



April 16, 2025, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
The Corbin Center, 222 Corbin Center Drive, Corbin, Kentucky

- 8:00-9:00 **Registration**, Lobby
 Research Poster Session, Glass Room
 Networking Breakfast/Health & Research Fair Exhibits, MP Room*
 (*Multipurpose Room)
- 9:00-9:15 **Welcome and Announcements**
MP Room Mace Baker, Interim Director
 UK Center of Excellence in Rural Health
- 9:15-10:00 **Equitable and High-Quality Lung Cancer Screening in Kentucky**
MP Room Timothy Mullett, MD, MBA, FACS
 Medical Director, Markey Cancer Center Network Operations
 Professor, Cardiothoracic Surgery
 University of Kentucky
- 10:00-10:45 **Disaster, Disease, and Determination: How an Appalachian Health**
MP Room **Center Responded to the Needs of Its Community**
 Key Douthitt, MD

Associate Professor, UK Department of Family and Community
Medical Director, UK North Fork Valley Community Health Center

10:45-11:15 High School Student Research Projects

MP Room Health WAY, Morgan County High School
Healthy WAY, Rowan County Senior High School
CARAT-TOP, Hazard High School
Presentation of Certificates

11:15-11:45 Poster Session

Networking Break

Health and Research Fair Exhibits

11:45 – 1:15 Awards Lunch

MP Room Research Poster Awards

UK-CARES/UK CERH Environmental Health Community Engagement
Award

Thank you to UnitedHealthcare for sponsoring today's awards lunch!

1:15-1:50 BREAKOUT SESSION 1

MP Room Caring for Individuals with Alzheimer's Disease in Appalachia

David Gross, Director
Northeast Kentucky Area Health Education Center
Elizabeth Rhodus, Assistant Professor
University of Kentucky
Brian Carter, MD Candidate
University of Kentucky

**Room 105 Growing Together: Enhancing Elderly Wellness in Rural
Communities**

Michaela Amburgey, Rural Project Manager
Kentucky Homeplace
Darla Shepherd, Certified Community Health Worker
Kentucky Homeplace

- Room 106 **P2P BRIDGE: A Novel Education Initiative to Improve Community Pharmacy Access to Opioid Use Disorder Treatment in Rural Appalachian Kentucky**
Laura Stinson, Pharm D, Academic Detailing Pharmacist
University of Kentucky
- Room 107 **Centering Community Knowledge to Support People with Disabilities in Appalachia**
Michelle Roberts, MS, PhD Candidate
University of Kentucky
Note: this is an interactive session from 1:15 to 2:30
- Room 109 **RISE (Resilience in an Opioid-Stricken Environment)**
Josh Adams, Rural Project Manager
UK Center of Excellence in Rural Health
- 1:50-1:55 **Transition Break**
- 1:55-2:30 **BREAKOUT SESSION 2**
- MP Room **Expression of Dementia Biomarkers in Appalachian and Non Appalachian ELVO Patients during Thrombectomy**
Neha Anil, MD Candidate
University of Kentucky
- Room 105 **Disasters and Impacts in Appalachian Kentucky: A Behavioral Health Analysis (Room # TBA)**
Amy Potts, MA, Disaster Response Program Administrator
Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities
- Room 106 **Appalachia's Forgotten Voices: The Intersection of Substance Abuse and Mental Health in Eastern Kentucky**
Olivia Blat
Morehead State University
Devon Hunt

Midway University

Room 109 **ELEVATE Community Health Workers**

Kyle Burnett, Rural Project Manager

UK Center of Excellence in Rural Health

2:30-2:45 **Transition Break**

2:45-3:30 **AppalTRuST: A Community-Engaged Approach to Tobacco
Regulatory Science in Appalachia**

MP Room

Moderator: Melissa Abadi, Director

Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation

AppalTRUST Project Overview

Mikhail Koffarnus, Associate Professor

University of Kentucky

Ellen Hahn, Professor Emerita, AppalTRUST Associate Director

University of Kentucky

*Community Outreach Approaches in Tobacco Regulatory Science in
Appalachia*

Angela Brumley-Shelton, Research Program Manager

University of Kentucky

Pam Hull, Associate Professor

University of Kentucky

*Community engagement to support participant recruitment and
retention for research with Appalachian populations*

Justin Stafford, Research Coordinator

Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation

Renee Niece, Research Coordinator

Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation

*Examining Proposed Tobacco Regulatory Measures in Appalachia
with Behavioral Economics*

Sarah Iglehart, Research Coordinator

University of Kentucky

Jill Schaefer, Research Coordinator
University of Kentucky

3:30-3:45 **Closing Remarks**
 Adjourn

Attachments:

Attachment 1
Research Posters

Attachment 2
Health and Research Fair Exhibitors

Research Posters
Poster Sessions: 8:00-9:00 AM and 11:15-11:45 AM
April 16, 2025
The Corbin Center, Corbin, Kentucky

