



Federation of State Physician Health Programs

FSPHP Insights

January 29, 2026



2 Days Left! Early Bird Pricing Available Until January 31st

Register by **January 31st** for the lowest registration rates!
FSPHP 2026 Education Conference and Annual Membership Meeting - *Navigating Change: Challenges, Solutions, and Success!*

Registration rates will increase by \$100 on February 1st.

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

One Day Left to Submit a Poster Presentation


Poster Submissions Due: January 30th!


Submit your **innovative, engaging, and impactful** poster presentation!

[Learn more and submit your Poster Presentation!](#)



Join Us for the FSPHP 2026 Social Event at Camden Yards in Baltimore Orioles Game & All-Inclusive Picnic Perch

 **Date:** Wednesday, April 29, 2026

 **Time:** 6:35 PM

 **Baltimore Orioles vs. Houston Astros**

Enjoy **all-inclusive ballpark favorites**—hot dogs, nachos, ice cream, and Pepsi beverages—along with **Club Level seating** that offers fantastic views and access to exclusive bistro tables.

 **Tickets: \$65**

 **Purchase by: March 20, 2026**

[Learn more and buy your tickets!](#)



Support FSPHP's 2026 Silent Auction

FSPHP is proud to host its 2026 Silent Auction, a key fundraising event that supports our mission - to support Physician and Health Professional Programs in improving the health of medical professionals, thereby contributing to quality patient care.

We invite you to make a meaningful impact by donating a high-value item to help make this auction a success.

We are especially seeking:

- ✨ Vacation home stays or unique travel experiences
- ✨ High-value gift cards (restaurants, retail, or services)
- ✨ Tickets to events, fine dining experiences, online classes, or adventure activities
- ✨ Tech gear (AirPods, Smartwatch, tablet, etc.)

Your contribution advances vital initiatives while showcasing your commitment to physician health and wellness. All donors will be recognized during the event and in related communications.

[Learn more here](#) or email ssavage@fsphp.org with questions.



Jim Lorence & Dr. Edwin Kim

FSPHP Testimony Supports Wisconsin's Path to a Health Professional Assistance Program, Championing Confidential Access and Patient Safety

FSPHP continues to advocate for legislative frameworks that prioritize early intervention, confidential support, and patient safety. Recently, **Edwin Kim, MD, FAPA**, FSPHP President-Elect and Medical Director of the Pennsylvania Physician Health Program, testified before Wisconsin lawmakers in support of Assembly Bill 799 – a bill creating the Wisconsin Health Professional Assistance Program (HPAP).

This powerful collaboration among FSPHP leaders, including **Kelley Long, MBA, Chris Bundy, MD, MPH**, with **Jim Lorence**, Chief Value and Engagement Officer at the Wisconsin Medical Society, underscores our shared mission: building compassionate, effective systems that help clinicians access care, recover, and return to safe practice.

👏 A big thank-you to all involved for advancing this important work!



FSPHP Leaders to Present at ACGME Conference Next Month

ACGME Annual Meeting SES134: Help is Hiding in Plain Sight: The Role of Physician Health Programs



Edwin Kim, MD
President-Elect, FSPHP; Medical Director, The Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society Peer Assistance Monitoring Programs; Clinical Assistant Professor (Affiliate), Stanford University



Lisa J. Merlo, PhD, MPE
Research Committee Chair, FSPHP Director of Research, PRN, Inc. (Florida's PHP) Research Professor, UF Department of Psychiatry



Linda R. Bresnahan, MS
Executive Director, Chief Executive Officer, Federation of State Physician Health Programs

Edwin Kim, MD, FSPHP President-Elect and Medical Director of the Pennsylvania Physician Health Program, **Lisa Merlo, PhD, MPE**, FSPHP Research Committee Chair and Director of Research, PRN, Florida's PHP, and **Linda Bresnahan, MS**, FSPHP Executive Director & CEO will present the session, ***Help is Hiding in Plain Sight: Results of a National Survey of Physician Health Programs***, at the **2026 Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Annual Education Conference** in San Diego; February 19-21.

This session will help attendees:

- Understand how physician health programs (PHPs) support clinician access to mental health care while protecting patient safety.
- Learn about the special confidentiality protections provided to PHP participants.
- Identify opportunities to raise awareness of PHPs and strengthen collaboration between PHPs and health systems to support clinician well-being and workforce sustainability.

[Details and conference registration](#)

[Learn more about this session](#)



WPHP Helps Successfully Lead Washington Practitioner Application Credentialing Reform


After several years of advocacy efforts, the **Washington Physicians Health Program (WPHP)** has helped successfully lead the Washington Credentialing Standardization Group in aligning the Washington Practitioner Application with credentialing best practices. By eliminating intrusive questions about past diagnosis and treatment and fine-tuning question wording, a major barrier to physician well-being has been removed.





Read more about this important credentialing reform on [WPHP's blog](#) and in an article by the [American Medical Association](#): <https://lnkd.in/gZpQXfUR>


Register Now for These Virtual FSPHP Membership Events


Open Forum Leadership Series

 **Date:** Tuesday, February 24, 2026


 **Time:** 1:00 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time


 **Facilitator:** Michael Sorna, MD MSA FASAM, Medical Director, Professionals Resource


 **Audience:** Open to PHP members who are part of their program's leadership team.

 [Learn more and register!](#)

FSPHP Membership Information Session


 **Date:** Wednesday, February 18, 2026


 **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:30pm Eastern Time


 **Audience:** Open to both new and existing members of FSPHP. This event will be attended by the FSPHP Board of Directors and will provide you with an opportunity to make connections with other FSPHP members.

