

# Public Health Advocacy: Turning to the States During a Time of Federal Transition

It has become increasingly important for public health to navigate the disruptiveness of a capricious political climate in our continued efforts to protect the health of communities across the country. State-level advocacy is not just beneficial, it is *essential* to maintaining and advancing community health. The newly released 50 State Scans of Public Health Advocacy Capacity report provides valuable information for advocates, public health practitioners, policymakers, and funders to identify partners who can work together and leverage their collective resources to achieve large-scale positive—and equitable—health outcomes for communities. [Read the full article.](#)

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## Law & Policy Insights



### The Year in Harm Reduction Law: 2024 Wrap-up

Despite increasing acceptance of harm reduction as an important and necessary component of the country's efforts to reduce the overwhelming number of opioid overdose deaths, harm reduction law and policy has seen both ups and downs in the past year. However, there is a movement to support people who use drugs, to improve the public's health, to save lives, and to impart basic human dignity to all.

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## Resources



### Equitable and Effective Data Sharing to Support Health Transitions for Youth During Reentry

With recent changes to Medicaid and CHIP, as well as the approval of Medicaid section 1115 reentry waivers, states are working to mitigate the harms of incarceration by addressing the health and social needs of youth returning to their communities from confinement. This resource is intended to assist states navigating data sharing challenges that may arise in

implementation of these reforms.

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## Webinar



### Potential Changes in Federal Cannabis Policy and the Anticipated Public Health Impacts

TODAY: December 12, 2024 12:00-1:00 CT

Join the Network for Public Health Law and the Legal Resource Center for Public Health Policy for a discussion focused on two significant areas of federal cannabis policy with critical public health implications: the rescheduling of cannabis and the regulation of intoxicating hemp-derived products.

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## Worth Sharing

### Overdose Prevention Center Laws

Overdose prevention centers (OPCs) are facilities where controlled substances, obtained outside the center, may be consumed in a safe environment with monitoring by staff. These centers are intended to lessen the risk of overdose and often also provide access to critical services such as syringe exchange, fentanyl test strip and naloxone distribution, and referrals to treatment for infectious diseases and substance use disorder. This longitudinal dataset from the Center for Public Health Law Research analyzes statutes and regulations related to the establishment of overdose prevention centers and state pilot programs for overdose prevention centers.

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## Job Opportunities

### Director, Health Equity - Remote

The Network is seeking a Director to oversee its Health Equity Team, which is committed to advancing health and social justice in communities by using law and policy to improve health outcomes for traditionally under-resourced communities and populations. The Health Equity Director will oversee and manage the team's day to day operations, strategic planning, outreach efforts, capacity building, legal technical assistance, trainings and presentations, and resource development activities.

### Assistant Director of Law

The city of Cleveland is looking for a director of law whose duties may include researching municipal law issues, preparing legal opinions, drafting legislation, resolving customer disputes, reviewing terms and conditions of contracts, negotiating and drafting complex contracts and providing legal counsel to various departments on a range of municipal law issues and any other duties as maybe assigned.

## Administrative Project Manager - Remote

The Network is seeking an Administrative Project Manager to join its Mid-States Region team. This role is primarily responsible for assisting the Mid-States team in managing, organizing, and coordinating a variety of projects and providing support for related activities. This work includes developing and maintaining an organized system for monitoring and tracking workflows, project budgets, team-member calendars, travel, work products, technical assistance, and reporting, as well as completing monthly invoicing.

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### Tell Us What You're Working On. We're Ready to Help.

Our law and policy experts can help you identify the key considerations central to your unique challenges and provide law and policy pathways you can leverage to make a difference.



[Request Assistance →](#)

**PLEASE NOTE: The Network will be closed for the holidays from December 23 – January 1. We will respond to legal technical assistance requests and other inquiries after that time.**

### Thank you!

Your interest in the work of the Network is important. Together, we can advance law as a tool to improve public health. **Please forward the Network Report and encourage others to [join the Network!](#)**

*The Network for Public Health Law provides information and technical assistance on issues related to public health. The legal information and assistance provided in this document does not constitute legal advice or legal representation. For legal advice, readers should consult a lawyer in their state.*



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