.

“One of the ways regenerative leadership can be achieved is through true collaboration and the effective facilitation of ideas. To be good leaders, we must be good facilitators and relentless collaborators,” said Triparna de Vreede, associate professor of instruction at the USF Muma College of Business.

“While the pandemic has definitely pushed their limits, this moment presents a truly unique opportunity for public health department leaders to reimagine their unique role in co-creating thriving community health ecosystems and delivering services that are explicitly centered in equity and racial justice,” Lupi said. “By the end of the PHEARLESS experience, leaders will develop the mindset and skillset to transform systems, structures, and policies, in partnership with the community, toward a just and equitable future.”

To learn more about the criteria and how to apply, visit **<https://health.usf.edu/publichealth/clphp/phrls>**. Applications are due at 3 p.m. (EST) on July 14, 2023.

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# ***DROWNING*** MAY NOT LOOK LIKE ***DROWNING***

Movies and TV have created a false projection of what drowning looks like. There is usually very little splashing, waving, and yelling or calls for help.

Of the approximately **750** children who drown every year, about **half** of them will do it within **25 yards** of a parent or other adult. In **10%** of those drownings, an adult will **actually watch them do it**, having no idea it's happening.

Learn what drowning really looks like and save a life!



NEW JERSEY'S

## **HEALTH ALERT NETWORK**

A Plastic Law Inspection webinar will be hosted on **September 14, 2023, at 1 pm**, hosted by the NJDEP, NJ Business Action Center, NJ Clean Communities Council, and the NJ Food Council. Local health officials are encouraged to participate.

JOIN US FOR A  
**PLASTIC LAW INSPECTION**  
**WEBINAR**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 14 • 1 PM**

**FREE**  
**EVENT**



The event is sponsored by the NJDEP, the NJ BUSINESS ACTION CENTER, NJ CLEAN COMMUNITIES COUNCIL and the NJ FOOD COUNCIL



***NJ law mandates that plastic straws can only be provided upon request.***

***IF YOU NEED A STRAW, PLEASE ASK!***

NJ's Single Use Plastics Law aims to encourage businesses and customers alike to reduce plastic pollution, especially plastic straws.

Join people across New Jersey in preventing litter and ***Skip the Straw.***

**LEARN MORE ABOUT NJ'S CAMPAIGN TO  
REDUCE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC STRAWS.**



**NEVER**

leave children in a car  
**for any amount of time,  
for any reason.**

Not with the window cracked.  
Not because they're sleeping.

**Not even for  
1 Minute.**

Inside your car, temperatures rise quickly.  
If the exterior temperature is 80° F,  
then inside temperature is:



*in 10 min.*



*in 20 min.*



*in 30 min.*



*in 60 min.*

On a hotter day a car parked in direct sunlight  
could reach 118° F in as little as 20 minutes.  
Even with the window cracked!







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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
**GOVERNOR PHIL MURPHY**

**See full  
letter**

**Governor Murphy Signs Executive Order  
Lifting COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement  
for Employees in Health Care Settings**

**ICYMI: Funding for Spotted Lanternfly  
Treatment Available to All New Jersey  
Counties, Municipalities**

**See full  
letter**



## Commit to Inclusion of Individuals with Disabilities in Public Health Practice

DAWN Center for Independent Living (DAWNcil), a non-profit organization serving Morris, Sussex, and Warren Counties, NJ, is one of 12 Centers for Independent Living (CIL's) in the state of NJ chosen by the Administration on Community Living to participate in the "Expanding the Public Health Workforce within the Aging and Disability Networks" initiative.

DAWNcil has enacted activities with human services and public health professionals to prevent, prepare for, and respond to future health challenges of individuals with disabilities. These activities provide a framework for public health to develop cultural competency skills to protect and promote the health of people with disabilities.

