



2025 MPHA “Public Health Matters” Policy Forum Series

Connecting the dots... a call to action!

Friday, March 21, 2025, 7:30 am – 9:30 am CDT
New Brighton Community Center, 400 10th St NW, New Brighton, MN 55112

The theme for this year’s breakfast forum series is all about working outside the box to tackle some of our most difficult and persistent issues that directly impact public health. This requires public health professionals to work with non-traditional partners to ensure basic needs of people are met and sound policies exist to achieve optimum health for all Minnesotans.

The forums will be in-person at New Brighton Community Center. A virtual registration is also available. Check-in and a light breakfast begin at 7:30am. Forums begin promptly at 8:00 am and conclude at 9:30am.

March 21, 2025...mental health

We often hear about the lack of resources needed to address mental health issues but often it is after some tragedy has occurred. What is new in the efforts to provide mental health resources to Minnesotans needing help? Are there public policies that need to be changed to improve the mental health of Minnesotans? What can public health professionals be doing to make connections with other professionals to improve mental health?

Agenda

[Schedule](#)

[Ancestral Land Statement](#)

[Presenter Bios](#)

[Moderator: Cherylee Sherry](#)

[Panelist: Todd Archbold](#)

[Panelist: Megan Schossow](#)

[Panelist: Rachel Warren](#)

[Thank you!](#)

[Policy Forum Committee](#)

[MPHA “Friends of the Forum”](#)

[Save the Date](#)

Schedule

- 7:30 am, Check in and Breakfast
- 8:00 am, Welcome
[Kristin Moore, President](#)
- 8:05 am, Moderator Remarks and Introduction of Panelists
[Cherylee Sherry](#)
- 8:15 am, Opening Commentary
- 8:30 am, Panelist Discussion
[Megan Schossow, Todd Archbold, Rachel Warren](#)
- 8:45 am, Table Discussion
- 9:00 am, Discussion Table Questions
- 9:20 am, Summary Remarks
[Cherylee Sherry](#)
- 9:25 am, Closing Remarks
[Kristin Moore](#)

Ancestral Land Statement

We ask that you take a moment to honor and acknowledge that we are on the ancestral homelands of the Dakota and Anishinaabe. Indigenous people have a long-standing history and connection to the land since time immemorial, and are the original stewards of lands and waters. Many American Indians were forcibly exiled from their lands because of aggressive and persistent settler colonialism and U.S. Governmental policies, but they persevered. We make this acknowledgement to honor the Dakota and Anishinaabe people, ancestors and descendants, as well as the land itself.

Presenter Bios

Moderator: Cherylee Sherry

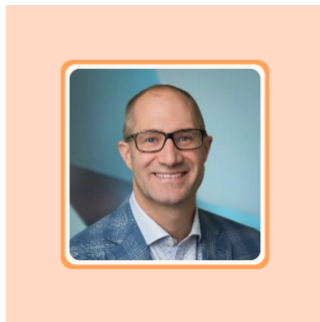
Cherylee Sherry, MPH, MCHES® is the Population Health Systems Manager at the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Division. At MDH, she has worked on two MN Health Reform programs: Health Care Homes initiative, a patient centered



medical home certification program and currently, the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership. Prior to joining MDH, Cherylee led community health initiatives at an urban safety net hospital and was the executive director of a community health clinic. In Brooklyn, NY, she was the project director of two community health demonstration programs, state and national.

Cherylee is a Masters-level Certified Health Education Specialist, MCHES®. She holds an MPH with a concentration in global health from New York University and she received her BS/BA degrees in community health education and Spanish from the University of Wisconsin- La Crosse. She was also a public health volunteer in Paraguay, Ecuador, Peru, and Mexico. Cherylee is on the Division Board for Certification of Health Education Specialists of NCHEC. She is an active member of MPHA, currently as treasurer and co-chair for the leadership committee, and is active on the SOPHE finance and strategic planning and MN SOPHE advocacy committees. In her spare time, she volunteers for a Native American-led woman's health organization in Bemidji, MN.

Panelist: Todd Archbold



Todd Archbold, LSW, MBA is a social worker, and the chief executive officer of [PrairieCare](#), a psychiatric health system based in Brooklyn Park, MN. He began his career as a social worker, working with children and families in a variety of settings including health care and education.

