



DAY 1 AGENDA

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2026
2:30 – 6:00 pm
Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

ALL TIMES IN EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME (EDT)

2:30 PM WELCOME

Jeanne Alongi, DrPH, MPH, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
Lea Susan Ojamaa, MPH, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

2:50 PM KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The Power of Storytelling for Catalyzing Social Change
Parfait Bassalé, Parfait Bassalé Consulting

3:30 PM NETWORKING BREAK

3:50 PM WORKSHOPS

Workshops (60–90 minutes) are hands-on sessions that provide an interactive environment for skill-building and collaboration. Attendees will choose one workshop to attend during each workshop session. Attendees will gain practical skills, tools, and connections to support their chronic disease work.

Bridging Community and Clinical Care: A Culturally Responsive Coaching Approach to Hypertension Control

Emily Gratopp, MS, NBC-HWC, University of Nebraska
Natalie Sehi, MS, University of Nebraska

Public Health Intelligence: Using AI & Tech to Communicate and Act on Chronic Disease Data

Sandte Stanley, PhD, MPH, MA, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors

5:20 PM NETWORKING BREAK

5:40 PM WRAP UP

6:00 PM ADJOURN



**Chronic Disease
Academy**
Connect • Engage • Innovate

DAY 2 AGENDA

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2026

2:30 – 6:30 pm

Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

ALL TIMES IN EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME (EDT)

2:30 PM

OPENING PLENARY

The Civility Code™ – Strengthen Emotional Intelligence, Improve Communication, and Build Trust

Shelley Davis Boyd, MBA, CAE, CEC, Essdee & Co.

3:45 PM

LIGHTNING TALKS

Lightning talks are fast-paced presentations (10–15 minutes) that highlight big ideas, emerging innovations, and compelling stories in a concise format. Attendees will select one lightning talk session to attend, with 4–5 presentations per session. Gain fresh perspectives and inspiration of innovative approaches shaping the field.

DATA & TECHNOLOGY SESSION

Partnering to Improve Melanoma Reporting and Build the Cancer Registry Workforce

Amy Bashforth, MPA, Ohio Department of Health

Emily Stewart, MBA, Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System

Emily Bunt, MA, Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System

Chronic Bridge – A Configurable Public Health Data Utility for the Comprehensive Chronic Disease Portfolio

Rishi Tarer, J Michael Consulting

Jyothi Kondamrui, J Michael Consulting

Craig Newman, J Michael Consulting

The New Architecture of Care – Building the Outcome-Driven Health System of Tomorrow

Nzinga Lowe, Pygmalion Health

Mapping Latino Diabetes Disparities on Long Island – Leveraging Tract-Level Data to Identify Structural Drivers and Spatial Risk Pockets

Dr. Shijian Li, The State University of New York Old Westbury

Pascale Fils-Aime, MPH, The State University of New York Old Westbury

COMMUNICATION & STORYTELLING SESSION

Creative Alliances in Public Health: Leveraging Professional Marketing Expertise to Scale Campaign Impact

Bethany West, The Manahan Group, LLC

Jessica Gamponia Wright, BSN, The Manahan Group, LLC

Tammy Harper, The Manahan Group, LLC

Cutting Through the Noise: A Physician-Led Health Communication Framework for Chronic Disease Prevention in the Age of Misinformation

Berry Pierre, DO, MPH, FACOI, Pierre Medical Consulting Inc.

Localizing the Lancet – Bringing Evidence Back Home

Daniel Piñon, BSc, Cameron County Public Health

Shiann Moraida, MPH, Cameron County Public Health

3:45 PM

LIGHTNING TALKS – CONTINUED

Mindful Actions To Change Health, Empowering Self (MATCHES) Project

Frank Sutton, MPH, CPH, BEAMS
Alassad Rasheed, PhD, STAND CDC

Taking Chronic Health into Their Own Hands

Shirley Madewell, MPH, New York State Department of Health

PARTNERSHIPS SESSION

Centering Community Voice in Coalition Building

Stef Bugasch, MPH, Wisconsin Department of Health

Powerful Partnerships: NACDD, ASTHO, and CHWs Collaborate to Address Dementias and Support Older Adult Health

