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Academy News

HIGH SCHOOL HANDS-ON SKILLS DAY
Explore Healthcare Careers & Learn Life-Saving Skills!

OPENING REMARKS & Q&A PANEL
Gain insights from Academic Affairs Leadership, Residents, & Medical Students

ACTIVITIES:
CPR TRAINING, STOP THE BLEED, CASTING

WHEN: Saturday, August 15th | 9am - 2pm
WHERE: ChristianaCare John H. Ammon Medical Education Center
4755 Ogletown Stanton Rd, Newark, DE 19718

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

SCAN TO REGISTER!
delamed.org

*Open to all high school students interested in health sciences.

A Hands-on Skills Day for High School Students

We're excited to partner with ChristianaCare Academic Affairs to offer a Hands-On Skills Day for High School Students interested in exploring careers in healthcare!

This interactive experience is open to all high school students and no prior experience is required. Participants will gain exposure to real-world clinical skills and hear directly from healthcare professionals about education and career pathways. Whether students are curious about medicine, nursing, allied health, public health, or another healthcare field,

DELAWARE MINI MEDICAL SCHOOL
Tuesdays, 11:30 am - 1:00 PM

JUL 07 TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH
CHRISTIANACARE

JUL 14 RESPIRATORY
BAYHEALTH

JUL 21 POPULATION HEALTH
BEEBE HEALTHCARE

JUL 28 PHARMACY
NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HEALTH

AUG 04 LABORATORY SCIENCE
TIDALHEALTH

AUG 11 RADIOLOGY
NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HEALTH

AUG TBD BACKUP SESSION - ONLY IF NEEDED

Logos: ACADEMY, TidalHealth, Beebe, ChristianaCare, Bayhealth, NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Delaware Mini Medical School: Special Summer Session

Registration is now open for the 2026 Summer Mini Med series, designed **exclusively for high school students**.

Sessions will take place Tuesday mornings from July 7 through August 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and will feature healthcare professionals and experts from leading Delaware health organizations. Topics will include translational research, pharmacy, and more, offering students an opportunity to explore diverse healthcare fields and connect with professionals across the state.

this event offers a chance to learn, connect, and build practical skills.

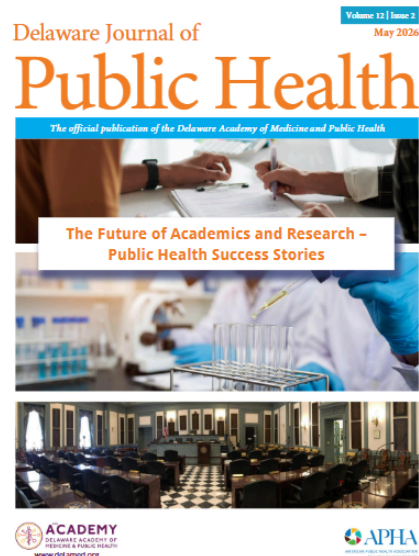
[Register Here](#)

[Register Here](#)

New DJPH Issue: The Future of Academics and Research

This issue of the Delaware Journal of Public Health reflects the resilience of public health during a period of significant uncertainty and change. While many anticipated widespread reductions to public health programs, practitioners and communities continued to advance meaningful work despite limited resources.

Curated by guest editor Jennifer Horney, PhD, this edition highlights inspiring public health efforts across Delaware, featuring stories ranging from innovative nurse robotics fellowships to the 20-year impact of the Delaware Healthy Mother & Infant Consortium. Together, these articles showcase the ongoing innovation, dedication, and impact of public health across the state.



[Read the Issue](#)



DYMA Workshop: Clinical Skills & Patient Cases Recap

DYMA Scholars recently participated in an interactive clinical skills workshop led by medical student mentors that introduced students to hands-on learning and case-based clinical reasoning. Through a guided patient case study, scholars practiced diagnostic thinking while learning how to measure blood pressure and heart rate and explored differences between resting and active heart rates through collaborative activities with their peers.

To evaluate learning outcomes, students completed pre- and post-workshop assessments focused on understanding of the concepts taught, including topics such as healthy blood pressure ranges and heart rate interpretation. Results showed a ~61% increase in average assessment scores following the workshop, indicating meaningful gains in student understanding of the material covered.

Share Your Story: Help Shape Insurance Reform Around Prior Authorization and Coverage Denials

Do you have a story about denials of Prior Authorizations, insurance denying medically necessary treatments or diagnostic studies? Our partners at Convergence Public Affairs are working on an insurance reform campaign and would like to hear your story. [We've created a form for you to fill out](#) and we will share your stories with them. You can submit these anonymously and give as much or little detail as you'd like. Convergence will then create a story and send it back to you for editing and clarifications before using it for their campaign. [They're looking for stories from the caregiver, patient, and/or provider](#) perspective so feel free to share the stories you're most comfortable with.



