



Erie County Health Department
An Accredited Public Health Department

Erie County Community Health Center
A Federally Qualified Health Center

Peter T. Schade, MPH, REHS
Health Commissioner



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Timothy Plank is looking to mentor the next generation of Erie County public health providers

SANDUSKY, OH, January 26, 2027 — In the world of modern medicine, where appointments are often rushed and symptoms are treated in isolation, Dr. Timothy Plank stands as a champion for a different approach known as Whole-Person Care.

As a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) at the Erie County Health Department, Dr. Plank's philosophy is rooted in the belief that the body is an integrated system. For over 20 years, he has dedicated his career to public health, treating patients of all ages, from newborns to seniors, with a focus on the interconnectedness of physical, mental, and social well-being.

For Dr. Plank, public health is more than a clinical setting; it is a community mission. His tenure has been defined by a "patient-first" mentality that transcends the exam room.

"To me, every patient is a story, not a chart," says Dr. Plank. "True healing happens when we listen with our hearts as much as our stethoscopes. There is a special kind of joy in seeing a family grow and stay healthy together over the decades."

As Dr. Plank looks toward his eventual retirement, his focus has shifted to the future of the agency. He isn't just looking for a colleague; he is looking for a protégé. The Erie County Health Department is currently seeking a Provider Leader who is eager to learn the nuances of public health under Dr. Plank's seasoned mentorship.

This is a rare opportunity for a physician or advanced practitioner to inherit a wealth of knowledge in clinical leadership, community advocacy, and the "whole-person" philosophy that has become Dr. Plank's hallmark.

Health Commissioner Peter T. Schade emphasizes that the search for new providers is about maintaining the gold standard of care that the department is known for. "Quality of care is the foundation of everything we do, and that starts with providers who are truly committed to the public health mission. Finding the right person to learn from Dr. Plank is critical—we aren't just filling a position; we are securing the future of healthcare in Erie County."

The Erie County Health Department is offering a unique path for those ready to step into a leadership role within public health. This position provides direct, hands-on mentorship from Dr. Plank, allowing a new provider to absorb over two decades of clinical wisdom and community-based experience. Candidates will have the opportunity to provide continuity of care for a diverse, multi-generational patient base while practicing in a holistic environment that prioritizes the osteopathic "whole-person" approach. This is more than a clinical vacancy; it is a leadership track designed for a provider ready to shape the future of health in our region.



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Joining the Mission at ECHD

- **Direct Mentorship:** Spend dedicated time learning from Dr. Plank's 20+ years of experience.
- **Continuity of Care:** Provide long-term care for a diverse patient base of all ages.
- **Holistic Practice:** Work in an environment that prioritizes the "Whole-Person" osteopathic approach.
- **Leadership Track:** Step into a role designed to shape the future of the department.

Those interested in carrying this torch forward and learning from one of the area's most respected public health figures are encouraged to visit our online application portal at ErieCoHealthOhio.com/jobs.

About the Erie County Health Department

The Erie County Health Department's mission is to promote and improve the health and safety of the communities and environment within Erie County while preventing disease through essential public health services. The Erie County Community Health Center is part of the Erie County Health Department and operates eight convenient locations across Erie, Huron, and Ottawa counties, ensuring accessible primary care, dental, and behavioral health services throughout the region.

For more information about Health Department or Health Center services, visit www.ErieCoHealthOhio.com.

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