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- Delaware News: Child Care Impact Survey, DE Reads Campaign, Lung Cancer Screening
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- Global News: Global Gaps in Price & Medicine, Measles in Mexico, Global Access to Safe Drinking Water

The Academy/DPHA News

Something New is Coming!

We've been listening. With input from our staff, board, advisory council, and members like you, **the Academy/DPHA has been working on a rebrand**. While the look and name will change, **our mission will remain the same**: serving you and advancing public health in Delaware and beyond. You'll see the **results of our work soon!**

Delaware Mini Medical School Wednesdays, 6:30-8 PM



DELAWARE MINI MEDICAL SCHOOL



Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:00 PM

- SEP 10** AI IN MEDICINE: THE PRESENT AND FUTURE
JONATHAN R. KAUFFMAN, DO
- SEP 17** KIDNEY DISEASE
SANGEETHA SATYAN, MD
- OCT 1** PALLIATIVE CARE: MAKING PEOPLE FEEL BETTER, EVEN WHEN WE CAN'T FIX THEM.
THERESA LATORRE-TEGMEIER, DNP, APRN, NP-C & ROBIN MARACLE, MSN, APRN, AGCNS-BC
- OCT 8** EXPLORING THE WORLD OF PHARMACY
CARL POPELAS PHARM.D., BCOP, CHERI BRIGGS, BS, PHARM.D, MBA, FACHE, CANDICE WAITS CPHT, CLSSGB & KATHERINE JARMON, PHARM.D
- OCT 15** GROSS BUT COOL: ADVENTURES IN GASTROENTEROLOGY
STACI SCHMIDT, FNP-BC, BSN, RN
- OCT 22** SUPERHEROES WITHOUT CAPES, THE SOCIAL WORKERS OF ACUTE CARE
LLAKEYA S. GRIFFIN, MSW, LMSW, CLSSGB & TIFFANY FIELDS, MSW, LCSW
- OCT 29** BACKUP SESSION - ONLY IF NEEDED

Our 2025 Early Fall Series in partnership with Bayhealth kicks off September 10th!

This series will be held weekly (except September 24th) and features a dynamic lineup of engaging topics, from the role of AI in medicine and kidney disease to pharmacy, palliative care, gastroenterology, and the vital work of social workers in acute care.

Whether you're a healthcare professional, student, or simply passionate about lifelong learning, we invite you to join us for these thought-provoking sessions.



in partnership
with



[Register Here](#)

Clinician's Guide to PFAS Virtual Conference

Date: September 11, 2025

Time: 12:00 – 4:00 PM (Virtual)

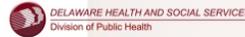
Join the Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association and the Delaware Division of Public Health for the inaugural

[Clinician's Guide to PFAS](#)

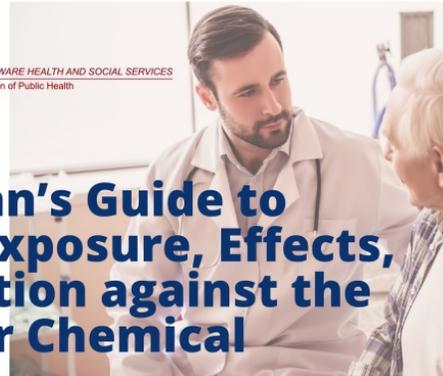
[virtual conference](#). This half-

day event will equip healthcare

professionals with the latest knowledge on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as "forever chemicals", including their sources of exposure, associated health effects, and actionable steps clinicians can take to protect patient and community health.



Clinician's Guide to PFAS: Exposure, Effects, and Action against the Forever Chemical



The Medical Society of Delaware designates this live activity for a **maximum of 3.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity:

- First hour: 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™
- Remainder of Conference: 2.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™

2025 Delaware Healthcare Workforce Summit

Date: September 24, 2025

Time: 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: Bayhealth Conference Center (Dover, DE)

Mark your calendar for the second annual [Delaware Healthcare Workforce Summit!](#)

Hosted by the Delaware Academy of Medicine/DPHA and partners, this summit brings together leaders and stakeholders to explore critical issues shaping the state's healthcare workforce.



Innovating the Future of Healthcare: Strategies for Improving Work Environments, Expanding Pipelines, and Enhancing Quality and Access.

Wednesday, September 24, 2025
8:30 AM to 3:00 PM
Bayhealth Conference Center
Dover, DE

[Register Here](#)

New DJPH Issue: LGBTQ + Health



In this issue, we take a closer look at the history and present realities of LGBTQ+ health care. From the early classification of homosexuality as a mental disorder and the stigma that shaped the HIV/AIDS epidemic, to the critical role of activists and community-based clinics, the story of LGBTQ+ health is one of both struggle and resilience. Today, significant disparities remain: LGBTQ+ individuals face higher rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation, alongside barriers such as stigma, institutional distrust, and reduced access to gender-affirming care. Meanwhile, many LGBTQ+ providers themselves are experiencing burnout driven by political volatility, unstable funding, and increased workloads.