Please use this link <https://dawncil.org/expanding-the-public-health-workforce-initiative/public-health-workers/> to access Public Health Workforce training slides and recorded webinar, a resource list for county, state and national resources and a Community Health Guide for Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties, NJ.

There are many resources available to provide insight into ways to be inclusive of the disability community. One resource is Respectability.org. <https://www.respectability.org/resources/> Some practical tips they offer to be inclusive and other ways to support involvement of the disability community are:

- Language matters. Use terminology that is inclusive.
- Treat adults with disabilities as adults. Baby talk is not appropriate.
- Speak directly to people with disabilities, not to their aide or sign language interpreter. Talk at eye level; if necessary, sit in a chair to be on the same level as a person who uses a wheelchair.
- Listen patiently and attentively to a person who has difficulty speaking; do not try to finish their thoughts for them.
- Remember that a person's mobility equipment is part of their personal space. Don't move a wheelchair, cane, or scooter without their permission.
- Not all disabilities are visible or apparent, but this does not make them any less real.
- Be mindful that people with cognitive or psychological disabilities have varying ways of coping with their conditions.
- Please note it is considered offensive to pretend to have a disability, and disability simulation experiences should be done for design/navigational purposes only.
- If you are unsure how to interact with a person with disabilities, ask them!
- Make sure people with disabilities are part of the solution, included in planning and hiring processes.
- Ensure your space is physically and programmatically accessible.
- Ensure all program registration and sign-up forms are accessible and include questions about accommodations so people can fully participate.
- Utilize a standard message on all websites and written materials stating that yours is an inclusive agency that provides accommodations for individuals with disabilities as needed.

For more information, please visit <https://dawncil.org/> or contact Executive Director, Carmela Slivinski [cslivinski@dawncil.org](mailto:cslivinski@dawncil.org)



## Applications now open for new public health leadership initiative:

<https://kresge.org/news-views/applications-open-june-6-for-new-public-health-leadership-grant-opportunity/>

### MIDDLE-BROOK REGIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION Infectious Disease Preparedness Generalist

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## Invitation to participate in New Jersey public health workforce research. Let your voices be heard!



Dear colleagues,

I am writing to invite you to participate in a research study that will provide valuable information on the local public health workforce and its perceptions, experiences, and symptoms of mental health conditions as it may relate to the prolonged pandemic response in New Jersey. The overall analysis and recommendations of this study will strive to provide a foundation for additional research related to training and support services with a goal of creating a sustainable, vibrant public health workforce prepared to handle the next major public health emergency. This study has been approved by the Rutgers University Institutional Review Board (IRB#:PRO2022001813).

This study questions aim to answer the following questions:

1. What is the socio-demographic characteristics of the current local public health workforce in New Jersey? How does it differ from other states across the country?
2. What challenges did the NJ governmental public health workforce experience during the COVID-19 pandemic? How did those challenges affect the physical, mental, and emotional health of the NJ workforce?

Your participation involves completing a 20-minute survey which can be found through this [link](#) or QR code.

There are no direct benefits to you for taking part in this research. However, your participation will be contributing to knowledge which hasn't previously been collected specific to the public health workforce in NJ.

**There is minimal risk to you by participating in the research as some of the questions focus on mental health and may be sensitive. If you feel uncomfortable at any point, you are welcome to stop. If you decide to participate, all data collected is anonymous and no personal identifiers will be collected. All data collected in conjunction with this research will be stored securely and will be destroyed within 7 years.**

**If you have any questions or concerns regarding the study, please do not hesitate to ask the study investigators:**

Lisa Harrison-Gulla, DrPH Candidate, Rutgers School of Public Health, at [lag191@rutgers.edu](mailto:lag191@rutgers.edu).

Mitchel A. Rosen, Dissertation Chair/Faculty Advisor and registered Principal Investigator, at [mrosen@sph.rutgers.edu](mailto:mrosen@sph.rutgers.edu).

