

In This Issue

- Accreditation Update
- Healthy Pennsylvania Partnership
- State Health Assessment Update
- Opioid Prescribing Guidelines
- Opioid Disaster Declaration
- Public Health 3.0
- Health Policy Database
- 2015 Pulse of Pennsylvania's Dentist and Dental Hygienist Workforce Report
- Warm Hand-Off Update
- Prescription Drug Take-Back Programs
- National Health Observances
- National Center for Rural Health Works Workshop
- Pennsylvania 2018 Annual Suicide Prevention Conference
- Mental Wellness Conference
- LGBTQ Conference
- Preparing for Mass Casualty Incidents
- School Body Mass Index (BMI) Data
- Crisis Text Line
- Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership
- Pennsylvania State Data Center (PaSDC)
- Funding Opportunities

Accreditation Update

On February 28, 2018, the Department of Health submitted documentation to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) to demonstrate adherence to the standards and measures of accreditation. The department began the process of seeking public health department accreditation last year. The next step in this process will include a site visit by a PHAB consisting of a team of public health experts to assess documentation for conformity with measures. Later this summer, site visitors will conduct in-person meetings and interviews with and department leaders, community partners and the Governor's Office. A report highlighting the overall strengths and weaknesses will be developed, and a recommendation on accreditation will be given to the PHAB's accreditation committee.



staff
final

Healthy Pennsylvania Partnership

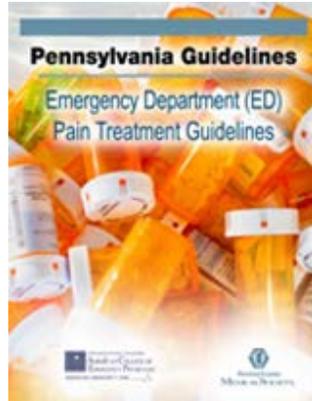
Participants interested in supporting the [State Health Assessment](#) and [State Health Improvement Plan](#) initiatives, especially those with an eye toward health equity, are encouraged to join our advisory committee and task forces. Representatives from hospitals and health systems, local health partnerships, professional associations, health advocacy organizations, providers and consumers are currently participating. The advisory committee meets twice a year to review annual updates and reports. The three task forces meet quarterly to report on strategies and progress of the strategic initiatives in obesity, physical inactivity and nutrition; primary care and preventive services; and mental health and substance use. If interested or you would like to refer a colleague, email RA-ship@pa.gov for more information.

State Health Assessment Update

The 2017 State Health Assessment (SHA) update was completed in December and published to the [SHA webpage](#). An advisory committee met during 2017 and discussed updating several sections of the original 2013 SHA document. These updated sections include Key Health Findings, Context of Health, General Health Status, and one new section on Opioids and the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. On the webpage, users can click on these sections as well as an updated introduction to open the revised and new documents. Among the findings, the 2015 age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 for coronary heart disease at 108.8, stroke death rate of 38.8 and cancer death rate of 166.2 are all above the national averages. These three diseases are ranked in the top four causes of death. Heart disease is number one, cancer number two and stroke number four (accidents are ranked number three).

Opioid Prescribing Guidelines

With the recent addition of two new prescribing guidelines in Pennsylvania, the Safe and Effective Prescribing Practices Task Force now has [guidelines](#) for ten medical specialties on the safe and effective use of opioids in the treatment of pain. These



include noncancer pain, emergency departments, dental practices, dispensing, obstetrics and gynecology, geriatrics, pregnant patients with opioid use disorder, anxiety and insomnia, orthopedics and sports medicine, and pediatric and adolescent patients. Guidelines can be downloaded from the webpage linked above.

Opioid Disaster Declaration

In January, Governor Tom Wolf announced a 90-day opioid disaster declaration with 13 initiatives to help those suffering from opioid use disorder. The declaration was renewed for an additional 90 days on April 4 to allow those initiatives to continue without interruption and for the introduction of new initiatives. Among these are the [naloxone leave-behind standing order](#); waived fees for [birth certificates](#) for individuals with opioid use disorders for faster access to treatment and benefits; waived annual licensing requirements for high-performing drug and alcohol treatment facilities; and creation of the [Opioid Data Dashboard](#). A comprehensive [resource guide](#) on opioid addiction is available on the Pennsylvania website.