Poster #	Poster Title and Author(s)
1	The genetic influences on the prevalence of Type 2 diabetes mellitus among people living in central Appalachia , Chowdhury, M., Gulley, T., Funk, M.; Cole, R., and Mullins, R.; Appalachian College of Pharmacy
2	Engaging Youth Citizen Scientists in Genetic Testing of Rural Appalachian Streams . Wilmhoff, C. ^{1,3} ; Turner, N. ² ; and Berry, S. ^{3,4} ¹ Hazard Community and Technical College; ² Buckhorn High School; ³ UK-CARES, ⁴ University of Kentucky, Stanley and Karen Pigman College of Engineering
3	Tobacco Use, Secondhand Smoke Exposure and Infant Feeding Practices Among Rural Kentucky Mothers , Ray, R., University of Kentucky
4	Comparing Resident Engagement in Appalachian and Non-Appalachian Kentucky Skilled Nursing Facility Settings using Bingocize® , Kylee Pipgrass, K.; and Michlik, J.; University of Kentucky
5	Learning from the Local Health Department CHA/CHIP Process , Dr. Angela Carman, A.; and Pendergrass, E.; University of Kentucky
6	Community Outreach Approaches in Tobacco Regulatory Science Study in Appalachia , Brumley-Shelton, A.; Hull, P.; Brown, M.; Rogers, M.; Abadi; and Thompson, K.; University of Kentucky
7	AppalTRuST Project 3: Examining Proposed Tobacco Regulatory Measures in Appalachia with Behavioral Economics , Iglehart, S. and Schaefer, J.; University of Kentucky
8	Community engagement to support participant recruitment and retention for research with Appalachian populations , Niece, R. ¹ ; Stafford, J. ¹ ; Bartrum, N. ¹ ; Brown, C. ¹ ; Longwill, A. ¹ ; Thompson, K.T. ¹ ; Hahn, E.J. ² ; and Abadi, M.H. ^{1,2} ¹ Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation; ² University of Kentucky
9	Advancing Radon Awareness: Leveraging Citizen Science, Health Coalitions, Library Loan Programs, and Targeted Mass Outreach to Engage Communities , Owens, K.; Southern Kentucky Area Health Education Center
10	Evaluating the Feasibility of Telehealth Stations Across Rural Kentucky , Martin, C; Sprang, R; Early, R.; Roberts, C.; Jackson, Y.; Fischer, B; Robinson, C.; and Rhodus, E.; University of Kentucky
11	A Qualitative Study on the Perceived Well-Being of Healthcare Professional Students , Hurm, L. and Shanna McClung, University of Pikeville
12	Factors Influencing the Formation of Professional Identity in Clinical Students in Appalachia , Mitchell, N., University of Pikeville
13	Managing Pain in Patients Taking Medications for Opioid Use Disorder , McClung, S. and Hurm, L. OMS-II, Logan, University of Pikeville

14	Assessing the Distribution of Substance Use Treatment Facilities in Kentucky: A Comparative Analysis Across Urban, Rural, and Mixed-Designated Counties, Welch, J., University of Pikeville
15	Hypertension Quality Improvement at a Rural FQHC in Eastern Kentucky, Douthitt, K.; University of Kentucky
16	Sleep Well Appalachia: Implementation of a free telehealth Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia (CBTI) program for Appalachian Kentuckians, Seymore, G.; University of Kentucky
17	Health Disparities in Quality of Life Among Black Patients with Heart Failure: The Roles of Depressive Symptoms and Functional Status, Ashmita Thapa, A.; University of Kentucky
18	AgeWELL, an Academic Practice Partnership to Engage Prelicensure Nursing Students with Older Adults Participating in Congregate Meal Programs in Kentucky, Biddle, M.; Estes, G.; Thapa, A.; Ramenzani, N.; and Kubik, M.; University of Kentucky
19	Role of Age and Sex in the Association of Daily Sedentary Time with Depressive Symptoms in Rural Patients with Cardiovascular Diseases: Moderated Moderation Analysis, JungHee Kang, J.; Cha, G.; Lin, C.; Wu, J.; Thompson, J.; Okoli, Z.; Latimer, A.; Chung, M.; Lennie, T.; Moser, D.; University of Kentucky
20	Psychometric Properties of the Patient Health Questionnaire-9 (PHQ-9) in Patients with Heart Failure and Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator, Alhusban, I.; Moser, D.; Biddle, M.; University of Kentucky
21	Changes in PFAS soil concentrations following a fire at a hazardous waste incinerator in East Liverpool, Ohio, an Appalachian environmental justice community, Thomas A.; Haynes, E; Hilbert, T.; University of Kentucky
22	Be the Light: Healthy WAY participants from Morgan County High School
23	Fight for Life: Healthy WAY participants from Rowan Senior High School
24	Coordinating and Assisting the Reuse of Assistive Technology – Together One Priority (CARAT-TOP): Student participants from Hazard High School

Health and Research Fair Exhibitors

Appalachian Center for Assistive Technology (ACAT)

ACAT provides assistive technology (AT) demonstrations and consultation, a short-term AT loan locker, maker space, workforce training, and refurbishing. ACAT serves eastern Kentucky and is a part of Kentucky Assistive Technology Service (KATS) Network. Contact:

keisha.wells@uky.edu.