Lisa A. Harrison-Gulla DrPHc, MPH, MAE, HO, REHS

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**About SJIPH:** The SJIPH, established in 2018 through a state grant received by the Rowan University / Rutgers – Camden Board of Governors, supports collaborative research aimed at addressing health disparities among underserved populations in both rural and urban communities in New Jersey’s southern counties.

SJIPH is currently in the process of awarding their third annual round of grant funding, during which \$500,000 will be made available to community-based research teams. The institute awarded \$230,000 to 11 projects in cycle 1 and \$387,000 to 11 different projects in cycle 2 in the South Jersey region.

**Position:** Operations & Research Coordinator (Part-time)

**Supervisor(s):** Dr. Nicole Vaughn, Associate Professor, School of Nursing and Health Professions, Rowan University Corey Hoffman, MPA, Academic Programs and Research Coordinator, RURCBOG

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The Operations & Research Coordinator will:

- Assist in coordinating and organizing materials for SJIPH research funding initiatives
- Assist with crafting announcements, triaging grant proposal submissions and writing draft narrative progress / evaluation reports under direction of faculty advisor
- Identify, review, organize and synthesize information from published literature and web-based resources on a broad range of health disparities issues
- Prepare draft sections of summaries, reports, presentations, and website copy under direction of faculty advisor
- Communicate and field questions from potential applicants and funded grantees
- Organize and manage submitted applications, proposals, forms and other accepted materials
- Coordinate, meet and work with appropriate personnel and community stakeholders internal and external to ensure project deliverables for funding initiative
- Work with databases to summarize research projects impact under the supervision of faculty advisor/co lead(s)
- Be present for and have the ability to coordinate, co-facilitate and lead virtual and some in-person meetings, including annual Sandbox event, under the supervision of the faculty co-lead(s)
- Coordinate with website design firm to ensure SJIPH.org remains up-to-date and functioning properly

#### **QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE DESIRED**

- Be self-motivated and extremely organized
  - Have excellent verbal and written communication skills
  - Have excellent writing skills and ability to work on a team to support work on summary reports.
  - Have an interest in understanding more about public health issues and health disparities.
  - Be proficient in all Microsoft Office applications, including Word, Powerpoint, and Excel.
-





# i-RAISE

Prioritize. Immunize. Protect.

## I Raise the Rates! May Edition



### Wellness and Prevention Digest

New Report: Underinvestment in Public Health Drives Inequities and Endangers Lives

[Read Now](#)



NEW JERSEY'S

## HEALTH ALERT NETWORK

Public Health Update

### NJLINCS Health Alert Network

Distributed by the *New Jersey Department of Health*

### New Funding Opportunity - Supporting Communities to Reduce Lead Poisoning (CDC-RFA-EH-23-005) - Apply by July 31, 2023

The National Center of Environmental Health's Lead Poisoning and Prevention and Surveillance Branch (proposed), is pleased to announce a new Notice of Funding Opportunity, [Supporting Communities to Reduce Lead Poisoning \(CDC-RFA-EH-23-005\)](#). **Applications are due by July 31, 2023 at 11:59 pm ET.** We are requesting that you share this opportunity with organizations who directly serve local communities in your network.

This new 3 – year community-based grant will fund approximately 10 organizations for a period of performance from September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2026. Funded applicants will help families avoid the dangers of lead in their homes through community engagement, prevention education, and family support. CDC encourages all organizations with less than \$2 million in federal funding and strong ties to the community they serve to apply.

The funding opportunity supports organizations to:

- Work with partners from different sectors,
- Provide better access to resources and services for families and children,
- Increase knowledge and skills related to lead poisoning, and
- Educate the community about the risk of lead exposure and disparities in blood lead levels based on factors like race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and geography.

## 14 Free Resources for LGBTQIA+ Youth in New Jersey



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[View as Webpage](#)

New Jersey Local Boards of Health Association, PO Box 5069, Kendall Park, NJ 08824

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