



**Andy Beshear**  
GOVERNOR

## CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

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### **Gov. Beshear Announces New Public Health Commissioner**

*Dr. John Langefeld to lead Department for Public Health as Dr. Stack steps into new role*

**FRANKFORT, KY (June 17, 2025)** – Today, Gov. Andy Beshear announced Dr. John Langefeld will become the new Commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH). Dr. Langefeld, a seasoned leader within the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), succeeds Dr. Steven Stack, who will [transition to his new role](#) of CHFS Secretary on July 1.

Gov. Beshear praised Dr. Langefeld's experience across clinical care, health care policy and Medicaid services.

"Team Kentucky believes that health care is a basic human right – one which Dr. Langefeld has dedicated his life to," said Gov. Beshear. "With his wealth of experience and proven commitment to the health and well-being of Kentuckians, I am confident that Dr. Langefeld will help us build on our efforts to keep Kentuckians informed, healthy and safe."

Dr. Stack emphasized Gov. Beshear's support for Dr. Langefeld.

"Public health touches the lives of every Kentuckian in some way," said Dr. Stack, current Commissioner for Public Health. "Team Kentucky has been through a lot together in recent years, and I am reassured that Dr. Langefeld will lead the Department for Public Health with deep commitment, compassion and a hopeful vision for all Kentuckians to reach their full human potential."

Dr. Langefeld currently serves as the Medical Director for Health Insights and Innovation at CHFS, where he leads Kentucky's Health Quality Initiative. Dr. Langefeld has more than 30 years of health care leadership experience, including having served as Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services Chief Medical Officer.

Dr. Langefeld expressed enthusiasm for his new role.

“I am honored to continue serving Kentucky in this critical capacity. My focus will be on shifting our focus upstream, from not only treating illness but nurturing health and well-being,” said Dr. Langefeld. “This means enhancing social supports, expanding mental health resources, prioritizing preventive screenings, enhancing health policy through community engagement, and innovative, data-driven strategies. Our true measure of success will not just be the treatments we deliver, but how the people in our communities grow healthier, stronger and more resilient.”

KDPH is responsible for developing and operating state public health programs and activities for all Kentuckians. The mission of KDPH is to improve the health and safety of people in Kentucky through prevention of negative health outcomes, promotion of healthy lifestyles and protection from diseases, injury and environmental health impacts.

“Our work is about real people, with real lives, whose stories intersect at the crossroads of policy and practice,” said Dr. Langefeld. “When we align our efforts around true Health, rather than isolated programs, we can deliver life-changing outcomes for every Kentuckian. My 'why' is simple: I believe in Kentucky, in our people, in the power of shared purpose, and the promise of collective action. Together, let's ensure every heartbeat in our Commonwealth resonates with vitality and hope.”

Dr. Langefeld is a native Kentuckian and earned his medical degree from the University of Louisville School of Medicine after graduating from Berea College with a bachelor's degree in biology. He completed his residency in family medicine at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Edgewood and is a diplomat of the American Board of Family Medicine. Dr. Langefeld and his wife, Jessica, have five children, one grandchild and a Bichon. They enjoy traveling and spending quality time with friends and family.

Dr. Langefeld's appointment to Commissioner of KDPH is effective July 1, 2025.

For more information about KDPH visit [chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/Pages/default.aspx](https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/Pages/default.aspx)

A photo of Dr. Langefeld can be found [here](#).

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Information on how the state is working to improve the lives and health of our people is available at [CHFS.ky.gov](https://CHFS.ky.gov). Follow the cabinet on [Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).