

# Barren River

April 2026

# RUNDOWN

PHAB accreditation is a stamp of excellence for public health departments, showing they provide high-quality, effective, and equitable services to their communities. It's a way of saying, **"We do public health well, and we're always striving to do better."**



## CONTENTS

Child Abuse Prevention

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## SUBMIT AN ARTICLE

Have articles or information you'd like to submit for the rundown?

**Email Olivia!**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### **BRIGHT Coalition Meeting**

Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>  
11:30AM, BRADD Office

### **Metcalf Co. Board of Health**

Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 12PM

### **Simpson Co. Board of Health**

Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 12PM

### **Edmonson Co. Board of Health**

Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 12PM

### **Logan Co. Board of Health**

Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 12PM

## COMMITTEES

**Wellness** — Contact Kathy

**Social** — Contact Olivia

**Workforce Culture**

— Contact Amanda

**Disaster Preparedness**

— Contact Crystal

**Ad Hoc** — Contact Kim



DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Metcalfe, Simpson, and Warren Counties

## CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

*April is National Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month, dedicated to raising awareness and implementing community-based solutions to support families and prevent child maltreatment. This month emphasizes building safe, stable, and nurturing environments to reduce adverse experiences.*

### HOW CAN YOU PREVENT CHILD ABUSE?

- Be a nurturing parent.
- Help a friend, neighbor, or relative so they can rest.
- Don't take your anger/stress out on children.
- Never shake a baby if they cry.
- Get involved to help families be healthy.
- Help develop parenting resources.
- Reduce child's consumption of violent media.
- Report suspected abuse or neglect.

**Thank you to all of our nurses, social workers, health educators and more, who work with families to prevent adverse experiences!**

## PHAB DOMAINS 4-6

*Information from SQC Branch Manager, Amanda.*

### **Domain 4: Community Engagement**

Focuses on building strong, two-way communication with community partners and residents to support better health outcomes.

### **Domain 5: Policies & Plans**

Ensures we create evidence-based policies and strategic plans that guide and strengthen our public health work.

### **Domain 6: Enforce Public Health Laws**

Covers consistent, fair application of public health laws to keep our community safe.

## SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS MONTH

*Information from Peyton, Disaster Preparedness Coordinator.*

**Severe weather can happen anytime, being prepared can save lives.**

**Here are this month's key safety reminders for any severe weather:**

### Common Types of Severe Weather

- Tornadoes
- Flooding & Flash Floods
- Severe Thunderstorms (lightning, hail, high winds)
- Wildfires
- Winter Storms & Extreme Cold
- Extreme Heat

### ○ Before Severe Weather

- Create a family communication plan.
- Prepare emergency supply kits for home, work, and your vehicle.
- Review insurance policies for adequate coverage.
- Learn local alerts, warnings, and evacuation routes.

### ○ During Severe Weather

- Follow instructions from local officials.
- Evacuate immediately if advised.
- Stay informed through Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) and local systems.
- Remember: Turn Around, Don't Drown®, never enter flooded roadways.

### ○ After Severe Weather

- Check on neighbors, especially older adults or those with access needs.
- Document any property damage with photos and inventory lists.
- Stay aware of ongoing hazards like downed power lines or weakened structures.

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

This month's employee spotlight comes from our Clinical Services branch, Chelsey!



*Chelsey*

Chelsey is known to go out of her way to “help, support, and be a listening ear to others. She comes into the office every day with a smile on her face and a positive attitude. She has a willingness to work earlier, and later if need be.” Chelsey’s hard work is very much appreciated at BRDHD. Next time you see her, tell her “You’re awesome!”

## NEW FACES



Thomas  
Mobile Clinic Driver  
District



Todd  
Mobile Clinic Driver  
District

**Next time you see Todd or Thomas, introduce yourself!  
Welcome to BRDHD**

## MARCH SNAPSHOTS!



Left #1: Kathy, Camila, and Rebecca tabling at the Simpson County Community Baby Shower.



Left #2: Kathy, Peyton, Selina, and Kaitlyn (LifeSkills) educating families on a variety of topics at Stevenson Elementary School.



Left #3: Gracie and Jeanna educating families about Safe Sleep at Curbside Ministries.



Above: Dr. Thomson receiving his 37 years of service award at the District Board of Health Meeting.



Above: Leeann educating families about Safe Sleep.



Above: Callie (HANDS), Isma and Tyra (BRIGHT Coalition), and Peter (BRDHD) representing their programs at the Simpson County Community Baby Shower.

# THANK YOU, INTERNS & AMERICORPS MEMBERS!

BRDHD would like to thank the interns and AmeriCorps members, who have dedicated countless hours to continuing the mission of public health in our communities! Interns and AmeriCorps members have worked community events, taught health education classes, assisted with daily health department operations, engaged with clients in clinic settings, and so much more.

**The future is bright for the field of public health.  
Good luck in your future endeavors!  
We will miss you at BRDHD!**



## NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

**All health departments will be receiving lunch on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, in appreciation of everyone's work in bettering the health of our communities!**

**Please stay tuned to your emails for ordering forms and instructions.**



AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

*For science. For action. For health.*

**National Public Health Week  
April 6<sup>th</sup> through April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**