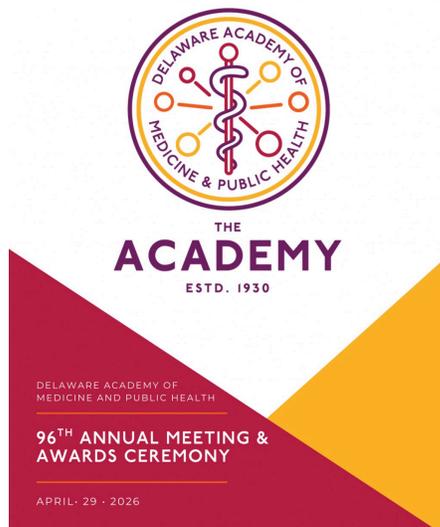




### In this newsletter:

- Academy News: Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony, DoMore24, New Podcast Episode, Vaccine Documentary Viewing, Student Skills Day, Mini Dental School
- Delaware News: Pathways to Thriving Summit, Resolution for Perinatal Mental Health, Measles Exposure at Nemours
- National News: Cuts to Public Health, EPA Regulation Rollbacks, Detention Center Conditions
- Global News: Measles Spreads in Mexico, Gaza Still in Crisis, HIV Surge in Fiji

## Academy News

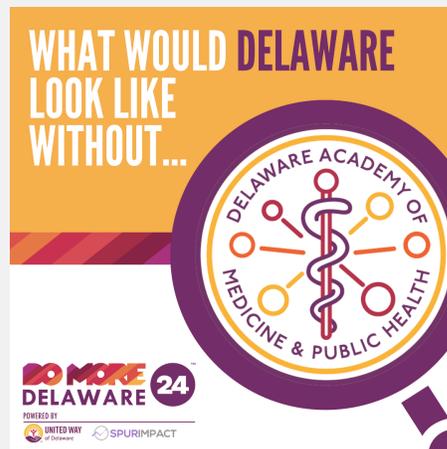


### 96th Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony

Please join President Stephen C. Eppes, MD, and the board and staff of the Academy at the Hyatt Place Wilmington Riverfront as we honor **Dr. David Paul** and the **Delaware Healthy Mother & Infant Consortium**, hear from Delaware's Secretary of Health and Social Services, **Christen Linke Young**, and recognize those making a difference in health and medicine!

**When:** Wednesday, April 29, 2026 | 6 PM

**Where:** Hyatt Place Wilmington Riverfront | 760 S. Justison St, Wilmington, DE 19801



### DoMore24 is on March 6th!

DoMore24 is just five days away, and we are excited to participate in this important 24-hour giving campaign beginning **March 5, 2026 at 6:00 PM**. Funds raised will help support the **Immunization Coalition of Delaware's (ICD)** education, outreach, and advocacy efforts across the state.

Your support, whether by making a donation or sharing the campaign with your personal and professional networks, will help strengthen the Academy's and ICD's impact and expand its ability to protect and promote community health.

We will also be featured during the **DoMore24 livestream** on **March 6, 2026 from 12:20 PM to 12:25 PM EST**, and

If you are interested in sponsoring please visit our [sponsorship page](#).

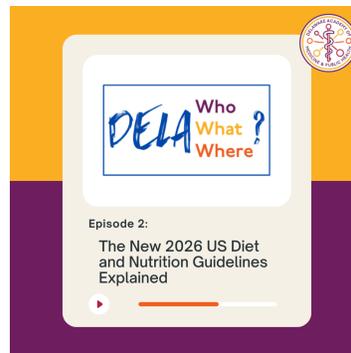
[Register Here](#)

we hope you will tune in and help amplify this moment.

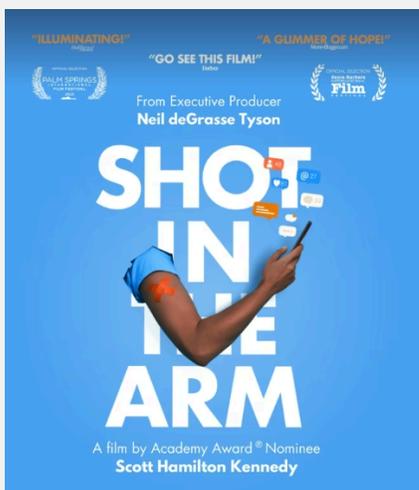
[View Fundraiser](#)

## New Episode: The New 2026 US Diet & Nutrition Guidelines Explained

A new episode of *Dela Who What Where* explores the 2026 U.S. Diet and Nutrition Guidelines, with Dr. Kate Smith and Sharon Collison, MS, RD, LDN, breaking down the latest recommendations and what they mean for individuals and families. The discussion highlights key updates, practical takeaways, and how the new guidance can support healthier everyday choices.



