



Physicians'
HEALTH
Program

The Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society

SPRING
2025

PA PHP UPDATE

— NEWS FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA PHYSICIANS' HEALTH PROGRAM —

A Legacy of Compassion

Honoring someone is no easy feat, especially when that someone is your father. For Alfred Wayne Troncelliti, MD, it was not just about honoring his father, but also about making a lasting impact.

Dr. Troncelliti shared, "My wife and I's decision to establish a legacy scholarship with The Foundation stems from a deep desire to honor my father and to leave a lasting impact on the field of medicine." Born in a small rural town in southern Italy as the youngest of ten children, his father's hard work and dedication to his patients inspired young Dr. A. Wayne Troncelliti to pursue a career in medicine. "My father Alfred E. Troncelliti, MD, was a true icon of hard work, dedication, and unwavering care for his patients."

After completing his residency, Dr. A. Wayne Troncelliti joined his father's practice, working side by side for 14 years. He fondly remembers finally being able to give his dad the weekend and evening breaks he deserved. "Throughout his sixty years of active medical practice, he was not only a great teacher but also a compassionate physician who believed in going above and beyond to attend to the needs of his patients."

Choosing The Foundation as the recipient of their planned estate gift was an easy decision for Dr. Troncelliti, given its commitment to quality care and the value of perpetuating good medical practices. "Throughout my career, PAMED has supported and protected me, and I trust The Foundation to uphold this legacy," he said.

"Our gift to The Foundation is a tribute to my father's legacy and our shared passion for medicine. The Foundation's commitment to helping the next generation of physicians aligns perfectly with our values. We believe that compassionate physicians providing good care is one of the most valuable contributions to society."

By establishing this legacy scholarship through their will, the Troncelliti family's gift will significantly impact The Foundation's mission by supporting the next generation of medical students. Dr. Troncelliti emphasized, "We really want to ensure that the values, dedication, and excellence in medicine are passed on to future generations for the continued provision of quality health care." ■



Bringing Professionals Together, Growing Stronger: PHP's Next Chapter



The PHP has a strong commitment to its stakeholders and wants to thank you for your feedback as we have undergone growth and change over the past year. We appreciate your vulnerability and willingness to meaningfully reflect on experiences to provide us with accurate responses that help propel us forward. In listening to our stakeholders, we have debuted our new branding for Pharmacists' Health Program (PharmHP) and Dentists' Health Program

(DHP) to honor the unique identities of pharmacists and dental professionals in our Peer Assistance Monitoring Programs. We acknowledge the distinctive needs of each professional we serve and continue to commit ourselves to excellence in all we do.

In August 2024, the PHP underwent the Performance Enhancement and Effectiveness Review™ (PEER™) Program through the Federation of State Physician Health Programs. "This is a structured review process designed to empower PHPs and other safety-sensitive professionals health programs to use the 2019 FSPHP Physician Health Program Guidelines as a practical tool for identifying opportunities to optimize performance and effectiveness in alignment with best practices among PHPs." The PHP has begun utilizing the feedback from this review in order to make changes to improve processes and procedures to increase consistency with the guidelines for best practices.

As we look to the future, we ask for your continued support and honest feedback to help our program grow, develop and excel. Our program encouraged by the enthusiasm and steadfast care of our stakeholders. We are listening and your collaboration is essential to the success of our program. ■

Tiffany M. Booher, MA, LPC, CAADC, CIP, CCSM
Director, Peer Assistance Monitoring Programs

PA PHP MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to promote early identification and facilitate rehabilitation of physicians and other eligible health care professionals and trainees with concerns relating to substance use disorders, mental health disorders, and/or behavioral concerns. Our goal is to coordinate assessment and treatment as well as provide monitoring and advocacy to ensure the safe practice of their profession, and the safety of the public.



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The Foundation of the Pennsylvania
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Jacob Widroff, MD – Chair
Shazia Savul, MD
William Woodward, DO – Secretary
Brad Fell, MD
Philip Helmbright, DO
Daniel Schecter, DMD
David Girardi, DO
John Kriak, PharmD – Vice Chair
Theresa Talbott, RPh

— FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR —

Advancing the Health and Wellbeing of the Broader Health Care Team in 2025



The Peer Assistance Monitoring Program at the Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society has experienced remarkable growth. With the inclusion of licensed pharmacists and nursing professionals, our staff has doubled,

and the number of participants served annually has nearly tripled. This exponential growth reminds us that the journey to recovery is deeply personal. It is critical to acknowledge the nuances of the various licensees and state boards we support.

In response to feedback from key stakeholders, including the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association, the Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists, and members of our PHP Advisory Committee representing pharmacy, the Foundation has implemented microbranding tailored to specific licensees. This initiative aims to create a strong and distinctive identity that resonates with the pharmacists we serve.

At a recent Board of Pharmacy meeting and during the annual Pharmacists Association meeting, the Foundation proudly unveiled the PharmHP logo. In addition to the logo, customized marketing materials are being developed, and a dedicated PharmHP website is currently in progress. Through these efforts, we aim to foster unique, personalized connections and meaningful engagement with our participants and stakeholders representing pharmacy.



