**PHHP Connect  
April 2025**

Subject line: Connect with the UF College of Public Health and Health Professions

Preheader text: Recapping PHHP Days 2025, student service leads to real-world impact, save the date for reunion tailgate

**Innovation takes center stage at PHHP Days 2025**

This year’s two-day event showcased a diverse range of innovative ideas across the college’s four-part mission of education, research, service and clinical endeavors. PHHP Days highlighted the college's commitment to advancing knowledge and improving lives. [Read more](https://phhp.ufl.edu/2025/04/17/phhp-days-2025-celebrates-colleges-range-of-research-innovative-ideas/)

**Students offer free therapy to help meet Floridians’ mental health needs**

Florida ranks near the top in the U.S. for residents with mental health conditions, and many struggle to get the care they need. Free Therapy Night is believed to be the only student-led free psychology service in the country. [Read more](https://phhp.ufl.edu/2025/03/20/uf-students-offer-free-therapy-to-help-meet-floridians-mental-health-needs/)

**Recent grad turns capstone project into a career at Pace Center for Girls**

Krista Taylor, who graduated in December with her Doctor of Occupational Therapy, is now the career and college coordinator for about 50 girls who need extra support to thrive. [Read more](https://phhp.ufl.edu/2025/04/15/recent-otd-grad-turns-capstone-project-into-a-career-at-pace-center-for-girls/)

**PHHP marks 20th year of neuromuscular plasticity symposium**

Students, faculty, and current and former members of the groundbreaking Neuromuscular Plasticity Training Program showed off research and honored founding director Krista Vandenborne, Ph.D. [Read more](https://phhp.ufl.edu/2025/04/04/phhp-celebrates-20th-year-of-neuromuscular-plasticity-symposium/)

**M.D./M.P.H. student receives national award for excellence in public health service**

After tragedy struck in his home country, Michael Mathelier felt called to help others. His numerous contributions to community and global health have now earned him two awards. [Read more](https://phhp.ufl.edu/2025/04/08/m-d-m-p-h-student-honored-for-contributions-to-public-health-service/)

**Third annual DataFest brings together students from across UF in a celebration of data**

DataFest challenges students to work in teams to find and share meaning in a large, rich and complex dataset. [Read more](https://phhp.ufl.edu/2025/04/03/third-annual-datafest-brings-together-students-from-across-uf-in-a-celebration-of-data/)

**Save the date! Alumni Reunion Tailgate and Outstanding Alumni Awards, Oct. 18**

Attention alumni! Mark your calendar for upcoming opportunities to celebrate and recognize our incredible PHHP alumni. On Saturday, Oct. 18, we will host our annual reunion tailgate and the PHHP Outstanding Alumni Awards ceremony. Alumni award nominations are open now through June 1, 2025. Awards are presented in four categories: Professional Achievement and Career Service; Community Impact; Entrepreneurship, Innovation and/or Thought Leadership; and Alum of the Year. [Nominate yourself or a fellow PHHP grad](https://phhp.ufl.edu/alumni-and-giving/outstanding-alumni-awards/)

**Support PHHP’s future and join its history with a custom engraved brick**

Custom brick pavers offer a meaningful way to honor loved ones, colleagues or special occasions like retirements and graduations. Proceeds support students, academic programs and areas of greatest need. [Read more](https://phhp.ufl.edu/alumni-and-giving/custom-engraved-bricks/)

**Alumni updates**

**Tim Conway**, Ph.D. in clinical and health psychology ’03, has released LipLetter Land, an early literacy app for children ages 3 to 6. The app uses a multisensory approach designed to help children connect letters, sounds and mouth movements.

**Trevor Lentz**, master’s in physical therapy ’06, master’s in public health ’16, Ph.D. in rehabilitation science ’17, is an assistant professor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Duke Clinical Research Institute at Duke University. His work focuses on improving the implementation and value of non-pharmacologic health care for people with musculoskeletal pain conditions. [Read more](https://phhp.ufl.edu/2025/03/31/alum-spotlight-trevor-lentz/)