



Federation of State Physician Health Programs

FSPHP Insights

April 10, 2025




REGISTER NOW!

Attention State-Voting, Associate, International, & Honorary Members

Please join us for the
Annual Member Business Meeting

 **Saturday, April 26**

 **10:30am - 11:45am**

 **Hyatt Regency Seattle**

You Can Still Register for the FSPHP 2025 Conference & Annual Membership Meeting!

There's still time to secure your spot at the **FSPHP 2025 Conference & Annual Membership Meeting!** Don't miss this incredible opportunity to join healthcare leaders, physicians, and advocates as we come together to explore critical topics and initiatives surrounding physician health and well-being.

 **Event Dates:** April 23–26, 2025

 **Location:** Hyatt Regency Seattle, Seattle, Washington

Register today and be part of shaping the future of healthcare through collaboration, education, and innovation.


We can't wait to see you there!



Evening Dinner Event with Dr.
Wirt (Andy) Hines III
*Mania, Medicine, and Mirandas:
A Doctor's Story of Bipolar
Disorder and Recovery*

Friday Night Dinner Tickets Now Open to Non-Conference Guests

Join us for an inspiring and unforgettable event featuring a sit-down plated dinner and a presentation by Dr. Hines, III - "*Mania, Medicine, and Mirandas: A Doctor's Story of Bipolar Disorder and Recovery.*" This powerful talk promises to captivate audiences with its honest and moving portrayal of resilience and hope.

 **Who's Invited?** This event is open to everyone! Whether you're attending the conference or not, we encourage you to be part of this meaningful experience.



Get Your Tickets Now: Purchase your tickets in advance and don't miss the opportunity to witness a story that sheds light on the journey of mental health recovery.

NON-CONFERENCE ATTENDEES:

Click [here](#) to purchase tickets for this event.

Tickets are \$150 for non-conference attendees.

CONFERENCE ATTENDEES:

Email ssavage@fsphp.org to add tickets for this event to your conference registration.

Tickets are \$125 for conference attendees.

Take a Sneak Peek at the FSPHP 2025 Silent Auction & Donate an Item!

Take a sneak peek at the [FSPHP 2025 Silent Auction](#)! From unique gift baskets to unforgettable experiences, there's something for everyone. Best of all, your participation helps support our mission.

Please consider donating an item! All proceeds benefit the Federation of State Physician Health Programs' mission to support physician health programs in improving the health of medical professionals, thereby contributing to quality patient care.

No contribution is too small—each one makes a meaningful impact.

Learn more at the [Silent Auction](#) webpage.

[Donate an item.](#)

Email ssavage@fsphp.org with questions.

Breaking Into Spring: *Physician Health News* Gets a Makeover

We're excited to present the 32nd edition, Volume 1 of [Physician Health News](#)—now with a bold new look!

This issue features a powerful message on stigma from FSPHP President Dr. Michael Baron, an update from Executive Director Linda Bresnahan celebrating member achievements, and insights into FSPHP's initiatives promoting PHP awareness and education. You'll also find member updates, industry news, and much more to keep you informed and inspired.

We hope to see you in Seattle at the [FSPHP 2025 Conference & Annual Membership Meeting](#) on April 23-26 where you can also get your hands on a print copy of the Spring 2025 issue.

Feel free to share this issue with your staff, board, stakeholders, and colleagues in physician health!

[Download the Spring 2025 issue](#)



Attention PHP Member Leaders

Registration is Underway for the May 14th Open Forum Leadership Series Event

May 14, 2025 at 12-1pm Eastern Time

*Facilitator: Dr. Arthur Hengerer, FSPHP Board Member
and Past Chair of FSMB Board, Board of Professional Medical
Conduct, and the Dept of Otolaryngology at University of
Rochester*



The **FSPHP Open Forum Leadership Series** is a platform for **FSPHP Member PHP leaders** to engage in open discussions, share best practices, share updates, and foster collaboration and innovation, and address critical issues affecting physician & professional health programs.

These meetings are open to **FSPHP PHP Members** that identify as part of their **leadership team**, including executives, directors, and department heads.

