

BARREN RIVER RUNDOWN

May 2023

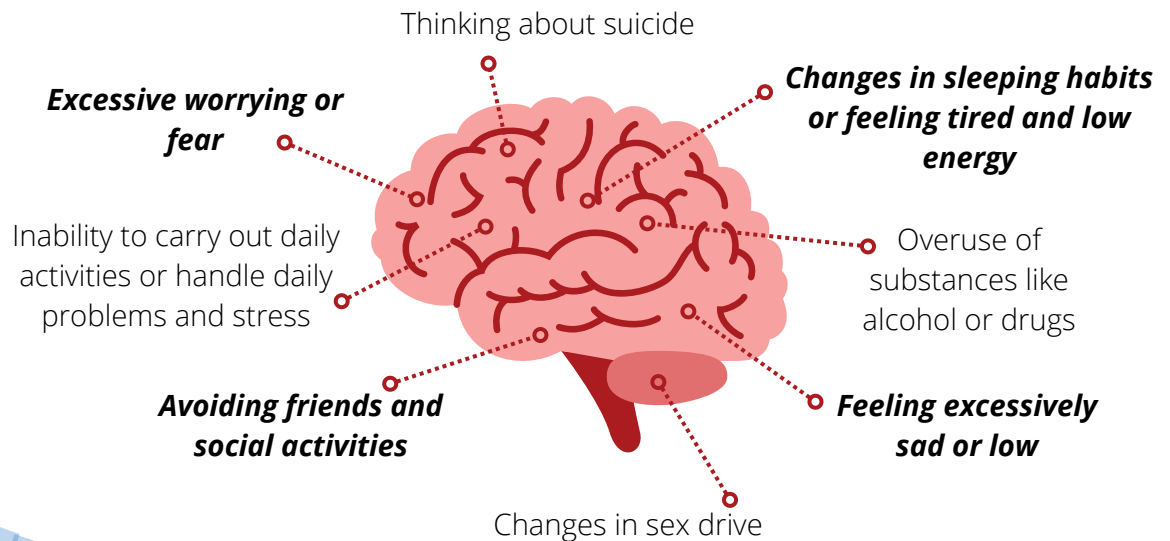
CONTENTS

- Mental Health Awareness Month
- Be Wildfire Ready!
- Program Updates
- Health Bills
- April Snapshots!
- Employee Spotlight
- Committees
- DEI Spotlight
- Upcoming Meetings/Events

May is Mental Health Awareness Month!

Mental Health Awareness Month has been observed in the U.S. since 1949. Every year during the month of May, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) joins the national movement to raise awareness about mental health. The goal of the month is to **fight stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate for policies that support the millions of people in the U.S. affected by mental illness.** Read below to learn more about how you can get involved.

Common Signs of Mental Illness



CLICK HERE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH RESOURCES!

DON'T FRY DAY! MAY 26TH

The Friday before Memorial Day is Don't Fry Day!

The National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention designated the Friday before Memorial Day as Don't Fry Day. The Council's goal is to encourage sun safety awareness by reminding everyone to protect their skin while enjoying the outdoors on Don't Fry Day and every day.



Barren River
DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Please submit articles for the newsletter to Olivia Harden at olivia.harden@barrenriverhealth.org
Submissions will be reviewed for approval.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

BE WILDFIRE READY!

Step 1: Recognize warnings and alerts.

- Have several ways to receive alerts. Download the FEMA or NWS app. Sign up for community alerts in your area and be aware of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA), which requires no-sign up.
- Pay attention to air quality alerts.

Step 2: Make an emergency plan for your family including when you're at the office, daycare or anywhere you frequent.

Step 3: Review important documents, making sure your insurance and ID's are up to date.

Make copies and store them digitally.

Step 4: Strengthen your home.

- Use fire-resistant materials to build, renovate or make repairs.
- Find an outdoor water source with a hose that can reach any area of your property.
- Create a fire-resistant zone that is free of leaves, debris or flammable materials for at least 30 feet from your home.
- Designate a room that can be closed off from outside air. Close all doors and windows. Set up a portable air cleaner to keep indoor pollution levels low when smoky conditions exist.

Step 5: Know your evacuation zone and practice with your family.

Follow instructions from local authorities.

Step 6: Gather supplies.

- Have enough supplies for your household, including a first aid kit, in your go bag or car trunk.
- Be cautious when carrying flammable or combustible household products that can cause fires or explosions if handled wrong, such as aerosols, cooking oils, rubbing alcohol and hand sanitizer.
- If available, store an N95 mask to protect yourself from smoke inhalation.
- Keep your cell phone charged when wildfires could be in your area. Purchase backup charging devices to power electronics.



CLICK
HERE FOR
MORE
WILDFIRE
PREP TIPS!

WIC IS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE BUTLER COUNTY FARMERS MARKET!



