

April 29, 2021

Welcome!

We are excited to announce for the first time, the Oklahoma Public Health Association (OPHA) and Oklahoma Turning Point Council (OTPC) are combining efforts to bring a bigger, better, and more innovative conference – **The Oklahoma Partners in Public Health Conference** to be held September 21 & 22. This year's theme is "*Creating the Healthiest State: Small Actions, Big Impact.*"

We are delighted to announce national speaker, author, and advocate, **Wendy Ellis, Dr.PH.**, will be with us as the Assistant Professor in Global Health and the Director of the Center for Community Resilience (CCR) at the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University. Dr. Ellis has spent the last decade developing and working to grow a *'resilience movement'* to address systemic inequities that contribute to social and health disparities that are often transmitted in families and communities. Under Dr. Ellis' direction, the groundbreaking work of the CCR has been pivotal in influencing public health and child health advocates placing equity at the center of addressing trauma and building community resilience.

On a lighter note, they say "laughter is the best medicine," we will take it to heart and enjoy former Oklahoman and hospital administrator turned comedian, **Kent Rader** to give us a good dose to lift our spirts. Radar's "Laughter Matters" gives proven tools for reducing stress and making people laugh.

The Conference will feature speakers and experts to appeal to a wide range of individuals including public health leaders and policy advocates, community partners, educators, law enforcement officers, educators, human services workforce, parents, families, students and more. We will feature best practices on topics such as Adverse Childhood Experiences, Mental Health, Medicaid Expansion, Health Policy and Equity, Tobacco & Substance Use, Trauma Informed Services, Parent and Community Voice, Healing Centered Strategies, COVID-19 Response, and so much more!

We are proud to invite you to become a sponsor of this year's premier public health conference! Join this collaborative partnership between top public health organizations in Oklahoma and more than 400 attendees.

OPHA was founded in 1918 as an affiliate of the American Public Health Association. OPHA is an organization of over 1000 members statewide including public health professionals, county health administrators, physicians, nurses, counselors, educators, environmentalists, epidemiologists, and professionals in oral health, aging and laboratory services. OPHA is dedicated to bringing health professionals, and agencies together for the promotion and protection of Oklahoma's public health.

OTPC formed in 1997 to help transform public health in Oklahoma by working directly with community partnerships on health improvement initiatives. Rather than a top-down approach to public health, Turning Point seeks input from communities to help identify community priorities and implement local solutions. OTPC has worked on local innovations such as community health centers, extensive walking trails, community gardens, improved school health activities and advocacy for health improvement policies. Moreover, OTPC continues as an independent statewide consortium focused on policy issues aimed at improving Oklahoma's health.

We look forward to partnering with you as a sponsor or exhibitor at this year's conference to reach more than 400 public health professionals, advocates, and students across Oklahoma. Stay tuned by visiting the OTPC or OPHA websites.

Yours in health,

Spilia Bole Hart

Emilia Hart, OPHA
OPIPH Conference Planning Co-Chair

Angela Christian, OTPC
OPIPH Conference Planning Co-Chair

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Oklahoma Partners in Public Health

Virtual Conference Sept. 21 & 22, 2021

Brought to you by the **Oklahoma Public Health Association**& the **Oklahoma Turning Point Council**

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