

Past
Present
Future

2026
Utah
Public Health
Conference

March 24-25, 2026

Utah Cultural Celebration Center

1355 W 3100 S, West Valley City, UT 84119

Honoring the past, navigating the present,
and designing the future of public health

Utah Public Health Association's
Know Before You Go Packet



Utah
Public Health
Association

Conference details

We look forward to seeing you at the **2026 Utah Public Health Conference: Honoring the past, navigating the present, and designing the future of public health!** Please take a few minutes to review this document to find out everything you need to know about the conference.

Venue

The 2026 Utah Public Health Conference will be held at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center, located at 1355 West 3100 South, West Valley City, UT 84119. To ensure your arrival is as smooth as possible, please review the following venue and parking details. We've also included a list of nearby hotels and restaurants if you plan to stay close to the venue (page 5 - 6).

Parking and transportation

Complimentary self-parking is available on-site at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center. The main lot has 175 parking stalls and the overflow/lower lot has about 50 spaces. Additional street parking is available along Cultural Center Drive and Veterans Memorial (3242 S Cultural Center Drive). Spaces are limited; we recommend arriving early or carpooling with colleagues.

Don't want to bother with parking? The venue is a short walk from the UTA 35 line and 217 line. UTA's TRAX light rail system at Redwood Junction is less than one mile away via the Green Line, which runs from West Valley City to the Salt Lake City International Airport.



Whoa App

Make sure and download the [WHOVA app](#) to have access to the most up to date information. You can find the full conference agenda [here](#).

Arrival

Day 1 Schedule

Registration begins at 8:30 A.M., with our first session kicking off promptly at 9:30 A.M.

Day 2 Schedule

The morning starts early at 7:30 A.M. with the annual UPHA Business Meeting (exclusive to current UPHA members). General registration will reopen at 8:30 A.M., followed by the Day 2 opening session for all attendees at 9:30 A.M.

Attire

We recommend business casual attire for the duration of the event. To ensure you stay comfortable:

- **Layer up:** we suggest bringing a blazer, cardigan, or light sweater as room temperatures may fluctuate.
- **Comfortable footwear:** you'll likely be on your feet during networking breaks and moving between sessions, so choose shoes built for walking. The venue is also located near the Jordan River Parkway Trail for those who wish to get some movement during the breaks between sessions.

Food

Registration includes breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon snack on both days of the conference. If you prefer other food choices, additional places to eat near the venue are listed on page 6. Please note, off-site meals will not be reimbursed by UPHA.

Day 1 Menu

Breakfast

Light continental breakfast, including: fresh fruit, assorted breads, egg bites, and drinks (coffee, juice, soda, and water)

Lunch

Assorted box lunches, including: Sandwich with pasta salad, fruit cup, cookie, chips and beverage OR salad with roll, butter, cookies, and beverage

Afternoon Snack

Cheese and crackers, soda, and water

Day 2 Menu

Breakfast

Light continental breakfast, including: fresh fruit, assorted breads, mini burritos, and drinks (coffee, juice, soda, and water)

Lunch

Chicken, beef, or veggie kabobs with dipping sauces (tzatziki, pesto, chipotle, or chimichurri), rice pilaf, pita bread, green salad, assorted desserts, and beverage

Afternoon Snack

Prepackaged snack items (nuts, trail mix, cookie, beef jerky, protein bar, etc.), soda, and water

Service Project

We're proud to collect needed supplies for West Valley City's new Community Resource Center as this year's Conference Service Project. Please consider bringing items to donate. Your generosity will directly support local families.

Requested Donations

Nonperishable Food Items:

- Canned & shelf-stable proteins (tuna, chicken, beans, peanut butter)
- Canned soups, vegetables, fruits, and applesauce
- Dried fruit
- Grains, pasta & starches (rice, pasta, mac and cheese, instant potatoes, oatmeal, shelf-stable crackers or tortillas)
- Cereals, granola bars, and breakfast bars
- Powdered milk
- Cooking staples (oil, flour, sugar, salt, pepper, and basic spices)

Other Items:

- Diapers (all sizes)
- Baby wet wipes

Special Sessions

In addition to over 40 breakout sessions and 25 poster presentations, the 2026 Utah Public Health Conference includes new and exciting special sessions.

Book Club - "Reproduction on the Reservation"

We are excited to debut the UPHA Book Club as an official session at the 2026 Utah Public Health Conference. This year, we'll be discussing *Reproduction on the Reservation* by Brianna Theobald. To make the most of this interactive session, please come prepared by reading the book prior to the conference!