BRDHD is now only **one of two Kentucky health department districts that offer WIC in the every covered county**. Congrats on this accomplishment, WIC!



Congrats to HANDS for receiving a grant of over \$300,000!



HANDS is accepting new referrals.

Contact Tammy.Drake@barrenriverhealth.org
to learn more about the HANDS Program.

BRDHD Job Openings

MNT NUTRITIONIST I

This position will be based in Bowling Green, but will serve all eight counties (Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Metcalfe, Simpson and Warren). The minimum hourly wage is \$21.52. Must be a Registered Dietitian (RD).

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE I

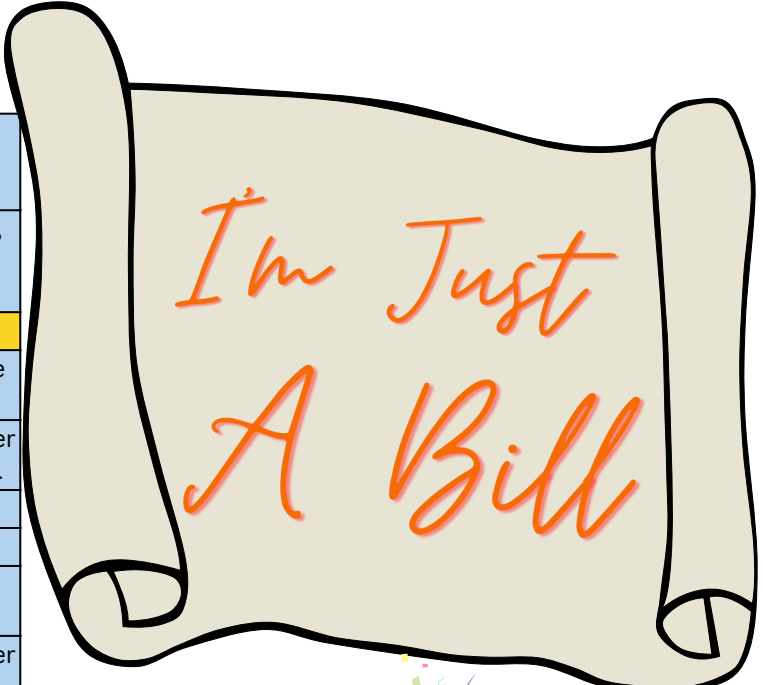
This position will serve as the Diabetes Population Health Specialist and will be responsible for planning and implementing Diabetes services throughout the 8 county service area. The position will receive on the job training to provide the National Diabetes Prevention Program and Diabetes Self-Management and Support.

HEALTH ENVIRONMENTALIST I

The home base for this position will be at the Barren County Health Department. This position will float between primarily Barren and Hart Counties, but will be expected to travel to the other district counties (Butler, Edmonson, Logan, Metcalfe, Simpson or Warren) as needed. The minimum hourly wage is \$20.30 per hour.

Email Haley Hines if interested.

| Bill Name | Description |
|-----------|---|
| HB 2 | AN ACT relating to the Bowling Green Veterans Center, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring an emergency. |
| SB 12 | AN ACT relating to physician wellness programs. |
| SB 13 | AN ACT relating to nonsubstantive review of certificate of need. |
| HB16 | AN ACT relating to health care to provide for an all-payer claims database and making an appropriation therefor. |
| SB 26 | AN ACT relating to the licensure of health facilities. |
| SB 29 | AN ACT relating to the Medicaid program. |
| HB 31 | AN ACT relating to student COVID-19 vaccine requirements. |
| SB 38 | AN ACT relating to health care to provide for an all-payer claims database and making an appropriation therefor. |
| SB 42 | AN ACT relating to the state employee health plan. |
| SB 43 | AN ACT relating to relating to essential caregivers and declaring an emergency. |
| HB 42 | AN ACT relating to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. |
| SB 47 | AN ACT relating to medicinal cannabis. |
| HB 51 | AN ACT relating to patient medical records. |
| HB 57 | AN ACT relating to the right to refuse medical treatment. |
| HB 58 | AN ACT relating to protecting the exercise of medical ethics within the medical profession. |
| HB 66 | AN ACT relating to public utilities. |
| HB 67 | AN ACT relating to health benefit coverage of chronic pain treatments. |
| HB 68 | AN ACT relating to coverage for injectable epinephrine devices. |
| HB 74 | AN ACT relating to water fluoridation programs. |
| HB 98 | AN ACT relating to controlled substances. |
| HB 101 | AN ACT relating to student COVID-19 vaccine requirements. |
| HB107 | AN ACT relating to medicinal cannabis and making an appropriation therefor. |
| HB 108 | AN ACT relating to the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact. |
| HB 110 | AN ACT relating to immunization exceptions. |
| HB 120 | AN ACT relating to children's health. |
| HB 125 | AN ACT relating to public health. |
| HB 129 | AN ACT relating to freestanding birthing centers. |
| HB 134 | AN ACT relating to prior authorization. |
| HB 137 | AN ACT relating to immunization policy. |
| HB 140 | AN ACT proposing to create a new section of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to the environment. |



HB 21
Would help unhoused people get their license/ID card.