[Listen Here](#)



[Register Here](#)

## ICD Offers Free Screening of 'Shot in the Arm' Documentary

The **Immunization Coalition of Delaware** (ICD) is offering a free opportunity to view **Shot in the Arm**, a documentary from Academy Award–nominated filmmaker Scott Hamilton Kennedy and executive producer Neil deGrasse Tyson.

The film examines vaccine hesitancy through both historical and modern lenses, exploring how skepticism, science, and public dialogue intersect in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Viewers can choose between a 56-minute or 90-minute version.

Registrants will receive a link and password to stream the documentary.

## Explore Rural Medicine: Only a Few Spots Left!

Sussex County high school students are invited to a hands-on healthcare experience. Activities include CPR and intubation practice, vital signs assessment, ER/OR observation, and tours of newborn nurseries, radiology, and mobile health units. A “Lunch & Listen” panel features local providers sharing career insights, mentoring, and networking tips. Students outside Sussex County may be waitlisted.

**When:** March 28th, 2026 | 9 AM - 2 PM

**Where:** TidalHealth Nanticoke | 801 Middleford Rd, Seaford, DE 19973

## Explore Rural Medicine

A Hands-On Skills Day for High School Students



### Who should attend this event?

- Rural high school students interested in any healthcare field
- No experience needed!



### Hands on Skills Sessions

- CPR & intubation
- Vital signs assessment
- Emergency Room (ER) and Operating Room (OR) observation
- Newborn nursery, radiology, and mobile mammography/community van tours



### Lunch & Listen Panel

- Hear from local health care providers
- Ask questions and gain career insights
- Learn about mentoring & networking opportunities



Saturday, March 28th.



9am to 2pm



TidalHealth Nanticoke, 801 Middleford Road, Seaford, Delaware



Scan Me

[Register Here](#)

**DELAWARE MINI DENTAL SCHOOL**  
Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:00 PM

FEB 25	GENERAL DENTISTRY
MAR 04	ORTHODONTICS
MAR 11	ENDODONTICS
MAR 18	PERIODONTICS
MAR 25	ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY
APR 01	ANESTHESIA, ANXIETY MANAGEMENT, & ACCOMMODATIVE CARE OF SPECIAL POP.
APR TBD	BACKUP SESSION - ONLY IF NEEDED

ACADEMY in partnership with DSBS

[Register Here](#)

## Delaware Mini DENTAL School: 5 Sessions Left!

The Delaware Mini Medical School is offering a *special series* exploring the breadth of modern dentistry. Across six weekly sessions, participants will gain insight into diverse dental specialties, clinical techniques, and patient-centered care approaches from expert professionals.

This unique series is ideal for students, aspiring dental professionals, and community members interested in learning how dental care supports overall health across diverse populations.

## Delaware News

### Division of Public Health's Pathways to Thriving Summit

The Delaware Division of Public Health's Bureau of Health Equity will host the Pathways to Thriving Summit on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at Bally's Dover Casino Resort, bringing together up to 450 leaders from healthcare, public health, education, housing, transportation, criminal justice, and workforce development. The summit will feature keynote remarks from Becky Payne, President and CEO of the Rippel Foundation, and speeches from Lt. Governor Kyle Evans Gay, DPH Director Steven Blessing, and Deputy Director Dr. Tesha Quail. Participants will engage in interactive breakout sessions, roundtables, group problem-solving, and planning workshops focused on addressing the root causes of health inequities—such as safe housing, healthy food, education, and access to care. Designed to foster cross-sector collaboration, the event also includes networking, a technology and innovation showcase, a local marketplace, wellness activities, and practical tools to implement long-term strategies for improving health and

well-being across Delaware. Registration is open through March 17, and childcare will be provided.