Appalachian Tobacco Regulatory Science Team (AppalTRuST)

AppalTRuST is a research center at the University of Kentucky focused on tobacco regulations in the Commonwealth, with the goal of investigating the impact of federal regulatory policies in rural communities through collaboration, education, and pioneering regulatory scientific research. Contact jstafford@PIRE.org

ELEVATE

ELEVATE Community Health Workers (CHWs) will address health disparities and workforce shortages by expanding the CHW workforce. ELEVATE recruits, trains and places CHWs across the state. Apprenticeship opportunities for CHWs and organizations are also utilized to strengthen the CHW workforce. Upskilled training is also being developed for current CHWs across the state. Contact Kyle Burnett, kyle.burnett@uky.edu.

Kentucky Ambulatory Network (KAN)

KAN is a primary care practice-based research network (PBRN) devoted to patient-centered and population medicine research, and specializes in implementation science to promote the use of evidence-based practices and guidelines. KAN emphasizes the prevention and management of common health problems in Kentucky, and their broader implications. Administered through UK's Department of Family and Community Medicine and the Division of Population Medicine, KAN is registered with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Membership to KAN is offered at no cost to clinicians and currently includes primary care physicians, health care providers, scientists, and public health experts throughout Kentucky. Contact Zoe Taylor, Zoe.Taylor@uky.edu.

Kentucky Homeplace

Kentucky Homeplace is recognized at the national, state, and local levels as a community health worker (CHW) model that works. Established in 1994, Kentucky Homeplace CHWs have linked hundreds of thousands of rural Kentuckians with medical, social, and environmental services they otherwise might have gone without. Come learn about our services available in eastern Kentucky. Contact Mace Baker, mace.baker@uky.edu

Kentucky Office of Rural Health (KORH)

KORH connects communities and health care organizations to local, state, and federal resources to improve accessibility of health care services for--and ultimately the health of--rural Kentuckians. KORH collects and disseminates rural-relevant information, coordinates efforts for rural health activities, provides technical assistance to rural health organizations, and assists in workforce development to help recruit and retain medical professionals in rural communities. To meet those goals, KORH administers four key programs: the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program, the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program, the Kentucky State Loan Repayment Program, and the National Health Service Corps Promotion Project. Contact Matt Coleman, matt.coleman@uky.edu.

RISE – details to come.

RURAL Heart & Lung Study – Kentucky Core

The RURAL Heart & Lung Study is a six-year research project aimed at addressing critical gaps in knowledge regarding heart and lung disorders in rural counties of the southeastern U.S. The study focuses on 10 rural counties in Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana, and Mississippi. The research team plans to examine approximately 4,600 residents to investigate various aspects of their heart, lungs, and overall health. In Kentucky, residents from Perry, Breathitt, Boyle, and Garrard counties are encouraged to participate. Participants in the study will receive results from their health examinations and county-specific results will also be shared with community organizations. Contact Sierra Williams, slw258@uky.edu.

UnitedHealthcare

UnitedHealthcare is dedicated to helping people live healthier lives and making the health system work better for everyone by simplifying the health care experience, meeting consumer health and wellness needs, and sustaining trusted relationships with care providers. UnitedHealthcare serves more than 580,000 members in Kentucky, including more than 159,000 Medicaid members through the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Kentucky, with a network of 108 hospitals and more than 29,000 providers. Contact Whitney Allen, whitney.allen@uhc.com

University of Kentucky Appalachian Center

The Appalachian Center contributes to the land grant mission of the University of Kentucky by fostering community-university partnerships in research, learning and engagement in Appalachia. Located on UK's main campus, the Center is a space for students, faculty, staff and community members to join forces in learning about and educating others about this beautiful region that faces unique opportunities and challenges toward sustainable development in a globalized context. The Appalachian Studies Program, like the Appalachian Center, has an active 40-year history at the University of Kentucky. It is an interdisciplinary program based in the College of Arts and Sciences with participation by faculty and students from across the colleges at UK. Contact Kathryn Engle, kathryn.engele@uky.edu.

University of Kentucky Center for Appalachian Research in Environmental Sciences (UK-CARES)

UK-CARES is a National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences Core Center committed to improving air and water quality and reducing emerging health threats such as climate-related health events in rural Appalachia through novel environmental health research. UK-CARES provides advanced infrastructure, expertise, career development and mentorship, and community engagement to facilitate innovative discovery and new understandings of environmental factors and exposure pathways in disease initiation, progression, and outcomes and their community impacts. Contact Stacy Stanifer, stacy.stanifer@uky.edu

University of Kentucky Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UK CCTS)

Empowering local solutions for health, the CCTS Community Engagement and Research Core connects community, clinical, and academic partners in community-engaged research to address priority health needs and improve health outcomes in Kentucky and Appalachia. Contact: Ashley Hall, agtayl3@uky.edu