With more than 1,100 psychiatrists, 1,000+ counselors, and dozens of marriage and family therapists in Delaware, the state has resources to help address these challenges but achieving true health equity requires acknowledging the gaps and ensuring care that is accessible, inclusive, and affirming for all Delawareans.

[Read the Issue](#)

Second Student Summer Skills Recap

On August 17, the Academy/DPHA and ChristianaCare Academic Affairs hosted the second Student Summer Skills Session, offering students another immersive, hands-on learning experience. This session focused on clinical skills such as CPR, suturing, casting, and intubation, while also giving students the chance to connect directly with current medical students and residents to explore pathways into healthcare careers.

The day also included a special parent session led by the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance, providing guidance on how to support students as they prepare for future opportunities in

How you can help:

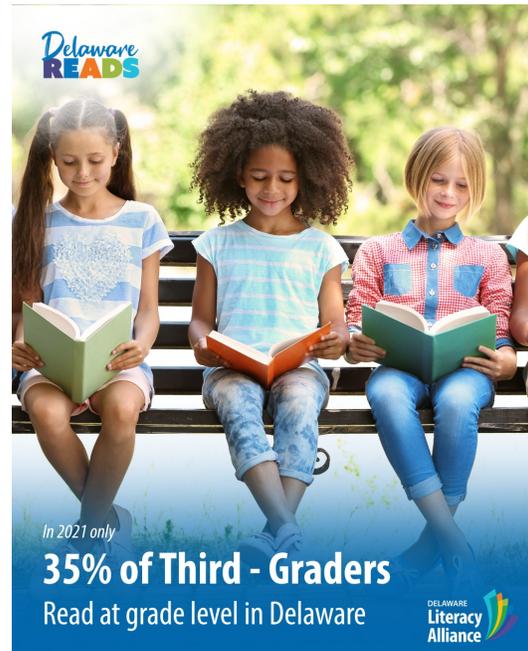
- [Take the 5-minute survey](#) (Closes Sep 22)
- Promote it 3+ times via social media or newsletters using the [2025 Employer Survey Toolkit](#)
- Amplify results during the November rollout—contact Keda Dorisca at kdorisca@rodelde.org to present findings

[Click Here for Survey](#)

September is Literacy Month: Delaware Reads Campaign

Spearheaded by the Delaware Literacy Alliance, Delaware Reads is a statewide campaign promoting reading at every age, from early childhood through adulthood. The goal is to foster a culture of reading that extends beyond the classroom into homes and communities. Literacy is essential for daily life, academic success, professional growth, and active citizenship. By encouraging reading as a lifelong habit, Delaware Reads seeks to empower individuals and strengthen communities.

As proud members and partners of the Delaware Literacy Alliance, we support this collaborative effort to make Delaware a more informed, connected, and literate state. We invite our community members and partners to join us in celebrating the joy of reading and helping build a brighter future for all Delawareans.



[Learn More and Get Involved](#)

Save the Date: Cancer Screening Day – November 8, 2025



The American Cancer Society National Lung Cancer Roundtable, American College of Radiology, Radiology Health Equity Coalition, and Go2 For Lung Cancer are partnering once again to promote National Lung Cancer Screening Day on Saturday, November 8, 2025. In Delaware, we'll be highlighting screening throughout the entire month of November to expand access and save

lives. Lung cancer remains the deadliest form of cancer, yet survival rates improve significantly with early detection. Still, too few eligible individuals are screened—only 24% of eligible Delawareans reported a lung cancer screening in 2022, and nearly half of new cases (2017–2021) were diagnosed at an advanced stage. This initiative aims to reduce barriers by offering screenings outside the regular workweek and encouraging primary care providers to refer eligible patients. Together, we can detect lung cancer earlier, improve outcomes, and work toward a future where it is no longer stigmatized or deadly.

□ [Find a screening site near you](#) | [Learn more and access free resources](#)

What else we are reading:

- [Most Delawareans See Climate Change as Serious Threat to Future](#)
- [Delaware Health Insurance Marketplace Rates Set to Rise for 2026](#)
- [Gov Signs 10 Bills to Strengthen Public Safety, Mental Health, & Victim Protections](#)
- [DE Schools Make Literacy Gains, Statewide Scores Still Lag](#)
- [DE Public Archives Launches Interactive Historical Markers Map](#)
- [Delaware Breaks Ground on Long-Term Care Hospital in Smyrna](#)
- [New 'Blue Envelope' Program to Support Drivers with Disabilities](#)
- [Governor Meyer's Office Opens Fall Internship Program](#)

National News

[CDC Director Fired, Top Leaders Resign and Condemn RFK Jr.](#)

CDC Director Dr. Susan Monarez was fired on August 27, 2025, after clashing with HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. over vaccine policy and refusing to dismiss senior staff. The firing, which the White House said reflected a lack of alignment with the President's vision, triggered the resignations of several top CDC officials, including Chief Science and Medical Officer Dr. Debra Houry. Public health experts have described the upheaval as a “total implosion,” warning it leaves the agency with a dangerous leadership vacuum during ongoing health threats. Adding to the criticism, nine former CDC directors [published an op-ed](#) in *The New York Times* on September 1, accusing Kennedy of “endangering every American's health” and calling his dismantling of CDC leadership unprecedented. Professional societies and public health leaders echoed alarm, warning the turmoil threatens the nation's ability to respond to current and future health emergencies.