 [Click here to register.](#)

FSPHP New Member Meeting

 **Date:** Tuesday, March 31, 2026

 **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:30pm Eastern Time

 **Audience:** This meeting is open to all FSPHP members - both new and existing! This is a great chance to connect, collaborate, and help shape the future of physician health.

 [Click here to register.](#)



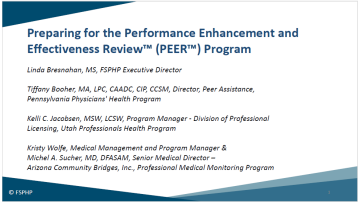
FSPHP Appoints Dr. Tina Simpson as Southeast Region Director

FSPHP is pleased to announce that [Tina Simpson](#), MD, Medical Director of the Kentucky Physicians Health Foundation (KPHF), has joined the FSPHP Board of Directors as the **Southeast Region Director**. Dr. Simpson was appointed by the Board to fill this vacant position and FSPHP leadership and staff are delighted to welcome her to this role.

Dr. Simpson joined KPHF in 2020 as Associate Medical Director and later became Medical Director. Prior to her work with KPHF, she served as Medical Director of The Healing Place in Louisville, bringing deep experience in clinical leadership and physician health.

Dr. Simpson shared that she looks forward to collaborating with fellow Board members and is particularly committed to increasing diversity within FSPHP's membership and leadership. She also expressed her interest in expanding support and resources for underfunded or understaffed programs to promote greater consistency and equity across programs.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Tina Simpson to the FSPHP Board of Directors.




Click image to download presentation.

Do not let perfection be the enemy of completion—your PHP is ready enough to begin.

PEER™ Presentation & Support for Member PHPs

FSPHP is pleased to share a presentation from our fall regional member meetings highlighting PHPs that have completed the PEER™ (Performance Enhancement and Effectiveness Review™) process. Sincere thanks to **Tiffany Booher** (Pennsylvania Physicians' Health Program), **Kelli C. Jacobsen** (Utah Professionals' Health Program), **Kristy Wolfe**, and **Dr. Michel A. Sucher** (Arizona Community Bridges, Inc., Professional Medical Monitoring Program) for generously sharing their experience and offering to speak with any PHP interested in pursuing PEER™.

[Download the presentation.](#)

 Congratulates the **Colorado Physician Health Program**, our most recent PEER™ completer as of December 2025.

 [See all PEER™ Program Completions.](#)

 [Learn more about PEER™](#)

Email lbresnahan@fsphp.org or jestes@fsphp.org with questions.




Call for Content in the Spring Issue - *Physician Health News*

Submit Your News & Articles

FSPHP invites you to contribute to the Spring 2026 issue of [*Physician Health News*](#)—our biannual newsletter dedicated to sharing important updates, research, and innovations that support the health and well-being of physicians and other health professionals. This is your opportunity to highlight your work, share your organization's achievements, and showcase your commitment to physician health and wellness.

We welcome submissions that highlight:

- Updates from member organizations
- Research, projects, or initiatives related to physician well-being
- Success stories or program highlights
- Innovations in mental health, substance use recovery, and monitoring
- Upcoming events, milestones, or collaborations
- Awards, leadership transitions, or organizational announcements

 **Content Submission Due March 2nd.**
[Learn more and submit your article](#)



Email ssavage@fsphp.org with questions.



Become a Newsletter Sponsor

👉 Sponsor the Spring 2026 issue of *Physician Health News*
Support FSPHP's mission while increasing your organization's visibility among medical leaders, physician health professionals, and national partners.

SPONSORSHIP SIZES & PRICING:

\$800 - Half page: 7" w x 4.5" h

\$600 - Quarter page: 3.2917" w x 4.5" h

\$400 - Business card size: 3.125" w x 2.25" h

🎯 Sponsorships Due March 16.

[Learn more and reserve your newsletter sponsorship](#)



Still Time to Submit Abstracts for FSMB's Spotlight Poster Sessions - Due February 6

The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) is currently accepting abstract submissions for the [2026 FSMB Annual Meeting](#), taking place April 30–May 2 at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront.

➡ The submission deadline is **February 6**.
[Learn more.](#)

COMING UP!

FSPHP 2026 Education Conference Exhibitor Information Session

Friday, January 30 at 1pm-2:30pm Eastern

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

Membership Committee

Monday, February 2 at 12pm Eastern

Program Planning Committee

Wednesday, February 4 at 3pm Eastern

Finance Committee

Thursday, February 5 at 11am Eastern

ETAC

Monday, February 9 at 3pm Eastern

February 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 ● Membership Committee	3	4 ● Program Planning Committee	5 ● Finance Committee Meeting	6	7
8	9 ● FSPHP: ETAC/ Committee (ETAC)	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 ● Membership Information Session...	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 ● Standing Development Committee...	26 ● (PSRP) Committee (PSRSC)	27 ● Task Force to Support Safe Hav...	28
			● Research Committee			

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