Visit the [Open Forum Leadership Series webpage](#) for all meeting dates and registration links.

A Progressive Step Toward a Model Physician Health Program Safeguarding California's Physicians and Patients

The Medical Board of California (Board) has made great progress on its efforts to obtain a legislative change to its authority to establish a Physician Health and Wellness Program that meets nationally recognized best practices seeking FSPHP expertise along the way.

Assembly member Marc Berman has introduced [Assembly Bill 408](#) which proposes to repeal current legislation that requires imposition of the Uniform Standards Regarding Substance-Abusing Healing Arts Licensees for voluntary participants and grants new authority that will allow the Board to create a program that meets best practices.

Letters can be submitted by **April 15, 2025** via this link: <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>.

It is helpful to legislative staff if letters clarify a position (in favor or not) at the beginning of the letter.

While FSPHP is still reviewing the legislation, we recognize many key advantages that align with the FSPHP PHP model, such as:

1. **Workforce Protection Through Early Intervention:** Replaces punitive approaches with rehabilitation, encouraging help-seeking before impairment occurs. This reduces liability risks while protecting patient safety.
2. **Confidential Record Protections:** Shields records (except for imminent safety risks), addressing physicians' fears of licensure penalties and promoting timely care.
3. **Balanced Reporting Requirements:** Reporting for those at risk of impairment while also offering protections for reporters, encouraging a culture of accountability.

- 4. **Voluntary Alternative to Discipline:** Mirrors successful 48-state programs, enabling physicians to seek help without career-ending consequences.
- 5. **FSPHP Best Practices Integration:** Requires third-party administration by accredited nonprofits, ensuring evidence-based care and peer review.
- 6. **Clear Regulatory Framework:** Defines roles for the Medical Board and administrators to minimize ambiguity.

Why a PHP in California Is Critical:

- **Substance Use Disorders:** Lifetime prevalence: 15.3% of physicians (~18,963 CA MDs). Current need: 620–4,710 CA physicians require immediate SUD support.
- **Mental Health Crises:** Burnout: ~62,000 CA physicians affected (50% nationwide). Suicide rates: Twice the national average, with CA likely accounting for 12% of U.S. physician suicides annually.
- **Proven Success:** PHPs using this model achieve **80% recovery rates** for physicians—far exceeding general population outcomes.
- **The PHP Model is supported by** the Federation of State Physician Health Programs, and medical leaders as a national best practice.

Now is the time to move forward:

AB 408 addresses the state’s physician health crisis by balancing oversight with compassion. By adopting this model, California will:

- **Retain physicians** in a state facing a projected 10,000-provider shortage by 2030
- **Reduce medical errors** linked to burnout and untreated SUDs
- **Rejoin the FSPHP network**, leveraging decades of evidence-based care standards.

COMING UP!

Program Planning Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 16 at 3pm Eastern

Task Force to Support Safe Haven Meeting
Friday, April 18 at 12:30pm Eastern

Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, April 22 at 5pm Pacific Time

FSPHP 2025 Conference & Annual Membership Meeting
April 23 - 26; Hyatt Regency Seattle

Visit the [FSPHP Calendar](#) for a full list of upcoming meetings and events!

April 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2 ● Board & Committee Chair Meeting ... ● Program Planning Committee Mee ...	3 ● Finance Committee Meeting	4	5
6	7 ● Membership Committee Meeting ● Public Policy Committee Meetin ...	8 ● Nominating Committee	9 ● Program Planning Committee Mee ...	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 ● Program Planning Committee Mee ...	17	18 ● Task Force to Support Safe Hav ...	19
20	21	22 ● Board Meeting	23 ● FSPHP 2025 Annual Education Co ... ● First Time Attendees & New Mem ...	24 ● FSPHP 2025 Annual Education Co ...	25 ● FSPHP 2025 Annual Education Co ... ● Research Committee Meeting	26 ● FSPHP 2025 Annual Education Co ... ● Annual Member Business Meeting ...
27	28 ● Publications Committee Meeting ...	29	30 ● Funding Development Committee	1	2	3

JOIN FSPHP FOR ACCESS TO MEMBER-ONLY CONTENT



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