Lightning Rounds

These sessions will provide the opportunity to hear from 4-5 speakers giving short (lightning!) presentations.

Communication Track

New this year, we are excited to have 3 breakout sessions specifically tailored for our Communication Track. These sessions will take place during the first day of the conference and are designed to build public health communication skills.

- **Communicating about Public Health: Tested Messages, Strategies, and Tools** presented by Nalini Padmanabhan, de Beaumont Foundation
- **Reels That Serve - Editing Short Videos That Stick** presented by the UDOT Social Media Team
- **Communicating for Change: Advocacy in Action** presented by the UPHA Advocacy Unit

Public Health Timeline

During the networking lunch on the first day of the conference add your public health milestones and hopes for the future to the Public Health Timeline banner. The banner will be displayed on the second day of the conference.

Conference Activity Booklet

Debuting this year, participate in the inaugural **Conference Activity Booklet** to connect with colleagues, explore the venue, and discover the diversity of public health work across Utah. Interactive activities can be found in the booklet you will receive at the registration table. Participants who complete all of the activities will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a prize (no purchase necessary).

Conference Merchandise

Conference merchandise will be available for purchase at the sales booth located near the registration desk. The booth will remain open during all poster sessions and exhibitor breaks on both days of the conference. Please note that all transactions will be processed via Stripe, We are equipped to accept all major credit and debit cards. No cash or checks will be accepted.

Merchandise Available

(while supplies last)

T-shirts



Size S - XXL: \$20

Stickers



Large and Mini Tote Bags



Large: \$20 Mini: \$15

Buttons



Stickers: 1 for \$3 or 2 for \$5
 Large Button: 1 for \$3 or 2 for \$5
 Small Button: \$1



Local Information

Where to stay

The following hotels are located within two miles of the Utah Cultural Celebration Center, offering a variety of room types and price points. For reviews and additional details, please visit [TripAdvisor.com](https://www.tripadvisor.com).

Hotel	Address	Distance to venue
Select Suites Salt Lake City – West Valley City	1646 W 3500 S West Valley City, UT 84119	1.0 miles
Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, West Valley City	3422 S Decker Lake Dr West Valley City, UT 84119	1.0 miles
Crystal Inn Hotel & Suites West Valley City	2254 W City Center Ct West Valley City, UT 84119	1.0 miles
Comfort Inn West Valley – Salt Lake City South	2229 W City Center Ct West Valley City, UT 84119	1.0 miles
Sleep Inn West Valley City – Salt Lake City South	3440 Decker Lake Dr West Valley City, UT 84119	1.0 miles
Holiday Inn Express & Suites Salt Lake City West Valley (IHG)	3036 S Decker Lake D, West Valley City, UT 84119	1.1 miles
My Place Hotel – Salt Lake City/West Valley City	3074 Decker Lake Dr West Valley City, UT 84119	1.1 miles
West Valley Inn	3540 S 2200 W West Valley City, UT 84119	1.1 miles
Extended Stay America – Salt Lake City – West Valley Center	2310 W City Center Ct West Valley City, UT 84119	1.1 miles
Staybridge Suites Salt Lake – West Valley City (IHG)	3038 S Decker Lake Dr West Valley City, UT 84119	1.2 miles
SpringHill Suites Salt Lake City West Valley	3662 S 2400 W West Valley City, UT 84119	1.3 miles
Embassy Suites by Hilton Salt Lake West Valley City	3524 S Market St West Valley City, UT 84119	1.7 miles

Where to eat

Breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon snack will be provided each day of the conference. If you are looking for other options or a place to eat after the conference, there are a variety of dining options located near the Utah Cultural Celebration Center. We recommend checking restaurant hours and travel times before heading out, as local traffic can vary throughout the day. Please note, off-site meals will not be reimbursed by UPHA.