## Delaware Passes Resolution to Map and Strengthen Perinatal Mental Health System

In response to Delaware's low national ranking for maternal mental health, state leaders have passed **House Concurrent Resolution 82** (HCR 82), charging the **Delaware Behavioral Health Consortium** (BHC) with mapping the state's perinatal mental healthcare system. Sponsored by Speaker Melissa Minor-Brown, Sen. Marie Pinkney, and Rep. Valerie Jones Giltner, the resolution acknowledges recent progress in expanding perinatal services while addressing gaps in workforce, data, and equitable care delivery across the state. The BHC will lead the development of a comprehensive perinatal "state of the state" report, collaborating with partners including the Delaware Division of Public Health, Delaware Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium, Delaware Chapter of Postpartum Support International, and the Delaware Health Care Commission. The report, due December 1, 2026, will serve as a roadmap to improve access, equity, and quality in maternal mental healthcare. Lt. Governor Kyle Evans Gay, Speaker Minor-Brown, and Maternal Mental Health Working Group Chair Dr. Malina Spirito emphasized the importance of using data, accountability, and coordinated action to address the maternal mental health crisis and save lives.

## Measles Exposure Reported at Nemours Children's Hospital in Wilmington

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) is investigating a measles exposure at the Nemours Children's Hospital emergency department on February 18, 2026. Contact tracing is underway, and exposed individuals will be notified about vaccination status, quarantine guidance, and educational resources. DPH advises anyone exposed to check their MMR vaccination status and monitor for symptoms through March 11, 2026. Pregnant individuals who may have been exposed should seek immediate evaluation. Those not fully vaccinated should receive an MMR dose within 72 hours of exposure (by February 21, 2026). Measles is highly contagious and can cause serious complications, including pneumonia, brain inflammation, and death. The MMR vaccine is safe and 97% effective for those who have received two doses. Vaccinations are available at pharmacies, primary care providers, federally qualified health centers, and public health clinics. For more information, testing, or guidance, contact the Delaware Office of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at 302-744-4990 (business hours) or 1-888-295-5156 (after hours), and review your vaccination record via the **DelVAX Public Portal**.

### What else we are reading:

- [Gov Announces \\$50 Million Investment to Strengthen DE's Early Childhood System](#)
- [Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Student Internship](#)
- [DE High School Students Invited to Enter Organ Donor Awareness Scholarship Contest](#)
- [Delaware Tourism Announces World Cup 2026 Plans](#)
- [Gov Awards Order of the First State to Five Distinguished Delawareans](#)
- [Delaware 250 to Host Black-Tie "Celebrate Delaware" Gala](#)
- [Delmar School District Over Capacity by Nearly 300 Students](#)
- [Analysis: Property Reassessment Hit Black & Brown Wilmington Neighborhoods Hardest](#)

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## National News

### Federal Judge Blocks Trump Admin's Attempt to Rescind \$600M in Public Health Grants to Four Democratic-Led States

A federal judge in Illinois has temporarily blocked the Donald Trump administration from rescinding \$600 million in CDC-administered public health grants allocated to California, Colorado, Illinois, and Minnesota. The U.S. District Court ruling by Judge Manish Shah halts the planned cuts for 14 days, finding the states demonstrated they would suffer “irreparable harm” if funding were withdrawn. The grants, nearly two-thirds of which remain unspent, largely in California, support state and local health departments, nonprofits, and initiatives including HIV prevention, disease surveillance, and research on health outcomes among LGBTQ+ people and communities of color. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services had argued the funding no longer aligns with revised Centers for Disease Control and Prevention priorities, which have shifted away from targeted health equity initiatives. State officials, led by Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul, contend the move is politically motivated retaliation tied to broader policy disputes and argue the administration cannot retroactively impose new conditions on funds already appropriated by Congress. The temporary injunction ensures grant money will continue flowing to affected programs while the legal challenge proceeds.

## EPA Moves to Revoke 2009 Climate “Endangerment Finding,” Threatening Federal Emissions Rules

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is preparing to rescind its 2009 “**endangerment finding**,” the landmark scientific determination that greenhouse gases pose a threat to public health and welfare. The finding has served as the legal foundation for federal limits on vehicle and power plant emissions. The rollback, supported by members of President Trump’s administration as a major deregulatory action, could **significantly weaken** the federal government’s ability to regulate climate pollution in the future. Experts say eliminating the finding may prevent future administrations from using the EPA to curb emissions, allowing industries to scale back compliance with climate regulations. Scientific and health organizations **strongly oppose** the move, citing extensive evidence linking climate change and air pollution to illness, rising health costs, and premature deaths. Environmental groups have vowed to challenge the decision in court, setting the stage for potentially years of legal battles.