Health Policy Database

The [Health Policy Database](#) was created on the LiveHealthyPA website to document proposed and enacted bills related to five key population health priorities, including diabetes, obesity and physical inactivity, oral health, substance use, and tobacco use. The database is searchable and includes information from the Pennsylvania General Assembly from 1971. This resource is designed to help stakeholders make informed decisions regarding local policy issues by providing detailed information on proposed and enacted legislation in Pennsylvania.



Public Health 3.0

The 1889 Jefferson Center for Population Health, Greene County Making a Great Impact Collaboratively, Healthy Blair County Coalition, Community Health Improvement Partnership (Fayette County) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health met to share evidence-based practices and develop concrete goals to improve health outcomes in Western Pennsylvania. The event was held on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at Alleghenies Unlimited Care Providers in Johnstown.

Warm Hand-Off Update

Six half-day regional summits were held this spring by the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) on learning, networking and collaborating to improve the seamless transition of care for opioid overdose survivors from the emergency department to substance use disorder treatment providers. Agenda items included a presentation about a successful warm hand-off program, assessment data and outcome measures. There were also small group sessions focused on action items to address challenges

2015 Pulse of Pennsylvania's Dentist and Dental Hygienist Workforce Report

The dental workforce report for 2015 was recently published on the [health care workforce reports webpage](#). This report presents findings from the 2015 dentist and 2015 dental hygienist survey which collect information on the characteristics and distribution of the dentist and dental hygienist workforces in the commonwealth. One finding from the report shows increasing diversity among dentists. The composition of direct patient care providers shows the number of female providers increasing from 18 percent in 2007 to 25 percent in 2015, and Asian providers increasing from 9 percent in 2013 to 11 percent in 2015. Direct patient care providers are getting older, with the average age increasing from 51.3 years in 2007 to 52.5 years in 2015. Thirty-five percent of respondents were 60 or older. The report can be found along with previous reports on physicians, physician assistants and nurses at the linked webpage above.

Prescription Drug Take-Back Programs

April 28 was National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Many of the drug take-back programs offering drop boxes and other means to dispose of unused prescription drugs continue through the year. The Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs has a [searchable database](#) by zip code and county to find your local prescription drop-off sites. The [Pennsylvania Attorney General](#) is working with pharmacies to promote the use of drug deactivation pouches to dispose of unused prescription narcotics. A national searchable database of U.S. [Drug Enforcement Administration](#) take-back day partners is also available.

National Health Observances

May

[Mental Health Month](#)

[National Physical Fitness and Sports Month](#)

1 - 7 [National Physical Education & Sport Week](#)

2 - 8 [Children's Mental Health Awareness Week](#)

13 - 19 [National Women's Health Week](#)

31 [National Senior Health & Fitness Day](#)[®]

June

[Men's Health Month](#)

[National Safety Month](#)

and barriers identified in an assessment survey conducted prior to the summits. Information about the warm hand-off is available from DDAP by emailing ra-DHWarmHandoff@pa.gov

Mental Wellness Conference

The American Mental Wellness Association 2018 national conference, A Healthier Mind is a Happier Life, will be held on November 19 and 20 in Hershey. A pre-conference workshop offering Mental Health First Aid training will be offered Nov. 18.

[Proposals](#) are being accepted for workshop, keynote, plenary, and session proposals and are due by July 1. Themes include mental safety in the workplace, mental preparedness in the military, mental acuity in the classroom, mental well-being in the community, mental peace in the home and mental protection in sports.