Megan DeNubila-Griffin, MPH, CPH, Association of State and Territorial Health Officers
Corinne Gillenwater, MPH, Association of State and Territorial Health Officers
Mara Galic, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
Dawn Wiatrek, PhD, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors

Building Cross-Sector Partnerships for Chronic Disease Prevention

Dr. Agaezi Sonya, MHA, DHSc, Charmony Foundation

Reaching the End Zone: A Tennessee-Centered, Community-Led PSE Playbook for Chronic Disease Prevention

Emma Davis, PhD, MPH, CPH, MCHES, Tennessee Department of Health

Integrating Community Health Workers and Diabetes Prevention Within Medicaid Managed Care Systems

Dr. Agaezi Sonya, MHA, DHSc, Charmony Foundation

4:50 PM

DIGITAL POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Digital poster presentations showcase program highlights, project outcomes, and key findings. Presenters will be available to answer questions. Attendees can visit the Zoom Expo to view all digital poster presentations.

DATA & TECHNOLOGY

Cancer Screening Rates Among Patients with Substance-Related Disorders

Erica Lamy, MS, Rhode Island Department of Health

Pragmatic Use of Artificial Intelligence for Qualitative Program Evaluation for CDC-funded Chronic Disease Public Health Strategies DP-23-0004 and DP-23-0020

Stephen Morabito, MA, Tennessee Department of Health
Charline Nguyen, MPH, Tennessee Department of Health

4:50 PM

DIGITAL POSTER PRESENTATIONS – CONTINUED

COMMUNICATION & STORYTELLING

Chronic Disease Management and Prevention – Implementing Clinical Pharmacists into a Patient's Care Team

Simonne Hrinkova, BS, New Jersey Department of Health

Taking Chronic Health into their Own Hands

Shirley Madewell, MPH, New York State Department of Health

Strengthening Chronic Disease Care Through Strategic Partnerships in Rural Ohio

Nicole Smith, MPH, MCHES, Ohio Department of Health

Sara May, MA, Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center

Melanie Plotke, PharmD, Innovation Horizons

PARTNERSHIPS

Revising the Colorado Cancer Plan: Data Driven, Partner Led

Ian Kahn, MPH, Colorado Department of Public Health

Community Health Worker-Led Health Coaching Boosts Referrals and Use of Self-Measured Blood Pressure Program

Ashley Biscardi, MBA, Quality Insights

Prepared to Engage: Equipping Dental Professionals to Turn Dental Visits Into Heart Health Conversations

Jesabel Rivera, MPH, American Heart Association

Mitizi Cardona, American Heart Association

Implementing Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring

Naomi Kremen, MPH, CHES, New Jersey Department of Health

Simonne Hrinkova, BS, New Jersey Department of Health

Model Municipal Tobacco Ordinance Through Cross-Sector Partnership

Isabella Osorio Cuellar, BA, New Jersey Department of Health

New Jersey Quit Centers: Building Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations and Health Systems to Expand Access to Tobacco and Nicotine Cessation Services

Isamar Paredes, BS, New Jersey Department of Health

Partnership Engagement to Develop an Asthma Control State Plan in Washington, DC

Radha Vakkalagadda, MPH, DC Health

Elizabeth Capaci, MPH, DC Health

Strengthening Partnerships to Improve Colorectal Cancer Screening: Outcomes from the Michigan Colorectal Cancer Control Program

Bethany Hollender, MPH, MSW, Michigan Department of Health

Brandon Thomas, PhD, Michigan Department of Health

5:30 PM

SPOTLIGHT SESSION

Spotlight sessions (20–30 minutes) feature promising practices, lessons learned, and evaluation findings from State and Territorial Health Departments. Attendees will select one presentation to attend during each spotlight session. Presenters will share real-world experiences, outcomes, and insights that attendees can use to inform their own chronic disease programs.

