



Federation of State Physician Health Programs

Better Together

FSPHP Insights

October 2, 2026



[SUBMIT NOW!](#)

Extended Through October 4: More Time to Submit Your FSPHP 2027 Presentation Proposal!



There's still time to submit a presentation proposal for the [FSPHP 2027 Annual Education Conference](#) - *Leading the Way: The Future of Professional Health Programs*.

SUBMISSIONS DUE:

Oral Presentations - **Extended Through October 4!**

Poster Presentations - December 31, 2026

BREAKING NEWS

[READ
PRESS RELEASE](#)

FSPHP Stands With National Coalition on Health Question Reform

FSPHP is proud to be part of the **ALL IN: Wellbeing First for Healthcare** coalition, led by the [Dr. Lorna Breen Foundation](#).

The coalition works to remove intrusive mental health questions from licensing and credentialing applications. As of September 2026, more than 4.1 million health workers now have a safer, confidential path to mental health and substance use care.

In a recent press release, **Edwin Kim, MD, FAPA, MRO, President of the Federation of State Physician Health Programs (FSPHP)**, stated, "Every day, a caring colleague from one of our member physician health programs sits across from a physician or other healthcare professional who is terrified that asking for help will cost them their career they have worked so hard to build. For more than 45 years, those programs have

answered that fear with confidential, competent care — and the evidence backs it up. In the landmark five-year study of physicians treated for substance use disorders in physician health programs, 81% had no evidence of substance use at any point during monitoring, and nearly 79% were still licensed and practicing medicine five years later. The Dr. Lorna Breen Foundation gave that quiet work a national voice at exactly the right moment. We are proud to stand with them on health question reform — and committed to the work still ahead: protecting the confidentiality of PHP records, and reaching healthcare professionals early, before a health condition puts safe practice at risk.”

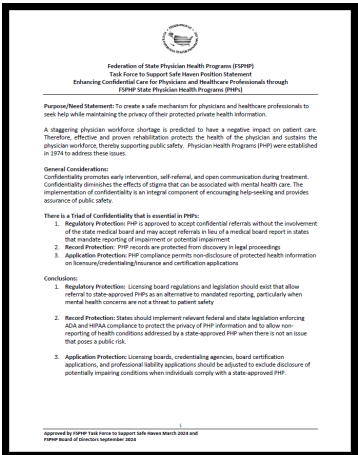
[Read the full announcement.](#)

Resource Reminder: FSPHP Task Force to Support Safe Haven Publishes Position Statement / Action Plan

The FSPHP Task Force to Support Safe Haven wrote the **Position Statement Enhancing Confidential Care for Physicians and Healthcare Professionals through FSPHP State Physician Health Programs (PHPs)** to define safe haven terminology and set clear standards for PHPs.

This is a public document, available to members and non-members, and we encourage you to share it with colleagues, partners and stakeholders in your state.

Visit the [FSPHP Resources](#) page for similar content.



DOWNLOAD & SHARE!



Linda Bresnahan, Dr. Lisa Merlo
& Dr. Jon Novick



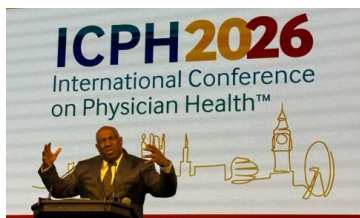
Dr. Sarah Early

FSPHP Connects With Global Colleagues at ICPH 2026

FSPHP had a strong presence at the [International Conference on Physician Health \(ICPH\)](#), held in London on September 28 - 30th, which drew more than 600 attendees from around the world. Members representing physician and healthcare professional programs included **Dr. John Novick (Ontario PHP)**, **Dr. Lisa Merlo (Florida PRN)**, **Dr. Sarah Early**, **Amanda Kimmel**, and **Dr. Joyce Davidson (Colorado PHP)**, **Dr. Melissa Henke (North Dakota PHP)**, and **Dr. Shelly Farnan and Heather Johns, LCSW (Missouri PHP)**.

The conference was also a chance to connect with others who support physician health and PHPs. These included leaders from the [Dr. Lorna Breen Foundation](#), [The Physicians Foundation](#), and the [American Medical Association](#). FSPHP also met with advocates working to start a new PHP in Wisconsin.

Linda Bresnahan, FSPHP Executive Director & CEO, along with **Dr. Novick** and **Dr. Merlo**, hosted a "PHP Connect" session with programs from nine Canadian provinces, Florida, Colorado, and



Dr Willie Underwood
President Elect
American Medical Association



Barcelona, Spain. Each program shared its model and compared approaches to supporting the health of the profession and protecting patient safety. FSPHP invited our international colleagues to submit abstracts and join FSPHP, so watch for them at the [FSPHP 2027 Annual Education Conference](#).

Recommended reading: The [ICPH 2026 Abstract Book](#) gives an overview of current international research.

