



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MOVHD's Lanham selected as Community Health Research Ambassador

Three ambassadors were selected for the [Ambassadors for Community Health Research](#) (ACHR) program's inaugural cohort. The program, created by the WVCTSI's [Community Engagement and Outreach Core](#), invites West Virginians to work alongside researchers to foster a tangible and positive impact within their local communities.

Each ambassador brings a wealth of experience, passion and dedication to the program, with a shared commitment to improving the health and well-being of West Virginians.

Malcolm Lanham Jr. of Ravenswood was 1 of 3 ambassadors selected. In his role as the Community Health Director at the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department, Lanham oversees their public health emergency preparedness and response program, overdose

quick response teams (QRTs), and Step Up MOV initiative. His areas of focus include promoting healthy behaviors to combat metabolic syndrome, supporting substance use disorder (SUD) recovery and advancing public health efforts.

"We are incredibly excited to welcome these three committed leaders as they join our program," said Dr. [Brianna Sheppard](#), co-director of the WVCTSI Community Engagement and Outreach Core. "We eagerly look forward to collaborating with them to advance the health and overall well-being of the West Virginian community through engaged research initiatives."

Throughout the ACHR Program, ambassadors will receive specialized training, mentorship, and resources to support the development and implementation of community-based research projects that address critical health issues facing West Virginia. Their work will contribute to evidence-based solutions that can positively impact the health of individuals and communities across the state.

For more information about Ambassadors for Community Health Research, visit their [webpage](#).

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The Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department serves Wood, Wirt, Calhoun, Pleasants, Ritchie and Roane Counties. It is located at 211 Sixth St. in Parkersburg. The offices are open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 304-485-7374 or visit the website, movhd.com for more information. Follow them at Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department MOVHD on Facebook and @MOVHealthDept on Instagram and Twitter.