Signed by the governor!

HB 125
Would distribute Alzheimer's information to local health departments.

Signed by the governor!

SB 59
Would no longer consider fentanyl testing strips paraphernalia.

Cleared in committee, now in Health Services.

Yellow boxes were signed by the governor.



APRIL SNAPSHOTS



Janarae Conway, Crystal Kingrey, and Jarod Hines at the National Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, GA!



Leeann Hennion, Lana McChesney, and Alissa Stice at the Hart County Community Baby Shower.

NEW FACE!



BRDHD at the Kentucky Public Health Association Spring Conference in Bowling Green. Good job to those from the agency who presented: India Martinez, Janarae Conway, Jarod Hines, Crystal Kingrey, and Chris Wilkerson!



Katherine Matthews
Public Health Nurse
Barren/Hart/Metcalfe County

Do you have pictures from health department or wellness-related events this month?

Email Olivia at olivia.harden@barrenriverhealth.org!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

India Martinez



India is a valuable part of the CD team for District, serving as the district epidemiologist! India is passionate about helping our community and encouraging her coworkers in any way she can. Next time you see India, tell her "You rock!" Her hard work is very much appreciated at BRDHD.



Want to nominate a coworker for employee spotlight?

*Email Olivia at
olivia.harden@barrenriverhealth.org!*

COMMITTEES

For more opportunities to work across branch and county lines, all staff are encouraged to join a committee!

WELLNESS - CONTACT KATHY THWEATT

- Wellness Works
- Encourage healthy behaviors for staff
- Promote insurance perks

SAFETY - CONTACT MIKE BAXTER

- Incident review
- Ergonomics
- Building safety
- Identify needed trainings and support

SOCIAL - CONTACT OLIVIA HARDEN

- Birthdays
- Special events
- District-Wide meeting activities
- Explore ways for staff to connect

RETENTION - CONTACT KIM FLORA

- Explore ways to improve employee satisfaction
- Incentives, acknowledgement, etc.
- Identify needed trainings and support

EQUITY - CONTACT INDIA MARTINEZ

- Promote ways to reach vulnerable populations
- Spread details of important community events
- Identify opportunities for equity within our policies and processes

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT - CONTACT SUSIE WILLIS

- Identify and work on agency-wide QI projects
- Learn new QI tools
- Spread the word about QI and current projects
- Teach new processes
- Identify needed trainings and support

DISASTER PREP - CONTACT JANARAE CONWAY

- Review, update and give input on preparedness plans
- Support accreditation (PPHR)
- Promote drills and update trainings
- Identify needed trainings and support



DEI SPOTLIGHT

OUR FIRST GOAL?

Improve **diversity**, **equity** and **inclusion** in our workplace.

VALUES

Empower

Our coworkers and our community to stand up for DEI.

Advocate

For DEI in the workplace and in our services.

Continuously Learn

Ways to protect and promote DEI.

Make a Difference

By taking action to protect and promote DEI.

Message India Martinez

if you'd like to join the DEI Committee or if you have ideas to protect and promote DEI within the agency!



**District
Board of Health**

**May 15th
at
6pm**

Local Board of Health

Edmonson: May 17th at
12pm

Logan: May 18th at 12pm

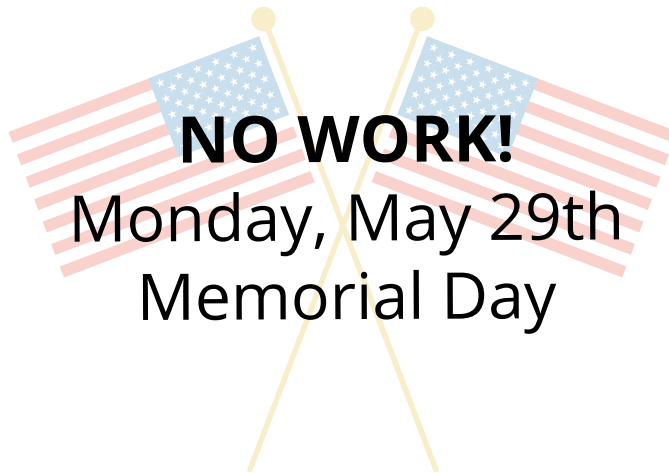
Metcalfe: May 9th at 12pm


Simpson: May 11th at
12pm

BRIGHT Coalition

**May 9th
at
11:30 am**

UPCOMING MEETINGS!



Have you seen this year's
Community Impact Report? 
CLICK HERE!

Follow BRDHD on social media!



Barren River
DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT 

**Click here to visit
our website** 

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