



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FSPHP Receives \$150,000 Grant from The Physicians Foundation to Strengthen Access and Advance Physician Health Programs Nationwide

Wilmington, MA – June 23, 2025 — The [Federation of State Physician Health Programs \(FSPHP\)](#) has been awarded a **\$150,000 grant** from [The Physicians Foundation](#) to support a bold new national initiative: **“Enhancing and Advancing the Effectiveness and Access of the Physician Health Program Model.”**

This transformative two-year initiative will drive strategic consistency of Physician Health Programs (PHPs) nationwide through three integrated projects that advance excellence, increase access, and provide education to reduce stigma, ensuring physicians can obtain the confidential, effective care they need to recover and thrive.

“This funding will accelerate vital support for healthcare professionals seeking support for mental health and substance use disorder, while also protecting patient safety,” said **Linda Bresnahan**, Executive Director and CEO of FSPHP. *“We’re honored to lead this effort at such a critical time for the healthcare workforce.”*

Three Key Initiatives to Be Funded

1. PEER™ – Performance Enhancement and Effectiveness Review™

The [Performance Enhancement and Effectiveness Review™ \(PEER™\) Program](#) is a structured review process designed to empower **Physician Health Programs (PHPs)** and other safety-sensitive professional health programs to use the **FSPHP Physician Health Program Guidelines** as a practical tool for identifying opportunities to optimize performance and effectiveness in alignment with best practices among PHPs.

This initiative will:

- Engage up to **15 PHPs** over two years with discounted access to the program.
- Be guided by a national Accreditation Review Council with representation from AMA, ABMS, FSMB, and other medical leaders.
- Promote transparency, consistency, and collaboration across PHPs.

2. PHP Research Information System (RIS)

RIS will establish a secure, anonymized national data platform to track program outcomes, participation trends, and physician health indicators, including mental health and substance use data.

The system will:

- Be developed by IT professionals and launched with a **five-site pilot**.

- Integrate data across PHPs to support care improvements and funding advocacy.
- Ultimately be available to **all 50 state PHPs**.

3. National Webinar: “Caring for Physician Patients”

This virtual training course will educate healthcare providers on the distinct challenges of caring for physicians experiencing mental health or substance use issues.

Led by nationally recognized experts, the webinar will:

- Address stigma, self-diagnosis, and professional role conflict.
- Offer practical clinical tools and CME credit.
- Be promoted nationally through FSPHP networks and medical partnerships.

Why This Matters

These initiatives work together to strengthen the infrastructure, transparency, and long-term viability of Physician Health Programs—critical resources for protecting both physician well-being and public safety.

“Physician Health Programs are among the most effective interventions for restoring and sustaining physician wellness while safeguarding patient care,” said **Dr. Michael Baron**, President of FSPHP. *“By participating in PEER™, PHPs gain an opportunity to enhance consistency, identify resource needs, improve confidentiality protections, and reinforce their essential role as therapeutic alternatives to discipline.”*

“We’re aiming to advance consistency and increase awareness of the Physician and Healthcare Professional Program Model – it saves lives,” added **Chris Bundy, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer for FSPHP**. *“The impact will extend to PHPs, their physician participants, and the millions of patients they care for.”*

About FSPHP

The **Federation of State Physician Health Programs** is a national nonprofit association that supports state-based PHPs in delivering confidential, life- and career-saving services to physicians. FSPHP promotes best practices, develops standards, and provides education to advance physician health and enhance public safety.

Learn more: www.fsphp.org


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