Highlights include:

#72: Disruptive behaviour in physicians: More than meets the eye (Colorado PHP)

#561: The Barcelona model for managing severe mental disorders in physicians

#549: Trauma-informed leadership: A new model for addressing burnout (Dr. Sadie Elisseou)



Upcoming Virtual FSPHP Member-Only Events

FSPHP Membership Information Session

Date: November 18, 2026

Time: 11:00am - 12:30pm Eastern

Join the FSPHP Board of Directors for this complimentary session designed to help you connect with fellow members and learn more about FSPHP.

Audience: Open to all FSPHP members—both new and existing.

[Click here to register.](#)

Open Forum Leadership Series

Date: November 20, 2026

Time: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Eastern

Facilitator: Susan K. Blank, MD, LFAPA, DFASAM, Medical Director, Georgia Professional Health Program

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

[Click here to register](#)

Regional Member Meetings

Southeast - Monday, November 23

Central - Monday, November 30

Northeast - Thursday, December 3

Western - Tuesday, December 15

Share experiences, discuss and develop best practices, and enhance your awareness of issues related to physician health and impairment.

Audience: Open to all FSPHP members

[Click here to register.](#)

FSPHP New Member Meeting

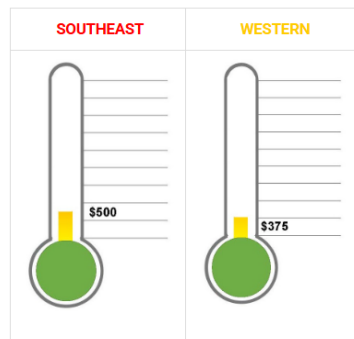
Date: February 17, 2027

Time: 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Eastern

A welcoming space to connect, collaborate, and help shape the future of physician health.

Audience: Open to all FSPHP members—both new and existing.

[Click here to register.](#)



DONATE!

Southeast and Western Regions Lead the Way!

Thank you to the Southeast and Western Regions for getting the 2026 Rally by Region off to a strong start. So far, the **Southeast Region has given \$500** and the **Western Region has given \$375**.

We're grateful for every gift, and each one helps support the health of the profession. There are three months left in the campaign, so there's still time for every region to join in. Which region will step up next? 

[Click to donate.](#)

Rally your region. Rally your colleagues.



[LEARN MORE!](#)

Learn How the FSPHP-ETA™ Program Can Encourage Consistency and Quality Improvement for Your Program

Learn how to become one of the growing number of accredited programs that have successfully completed the [FSPHP Evaluation and Treatment Accreditation™ \(FSPHP-ETA™\) Program](#):

- [Florida Recovery Center \(UF Health\)](#)
- [Windrose Recovery Chicago, LLC dba Positive Sobriety Institute](#)
- [Pavillon International](#)
- [Bradford Health Services](#)
- [CSMN Operations LLC, DBA All Points North Lodge](#)

The purpose of the FSPHP Evaluation and Treatment Accreditation™ (FSPHP-ETA™) program is to recognize evaluation and treatment services that are qualified to specialize in the care of medical students, residents, career physicians, and other healthcare workers in safety-sensitive occupational roles, through a valid, reliable, and rational assessment process that demonstrates compliance with objective standards. The FSPHP-ETA™ program will encourage consistency and quality improvement among providers who work with this safety-sensitive population.

[Learn more](#)

[Read the FAQs](#)

👉 **Want to learn more about accreditation for the specialized care of healthcare professionals?**

Join us for the [FSPHP-ETA™ Accreditation Insights & Info Session](#) and hear from programs that have completed FSPHP-ETA™ accreditation!

 **Tuesday, November 3, 2026**

 **3:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET**

[Learn more and register!](#)



Thank You for Being a Member - It's Renewal Time!

Thank you for your ongoing support of FSPHP!

It's time to renew your 2027 membership.

On October 1, we sent each member a renewal email and invoice through **MemberClicks**, our membership platform. Your renewal covers January 1 through December 31, 2027.

Don't see the email? It came from **MemberClicks**, not from **FSPHP**, so please check your spam or junk folder.

We look forward to another meaningful year together.

If you have questions about renewing, please contact Sandra Savage at ssavage@fsphp.org.



Upcoming FSPHP Events

Nominating Committee

Tuesday, October 6 at 2pm ET

Program Planning Committee

Wednesday, October 7 at 3pm ET

Public Policy Committee

Tuesday, October 13 at 3pm ET

Program Planning Abstract Subcommittee

Wednesday, October 14 at 3pm ET

Read Past Issues of *Insights*



Federation of State Physician Health Programs

668 Main Street, Suite 8, #295

Wilmington, MA 01887

Phone: 978-347-0600

www.fsphp.org

[Follow FSPHP on LinkedIn](#)

Best way to contact us is by email:

lbresnahan@fsphp.org Linda Bresnahan, MS, FSPHP Executive Director

ssavage@fsphp.org Sandra Savage, Membership Engagement & Communications Manager