As the Peer Assistance Monitoring Program continues to evolve, additional microbrands

will emerge, including the Dentists' Health Program (DHP) and the Nurses' Health Program (NHP). These microbrands will serve to further strengthen the sense of identity and belonging among the licensees we support.



The Foundation's approach is anything but one-size-fits-all. Each participant's journey through the Peer Assistance Monitoring Program is treated as unique, respecting the individuality of both the person and their professional license. With microbranding, we hope to amplify our message of recovery and hope, nurturing a sense of identity and belonging.

At the core of all peer assistance monitoring programs lies the mission of the original Physicians' Health Program: to promote early identification and facilitate rehabilitation of licensed professionals and trainees facing substance use disorders, mental health challenges, or behavioral concerns. The program's goal is to coordinate assessment and treatment, provide monitoring and advocacy, and ensure both the safety of professional practice and public well-being.

Our trustees and staff extend heartfelt gratitude to our Advisory Committees representing the various licensees, our professional association partners, and our participants for their constructive feedback. Together, we are building trust and fostering community among all those we serve. ■

Be well,

Heather A. Wilson, MSW, CFRE, CAE
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

The Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society provides programs and services for individual physicians and others that improve the well-being of Pennsylvanians and sustain the future of medicine.

Welcome to our 2025 PHP Advisory Committee and Board of Trustee Members

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Brad Fell, MD
Philip Helmbright, DO
Daniel Schechter, DMD
David Girardi, DO
John Kriak, PharmD – Vice Chair
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Congratulations Are in Order!



A huge congratulations to Charles N. Burns, Jr., MD on the outstanding achievement of earning his Medical Review Officer (MRO) credentials! This is a remarkable milestone and a true testament to Dr. Burns' expertise, dedication, and unwavering commitment to excellence in the medical field. Dr. Burns joined the Foundation in 2023. Let's take a moment to celebrate this well-deserved success—cheers to Dr. Burns!



Let's raise a toast to Katie Gruber on her well-earned promotion to Data and Training Manager with the PHP! She helps connect participants with evaluations and treatment as needed. She has a Bachelor's of Science in Addiction Counseling from Drexel University and a Master's Degree in Social Work from Temple University. As she steps into this key role, her contributions will undoubtedly continue to make an impact and drive excellence within the organization. Congratulations, Katie

Meet the New PHP Committee Members

Brad Fell, MD graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1993. He practices family medicine at Seneca Medical Center in Venango County. He served in Iraq with the US Army and currently holds a teaching position with Penn State College of Medicine. He is a new member this year on the PHP advisory committee. Brad lives in the woods with his wife and a cat, plays the banjo, and studies historical fencing.

Terry Talbott, RPh is the Director of Pharmacy and Retail Advocacy at CVS Health. She is a 1987 graduate of Duquesne University School of Pharmacy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Terry began her professional career with Thrift Drug as an intern and for the last 35 years has held various positions with CVS Health. During her career at CVS, Terry was a pharmacist and a pharmacy supervisor for CVS Pharmacy covering the Pocono and Lehigh Valley areas of Pennsylvania. Joining the Government Affairs team in 2014, she has covered various states on the Eastern seaboard. In her current role, Terry provides support to the entire State Government Affairs team on pharmacy and retail issues. Terry was appointed to the Pennsylvania State Board of Pharmacy in 2011 and concluded her service on the board in 2024. She is also an active member of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) serving on various committees and task forces. She also is a member of Dean's Advisory Committee for the Duquesne University School of Pharmacy and has been a guest lecturer at Duquesne University, Jefferson University, and the Wilkes University Schools of Pharmacy.

Shazia Ahsan Savul, MD is an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Perelman School of Medicine at University of Pennsylvania. She completed her residency in General Psychiatry at Cooper University Hospital, NJ where she served as Chief Resident. She then did a fellowship in Child and Adolescent and Addiction Psychiatry from Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in NH. She is a triple boarded in General Adult, Addictions and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. She provided clinical care to patients at the Charles O' Brien Center for Addictions and currently sees patients at Penn Total Recovery substance use treatment center. She worked towards the development of an Adolescent Substance Use Treatment Clinic at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia where she currently provides clinical care to patients and supervision to fellows. She is also attending psychiatrist at Neurodevelopmental Disorders Section at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She has served as Medical Director of Penn Adult ADHD Treatment and Research Program and currently provides clinical care to patients at Penn with Neurodevelopmental conditions including Autism, ADHD, Williams Syndrome and Intellectual Disabilities. She has been involved in teaching medical students, residents and fellows.