Co-Creating Long COVID Solutions Through State, Academic, and Community Partnerships

Sameera Ahmed, MD, MBA, Michigan Department of Health

Expanding Cancer Screening Through Strategic FQHC Partnerships: Strengthening Ohio's Breast and Cervical Cancer Program

Dawn Ingles, MA, Ohio Department of Health

Javiona Hannon, LPN, Heart of Ohio Health Center

Targeting Prevention: A Data-Driven Action Plan to Improve Diabetes Eye and Kidney Screening

Tami Ross, RD, LD, CDCES, MLDE, FADCES, Kentucky Department of Health

Building Healthier Communities Through Evidence-Based Programs

Erin Bley, Montana Department of Health and Human Services

Melissa Dale, MPH, Montana Department of Health and Human Services

6:00 PM

SPOTLIGHT SESSION

Collaborative Assistance with HPV Self-Collection Implementation in Minnesota Clinics

Carlie Koberstine, MPH, Sage Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program

Christina Nelson, MPH, Sage Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program

Replicable Approaches for Strengthening Colorectal Cancer Screening Through Partnerships

Bethany Hollender, MPH, MSW, Michigan Department of Health

Brandon Thomas, PhD, Michigan Department of Health

A State-Nonprofit Partnership to Improve Chronic Care Medication Use for Pennsylvania's Seniors Using Academic Detailing

Thomas Snedden, Pennsylvania Department of Aging

Jerome Avorn, MD, Harvard Medical School

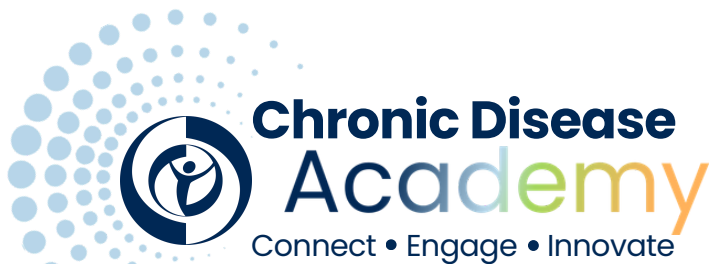
Lori Wiviott Tishler, MD, MPH, Alosa Health

Paul Fanikos, RPH, MPH, HA, Alosa Health

Ellen Dancel, PharmD, MPH, Alosa Health

6:30 PM

ADJOURN



DAY 3 AGENDA

Thursday, Sept. 17, 2026

2:30 – 6:00 pm

Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

ALL TIMES IN EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME (EDT)

2:30 PM

WORKSHOPS

Workshops (60 minutes) are hands-on sessions that provide an interactive environment for skill-building and collaboration. Attendees will choose one workshop to attend during each workshop session. Attendees will gain practical skills, tools, and connections to support their chronic disease work.

Building Readiness for Systems Change through Virtual Simulation-Based Learning

Jessica Lawrence, MS, Carin Guidance
Sterling Ta'Bon, MSPH, Carin Guidance
Emily Shore, MPH, Carin Guidance

Partnering Across Public Health for Healthy Aging

Renée Kidney, PhD, MPH, Minnesota Department of Health
Patricia Takawira, MPH, Minnesota Department of Health

3:30 PM

SPOTLIGHT SESSION

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Supporting Blood Pressure Monitoring Beyond the Clinic: Building Community–Clinical SMBP Infrastructure in Utah State

Shannon Robinson, MPH, Utah Department of Health and Human Services
Cassie Cowdell, MPH, Utah Department of Health and Human Services

Strengthening Local Health Improvement Coalitions Through a Statewide Community of Practice

Lisa Marr, Maryland Department of Health
Christa Thornton, MPH, Maryland Department of Health

Connecting the State: How Alaska DOH Facilitates Statewide Coalitions to Link Clinical, Community, and Public Health Partners in Chronic Disease Prevention

Ashley Minaei, MPH, CPH, Alaska Department of Health
Shawn House, Alaska Department of Health
Lorne Carroll, MPH, Alaska Department of Health

4:00 PM

CLOSING PLENARY

Digital Leadership: Clarity, Authority, and Growth

Ema Roloff, Roloff Consulting

5:00 PM

NACDD BUSINESS MEETING

NACDD General Members are invited to join us for our Annual Business Meeting. Attendees will hear updates about the Association, celebrate the 2026 Impact Award Winners, and welcome new NACDD Board Members to their roles.

6:00 PM

ADJOURN