## Health and Safety Conditions Deteriorate in Expanding U.S. Immigration Detention Centers

As the current administration expands immigration detention amid a mass deportation push, detainees and health workers report worsening medical and mental health conditions, including for children. An investigation by ProPublica found that families at the Dilley Detention Center in Texas are being held for weeks or months, with **roughly 300 children** detained for more than 20 days despite legal limits. Parents and advocates report frequent illness, delayed or inadequate medical care, and rising mental health crises among children, including depression and self-harm, according to data from RAICES. **Similar concerns have emerged** at Guantánamo Bay, where KFF Health News reports that hundreds of immigrants, most deemed low risk, are held in overcrowded facilities with limited medical services and little natural light. Several U.S. Public Health Service officers have resigned, saying they cannot ethically work under conditions they describe as facilitating a humanitarian crisis.

### What else we are reading:

- [NCI Explores Ivermectin as Potential Cancer Treatment Despite Limited Evidence](#)
- [Rare COVID-19 Vaccine Blood Clots Traced to Adenovirus Protein, Study Finds](#)
- [Study Finds Over 70% of U.S. Baby Foods Are Ultra-processed](#)
- [FDA to reassess the safety of BHA](#)
- [FDA to Drop the Two-Study Requirement for New Drug Approvals](#)
- [U.S. Hepatitis B Vaccination Rates Drop to 73% After Peak in 2023](#)
- [Teen Cannabis Use Linked to Higher Risk of Bipolar & Psychotic Disorders](#)
- [Estrogen Patch Shortages Amid Growing Menopause Hormone Therapy Demand](#)
- [ACOG: Endometriosis Can Be Diagnosed Without Laparoscopy](#)
- [Dentists Issued 27M+ Antibiotic Rx in 2025 as Stewardship Gaps Fuel Resistance](#)

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## Global News

### Mexico Expands School Screenings & Recommends Masks Amid Widespread Measles Outbreak

Mexico is stepping up health screenings in schools and recommending face masks for students and staff as measles cases surge nationwide. Mexico state, surrounding Mexico City, will check students' temperatures and promote vaccinations. The outbreak has spread to all 32 states, with 2,143 confirmed and nearly 6,000 suspected cases through February 6, 2026. Neighboring Jalisco, **the epicenter**, has already mandated masks in schools. Health authorities say cases in Mexico state are under control, while Mexico City has launched an aggressive vaccination campaign. The Pan American Health Organization has issued an alert, warning that the U.S. and Mexico could lose measles-free status like Canada.

### Gaza's Health System in Crisis as Access to Care Remains Blocked

Months after a U.S. brokered ceasefire, Gaza remains in a deepening health crisis. The **WHO rejected** Israel's proposal to consolidate health reports, highlighting international disputes over patient evacuations. Saudi Arabia reports 18,000 patients, including 4,000 children, need urgent medical evacuation, while Israel says many countries are not accepting enough patients. Hospitals are severely damaged, 1,600 health workers killed, and sanitation is inadequate. Older Gazans report **interrupted chronic care**, and many live in tents. Individual stories underscore the struggle, including **a kidney patient** unable to access medicines and a **5-year-old cancer patient** denied entry to Israel for treatment.

### Fiji Faces Rapidly Growing HIV Crisis

Fiji is experiencing the world's fastest-growing HIV outbreak, with cases rising from 147 in 2020 to 1,226 in the first half of 2025. Health officials warn that without intervention, cases could reach 25,000 by 2029. A surge in methamphetamine use and associated high-risk behaviors are driving transmission, while the epidemic increasingly affects infants, with 33 babies born with HIV in early 2025. Limited testing, harm reduction programs, and antiretroviral supplies have hindered the country's response.

#### What else we are reading:

- [Tanning Bed Ads Spread Misinformation Amid Rising UK Youth Melanoma Cases](#)
- [Malawi Polio Vaccination Drive Leverages Local Influencers to Overcome Hesitancy](#)
- [Zimbabwe Rejects \\$367M U.S. Health Aid Package Amid "America First" Concerns](#)
- [Drug-Resistant TB Patients Isolated for Months in Northern Cameroon](#)
- [6.5 Million Somalis Face Food Insecurity and Aid Falls Short](#)
- [Global Study Tracks Cataract Surgical Coverage in Adults 50+ Across 68 Countries](#)

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## Additional Resources

Delaware Health and Social Services - [Public Health Information Portal](#)

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

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