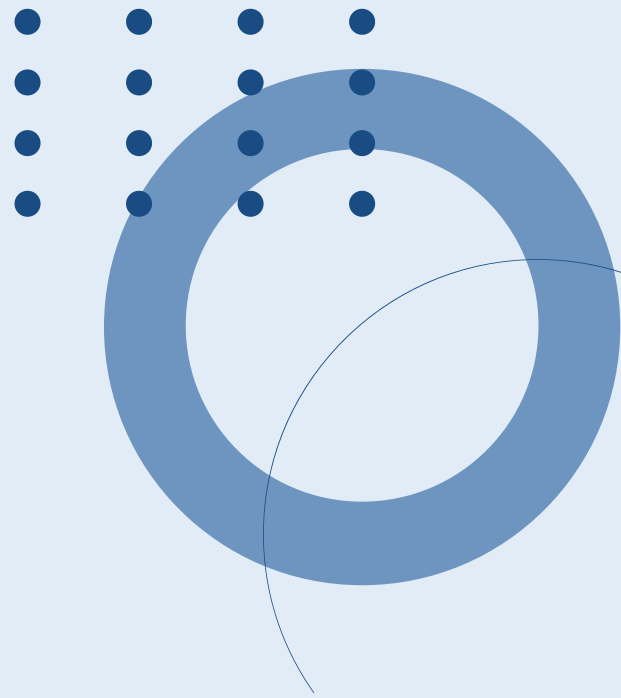


# 2024 Annual Report



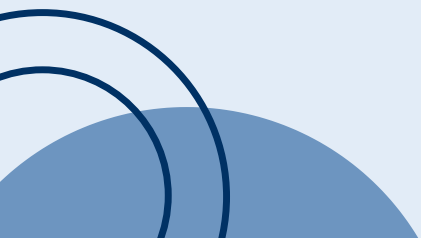
**IPHA**   
Indiana Public Health Association



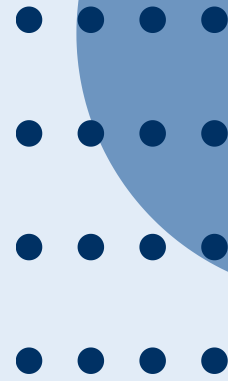
# Who We Are



- Board of Directors
- Student Advisory Group
- Staff



# Board of Directors



**Robin Vida**, President, Oaklawn

**Robin Coleman**, President-Elect, Innovative Diversity LLC

**Joan Trendell**, Past President, Retired

**Marcie Memmer**, Affiliate Representative to the Governing Council, IU Health

**Laura Carlson**, Treasurer, Indiana Rural Health Association

**Megan Carlson**, Secretary, Indianapolis Public Schools

**Marika Baptist**, Indiana Department of Health

**Shandy Dearth**, IU Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health

**Gurinder Kaur**, Immigrant Welcome Center

**Jalysa King**, IU School of Medicine - Clinical Translational Sciences Institute

**Ellie Hansotte**, Marion County Public Health Department

**Kisha Hampton**, Indiana Hemophilia & Thrombosis Center

**Monica Heltz**, Fishers Health Department

**Monica Kasting**, Purdue University Department of Public Health

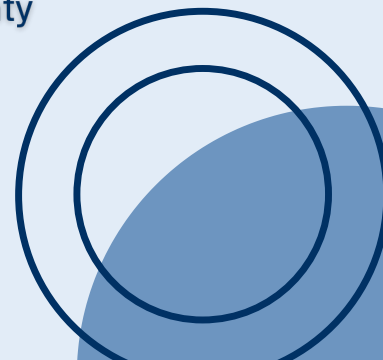
**Alyssa Lederer**, IU School of Public Health - Bloomington