[Share Your Story](#)

DHF Delaware Health Force **DATA IN ACTION**

SAVE THE DATE

2026 Delaware Healthcare Workforce Summit

Wednesday, September 30, 2026
8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Focus on Behavioral Health! Updates on Delaware's Rural Health Transformation Program!

Presented with support from the Office of Healthcare Provider Resources,
Delaware Division of Public Health

Save the Date: 2026 Delaware Healthcare Workforce Summit

Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2026
Time: 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

With a focus on behavioral health and updates on the Rural Health Transformation Program.

Delaware News

Delaware Launches First-Ever Four-Year Medical School in Historic Jefferson University Partnership

Delaware has announced its first-ever four-year M.D. granting medical school through a \$78 million federally funded Rural Health Transformation initiative in partnership with Thomas Jefferson University's Sidney Kimmel Medical College. The program, supported by a statewide consortium of academic and healthcare partners, will enroll up to 40 students beginning in 2028, with pre-clinical training at the University of Delaware and clinical rotations across hospitals and rural communities statewide. A tuition-free pathway will support students who commit to practicing in rural Delaware after graduation. Officials say the initiative aims to address persistent physician shortages, strengthen local training pipelines, and expand access to care, particularly in underserved regions.

ChristianaCare Physicians Ratify First Union Contract, Marking Historic Step for Delaware Healthcare

More than 500 physicians at ChristianaCare have ratified their first union contract, creating the largest private-sector physician union in the country and the first collective bargaining agreement in Delaware's major healthcare system. Approved by 97% of members after two years of negotiations with Doctors Council SEIU, the three-year contract establishes

new structures for physician input into system operations, adjusts pay to better reflect market rates, and sets limits on patient load to support safety and care quality. While the agreement includes a mutual prohibition on strikes or lockouts, it also formalizes physician-led committees intended to strengthen communication with leadership. The deal comes as broader discussions continue with resident physicians and amid heightened concerns about workplace safety following recent violence at a ChristianaCare facility.

6th Annual Military & Veterans Mental Health Summit

The 2026 Veterans Mental Health Summit will bring together hundreds of healthcare providers, policymakers, veteran advocates, military families, and community members for a day of education, resource sharing, and collaboration focused on improving mental health outcomes for veterans. This year's theme, The Front Line at Home, highlights the unique mental health challenges experienced by military service members, veterans, and their families while honoring those who have served our country. The summit will take place on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at DuPont Country Club in Wilmington, with free attendance for veterans, military service members, and their families/support systems. **Register here.**

What else we are reading:

- [Delaware House Advances Bills to Shield Ratepayers From Data Center Energy Costs](#)
- [SUN Bucks Program to Help Nearly 98,000 Children Access Summer Nutrition Benefits](#)
- [Delaware Tree Initiative Tops 500,000 Plantings, Opens Funding for 2027 Projects](#)
- [DE Literacy Strategy Receives National Recognition for Strengthening Teacher Prep](#)
- [27 Incarcerated Students Earn High School Diplomas in Prison Graduation Ceremonies](#)
- [Delaware Expands Teacher Pipeline with 67 New Educator Apprentices](#)
- [Delaware Bay Horseshoe Crab Population Nears Historic Recovery](#)
- [DE HOSA Students Earn National Honors at International Conference](#)
- [Students Earn National Title & Honors at Technology Student Association Conference](#)
- [DMOS Program Earns National Recognition Following Downtown Growth & Milestones](#)

National News

U.S. Infant Mortality Falls to Record Low in 2025, Preliminary Data Show

Preliminary CDC data show that U.S. infant mortality reached a new record low in 2025, declining to just under 5.4 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. Although the decrease from previous years appears modest, researchers say it represents a meaningful improvement and translates to hundreds of fewer infant deaths nationwide. **Experts point** to continued progress in medical care and public health efforts, including expanded infant and maternal RSV protections and safe sleep education, while emphasizing that significant disparities remain. Infant mortality rates continue to vary across populations and the U.S. still trails many other high-income countries on infant health outcomes.

Trump Admin Moves Special Education Oversight to HHS Amid Education Department Restructuring

The Trump administration announced that oversight of special education will shift from the U.S. Department of Education to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of broader efforts to reduce and ultimately close the Education Department. The move aligns with recommendations **outlined in Project 2025**, which proposed transferring disability-related education grant administration to HHS. The decision has raised concern among disability advocates and families, particularly given Health

LGBTQ+ Youth Services to Return to 988 Hotline Amid Policy Changes and Provider Questions

Specialized crisis support for LGBTQ+ youth is expected to return to the national 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline by the end of the year, according to the Trump administration, but officials say the program will be updated to align with a recent executive order recognizing sex as binary. Details about how services may change remain unclear. The announcement also raises questions about provider participation, as eligibility requirements may exclude organizations such as The Trevor Project, which previously handled a large share of LGBTQ+ crisis contacts. Advocates have expressed concern that changes to program structure or counseling approaches could affect the quality and accessibility of support for young callers.