Preparing for Mass Casualty Incidents

The [Emergency Management Institute](#) offers a three hour online course to provide leading practices and resources to assist elementary and secondary schools,

Diabetes Prevention Program

Diabetes Prevention Programs (DPP) are research-based lifestyle change programs designed for people who have prediabetes or are at risk for type 2 diabetes to help change lifestyles. A trained lifestyle coach leads the program to help change certain aspects of lifestyle, including eating healthier, reducing stress and getting more physical activity. The program also includes group support from others who share goals and struggles. It is a year-long program focused on long-term changes. Pa. Medical Assistance covers DPP, and Medicare started paying for CDC-recognized DPP beginning in April. An interactive [webpage](#) shows prediabetes rates by county in Pennsylvania along with the locations of DPP sites.

LGBTQ Conference

Tobacco Free Allegheny is hosting the [Pa. LGBTQ Health Conference: Addressing Tobacco and Behavioral Health Disparities](#) near Pittsburgh on June 12 and 13. The conference is focusing on issues around LGBTQQA challenges of suicide, homelessness, STDs, tobacco use, alcohol use, other drug use, victimization, mental health issues, social inequality, health threats, stigma and discrimination. The conference is being cosponsored by the Pa. Department of Health, Pa. Department of Human Services, Adagio Health, Northwest Pennsylvania Tobacco Control Coalition and Tobacco Free Allegheny. Continuing education credits will be available through co-sponsorship by the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic of UPMC.

Crisis Text Line

The [Crisis Text Line](#) is a free 24/7 support system for people in crisis. By texting 741741 from anywhere in the U.S., people can be in contact with a trained volunteer crisis counselor. In addition to helping texters move from hot moments to a cool calm, volunteers can provide referrals for many concerns including suicide, self-harm, depression, abuse, anxiety and stress, bullying, eating, gender and sexual identity, grief, isolation, relationships and substance use, among others.

CRISIS TEXT LINE |

institutions of higher education and houses of worship in developing emergency plans for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from mass casualty incidents. IS-360: "Preparing for Mass Casualty Incidents: A Guide for Schools, Higher Education, and Houses of Worship" includes objectives to identify key considerations and strategies for preparing for mass casualty incidents, including understanding the threats and challenges, establishing planning processes assessing and mitigating vulnerabilities establishing response procedures, planning for recovery and staying prepared.

Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership

The [Pa. Patient & Provider Network \(P3N\)](#) is Pennsylvania's secure health information exchange intended to improve and coordinate patient care by helping health care providers find their patients' medical records anywhere on the P3N network. Regional health information organizations (HIOs) electronically connect health care providers to each other. In turn, the HIOs connect to the P3N

Nutrition Links

Pennsylvania has several programs to promote healthy eating and nutrition for vulnerable populations. Among these are:

- The [Farmers' Market Nutrition Program](#) operates in all 67 counties and provides checks and vouchers to WIC participants to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. This program has been expanded to include one-year-old children for eligibility.



- The [Pennsylvania Healthy Corner Store Initiative](#) connects store owners, common in urban low-income neighborhoods, with resources to increase availability of healthy foods in corner stores and offer consumers fresh, nutritious food options.
- The [Pennsylvania Agricultural Surplus System](#) facilitates the distribution food from Pennsylvania agricultural producers including food pantries, soup kitchens, feeding programs and shelters in all 67 counties.

School Body Mass Index (BMI) Data

School BMI data for 2015-2016 has been compiled for the six health districts by county and published on the Department of Health School Health Statistics webpage. Asthma data for 2015-2016 has also been published on this page. For grant writing and research purposes, school district level data can be requested from the Division of School Health at 717-787-2390. Updates on other school health issues can be found on the Division of School Health's [webpage](#).

hub to enable statewide health information exchange. Providers wanting to connect to each other through the P3N must first connect to a certified HIO. There are currently four [P3N-connected HIOs](#) exchanging patient medical records.