**Sarah Childers-Strawbridge**, Merck

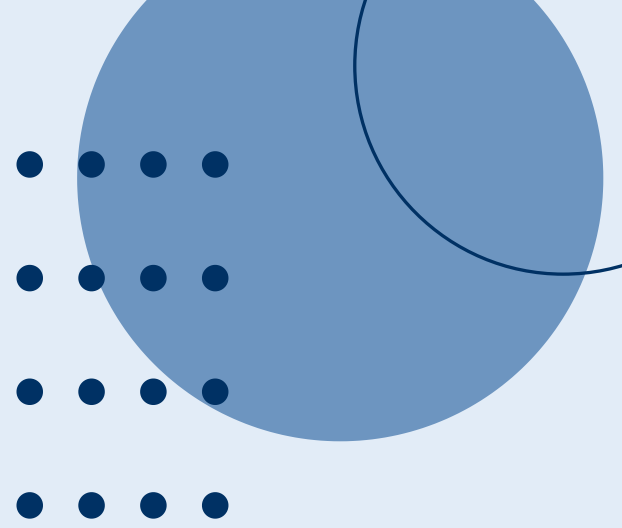
**Cheryl Sullivan**, Retired

**Jose Guadalupe (Lupe) Valtierra**, Purdue Extension - Lake County

**Madison Weintraut**, Marion County Public Health Department



# Student Advisory Group



**Jenny Sheets**, President, Indiana University – Kokomo

**Alfu Laily**, Secretary, Purdue University

**Josy Williams**, Communications Committee Chair, Indiana University  
Indianapolis

**Carrie Shaw**, Recruitment & Development Committee Chair, Indiana  
University – Bloomington

**Sope Koya**, Events Committee Chair, Indiana University – Bloomington

**Alexandra Hughes**, Indiana University – Bloomington

**Jacob Otile**, Indiana University – Bloomington

**Kaitlyn Freese**, Indiana University – Bloomington

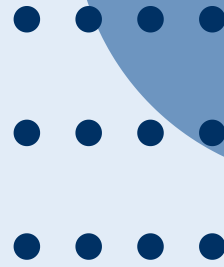
**Kora Beasley**, Manchester University

**Maria Klein**, Indiana University – Bloomington

**Yash Jain**, Indiana University – Bloomington

[Learn more about the IPHA Student Advisory Group here.](#)

# Staff



**Marc McAleavey**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Anne-Marie Taylor**  
Chief Operating Officer



**Sara Krupski**  
Association Manager



**Iliana Enriquez**  
Program & Policy  
Coordinator



**Abby Highsmith**  
Administrative  
Assistant



**Fatma Yousif**  
Program & Policy  
Coordinator

# A Letter From the CEO



*“It is better to build strong children than to repair broken men.”  
– Frederick Douglas*

I have two children, Max and Marlo. I keep them in my heart as I grapple with a concerning future for our youth and simultaneously tender my hands for the work ahead. As the African Proverb suggests, “It takes a village to raise a child.” When we can’t guarantee the future for our children, the whole village suffers. We need perspective to fully understand the realistic threats to funding and policy that our field faces.

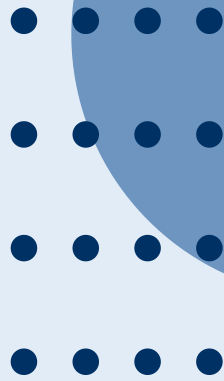


**This is our time to shine!** Public Health is filled with powerful leaders committed to loving and caring for our communities. You are exactly who we need to speak truth where it is absent, to uplift reason to combat ignorance, and to heal the wounds of our world’s brokenness with your practice, expertise, and ability to care. As I join IPHA as its new CEO, I uplift YOU as our collective love will create the world our children will inherit!

*Marc McLeavey*

CEO

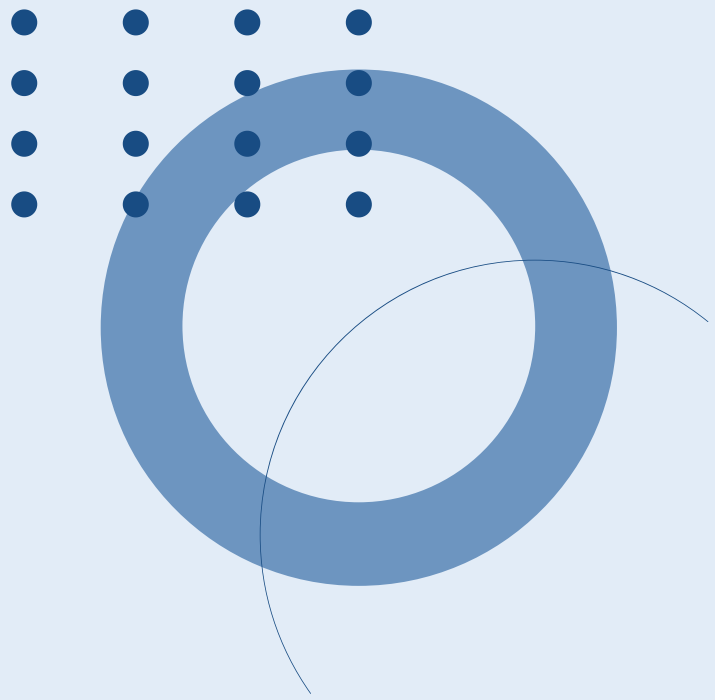
# Leaving a Legacy



This year, we said farewell to Kim Irwin after 17 years of transformative service at Health by Design and 5 impactful years at the helm of the Indiana Public Health Association. Kim has successfully guided IPHA through transitions and opportunities, and the association has expanded its influence and impact because of her visionary leadership.

