FEBRUARY 2026

MORE FOR YOU at ASPHN

ASSOCIATION OF STATE PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITIONISTS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS

Join Connection Café 2.0 – Where Connection Leads the Conversation

The Connection Café is back, with MORE ON YOUR FAVORITE TOPICS. We're excited to continue this member-favorite forum designed to bring us closer, spark collaboration, and honor the many ways each of us shows up in our personal and professional lives.

Held virtually on select Tuesdays at 1:00 PM EST, these conversations remain intentionally casual, nurturing, and informative.

What to Expect

- An unrecorded space for connection, meaning, collective learning and honest, respectful dialogue.
- Peers contributing their personal insights, questions and reflections.
- Select sessions facilitated by fellow members, reflecting the shared wisdom, lived experience, and leadership within our community.

Register Now!
Upcoming Conversation Topics

- 2/24: New Year, New Manifestations
- 3/24: Aligning With Your Why

Get more information and explore how you might lead a session. Email teresa@asphn.org.

Find more meaningful opportunities on our Events page.

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

ASPHN Annual Meeting: Highlights + Room Reservations

2026 ASPHN Annual Meeting
Leading with Confidence in a Changing World
Hyatt Regency Indianapolis, IN
Sunday, June 14 -Tuesday, June 16

The theme this year, Leading with Confidence in a Changing World, brings us together to rally our courage as a team, adapt to the shifting conditions we work in, and continue to press towards the prize. A draft agenda will be posted on the ASPHN website in early March.

Agenda Highlights

- Katharine Manning's interactive presentation will rekindle our spirit and strengthen our leadership skills.
- Toni Gist returns for a brief part 2 of Deep Dive into Artificial Intelligence after rave reviews last year.
- Federal updates by CDC-DNPAO, MCHB, and USDA will be on the agenda again this year.
- Look forward to the Lightening Round Poster Presentations, a new twist for both students and professionals. Watch for the call for posters submissions in March.

Get Ready to Attend
The Hyatt Regency in downtown Indianapolis is ready to accept your reservation in the ASPHN room block. Reserve your accommodations at the federal per diem rate of $133 per night until May 21st. Book online or call the hotel. 1-888-591-1234

BOOK NOW

Cross-Sector Connections Webinar: Spark Ideas that Advance Nutrition and Health

Cultivating Collaboration:
How Agriculture and Public Health Can Drive Nutrition Impact
Thursday, February 26th 2-3PM EST

Spark ideas for building stronger cross-sector connections. Join ASPHN for a webinar featuring the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA).

Attendees will explore NASDA's role and…

- Identify intersections between the programs and regulations in agriculture and the priorities of public health nutrition,
- Analyze successful partnerships among state departments of agriculture, health, and other agencies, and
- Discover new opportunities for ASPHN member organizations to collaborate with their state agriculture departments.

REGISTER TODAY

CREATIVE COLLABORATION

Creative Collaborations: Helping Families and Schools Thrive

ASPHN creatively collaborates with Action for Healthy Kids with support from Gail Anderson on the ASPHN Collaboration Committee. Our collaborations bring you MORE EXPERT CONNECTIONS.

Update
ASPHN members benefit from the specialized focus Action for Healthy Kids has on thriving kids. Dive into their pool of resources for families and schools to design healthy, supportive experiences in nutritious eating and safe places for active play.

Great Guidance for Grown Ups

- Healthy Eating Toolkit
- Dual Language Digital Resource Library
- Action for Healthy Kids Blog

Get Connected
Contact the ASPHN Collaboration Committee by emailing Shana Patterson Holland, shana@asphn.org.

MORE ON COLLABORATION

Become an ASPHN Liaison!

You could be the next ASPHN liaison to one of our incredible collaborative partner organizations!

ASPHN is seeking liaisons to link us to:

- United States Breastfeeding Committee
- National Salt and Sugar Reduction Initiative
- American Public Health Association, Food & Nutrition

Demonstrate the value of public health nutritionists to allied organizations and provide ASPHN with information about emerging issues, potential resources and funding opportunities from them.

