



# 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><b>Forum Welcome</b> <b>Stepha Dragoon, LMSW, MPAff</b> (she/they)   Oregon Office of Rural Health <b>Green Room</b></p>		
<p>9:30 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Liberation, Voice and Power: Reimagining Rural Health Through Community-Led Advocacy and Organizational Accountability</b> <b>Jayden Ruff</b> (she/her)   South Coast Health Equity Coalition <b>Green Room</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">This session is sponsored by the <b>Oregon Health Authority</b></p>		
<p>10:40 a.m.- 11:40 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Connected Care for Older Adults - A Promising Model to Achieve Quadruple Aim Goals</b> <b>Lindsay Miller</b> (she/her)   Columbia Gorge Health Council <b>Yellow Room</b></p> <p><b>Creation of a Virtual Age-Friendly Curriculum for Community Health Workers</b> <b>Robin Brown, MD</b> (she/her)   OHSU <b>Adi Shafir, MD</b> (she/her)   OHSU <b>Yellow Room</b></p>	<p><b>Scaling Rural Therapy Intensives: Outcomes, Workforce Development and Sustainable Funding</b> <b>Justin Little, LMFT</b> (he/him)   Forage Wellness Collective LLC <b>Lacey Hawkins</b> (she/her)   Forage Wellness Collective LLC <b>Blue Room</b></p>	<p><b>Growing Public Health from the Ground Up: Rural Workforce Perspectives</b> <b>Alice Gates, PhD</b> (she/her)   OHSU-PSU School of Public Health <b>Kelly McNeil, PhD</b> (she/her)   Eastern Oregon University <b>Jennifer Little, MPH</b> (she/her)   Klamath County Public Health <b>Sam Ameson, RDH</b> (she/her)   OHSU-PSU School of Public Health <b>Kali Paine, MPH</b> (she/her)   Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization/Moda Health</p>



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



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	Blue Room	Pink Room	Yellow Room
2:20 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.	<b>Break</b>		
2:35 p.m.- 3:35 p.m.:	<p><b>Cultivating Compassion: The Oregon Network for Community-Based Serious Illness Support</b>  <b>Elizabeth Johnson, MA</b> (she/her)   The Peaceful Presence Project  <b>Erin Collins, MN, RN, CHPN</b> (she/her)   The Peaceful Presence Project  <b>Pink Room</b></p>	<p><b>Incredible Equitables: A Team Approach to Championing Rural Health Equity</b>  <b>Vanessa A. Becker, MPH</b> (she/her)   Douglas Public Health Network  <b>Kendra Murray, MPH, CHES</b> (she/her)   Douglas Public Health Network  <b>Sarah Zia, MPH, MSBA</b> (she/her)   Douglas Public Health Network  <b>Paul Leonard</b> (he/him)   Douglas Public Health Network  <b>Blue Room</b></p> <p>This session is sponsored by the <b>Oregon Health Authority</b></p>	<p><b>The OHSU Mobile Health Coalition: Connecting Oregon Communities to Care</b>  <b>Paul Bollinger, MPH</b> (he/him)   OHSU Knight Cancer Institute Community Outreach and Engagement  <b>Verian Wedeking</b> (he/him)   OHSU Casey Eye Institute Community Outreach  <b>Yellow Room</b></p>
3:45 p.m.- 4:45 p.m.:	<p><b>Replicating a Locally Responsive Traditional Health Worker Training Hub</b>  <b>Lisa Ladendorff, LCSW, CHW</b> (she/her)   Northeast Oregon Network  <b>Cami Miller, CHW, PSS</b> (she/Her)   Northeast Oregon Network  <b>Rosie Strange</b> (ewa/they/two spirit)   Columbia Gorge Health Council  <b>Yellow Room</b></p>	<p><b>Five Fundamentals to Succeed in Value-Based Payment</b>  <b>Evan Saulino MD, PhD</b> (he/him)   Comagine  <b>Kelly McGrath, MD</b> (he/him)   St. Mary's Clearwater  <b>Dave Ross</b> (he/him)   Comagine  <b>Pink Room</b></p>	<p><b>Why Public Health Partners and Communities Should Care About SHIP and CHIPs</b>  <b>Cintia Vimieiro, MGH</b> (she/her/ella)   OSPHD – Oregon Health Authority  <b>Blue Room</b></p> <p>This session is sponsored by the <b>Oregon Health Authority</b></p>



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Friday, May 15			
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	<b>Deconstructing Trauma: Integrating Harm Reduction and Prevention for Lasting Recovery</b> <b>Renee Frye</b> (she/her)   Sacred Sol Healing Institute <b>Green Room</b>		
10:10 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.	<b>How Self-Reported Understanding Undermines Individual and Population Health</b> <b>Cliff Coleman, MD, MPH</b> (he/him)   Oregon Health & Science University <b>Pink Room</b>	<b>Integrating Health Care Into Housing: The Impact of Embedded Nursing on Well-being and Care Coordination</b> <b>Deb Felcarlson, BSN, RN, MSPH</b> (she/her)   Faith Community Health Network <b>Marcy Shanks, MSN, RN, MEd</b> (she/her)   Faith Community Health Network <b>Yellow Room</b>	<b>Empowering Traditional Health Workers: Cancer Education Training for THWs</b> <b>Carina Garcia, BA</b> (she/her)   OHSU Knight Cancer Institute’s Community Outreach & Engagement <b>Paige Farris, MSW</b> (she/her)   OHSU Knight Cancer Institute’s Community Outreach & Engagement <b>Blue Room</b>
11:20 a.m.- 12:20 p.m.	<b>Trauma-Informed Care with Rural Populations</b> <b>Thomas Pitts</b> (he/him)   Valley Family Health Care <b>Yellow Room</b>	<b>Bridging the Gap: EMS Training Expands Rural Access to Life-Saving Opioid Use Disorder Treatment</b> <b>Dre Cantwell-Frank, NRP</b> (she/her)   The Bridge Center at PHI <b>Emily Henke, MPH, BA</b> (she/her)   Oregon Public Health Institute <b>Blue Room</b>	<b>POLST: What is it? Who needs one? How does it work?</b> <b>Christine Mallowney, MD</b> (she/her)   Oregon POLST Program & Oregon POLST Coalition <b>Pink Room</b>
12:20 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.	<b>Lunch Break</b>		
12:50 p.m.- 1:50 p.m.	<b>Resource Fair – Mini Presentations</b> <b>Green Room</b>		



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<p>2:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>A Rural Case Study: Community-Driven Approaches to Increase Awareness of Diabetes Prevention Programs</b> <b>Genevieve Martinez Garcia, PhD</b> (she/her)   ICF Next <b>Pink Room</b></p>	<p><b>Understanding Oregon’s Rural Community Mental Health Needs for Children and Families</b> <b>Andromeda Blair</b> (she/her)   Pacific University <b>Halle Bakir</b> (she/her)   Pacific University <b>Blue Room</b></p>	<p><b>Delivering Oral Health in Rural Oregon: Mobile Dentistry in Behavioral Health and Recovery Settings</b> <b>Destyne Johnson, EPDH</b> (she/her)   Capitol Dental Care <b>Alyssa McClain, EPDH, CHW</b> (she/her)   Capitol Dental Care <b>Yellow Room</b></p>
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