Kim's legacy is woven into the systems and policies that have made Indiana's communities safer, healthier, and more equitable. It's reflected in the professionals she mentored, the partnerships she fostered, and the change she inspired. We will miss you, Kim, and wish you all the best in your next adventure!





# What We Do

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- Monthly Meetings
- Black Birthing Initiative
- CHR&R Trainings
- Local Public Health Support
- Summer Internship Program

*Building capacity among public health professionals and partners to achieve health equity and well-being for all people, in all communities across Indiana.*





# Monthly Meetings

## Virtual Lunch Meet-Ups

IPHA hosts monthly Virtual Lunch Meet-Ups for our members and partners on the third Tuesday of each month. These are an informal opportunity for folks to network and learn about the public health efforts occurring in Indiana and beyond.

- In 2024, we highlighted various partner organizations, including:
  - Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence
  - Jump IN for Healthy Kids
  - Double Up Indiana



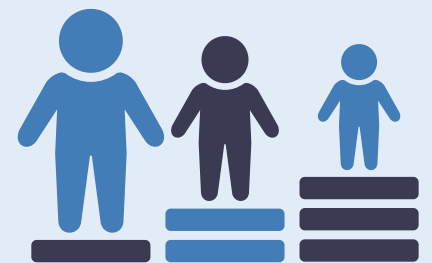
## Policy & Advocacy Committee

IPHA hosts monthly Policy & Advocacy Committee meetings, bringing together public health professionals from across the state to learn about and advocate for public health policy solutions at the local, state, and national levels. This year, the Committee played a critical role in developing our 2025 policy priorities for the Indiana General Assembly.



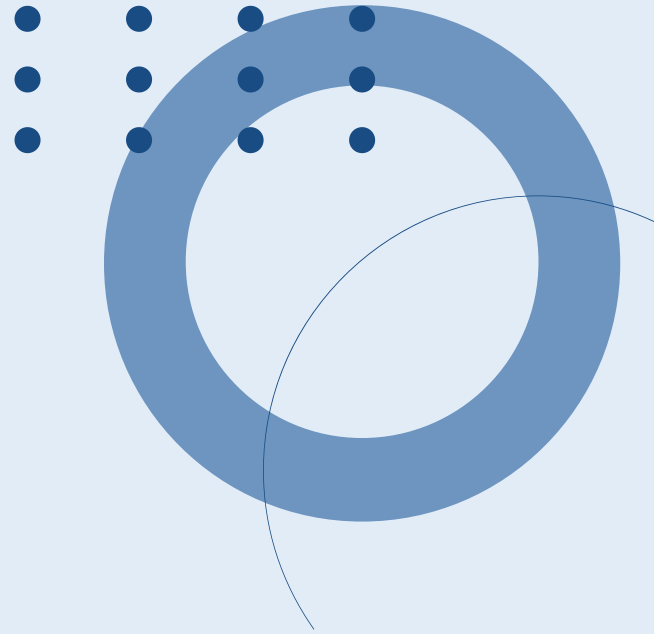
## Health Equity Action Team

In partnership with Health by Design and the Health Equity Action Team Steering Committee, IPHA hosts monthly HEAT meetings throughout the year, bringing together advocates for health equity from around Indiana. In 2024, guest speakers presented at meetings, with representatives from various organizations joining the conversation to connect and learn.



[Learn more about IPHA's monthly meetings here.](#)

# Black Birthing Initiative



In 2024, IPHA helped bring the Black Birthing Initiative (BBI) to Indianapolis. The BBI is a community-informed intervention to decrease the incidence of preterm birth (PTB) among Black women and birthing people by reducing the effects of stress and unmet social determinant of health needs. IPHA created the BBI Community Leadership Action Labs (CoLAB), which consisted of cross-sector key stakeholders, to develop actionable strategies that support the integration of doulas into the ecosystem of support for Black families experiencing SDOH-related needs – specifically, housing and food insecurity while pregnant.