To find out more, contact Shana Patterson Holland at shana@asphn.org.

I'M INTERESTED

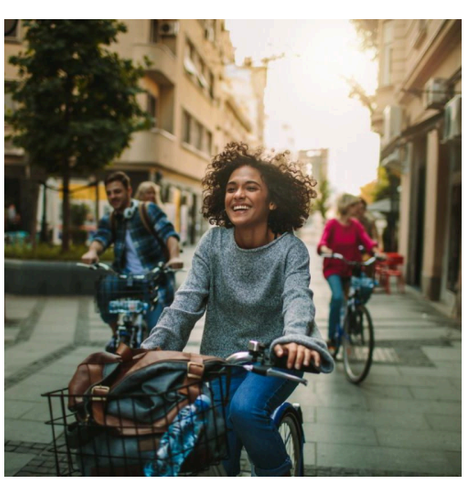
GET ACTIVE WITH ASPHN

Students Lead With Us: Apply to Join the ASPHN Board of Directors

Apply by March 31 **to serve as the next Student Representative** on the ASPHN Board of Directors!

This one-year term runs from August 1 to July 31 and requires a commitment of approximately 8 hours per month.

GAIN MORE BENEFITS



- Firsthand experience in public health governance
- Leadership skills for a more robust resume
- Access to next-level career opportunities

“In my time as the Student Board Representative, I have learned so much about the organization as well as the field of public health nutrition.”
-Emilie Holloway

Get Ready to Apply
Review the full position description and details. If you have questions, reach out to Amber Brown at amberbrown@asphn.org.

Don’t miss this incredible opportunity to grow as a leader and make a difference. Plus, explore more student leadership opportunities.

APPLY NOW!

THIS MONTH'S MEMBERSHIP TIP

Share MORE OF YOUR EXPERIENCE by Becoming a Welcome Buddy!

ASPHN’s Welcome Buddy Program is looking for experienced members willing to serve as volunteers and help welcome new and less experienced members who are looking to build deeper connections within the Association. As a Welcome Buddy, you’ll be paired with a member who may have questions about ASPHN, want help getting oriented, or simply appreciate a friendly point of connection.

The time commitment is minimal, typically just one or two connections a year, but the impact is meaningful. Your insights and perspective can make a big difference in helping members feel supported, engaged, and connected in the world of public health nutrition.

Interested in serving as a Welcome Buddy? Contact amberbrown@asphn.org to get involved.

I’M INTERESTED!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

ASPHN members are committed to taking collective action that brings about greater health for all people.

Our movement grows stronger with every new member. That's why we get fired up in celebration every month.

In January we gained MORE ACTION-POWER with 13 new members. Thank you for joining us and sharing your strength!

General Members

- Kaila Baer in the Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Jenna Crider in the Oklahoma Department of Health
- Kira Hemphill in the Oklahoma Department of Health
- Wende Johnson in the Oklahoma Department of Health
- Miranda Manning in the Oklahoma Department of Health
- Amy Mauldin in the Oklahoma Department of Health
- Adrianna Odom in the University of North Carolina Cooperative Extension
- Jessica Sawatski in the Oklahoma Department of Health
- Lee Lana Thomas in the Kentucky Department for Public Health
- Christina Windrix in the Oklahoma Department of Health

Associate Members

- Amber Ford with Knox County Health Department (TN)
- Madelyn Howe with Knox County Health Department (TN)
- Taylor McKently with Knox County Health Department (TN)

CONTACT YOUR COLLEAGUES

DISCOVER MORE BENEFITS WITH ASPHN

ASPHN Membership

Your active participation in ASPHN can accelerate your career development and keep your state on the leading edge of public health innovation.
Not a member yet? Apply today!

Follow ASPHN On Social Media

Did you know that ASPHN posts to its social media channels regularly? Be sure to follow us on the channels below to keep apprised on current public health nutrition events, resources and much more!

Facebook • **LinkedIn** • **Twitter** • **Instagram**

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ASPHN
Advancing Health Through Leadership

ASPHN is a 501(c)3 non-profit membership organization. We provide national leadership on food and nutrition policy, programs and services.

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