Funding Opportunities

Early Childhood Development Grants

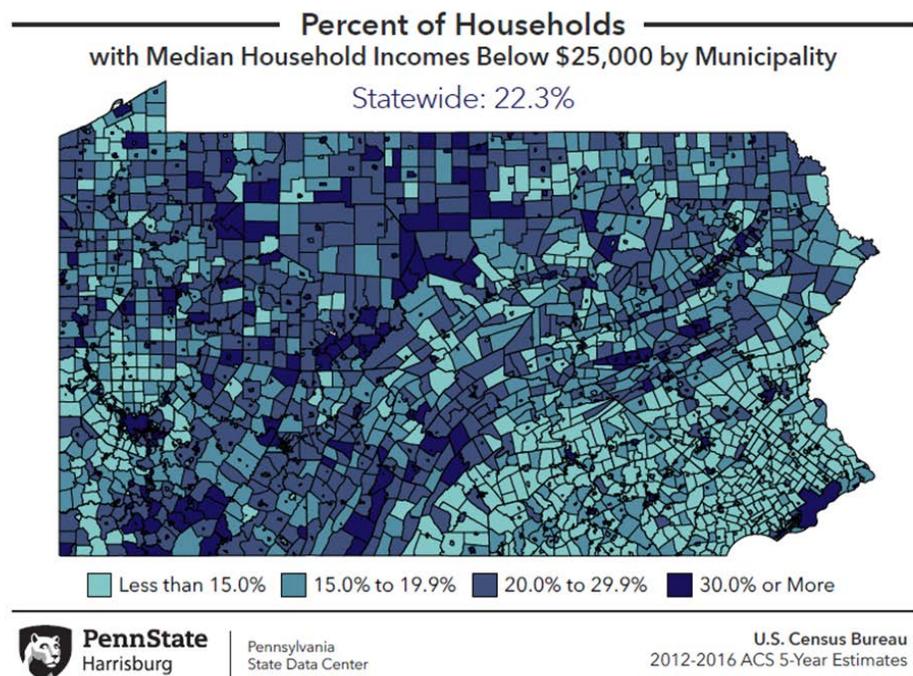
The [Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood](#) provides funding at various levels for research and development projects that improve the welfare of young children, from infancy through seven years, on a national scale. The foundation's goal is to provide seed money to implement proposals that show the greatest chance of improving the lives of young children on a national scale. Funding areas include early childhood welfare, early childhood education and play and parenting education. Letters of inquiry are due by May 31.

Making Health a Shared Value

The [Robert Woods Johnson Foundation](#) sponsors a research program offering grants in various amounts for

Pennsylvania State Data Center (PaSDC)

The [PaSDC](#) serves as Pennsylvania's official source of population and economic statistics and is the state's liaison to the Census Bureau. The PaSDC provides businesses, non-profit organizations, government agencies, and individuals with data and products such as the map below. On May 8, the PaSDC hosted the 2018 Pennsylvania Data User Conference at Penn State Harrisburg to present sessions about data collection, analysis, and information about the US Census in Pennsylvania. To learn more about the PaSDC's products and services, and for information about the conference, visit their website linked above.



Funding Opportunities

Please contact the funder directly for the most complete and current information, including eligibility criteria.

Disaster Relief, Environmental, Education and Human Services Project Grants



Grants are made by the [Lawrence Foundation](#) twice a year to support the environment, education, human services and other causes. Requests for both program and operating grants are considered, and eligible organizations include nonprofits, public schools and libraries. Application deadlines are November 1 and April 30.

research projects related to health, well-being and equity, particularly with respect to disadvantaged children and families. Eligible organizations include institutions of higher education, and public and nonprofit organizations. Letters of intent are due by June 1.

Communities Thrive Challenge Grant

The Rockefeller Foundation and Chan Zuckerberg Initiative are sponsoring the [Communities Thrive Challenge](#) to fund, strengthen, and grow local solutions that expand economic opportunity for low-income and financially insecure people. Finalists will receive \$5,000 and grantees will receive another \$1,000,000. Registration is due by June 12.