Through this project, the CoLAB accomplished the following:

- Reviewed and compiled data, resources and reports
- Met to discuss relevant topics, share information and inform the case study and report
- Conducted key informant interviews with maternal and child health partners
- Surveyed doulas around Indiana
- Hosted input sessions for doulas and birth workers
- Presented Indianapolis BBI efforts to key partners and stakeholders
- Developed case study and comprehensive report





# County Health Ranking & Roadmaps Trainings

## Structural Determinants of Health

With support from County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, IPHA hosted a virtual 2-hour training titled “Structural Determinants of Health: Understanding Power to Achieve Health Equity.” This training was offered to IPHA and Health by Design’s various external partners. We defined structural determinants of health and explored how they intersect with different types of power to impact health equity. Participants were given the opportunity to analyze the structural determinants of health in 5 different areas: Housing, Food Access, Healthcare Access, Education, and Transportation.

**Quote from Participant:** *“Last week, I attended an Indiana Public Health Association training on the Structural Determinants of Health. In this session, we covered a great deal of information on what structural determinants of health are, how they impact health outcomes, and how we can take steps to initiate positive change that counteract these structural determinants. Definitely left that training feeling more motivated to work towards addressing these determinants in my community - and equipped with more knowledge on how to do so!”*

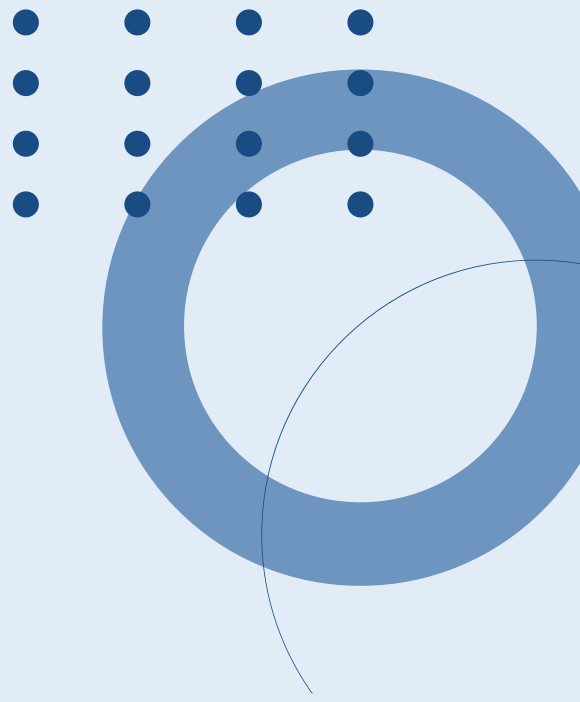
## Narratives for Health

With support from County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, IPHA hosted a Narratives for Health Workshop for our Health by Design and IPHA board members and staff team. The purpose of the training was to share narrative concepts and definitions with participants, as well as facilitate discussion, planning, and future action around implementing narrative strategies within our organizational efforts. The group explored shared values, created transformative narratives, and brainstormed actionable steps to implement narrative change within our work and communities.

[Learn more about Narratives for Health here.](#)



# Local Public Health Support



This year, the Indiana Public Health Association supported the state's 95 local health departments (LHDs) and other local public health partners in a variety of ways!

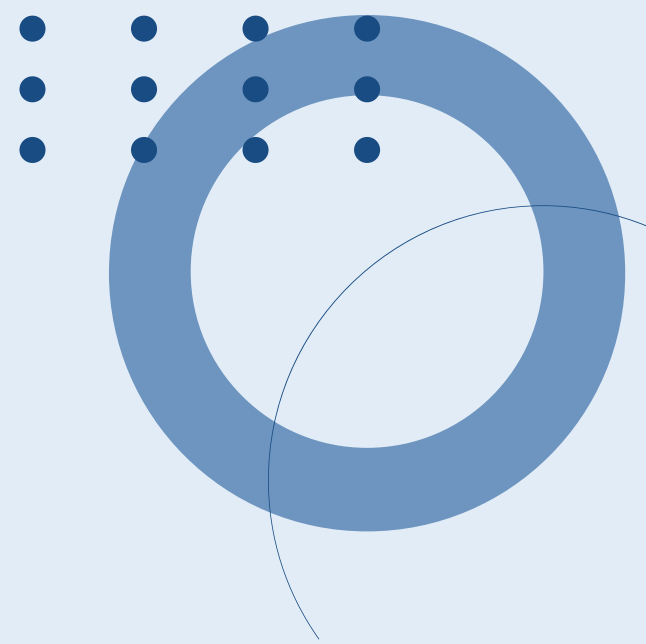
In July, we hosted a training on Succession Planning for Local Health Departments, where we shared the key concepts and phases of succession planning, as well as helpful tips, tools, and resources for LHDs to get started. We co-facilitated alongside Dr. Deb Getz from the Indiana University School of Public Health – Bloomington, who brought an extensive background in leadership development. This training was made possible by funding support through the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO).