After earning his MBA in 2009, he began spearheading development efforts to expand mental health services by creating new programs, strengthening community partnerships, and focusing energy on community outreach and educational initiatives. These efforts have included the clinical and operational design and launch of numerous programs including clinics, hospitals, integrated care models, grant partnerships and more. He is the executive director of the statewide Psychiatric Assistance Line (PAL), and the Mental Health Collaboration Hub (MHCH).

Todd is an avid writer, including his book *Leading with the Head and Heart* as well as numerous journal and new articles. Todd was recognized among the 100 Most Influential Health Care Leaders by Minnesota Physician Magazine, was named one of the Most Admired CEOs in the Twin Cities by the Mpls-St. Paul Business Journal, and received the Minnesota State University Dept of Social Work Alumnus of the Year Award.

Panelist: Megan Schossow

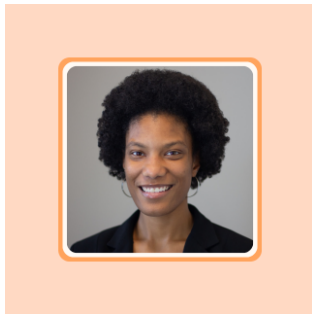
Megan Schossow is the Outreach Director and Center Coordinator for the [Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center at the University of Minnesota](#), with 10+ years of expertise in agriculture, rural public health, policy analysis, and project management. She leads strategic planning and implementation of health and safety



outreach programs for the CDC-funded program, building bridges between research and agricultural communities.

Megan holds M.S. and B.S. degrees from the University of Minnesota, but her connection to this work began on her family farm in Southeast Minnesota. She also has held professional experiences including an agronomist, government relations, and state government.

Panelist: Rachel Warren



Rachel Warren is currently the Reimagine Black Youth Mental Health Initiative Coordinator at the [Brooklyn Bridge Alliance for Youth \(BBAY\)](#). Here she works to carry out a Black-centered, youth-led, community-driven approach to policy change that will improve mental health and wellbeing across the Brooklyn.

Prior to joining BBAY, Rachel's creative and culturally responsive planning, programming, and implementation have proven both engaging and effective for youth, families, and communities. Her deep understanding of equity and justice has also made her instrumental in elevating organizations' processes to better serve people. Rachel has initiated and carried out high-quality programming with system-involved/impacted young people, and designed curriculum to deepen learning and skill-building aimed at equipping people to establish and sustain anti-oppressive workplaces. Her experiences in Minneapolis, Chicago, Anacostia, and Madison have given her perspective on how to actualize necessary change in big ways. Rachel is results-driven, solutions-oriented, and consistent in her above-and-beyond approach to building authentic relationships that cultivate joy and move us toward new and healed ways of doing things.

Rachel is a graduate of North Park University in Chicago where she earned a B.A. in Nonprofit Management, a B.A. in Sociology, and a Minor in Spanish. She was then an Advanced Opportunity Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she earned a Masters of Social Work.

Thank you!

Policy Forum Committee

Dr. Angeline Carlson, Chair; Lindsey Fabian; Lia Burg; Kathleen Norlien

MPHA "Friends of the Forum"

Bonnie Anderson
Donna Anderson

Antonia Apolinario-Wilcoxon
Kenneth Bence
Lia Burg
Angie Carlson
Lindsey Fabian
David Golden
Merry Grande
Andrea Halland
James Hart
Kathleen Norlien
Cherylee Sherry
Jean Streetar
Pamela Van Zyl York
Sarah Vanausdall

As of March 19, 2025

A “Friends of the Forum” \$50 sponsorship ensures the continuation of this yearly series. Sponsorship includes your participation in all four of the forums. Register at mpha.net/Events, or, make a donation indicating “Friend of the Forum”. Thank you for your support!

Thank you to all of our MPHA members! **If you are not a current member, please consider [joining us at mpha.net](https://mpha.net).**

Is your organization interested in supporting MPHA? Learn about the [opportunities](https://mpha.net) at mpha.net!

Save the Date

- **Policy Forum May 2, 2025...housing** [Register here!](#)
- **MPHA Annual Conference**
May 16-17, 2025 at Greysolon, Duluth, MN
Early Bird Registration closes April 4 [Register here!](#)

Check out upcoming MPHA Committee meetings, event details, and more at mpha.net!