MARHC

June 13th, 2023

Speaker Bio: Shirley Murphy

Shirley Murphy graduated in 2016 from Lincoln University, Jefferson City with a Bachelor’s of Science in Biology. Additionally, she minored in chemistry and studies statistics, computer sciences and calculus. She went on to work in several laboratories, including the State of Missouri Laboratory, and Saint Mary’s Hospital laboratory. In 2022, she graduated from The University of Missouri, Columbia with a Master of Public Health, emphasizing in policy and promotion, as well as a certification in Epidemiology. As a graduate student, Shirley was able to apply her science background to the social and human services emphasized in a public health degree. She was able to take advanced classes in statistics, epidemiology and population health. This degree gave her a strong foundation for the principals of public health in order to improve health outcomes for Missourians. Shirley Murphy began working for the Office of Rural Health and Primary Care (ORHPC) in November of 2021 as a Senior Program Health Specialist to manage the ORHPC’s Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC)’National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High-Risk and Underserved, Including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities. In this role, as the CDC Grant Manager, Shirley was given the opportunity to begin understanding the health landscape of Missouri and the experience of grant management. The positon was a temporary role until the grant period ends in May 2024. From there Shirley was hired in the permanent position as Rural Health Coordinator for SHIP while still fulfilling her role as the CDC grant manager. As a Rural Health Coordinator, she was able to form valuable relationships with the small rural hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals of Missouri. This allowed her to gain greater understanding of the health outcomes of Rural Missourians specifically. Finally, she vacated her role as Rural Health Coordinator in September 2022 to promote to the role of Rural Health Manager.