Additionally, we created TWO new tools for use among local public health professionals. The Local Boards of Health Manual helps local board of health members understand their roles, responsibilities, and duties to protect public health in their communities and across the state. The Partnership Playbook: A Guide for Local Health Departments demonstrates how LHDs can establish, grow, and maintain partnerships in public health for greater collective impact.

[Check out our Local Public Health resources here.](#)



# Summer Internship Program



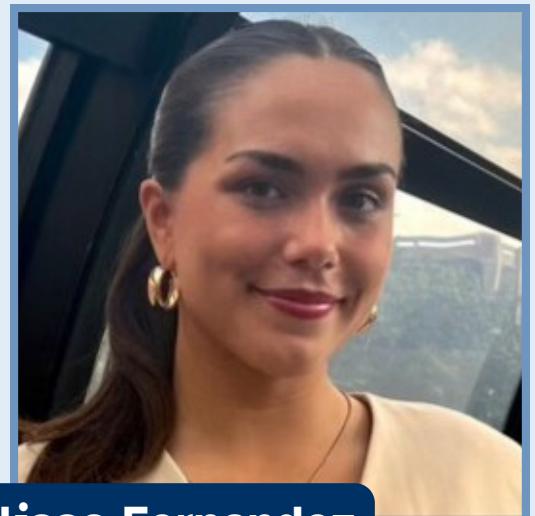
Through funding from the [Region V Public Health Training Center](#), IPHA placed two interns at local health departments during Summer 2024. Let's celebrate their hard work! Learn more about Carli and Melissa below.



**Carli Lay**

During her internship at the Bartholomew County Health Department, Carli worked with both the nursing and environmental divisions. She inspected swimming pool water quality to prevent disease, conducted surveys to locate mosquito breeding sites, supported vaccine clinics, and created informational flyers for the community. Carli shared that this was her first real exposure to a public health workplace, and she was fascinated by how one department's efforts to promote a healthy community can contribute to a larger, collaborative impact when combined with the work of other agencies.

During her internship at the Fishers Health Department, Melissa focused on her interest in maternal and child health. She created blueprints for new initiatives such as Businesses Supporting Breastfeeding, developed resource documents for free clinics and addiction services, identified certified postpartum mental health assessments for local use, and collaborated with the Indiana Department of Health to introduce a Safe Sleep campaign in Fishers. Melissa shared that her love and passion for public health and maternal health continues to grow, and it's a huge part to her internship at the Fishers Health Department.



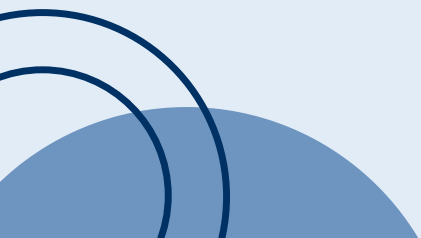
**Melissa Fernandez**



# Events



- IPHA Annual Conference
- Indiana Health Equity Summit
- Indiana Public Health Celebration & Awards



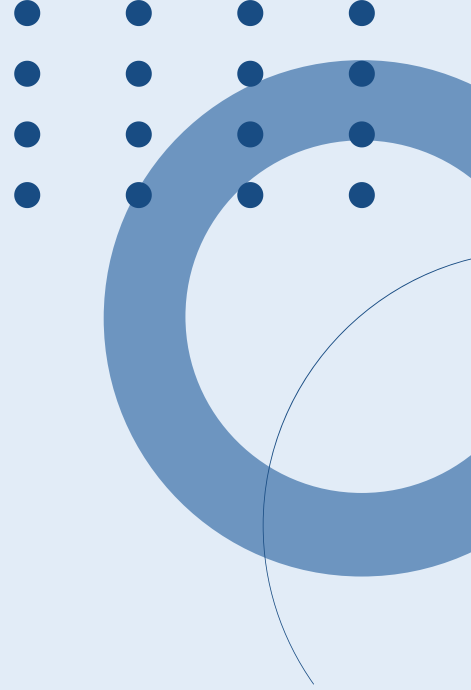
# IPHA 2024 Annual Conference

On Wednesday, May 22, the Indiana Public Health Association hosted our 2024 Annual Conference at the Washington Township Pavilion Center in Avon, Indiana. This year's theme, "IN This Together", emphasized the importance of relationship building and collaboration in public health. We explored innovative, cross-sector partnerships to advance public health, showcased the programmatic and research efforts of Indiana's public health students and workforce, and created space for our public health community to connect and network.

