



Linda Bresnahan
Federation of State Physician Health Programs
978-347-0600
lbresnahan@fsphp.org

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**THE FEDERATION OF STATE PHYSICIAN HEALTH PROGRAMS (FSPHP)
IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS 2026 AWARD RECIPIENTS**

The Federation of State Physician Health Programs, Inc. (FSPHP) announced the recipients of the 2026 Presidential Recognition Awards and the 2026 FSPHP Board of Directors Service Awards on April 27, 2026, during the **FSPHP 2026 Education Conference and Annual Membership Meeting – *Navigating Change: Challenges, Solutions, and Success*** in Baltimore, Maryland.

“Congratulations to the 2026 FSPHP Board of Directors Service Award and Presidential Recognition Award recipients. We proudly celebrate these exceptional leaders whose passion, dedication, and impact elevate the well-being and resilience of healthcare professionals nationwide,” said **Michael Baron, MD, MPH, DFASAM, FAPA**, Medical Director of the Tennessee Medical Foundation Physician's Health Program and President of FSPHP.

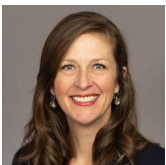
FSPHP 2026 Presidential Recognition Awards

The 2026 Presidential Recognition Awards honor members whose outstanding dedication, leadership, and service have made a lasting impact on the federation.



Sarah Early, PsyD, Executive Director, Colorado Physician Health Program

Dr. Early was honored for her exceptional commitment to the Federation, including her leadership as Co-Chair of the Publications Committee, her key role in strengthening the Federation's communications and video production, and her dedicated service on the Bylaws and Finance Committees, along with her leadership in supporting professional development within the Colorado Physician Health Program team.



Amanda Kimmel, MPA, Director of Public Affairs, Colorado Physician Health Program

Ms. Kimmel was applauded for her impactful leadership as Co-Chair of the FSPHP Publication Committee, her foundational work shaping the Federation's newsletter, website, and video, and her dedicated service across key committees—all of which have strengthened physician health and elevated the Federation's mission.



James Lorence, Chief Value and Engagement Officer, Wisconsin Medical Society

Mr. Lorence was recognized for his outstanding dedication to the Federation and his steadfast advocacy for the ongoing development of a Wisconsin Professional Health Program, including securing the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment grant and laying a strong foundation for advancing physician health and well-being in Wisconsin and beyond.

FSPHP 2026 Board of Directors Service Awards

The following members have served as distinguished leaders of the FSPHP Board of Directors for the 2024-2026 term, making significant contributions to the federation's leadership and future direction.

Mark Albanese, MD, Medical Director, Physicians Health Services - Massachusetts Medical Society
Northeast Region Director

Michael Baron, MD, MPH, DFASAM, FAPA, Medical Director, Tennessee Medical Foundation Physician's Health Program
President

Paul H. Earley, MD, DFASAM, Medical Director Emeritus, Georgia Professional Health Program, Inc.
Southeast Region Director

Dr. Earley served for more than ten years as a leader of FSPHP, including as President-Elect, President from 2018 to 2020, Immediate Past President, and through his many terms as a Southeast Region Director. As he now steps off the Board, his long-standing leadership, institutional knowledge, and dedication leave a lasting impact.

Scott L. Hambleton, MD, DFASAM, Chair of the Mississippi Physician Health Committee, Mississippi Physician Health Program
Immediate Past President

Dr. Hambleton completed six years of leadership as President-Elect, President from 2022 to 2024, and Immediate Past President. As he now steps off the Board, his dedicated leadership, thoughtful vision, and steady guidance have strengthened the organization and advanced FSPHP's mission.

Edwin Kim, MD, FAPA, Medical Director, Pennsylvania Physician Health Program
President Elect

Laura Moss, MD, Associate Medical Director, Washington Physicians Health Program
Western Region Director

Richard N. Whitney, MD, FASAM, Medical Director, Ohio Professionals Health Program
Central Region Director

Dr. Whitney was recognized as he stepped off the Board for his outstanding service to the Federation and the Central Region, as well as for his leadership with the Ohio PHP, which serves as an incredible example of the growth potential of a PHP.

Visit the [FSPHP Awards Recognition](#) webpage for more information on the FSPHP award recipients.

The **FSPHP 2026 Education Conference and Annual Membership Meeting – Navigating Change: Challenges, Solutions, and Success** was held at the Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor on April 29 – May 2, 2026, with approximately 300 individuals in attendance.

About FSPHP: The FSPHP evolved over 30 years ago from initiatives taken by the American Medical Association, the Federation of State Medical Boards, and state medical societies. PHPs serve as a safe, confidential resource for the profession, focusing on outreach, education, and health monitoring for physicians at risk for impairment. Today, nearly every state has developed a PHP that operates within the parameters of state regulation and legislation.

PHPs have extensive expertise in monitoring and managing safety-sensitive professionals, including physicians who have recovered from a substance use disorder. Studies that review the long-term model of PHPs confirm that physician recovery rates are markedly higher than those of the general population, even when extended into 5 years or more. One study reports that malpractice risk for those who complete a PHP is lower than for physicians practicing medicine who have never been followed by PHP monitoring. More articles featuring the PHP model, including FSPHP member testimonials and PHP participant stories, can be reviewed here: [PHP Featured Articles](#)

The FSPHP is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) professional membership association with elected officers and a [Board of Directors](#). FSPHP has the largest membership in history with 49 [State Physician Health Program Members](#), and 326 total members of the association. More information about FSPHP can be found here www.fsphp.org.