[HHS Moves to End Union Rights for Federal Health Workers](#)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is ending union recognition for thousands of federal health employees, stripping them of collective bargaining rights and reclaiming office space and equipment used for union activities. The move is part of the Trump administration's broader effort to limit federal employee unions, affecting agencies including the CDC, FDA, NIH, and the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response. HHS officials say the action ensures resources focus on public health priorities, while unions argue that strong contracts support workforce stability, emergency response, and employee advocacy.

First Travel-Associated Human Screwworm Case Confirmed in U.S.

The U.S. has confirmed its first human case of travel-associated New World screwworm, a flesh-eating parasite, in Maryland, involving a person who recently returned from Central America. While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says the risk to public health is low, the confirmation has heightened concerns among cattle ranchers and beef producers, as screwworm can devastate livestock and impact the industry economically. The case comes amid USDA efforts to combat the pest, including plans for a sterile fly facility in Texas to prevent potential outbreaks.

What else we are reading:

- [Neighborhood Inequities Drive 20X Gap in Child Gun Injury Hospitalizations](#)
- [Trump Administration Escalates Crackdown on Gender-Affirming Care](#)
- [Alpha-Gal Allergy Sparks Dietary Shift on Martha's Vineyard](#)
- [California Resident Tests Positive for Plague](#)
- [ACOG Releases Updated Maternal Immunization Guidance](#)
- [GLP-1 Drugs Linked to Lower Cancer Risk](#)
- [Alabama Dept of Public Health Announces First Measles Case](#)
- [Ohio Kindergarten Vaccination Rates Fall, Reflecting National Decline](#)
- [Medical School Diversity Drops Following SCOTUS Ruling](#)
- [HHS Ends Minority Biomedical Research Support Program](#)
- [RFK Jr. Calls for Retraction of Danish Vaccine Study, Journal Refuses](#)
- [AAP Publishes Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#)

Global News

Study Finds Wide Global Gaps in Prices & Affordability of Medicines

A new cross-sectional study of 549 medicines on the World Health Organization's Essential Medicines List reveals striking disparities in pricing and affordability across 72 markets worldwide. In 2022, drug availability ranged from just 41% in Kuwait to 80% in Germany, with U.S. prices averaging three times higher than Germany's. While richer countries had higher nominal drug prices, they often enjoyed greater affordability when adjusted for purchasing power. By contrast, in Africa and Southeast Asia, patients faced the highest burden, sometimes requiring several days of minimum wage pay for a single month of treatment. Researchers stress the urgent need for strategies to promote more equitable access to life-saving medicines.

Vaccine Gaps Fuel Measles Surge in Chihuahua

Chihuahua, Mexico, has become North America's measles hotspot in 2025, reporting 3,778 confirmed cases and 13 of the country's 14 deaths. The outbreak began with a [9-year-old Mennonite child who traveled from Texas](#) and has since spread rapidly in under-vaccinated communities, including Mennonites, indigenous populations, and farmworkers. Low vaccination coverage, particularly among young adults and children who missed doses during the pandemic, combined with health-care budget cuts, disrupted vaccine programs, and limited local vaccine supply, has intensified the crisis. Public health officials have launched a massive vaccination campaign, but millions remain vulnerable, highlighting the ongoing challenges in controlling measles in

[1 in 4 People Lack Access to Safe Drinking Water](#)

A new [WHO and UNICEF report](#) highlights that despite global progress over the past two decades, billions still lack access to essential water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services, leaving them vulnerable to disease and social exclusion. As of 2024, 2.1 billion people lack safely managed drinking water, 3.4 billion lack safely managed sanitation, and 1.7 billion lack basic hygiene facilities. Disparities are greatest among those in low-income countries, rural areas, fragile contexts, children, and minority and indigenous communities. Women and girls often bear the burden of water collection, with adolescent girls facing additional barriers during menstruation. The report emphasizes that accelerated action is needed to meet 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, particularly for marginalized populations, as universal access to safely managed WASH services remains far from reach.

What else we are reading:

- [Gaza Faces Rising Infections Amid Medical Supply Collapse](#)
 - [Burkina Faso Expels Top UN Official Over Child Rights Violations Report](#)
 - [China Tightens Disease Screening at Ports of Entry](#)
 - [Nepal Declared Rubella-Free by WHO](#)
 - [Indonesian Toddler's Death Spotlights Worm Infections & Childhood Stunting](#)
 - [Researchers Isolate Key Antibodies in Progress Toward Chagas Vaccine](#)
 - [C-Section Rates in South Asia Tripled Over 16 Years](#)
 - [One Billion+ People are Living with Mental Health Disorders](#)
 - [PANO Urges Preparation for Chikungunya & Oropouche](#)
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Additional Resources

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

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

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