<p> Coffee/Drinks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cat Cup (Bubble tea; 0.7 mile) • Beans & Brews (1.6 miles) • Salt City Che (1.2 miles) – GF, V • Boba City (2.3 miles) – V <p> American:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burgertory SLC (0.7 mile) – V • Patty Shack (3.4 miles) – GF • Vertical Deli (2.8 miles) – GF, V • Ogie’s Cafe (1.2 miles) – GF • Café Zupas (2.2 miles) – GF, V <p> Asian:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tonkotsu Ramen Bar (1.5 miles) – V • Fat Fish (1.3 miles) – GF • Tuk Tuk’s of West Valley (1.5 miles) – GF, V • Pho 777 (1.2 miles) – GF, V • Habibi Girl (1.1 mile) 	<p> Greek/Mediterranean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek Souvlaki (1.6 miles) • The Med (3 miles) – GF, V • Greek Kabob and More (2.5 miles) <p> Italian:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siragusa’s Taste of Italy (2.1 miles) – GF <p> Mexican/Peruvian:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tacos Mexicanos El Buen Pastor (1 mile) – GF • Antojitos Peruanos en Utah (1.1 miles) • Tacos y Pupusas (1.1 miles) – GF • Tacos López West Valley (1.2 miles) – GF • Café Silvestre (1.8 miles) – GF, V <p style="text-align: right;">GF = Gluten-free options available V = Vegan options available</p>
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More about the venue

The Utah Cultural Celebration Center is both an event center and an art gallery. The Pilar Pobil Celebration Gallery provides a space for the community to see great art every day for free. The Bridge, Plaza, and Crescent Galleries house small art collections from local artists, travelling exhibits, and educational displays. To learn more about the current exhibits in the venue’s gallery visit the Utah Cultural Celebration Center’s [website](#).

Accessibility and accommodations

The venue offers accommodations, including:

- Wheelchair accessible entrances, restrooms, and event spaces
- Reserved accessible parking
- Mothers rooms

Additionally, UPHA is dedicated to an inclusive and accessible environment for all members and participants. If accommodations are needed to fully participate in the conference, please contact Mary Kathryn Curcio Stoddard at least 2 weeks before the event at maryk@upha.org or (407) 406-4954 to further discuss these needs.

Thank you to the sponsors and exhibitors of the 2026 Utah Public Health Conference!

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Bronze Sponsors



Exhibitors

- | | |
|---|--|
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| AT&T | Metopio |
| BYU Public Health | Midwest Region 6 QIN-QIO |
| CenExel Utah | Sacred Circle Healthcare |
| Champ Software | UCHWA |
| Comagine Health | University of Utah Division of Public Health |
| CommonSpirit Health | USU MPH - Public Health Nutrition |
| Department of Health and Human Services | USU MPH-Health Education & Promotion |
| Gerontology Interdisciplinary Program | Utah Health Policy Project |
| GSK | Utah Poison Control Center |
| Intermountain Healthcare | Westminster University |

Conference Planning Committee

Chair: Sarah Hodson

Co-chair: Mindy Steadman

Executive Director: Morgan Hadden

Committee Members:

Amanda Ashfield

Ally Cowdell

Anna Dillingham

Anna Fondario

Brooke Campos

Catherine Bakare

Camille Roundy

Dallas Finnell

Dan Limb

Heather Awsumb

Ivy Melton Sales

Kamille Cardon

Kristi Strongo

Logan Waechtler

Lucia Benitez

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Manda Nielson

Mary Kathryn Curcio Stoddard

Morgan Hadden

Natalie Klein

Rachel Townsend

Rosa Alveño

Sarah Hall

Stephanie Stokes

Tabitha Allred

Teresa Garrett



Utah Public Health Association Board

UPHA Board

Linnea Fletcher, President	Sarah Hodson, President-Elect
Mindy Steadman, Vice-President	Neil Sarin, Past President
Carl Hanson, Treasurer	Holly Budge, Secretary
Teresa Garrett, APHA Affiliate	

Management Units

<p>Advocacy Unit Alyssa Mitchell Chair Jeff Glen Ally Cowdell</p>	<p>Awards Unit Dan Limb Chair Aaron Hunt Amanda Ashfield</p>	<p>Communications Unit Carey VanWagoner Chair Sara Palomino Natalie Klein</p>
<p>Fiscal Unit Melissa Osborn Chair Kristine Snyder Dallas Finnell</p>	<p>Membership Unit Casey Coombs Chair Lindsay Butram Anna Fondario</p>	<p>Nominations Unit Brooke Campos Chair Marie Nagata Sarah Hall</p>

Sections

<p>Academic Alisha Redelfs</p>	<p>Immunization Annette Harris</p>	<p>Student Assembly Sephora Giraud-Carrier</p>
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Special Interest Groups (SpIG)

Evaluation SpIG
 Camille Roundy

UPHA Staff

Executive Director Morgan Hadden		
Program Coordinator Caitlyn Jasumback	Program Coordinator Luke Rushton	Program Coordinator Brook Anderson