We were honored to be joined by an incredible lineup of speakers, including Melissa Monbouquette from BUILD Health Challenge, a program of the de Beaumont Foundation, state and local health department staff, academic partners and students, housing experts, and business professionals.



# 2024 Indiana Health Equity Summit



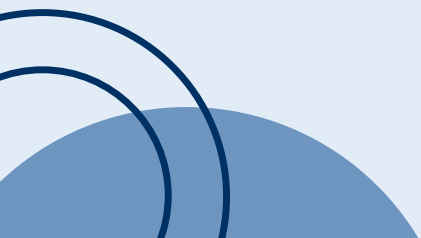
On Wednesday, August 28 and Thursday, August 29, the Indiana Public Health Association and Health by Design hosted the virtual 2024 Indiana Health Equity Summit, “From Reflection to Action: Understanding Our Past to Create a Better Future”. The Summit convened statewide partners for an exploration of inequities in our state, as well as actionable ways to address these threats to the health and well-being of our communities.

## **Day 1: Reflection**

We kicked off the program with a keynote address from Angela Acker at County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, who helped participants understand the way values, worldviews, and narratives can impact our progress toward achieving health equity. Next, a group of statewide partners shared insights on the inequities we see in areas such as housing, food access, and transportation. To close Day 1, we heard from an outstanding panel of frontline workers in community health whose expertise shed light on best practices to build trusted relationships with the communities we serve.

## **Day 2: Action**

The second day began with a keynote address from Will Dominie and Jessi Cocoran at Human Impact Partners, exploring ways to advance health equity through research, policy, and capacity building efforts. Then, we learned about community-based participatory research from two experts in this collaborative research approach. To wrap up the Summit, we dove into the Racial Justice Competency Model through a workshop led by Dany Zimmel from the Region V Public Health Training Center and Laura Pletcher from the National Network of Public Health Institutes.





# 2024 Indiana Public Health Celebration & Awards

On Tuesday, November 19, the Indiana Public Health Association was honored to host more than 150 public health practitioners, partners, and advocates for the 2024 Indiana Public Health Celebration & Awards! The event recognized the transformative strides made in public health over the past year, as well as the incredible successes and contributions of key public health students, professionals, and organizations.



“Together, we are part of a powerful movement to prevent illness, promote health, and ensure that every individual has the opportunity to lead a long, healthy life,” said IPHA President Robin Vida. “Public health thrives on collaboration—it is never a solo endeavor. By combining our expertise, resources, and compassion, we can break down barriers, address health disparities, and drive lasting change. Today serves as a powerful reminder that we are more than individuals; we are a united force for health equity. We are stronger together.”

Congratulations, again, to our incredible award recipients! Eight awards were presented in seven categories:

- **Outstanding Public Health Student**
  - Jacob Otile, MD, Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington
- **Emerging Public Health Leader**
  - Andrea Janota, MPH, Indiana University Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
- **Distinguished Public Health Service Award**
  - Douglas Bentfield, Clark County Health Department
- **Outstanding Local Health Department**
  - Communicable Disease Division, Vanderburgh County Health Department
- **Outstanding Public Health Advocate**
  - Valerie Yeager, DrPH, Indiana University Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health
- **Public Health Communications & Media Award**
  - Eskenazi Health
- **Public Health Impact**
  - Purdue University Center for Health Excellence, Quality and Innovation (CHEQI)
  - New Leaf - New Life

