

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



October 2, 2026

Susan B. Lonczak, MPH, RS
Director of Health

SOUTH CENTRAL HEALTH DISTRICT ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF NEW DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

The South Central Health District (SCHD) Board of Health has appointed Jamie Luckhardt, MPH, CHES® as the District's next Director of Health. Luckhardt will begin her new role on November 2, 2026, succeeding Susan Lonczak, MPH, RS, who has served as Director of Health since November 2021.

Luckhardt brings experience in local public health, health education, emergency response, and community health, including work with the Wallingford Health Department, Naugatuck Valley Health District, and the City of Meriden's COVID-19 response. She is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES®)

"I have truly loved serving as Director of Health and am incredibly proud of what our team has accomplished over the past five years," said Lonczak. "I am especially grateful to our staff, Board of Health, municipal partners, and community organizations that have supported the District and our work. Jamie brings a strong public health background and genuine enthusiasm for this role, and I am confident she will continue SCHD's mission of improving the health and well-being of the communities we serve through disease prevention, promotion of healthy living, and protection of the environment. I am excited to see her lead the District into its next chapter."

During Lonczak's tenure, SCHD expanded its community health programming and public health nursing services, modernized environmental health operations, implemented electronic records and public access to property records, strengthened internal policies and procedures, and expanded community outreach and partnerships throughout Southington, Plainville, and Middlefield.

Julia Burdacki, RS, who currently serves as SCHD's Chief Sanitarian, will serve as Acting Director of Health beginning October 3 and will provide leadership and continuity during the transition until Luckhardt begins on November 2.

SCHD serves the towns of Southington, Plainville, and Middlefield. We welcome Jamie to the South Central Health District and look forward to this next chapter for the District and the communities we serve.

Media Inquiries:

South Central Health District
196 North Main Street, Southington, CT 06489
860-276-6275