

 **The Network in 2025: Connecting Public Health, Community Needs, and Law and Policy Solutions**
A Message from Interim Co-Executive Directors Quang (“Q”) Dang and Ann Phi-Wendt



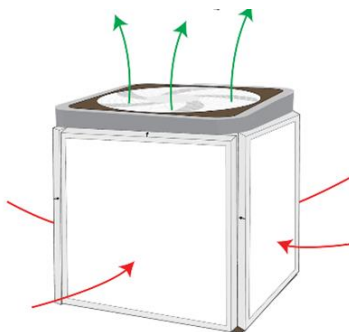
Warm wishes for the New Year, a time of new beginnings when our thoughts turn to how our collective efforts to advance health in communities across the country can be turned into reality. This year is likely to present challenges, especially considering the new presidential administration, but we have been here before. Just as we have done in the past when the political climate intensified around governmental authority, in particular public health authority, we are ready to act as a guide, partner, and resource to assist in advancing the public’s health and health equity, despite barriers to this work. [Read the full message.](#)

Law & Policy Insights



Restricting Education on Race and Racism: Legislative Concerns and Bright Spots

The opportunity to learn about and discuss race and racism is a crucial component of efforts to combat racial health disparities. Yet, while jurisdictions across the nation have recognized racism as a public health crisis, there has been an alarming trend among some states to actively restrict education on these crucial topics.



Amid Mounting Threats to Indoor Air Quality, Policies to Expand Access to Modified Box Fans Can Help

With mounting threats to indoor air quality, many public health practitioners and community leaders are looking for practical and legal strategies to improve indoor ventilation and filtration. In addition to the Model Clean Indoor Air Act, one practical strategy to make a quick and cost-effective improvement in indoor air quality – modifying box fans by adding air filters lowers the barrier to access posed by the high cost of HEPA filters and commercial air purifiers.

Resources



Housing Availability and Affordability Toolkit

Nearly half of U.S. households cannot afford their rent, home prices have been skyrocketing in recent years, and government-subsidized programs for affordable housing are unable to meet current needs. This collection includes resources that explore program and policy approaches for all levels of government, public health advocates, non-profit organizations, and others, to improve housing affordability and availability and thereby improve the health and wellbeing of families in their communities and across the country.



Legal and Policy Approaches to Preventing Housing Instability Toolkit

This collection includes resources that explore program and policy approaches for all levels of government, public health advocates, non-profit organizations, and others, to improve housing affordability and availability and thereby improve the health and wellbeing of families in their communities and across the country.



School Nursing Scope of Practice and Ratio Laws

Registered professional school nurses are uniquely positioned at the intersection of student health and education; they are trained to understand the complexity of the relationship between physical and mental wellbeing and academic achievement. This 50-state survey details the services, by state, that school nurses are permitted to provide.

Webinar



AI and Public Health: Opportunities and Challenges

January 23, 2025 1:00-2:00 CT

There are many opportunities for the public health community to leverage AI to advance public health goals and health equity. AI also presents challenges for public health. Join the Network for Public Health Law, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the Public Health Informatics Institute, and Dallas County Health and Human Services in a panel presentation on the emerging uses of AI in public health and its significance for public

Announcements



Stephen Murphy Promoted to Director of Mid-States Region

The Network is excited to announce the promotion of Stephen Murphy, J.D., to the position of Director, Mid-States Region. Previously, Stephen held the roles of Interim Director and Deputy Director. Under his continued leadership, the Mid-States Region team will broaden the Network's portfolio of work in public health data access, privacy, and sharing.

Worth Sharing

Call for Abstracts: APHA 2025 Annual Meeting and Expo

APHA is accepting abstract submissions for the 2025 Annual Meeting and Expo to be held in Washington, D.C., November 2-5. Authors are encouraged to submit abstracts on the meeting theme — **Making the Public's Health a National Priority** — and current and emerging public health topics. **Abstract Submission Deadline: March 28, 11:59 P.M. (PDT).**

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.

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.

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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