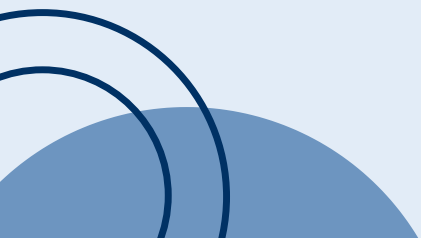




# IPHA ON THE GO



- NACCHO360
- APHA Annual Meeting



# NACCHO360

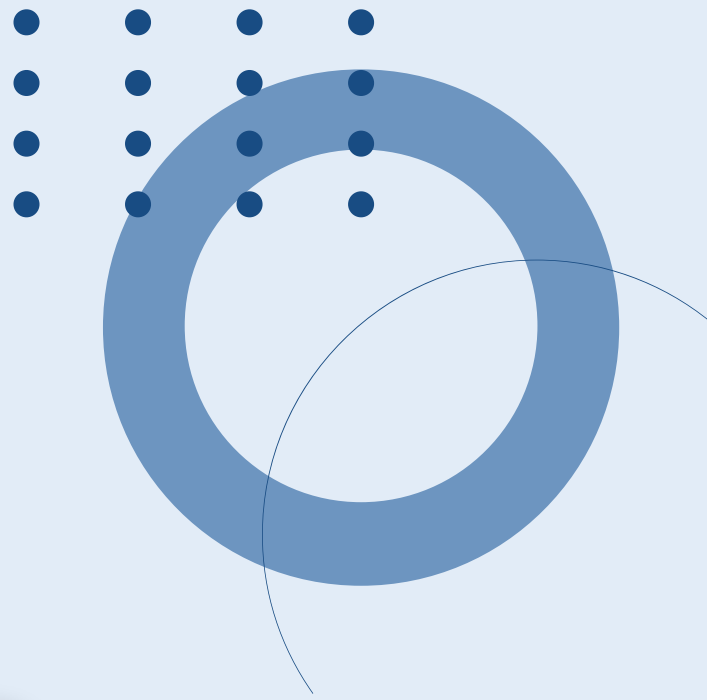
Our team traveled to Detroit, Michigan for the 2024 NACCHO360 Conference, “Heard it Through the Grapevine: Public Health Partnerships, Collaboration, and Innovation”. We learned about best practices from organizations across the nation and attended sessions on topics ranging from partnership building with community development sectors to succession planning for local health departments. We also had the opportunity to present with our partners at the Indiana Department of Health on “Navigating Health First Indiana: Support and Technical Assistance for Local Health Departments”.



# APHA Annual Meeting

Our team had a wonderful time at the American Public Health Association 2024 Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota! We learned about best practices from our fellow state affiliates, presented on our association's efforts in technical assistance and fund development, explored the city, and co-hosted an engaging Indiana reception alongside the IU Indianapolis Fairbanks School of Public Health and the IU School of Public Health-Bloomington.





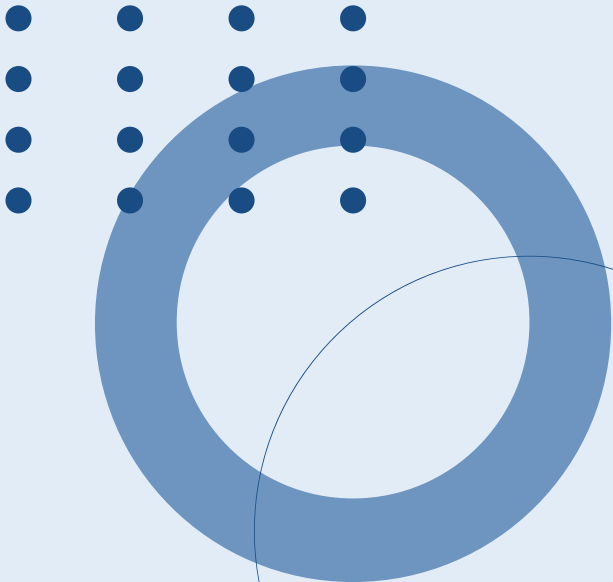
# What Does Public Health Mean to You?

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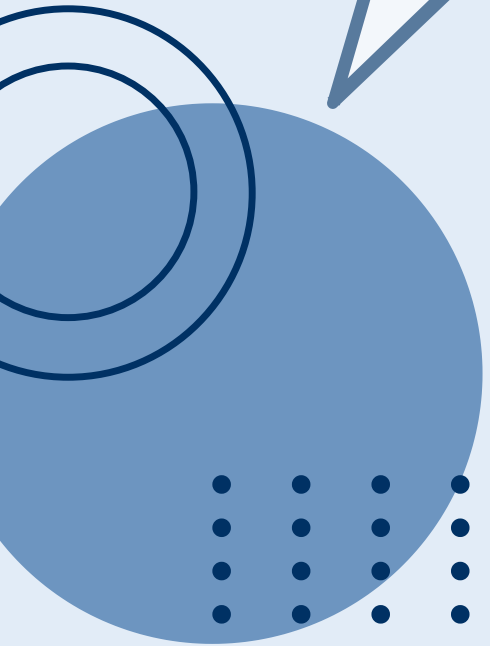
In 2024, we asked our members and partners to answer this question.