What else we are reading:

- [Americans Quarantined for Hantavirus, Return Home & No Cases in US Occur](#)
- [Shingles Vaccine Linked to Lower Dementia Risk Among U.S. Nursing Home Residents](#)
- [FDA Approves New OTC Naloxone Nasal Spray to Expand Overdose Response Access](#)
- [U.S. Spending \\$5,000 Monthly to Store \\$10M in Undistributed Contraceptives](#)
- [Study Links Utah's 0.05 BAC Limit to Sharp Drop in Alcohol-Related Crash Deaths](#)
- [Rising Inflation Strains Older Women on Fixed Incomes, Widening Social Security Gaps](#)
- [Larger Vehicles Linked to Rising U.S. Pedestrian Deaths, Analysis Finds](#)
- [Proposed Indigenous Medical School Aims to Transform Physician Training](#)
- [FDA Peptide Panel Draws Scrutiny Over Industry Financial Ties](#)
- [Electronic Alerts Boost Chlamydia Screening Rates Among Young Women Nearly 3x](#)
- [Medicare Launches Temporary GLP-1 Weight Loss Coverage for Seniors Through 2027](#)

Global News

WHO Launches First Global STI Prevalence Database to Strengthen Surveillance and Public Health Response

The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched the first global open-access database dedicated to tracking sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevalence across low- and middle-income countries. Designed to improve access to reliable and standardized data, the platform consolidates published and unpublished evidence collected since 2010 to support stronger surveillance and more targeted public health action. The database currently includes information on five STIs: chlamydia, gonorrhoea, HSV-2, syphilis, and trichomoniasis. As of June 2026, it contains data from 766 studies and more than 2,400 prevalence data points spanning diverse populations and settings, including pregnant women, adolescents, key populations, sex workers, and community surveys. WHO plans to continue updating and expanding the resource to improve understanding of STI trends and support evidence-based policy and prevention efforts worldwide.

Europe Heatwave Linked to 1,300 Deaths as Record Temperatures Sweep Continent

Europe's early summer heatwave has been linked to more than 1,300 excess deaths since June 21, according to the World Health Organization. Record temperatures were set across multiple countries, including Germany reaching 41.7°C, Poland at 40.5°C, and the Czech Republic at 41.1°C. Older adults have been disproportionately affected, with France reporting approximately 1,000 excess deaths and a sharp increase in deaths occurring at home. WHO officials warned that Europe is warming twice as fast as the

global average and called for stronger heat preparedness plans as climate-driven extreme heat events become more frequent.

Venezuela Earthquake Response Strains Fragile Health System as Death Toll Climbs

More than 72 hours after Venezuela's devastating twin earthquakes, emergency responders and healthcare workers continue to operate under severe strain as the country's already fragile health system faces mounting pressure. Officials report approximately 1,450 deaths, 3,150 injuries, and more than 12,700 displaced residents, with numbers expected to rise. Hospitals in the hardest-hit regions have been **damaged or forced offline**, leaving surviving facilities to manage shortages of water, electricity, medications, and equipment while treating patients in improvised care spaces. Volunteers remain central to rescue and relief efforts as international assistance expands and health officials warn of worsening medical and **sanitation challenges** in the days ahead.

What else we are reading:

- [Study Links Moderate Alcohol Consumption to Increased Pancreatic Cancer Risk](#)
- [U.K. to Ban Social Media Use for Children Under 16 Starting Next Year](#)
- [Colombia Becomes First Latin American Country to Ban Female Genital Mutilation](#)
- [India Faces Shortage of Key Chemotherapy Drugs Amid Platinum Supply Strain](#)
- [Lancet Blueprint Calls for Faster Detection to Prevent Postpartum Hemorrhage Deaths](#)
- [Ebola Outbreak in DRC Reaches 1,048 Cases, 267 Deaths](#)
- [Doctors Warn of Rabies Risk After Ontario Child Dies Following Bat Exposure](#)
- [WHO Expands Health Inequality Monitoring Network, Doubling Global Membership](#)

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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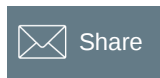
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302-733-3952 | delamed.org | dehealthforce.org

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Delaware Academy of Medicine and Public Health | PO Box 89 | Historic New Castle, DE 19720 US

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