Relatives as Parents Program Grants

The [Relatives As Parents](#) program offers funding of \$10,000 in the first year and \$5,000 in the second year for projects to develop or expand services for grandparents or other relatives who have taken on the responsibility of surrogate parenting when the biological parents are unable to do so. Support can include legal services, counseling, childcare, transportation, mental health, health

Jaffe Awards

The [Jaffee Awards](#) gives financial awards to pioneering individuals and their nonprofit organizations who are making the world a better place for women and/or children in the areas of health, education, social reform, esteem and leadership development. To be selected, the organization should have a high impact on low- to middle-income women or children; should be innovative in its approach; will benefit from the visibility provided by the award; is scalable; and have a high caliber of leadership. One recipient will receive \$100,000 and two runners-up each receive \$25,000 grants. Nominations are due May 24.

Early Childhood Development Grants

The [Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood](#) provides funding at various levels for research and development projects that improve the welfare of young children, from infancy through seven years, on a national scale. The foundation's goal is to provide seed money to implement proposals that show the greatest chance of improving the lives of young children on a national scale. Funding areas include early childhood welfare, early childhood education and play and parenting education. Letters of inquiry are due by May 31.

Outreach and Intervention with Youth and Young Adults at Clinical High Risk for Psychosis Grants

Funding for projects with a budget up to \$400,000 is available through the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) to identify youth and young adults through age 25 at clinical high risk for psychosis, and provide evidence-based interventions to prevent the onset of psychosis or lessen the severity of psychotic disorders. State, county and municipal governments are eligible for funding. Applications are due June 11.

Northeastern Pennsylvania Health Care Foundation Grants

The [Northeastern Pa. Health Care Foundation](#) is offering grants of up to \$10,000 for projects designed to support health and wellness initiatives serving the people of Lackawanna, Luzerne and Wyoming Counties. Priorities include health education, community wellness, payment for medical care of uninsured and underinsured residents regardless of the facility of treatment, and to improve the complete physical, mental and social well-being of those living in Lackawanna, Luzerne, and Wyoming Counties. Letters of Intent should be submitted by June 1.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

Grants from \$50,000 to \$500,000 are available from the [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#) for capital assets for projects that link

care, housing, recreation, special population needs and other programs. Applications are due June 13.

Discount Program on Broadband Connectivity

The [Healthcare Connect Fund Program](#) provides a 65 percent discount for eligible expenses related to broadband connectivity for individual and rural health care provider organizations. Applications from consortia can include non-rural health care providers, if the consortium has a majority of rural sites. Applications are due June 29.

Community Impact Grants

Up to \$5,000 in [Home Depot](#) gift cards are available to nonprofit organizations using volunteers to improve communities. Gift cards can be used to purchase tools, materials, or services for veterans, veterans' families or communities of veterans, and for diverse and underserved communities. Examples of projects include ADA compliance and improving living facilities or individual homes. This application period is open through Dec. 31.

medical service providers in one area to patients in another, including broadband transmission facilities, video equipment, computer hardware and infrastructure, and support for instructional programming, technical assistance and instruction for using eligible equipment. A 15 percent match is required. Applications are due June 4.

Outreach and Intervention with Youth and Young Adults at Clinical High Risk for Psychosis Grants

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Nursing Research Project Grant

The [Sigma Foundation for Nursing/Doris Bloch Research Award](#) is offering a \$5,000 grant to a nurse for research projects to contribute to the advancement of nursing. Novice researchers who have received no other national research funds are encouraged to apply and will receive preference for funding. Preference is also given to Sigma Theta Tau International members. The deadline for applications is July 1.

Neighborhood Planning Grants

The [Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants Program](#) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development provides funding to replace distressed public and assisted housing in order to improve employment and income, health, children's education, safety, schools and commercial activity. Applications for planning grants of up to \$350,000, and action grants of up to \$1.3 million are due June 12.

Free Clinics Grants

[Family Medicine Cares USA](#) provides grants of up to \$10,000 to help existing free clinics care for the uninsured in their communities. Grants are accepted from Volunteers in Medicine clinics which have an American Academy of Family Physicians member in an active leadership role within the organization. Applications are due by Aug. 15.