Check out some of their responses!





“Public health means longer, healthier lives for everyone. It means improved quality of life for Hoosiers, a more productive workforce, and lower healthcare costs.”




“Public Health is about promoting messages of health and wellness in our communities. It is also about protecting our communities from disease as well as other conditions that can impact their quality of life. It is about working with community partners to ensure that barriers are broken down for all people so they can lead the healthiest, fullest lives.”

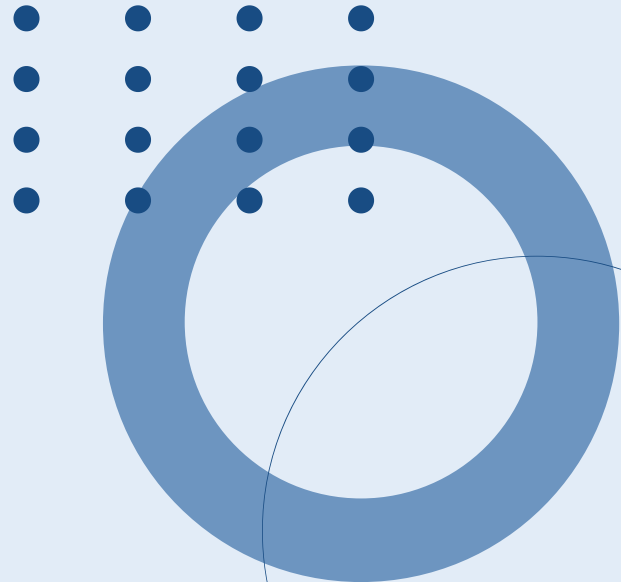
“Taking care of the community as a whole so that we can be stronger together!”



**What Does Public Health Mean to You?**



“Creating environments  
where everyone can  
thrive.”



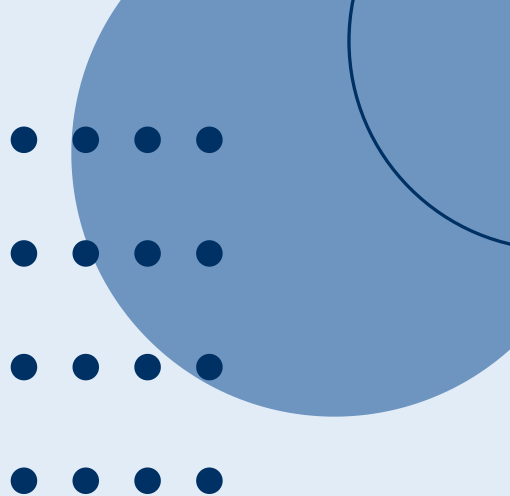
“Public Health is community  
health, it is ensuring that ALL  
people have access to what  
they need for a happy,  
healthy life.”

“Coordinated, cooperative, and  
collaborative efforts to address  
gaps in care and to provide  
resources to the community.”



**What Does Public Health Mean to You?**

# A Letter From the President



Dear IPHA Friends and Supporters,

**As I reflect on 2024**, we had some tremendous movement with a historic state investment in local public health infrastructure through Health First Indiana. In the first year of the initiative, almost all of our 92 counties signed on for this funding and spent 2024 expanding services and programming, building cross-sector partnerships, and creating plans to truly address the health needs facing communities across the state. We are thrilled that, in 2025, every county in the state will receive support through Health First Indiana.

While this investment in public health is hopeful, we must sustain our efforts to ensure funding remains at a level that will support public health advancements and make a lasting impact on the health of our communities. In 2025, IPHA will continue our work to advocate for state and local policies that are supportive of all Hoosier families, and we will rise to the needs of Indiana's public health students, practitioners, and organizations.

I am so excited to enter 2025 with new and eager board members, as well as a phenomenal new CEO, Marc McLeavey. We closed 2024 with our gratitude to Kim Irwin, our past CEO, whose leadership was critical to IPHA's growth and success.

The Indiana Public Health Association will remain steady in our efforts to support YOU and be a robust partner, connector, and resource for advancing public health, **especially in critical times.**

*Robin Vida*

President





# IPHA

Indiana Public Health Association

