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## Welcome Our New Executive Director!

Happy New Year!

Has anyone else felt like November and December went by exceptionally quickly this year? Maybe it's because the winter holidays are one of my favorite times of the year (cold weather notwithstanding), but it seems like I went from buying flip flops to receiving warm, fuzzy socks in my stocking in the blink of an eye!

The flipping of the calendar year can be a time of great change, and the Academy/DPHA is no exception. This column is my first as Executive Director! The path to public health is a long one, but if we take it step by step, and work together, I'm confident that together we can make Delaware one of the happiest and healthiest states in the nation. (I might need some new sneakers before we get there, though!)

The Academy/DPHA is already working with some great institutions and awesome people throughout Delaware (and outside of it) to provide you with some excellent events this year. Be on the lookout for the Hoopes Medical/Dental lecture in February, the Mid-Atlantic Public Health Conference in March, and our own Annual Meeting in the spring. We'll continue to provide our Mini Medical School series throughout the year, and we have five new Delaware Journal of Public Health issues ready for your enjoyment.

I wish you joy, happiness, and good health in the coming year, friends. And maybe a few pairs of warm, fuzzy socks!



Kate Smith, MD, MPH

*Executive Director, Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association*

## A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Donors!



As we kick off the new year, we want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to each and every one of our generous donors who contributed to our recent fundraising campaign. Your support has been instrumental in helping us reach over \$3,700 toward our ambitious goal of \$25,000.

While we may not have achieved our ultimate financial target, we are genuinely overjoyed by the engagement and commitment we witnessed from our esteemed board members, dedicated advisory council, and the wider public. Your belief in our mission and your willingness to stand with us have made a lasting impact.

While the numbers tell one story, the spirit of collaboration and shared commitment we've experienced tell another. We are

excited about the possibilities that lie ahead in 2024 and are confident that, with your continued support, we will achieve even greater heights.

As we reflect on the past year and look forward to the opportunities that the new year brings, please know that your generosity has a lasting impact on the lives we touch. Thank you for being an integral part of our community and for standing with us in our mission.

Wishing you all a year filled with joy, success, and continued collaboration!

Nicole Sabine, BS  
*Research Associate, Delaware Academy of Medicine/ Delaware Public Health Association*

## Other events

### Webinar Series: Adverse Childhood Experiences



**Mid-Atlantic Regional**  
PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING CENTER

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are potentially traumatic events that occur during childhood and have been linked to premature death and a variety of health, behavioral, and social outcomes. In fact, at least five of the top 10 leading causes of death are associated with ACEs. Examples of ACEs include various forms of abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction, as well as broader community and societal factors such as community violence and bullying. This series aims to reduce and even prevent the impact of ACEs with the support of health care providers, community health center staff, and social services personnel working in community settings.

**All sessions will meet online Thursdays from 10–11 a.m. Eastern time:**

February 8, 2024: Adverse Childhood Experiences: What Public Health Practitioners and Health Care Providers Should Know

February 15, 2024: Disrupting Adverse Childhood Experiences with Trauma-informed Health Care Practices

February 22, 2024: Mending Adverse Childhood Experiences with Trauma-informed Communication

We encourage you to join us for all three webinars as the curriculum builds as we go along.

[Click here](#) for more information and to register.

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**Delaware Child Psychiatry Access Program  
(DCPAP)**

The Delaware Child Psychiatry Access Program (DCPAP) is a statewide program that provides pediatric primary care professionals with free child psychiatry consultation and behavioral health training. DCPAP is embarking on an important initiative to better understand the perspectives of Delaware providers who may be seeking support for their pediatric patients with behavioral health disorders.



In partnership with Aloysius Butler & Clark (AB&C), DCPAP is hoping to conduct 30-minute phone interviews with Delaware providers to gain insight into your perceptions of DCPAP services. As a thank-you, participating providers will receive a \$30 Amazon gift card after completing the interview.

AB&C and DCPAP want to assure you that your feedback and personal information will remain anonymous during this interview process.

**If you are interested in participating, please email David Brond ([dbrond@abccreative.com](mailto:dbrond@abccreative.com)) with your availability and to get the interview scheduled.**

## Healthcare Student Loan Program

### Attention Delaware Residents Pursuing Careers in the Healthcare Field!

**STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE**

Healthcare Workforce Initiative



**INTEREST FREE LOANS**

for Delaware Residents, attending Delaware Institutions of higher learning, who are willing to commit to working in Delaware after graduation for a set period of time.

Loans available for nursing, physician assistant, behavioral health, dental and medical tech, and many more.

Full Details at website.

Application open until funds are depleted



APPLY TODAY!

**DHF Delaware Health Force**

Funded by the Delaware American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for shortages in the healthcare field due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Loan amount averages between \$2,500 to \$15,000 annually. Don't let money be a barrier to a rewarding career in healthcare!

TO APPLY, VISIT:  
[delamed.org/student-financial-aid/](https://delamed.org/student-financial-aid/)

CONTACT:  
Giselle Bermudez, MS,  
Student Financial Aid Coordinator  
[gbermudez@delamed.org](mailto:gbermudez@delamed.org)  
(302) 733-1122

*Se Habla Español!*

This program is supported by State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds thru the Department of Treasury and State of Delaware [SLFRP0139].

 **DELAWARE ACADEMY of MEDICINE**  
Since 1930 - making a difference in Delaware

 **DPHA**  
DELAWARE PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

### Unlock your potential with the Delaware Academy of Medicine's Student Financial Aid Program!

Don't let securing a no-interest loan\* stand in the way of your goals! Are you passionate about nursing, physician assistant, behavioral health, dental, medical assisting, or other healthcare professions? We have great news for you! The Delaware Academy of Medicine's SFA program is here to support your dreams and make your education more affordable than ever before.

## Interest-free student loans\*

(with a time-limited commitment to work in DE post-graduation based on degree or certification type the loan is financing)

Loan Amount ranges \$2,500 to \$15,000  
Funds available until depleted

[Apply Now!](#)

## Become a Member and Stay Connected!

Want to become a member?

# Join today!



[OR CLICK HERE](#)

## Additional Resources

Delaware Division of Public Health - [The DPH Bulletin](#)

Trust for America's Health: Wellness and Prevention Digest - [Subscribe](#)

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