



Forum on Rural Population Health

May 14 - 15, 2026
To be held virtually
ohsu.edu/orhforum



2026 Forum on Rural Population Health Agenda Overview

Thursday, May 14

<p>9:20 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Forum Welcome Stepha Dragoon, LMSW, MPAff (she/they) Oregon Office of Rural Health</p>		
<p>9:30 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Liberation, Voice and Power: Reimagining Rural Health Through Community-Led Advocacy and Organizational Accountability Jayden Ruff (she/her) South Coast Health Equity Coalition</p>		
<p>10:40 a.m.- 11:40 a.m.</p>	<p>Connected Care for Older Adults - A Promising Model to Achieve Quadruple Aim Goals Lindsay Miller (she/her) Columbia Gorge Health Council Elizabeth Foster, MD (she/her) Columbia Gorge Health Council Clinical Advisory Panel</p> <p>Creation of a Virtual Age-Friendly Curriculum for Community Health Workers Robin Brown, MD (she/her) OHSU Adi Shafir, MD (she/her) OHSU</p>	<p>Scaling Rural Therapy Intensives: Outcomes, Workforce Development and Sustainable Funding Justin Little, LMFT (he/him) Forage Wellness Collective LLC Lacey Hawkins (she/her) Forage Wellness Collective LLC</p>	<p>Growing Public Health from the Ground Up: Rural Workforce Perspectives Alice Gates, PhD (she/her) OHSU-PSU School of Public Health Kelly McNeil, PhD (she/her) Eastern Oregon University Jennifer Little, MPH (she/her) Klamath County Public Health Sam Ameson, RDH (she/her) OHSU-PSU School of Public Health Jenica Palmer, MPH (she/her) Portland State University Rachel Posterick (she/her) OHSU-PSU School of Public Health Kali Paine, MPH (she/her) Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization/Moda Health</p>



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			Dawn Richardson, MPH, DrPH (she/her) OHSU-PSU School of Public Health
11:40 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.	Lunch Break		
12:10 p.m.- 1:10 p.m.	<p>Oregon’s HERO Kids Registry: An Innovative Public Health Program Linking Families to Emergency Medical Services and Filling the Information Gap Brittany Tagliaferro-Lucas, BS (she/her) Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs Rachel Ford, MPH (she/her) Oregon Emergency Medical Services for Children Program Tamara Bakewell, MA (she/her) Oregon Center</p>	<p>Wellness Starts at Home: How Home Energy Upgrades Improve Health and Comfort Julia Sinex (she/her) OHCS Multifamily Energy Program (OR-MEP) Tim Davis (he/him) OHCS Multifamily Energy Program (OR-MEP)</p>	<p>MIH in Action: How Oregon Is Redefining Access to Care Sabrina Ballew, CP-C, NR-P, CHW Mercy Flights</p>
1:20 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.	<p>Avoid the Care Crisis: Strategies to Anticipate and Plan for Increased Care Needs of Older Adults Suvi Neukam, DO, FACP, CPAFH (she/her) Oregon Health and Science University</p>	<p>Rural Health’s Role in Recognizing and Treating PANDAS/PANS Sarah Lemley, MPA, HA (she/her) Northwest PANDAS/PANS Network Kym McCornack (she/her) Northwest PANDAS/PANS Network</p>	<p>Financial Wellness Resources from Oregon DFR: From Financial Preparedness for Disasters to Scam Prevention and More Craig Vattiat (he/him) Oregon Division of Financial Regulation</p>
2:20 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.	Break		



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2:35 p.m.- 3:35 p.m.:	<p>Cultivating Compassion: The Oregon Network for Community-Based Serious Illness Support Elizabeth Johnson, MA (she/her) The Peaceful Presence Project Erin Collins, MN, RN, CHPN (she/her) The Peaceful Presence Project</p>	<p>Incredible Equitables: A Team Approach to Championing Rural Health Equity Vanessa A. Becker, MPH (she/her) Douglas Public Health Network Kendra Murray, MPH, CHES (she/her) Douglas Public Health Network Sarah Zia, MPH, MSBA (she/her) Douglas Public Health Network Paul Leonard (he/him) Douglas Public Health Network</p>	To be announced
3:45 p.m.- 4:45 p.m.:	<p>Replicating a Locally Responsive Traditional Health Worker Training Hub Lisa Ladendorff, LCSW, CHW (she/her) Northeast Oregon Network Cami Miller, CHW, PSS (she/Her) Northeast Oregon Network</p>	<p>Bridging the Gap: EMS Training Expands Rural Access to Life-Saving Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Dre Cantwell-Frank, NRP (she/her) The Bridge Center at PHI Emily Henke, MPH, BA (she/her) Oregon Public Health Institute</p>	To be announced
Friday, May 15			
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	<p>Deconstructing Trauma: Integrating Harm Reduction and Prevention for Lasting Recovery Renee Frye (she/her) Sacred Sol Healing Institute</p>		
10:10 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.	<p>How Self-Reported Understanding Undermines Individual and Population Health</p>	<p>Integrating Health Care Into Housing: The Impact of Embedded Nursing on Well-being and Care Coordination</p>	<p>Empowering Traditional Health Workers: Cancer Education Training for THWs</p>



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	Cliff Coleman, MD, MPH (he/him) Oregon Health & Science University	Deb Felcarlson, BSN, RN, MSPH (she/her) Faith Community Health Network Marcy Shanks, MSN, RN, MEd (she/her) Faith Community Health Network	Paige Farris, MSW (she/her) OHSU Knight Cancer Institute's Community Outreach & Engagement Carina Garcia, BA (she/her) OHSU Knight Cancer Research Institute
11:20 a.m.- 12:20 p.m.	Implementing Trauma-Focused Therapies with Rural Populations Thomas Pitts (he/him) Valley Family Health Care	Five Fundamentals to Succeed in Value-Based Payment Evan Saulino MD, PhD (he/him) Comagine Kelly McGrath, MD (he/him) St. Mary's Clearwater Dave Ross (He/Him) Comagine	POLST: What is it? Who needs one? How does it work? Christine Mullooney, MD (she/her) Oregon POLST Program & Oregon POLST Coalition
12:20 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.	Lunch Break		
12:50 p.m.- 1:50 p.m.	Resource Fair – Mini Presentations		
2:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.	A Rural Case Study: Community-Driven Approaches to Increase Awareness of Diabetes Prevention Programs Tessa Swigart (she/her) ICF Next Abbey Schneider, PhD (she/her) ICF Next	Understanding Oregon's Rural Community Mental Health Needs for Children and Families Andromeda Blair (she/her) Pacific University Halle Bakir (she/her) Pacific university	Delivering Oral Health in Rural Oregon: Mobile Dentistry in Behavioral Health and Recovery Settings Destyne Johnson, EPDH (she/her) Capitol Dental Care Cheryl Rosecrans, DCHW (she/her) Capitol Dental Care