Daniel P. Schecter, DMD, has been in continuous recovery for 11 years. He has been affiliated with Physicians Healthcare Programs both in the state of Maine and Pennsylvania and has served as a Peer Advisor for the PA PHP for over 4 years. He received his DMD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1997 and he serves as an advisor to several county Drug and Alcohol Task Forces. Recovery is the main focus in his life, and he firmly believes in the ethos of the PA PHP. Daniel has homegroups in the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous which include the Reading Caduceus group, the North Eastern Pennsylvania (Marworth) Caduceus group. He hopes to increase awareness of the miracle of recovery to professional licensing boards. He has a sponsor who has over 40 years of recovery, a grand sponsor who has over 50 years of recovery, and is a sponsor himself. Daniel strongly believes in having a sponsorship family and is always available to anyone seeking help when struggling with the disease of addiction.

Promoting Support and Safety: Pharmacists' Health Program Debuts New Branding

PHP staff members Tiffany Booher, Director of Peer Assistance Monitoring Programs and Katie Gruber, Data and Training Manager, represented the Pharmacists' Health Program at the Pennsylvania Pharmacist's Association's annual business meeting, unveiling the program's new branding. The program focuses on early identification, rehabilitation, and support for pharmacists and trainees facing substance use, mental health, or behavioral challenges.

Tiffany Booher emphasizes their mission: "Our goal is to coordinate assessment and treatment, alongside monitoring and advocacy, to ensure safe professional practices and public safety."



Pictured: Katie Gruber



Pictured: Tiffany Booher

National Doctors' Day



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Supporting Pennsylvania's Future Physicians!**



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www.foundationpamedsoc.org/DonateToDoctorsDay


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**Physicians'
HEALTH
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The Foundation of the Pennsylvania Medical Society

The Pennsylvania Physicians' Health Program (PA PHP) saves lives, families, and careers.

Each day, we support doctors and health care professionals facing substance use disorders and behavioral health challenges. These are not just colleagues; they are our friends, and important members of our health care community.

Physicians often struggle in silence, facing unique pressures that can make reaching out for help seem impossible. But with the right support, recovery is possible. Visit www.foundationpamedsoc.org/infocus to hear from some of our colleagues that have recovered and continue to contribute to our health care community.

PA PHP provides confidential evaluation, comprehensive care coordination, and ongoing monitoring to guide physicians back to health. Over the past year alone, we've helped more than 100 doctors begin their journey to recovery.

But we can't do it alone. As we look ahead to the coming year, we turn to you — our hospital and physician community — to continue this vital work. **Your generous contributions make it possible for us to offer these life-saving services to colleagues who need it most.**



Will you help us save more physician lives?

Your donation ensures that PA PHP can provide the essential resources for evaluation, referral, and monitoring services, empowering physicians to return to their practice and their communities healthier than ever before.

Please take a moment to make a contribution using the enclosed donation form, and together, we will continue to change lives and safeguard the future of our profession.

Thank you for your unwavering support.



"For over 40 years the PA PHP has been a confidential resource that serves physicians and residents, medical students, physician assistants, podiatrists, and pharmacists and pharmacy students suffering from potentially impairing conditions like addiction or psychiatric concerns. We conduct evaluations, refer for treatment, and provide continued monitoring for this very special group of health care professionals. It is always our goal to help each individual achieve and maintain sobriety and wellness so that they may return to their work and their loved ones."

—Raymond C. Truex Jr., MD, FACS, FAANS, MRO, Medical Director

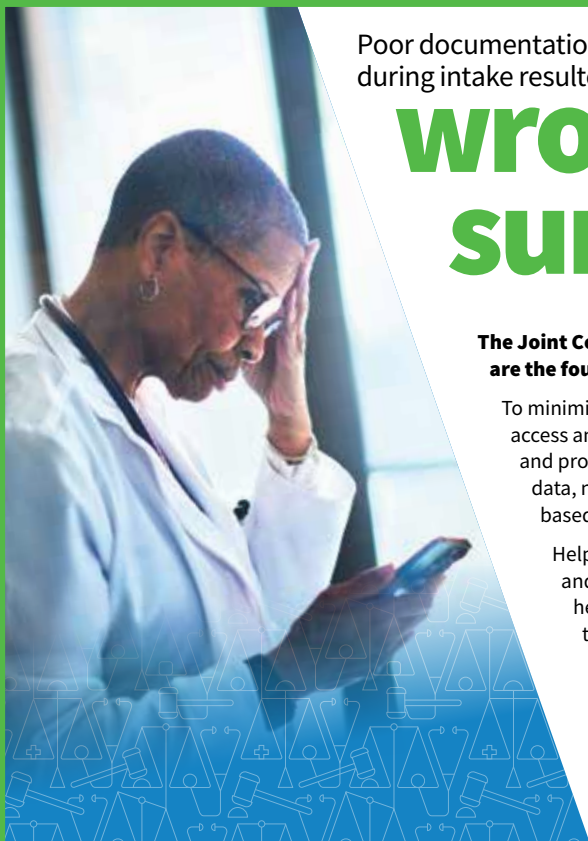


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* The Joint Commission, *Sentinel Event data released for 2022*. Visit: bit.ly/43TXUGI.

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