Stonewall Community Foundation LGBTQ Microgrants



STONEWALL
Community Foundation

The [Bee Winkler Weinstein Fund](#) microgrants program provides funding of up to \$650 to help young women ages 18-25 who have lost family support because of their sexual orientation or gender identity to become self-

Pioneering Ideas Brief Proposal

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [Pioneering Ideas Brief Proposal](#) is offering funding for innovative projects that look to new and unconventional perspectives and approaches to building a Culture of Health. Some of the ideas they have considered for past awards include:

- Challenging assumptions or long-held cultural practices;
- Taking an existing idea and giving it a new spin – or a novel application;
- Offering a new take or perspective on a long-running, perplexing problem;
- Applying cutting-edge ideas from other fields to health; and
- Exploring the potential for emerging trends to impact the ability to build a Culture of Health.

sufficient. The grants can be used to cover expenses for GED tutoring or classes; uniforms necessary for work; undergraduate college application fees; vocational training, licensing and testing fees; domestic needs, such as bedding or rental security deposits; and securing legal name changes or gender-affirming IDs. Checks are issued to a nonprofit organization on behalf of individuals.

Economic Development Assistance Program

The [Economic Development Administration](#) provides funding for investments that support construction, non-construction, technical assistance, and revolving loan fund projects in economically distressed areas to create jobs and encourage economic development. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations and municipal, special district, county and state governments. Awards are for \$100,000 and up. Proposals and applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.

NURSE Corps Scholarship Program

The [NURSE Corps Scholarship Program](#) provides scholarships for tuition, fees and other educational costs for students in a diploma, associate, baccalaureate or graduate degree nursing program in exchange for two years of service at an eligible Critical Shortage Facility. Applications are due by June 14.



Policy and Law Research to Build a Culture of Health Grant

A [Policies for Action](#) grant is available to scholars and other experts to help understand how policies influence, both positively and negatively, the many potential drivers of population health, well-being and equity. Policy research areas may include health care, public health, education and training, housing and community development, civil rights, transportation and planning, labor and employment, and taxes and spending.

Sponsored by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, grants are typically capped at \$250,000 for a maximum funding period of two years. Letters of intent are due by June 7.



Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation

Improving Access to Overdose Treatment Grants

Grants from the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) are available to FQHCs for projects to improve access to overdose treatment. Funding up to \$200,000 is available for up to five years. Applications are due June 4.

Disclaimer:

The information provided in this newsletter is intended to be of general information to Pennsylvania's HIPP partnerships. It is not intended as an endorsement or recommendation of any specific process, service, product, company, or funding source outside of the Department of Health auspices. Further examination and research of information is recommended.

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Healthy Eating and Physical Activity School Grants

[Fuel Up to Play 60](#) provides up to \$4,000 to K-12 schools for community and school nutrition and meal programs and to promote physical activity. Applications are due by June 13.

AmerisourceBergen Foundation Grants

Opioid resource grants up to \$100,000 are available from the [AmerisourceBergen Foundation](#) to communities to combat the epidemic of opioid abuse and misuse. Applications are due by July 31.

Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania

The [Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania](#) recognize nurses for excellence in nursing in 12 categories including clinical patient care, nursing education, nursing research and nursing administration. Applications are being accepted through May 31.

School Garden Grant

The [Samull Classroom Herb Garden Grant](#) provides \$200 to ten elementary school classes, grades 3 through 6, to establish an indoor or outdoor herb garden. Applications are due Oct. 1.

Gun Violence Reduction Grants

The [Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency](#) is offering grant opportunities to townships, boroughs and cities for initiatives that reduce firearms violence in communities and schools. Grants vary in amount from \$500,000 to \$150,000 based on population. Applications are due June 22.

Women of Worth

[L'Oreal Paris](#) sponsors \$10,000 awards to support causes to recognize women who have volunteered their time and talents to charitable causes. Ten women will be honored and one national honoree will also receive an additional \$25,000 for her organization. Nominations are accepted through May 31.