NEWS RELEASE

Newly Created Open Access Journal Focused on Appalachian Health
Now Accepting Article Submissions

For Immediate Release
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LEXINGTON, KY – The new Journal of Appalachian Health was created through a collaborative effort between several academic institutions and organizations located within the Appalachian region. The journal is an online, open access, peer-reviewed journal with a mission of creating a healthy and thriving Appalachia. Thanks to the initial financial support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the journal will require no subscription fee or author publication fee. Hosting for the journal is provided by the University of Kentucky Libraries on their UKnowledge platform.

The mission of the journal is to publish research findings capable of transforming policy and practice in a rapid, yet rigorous, process. Committed to highlighting relevant, local innovations developed in the Appalachian region, the editors would like to bridge community narratives with academic research.

“The opportunity to create a new journal committed to the health of Appalachians is an important challenge given the burden of disease, the inequities that exist in the region and both the wonderful character of the hills of Appalachia and the poor disease status of those who live and work there. We hope this journal will,” said Dr. F. Douglas Scutchfield, “address these issues and allow us to move forward with efforts to address those problems in this beautiful and problematic region of American.”

Editorial and advisory board members envision a journal that will be inclusive and promote equity by engaging regional stakeholders in the development of the publication. Many of the articles will include commentaries that will highlight the implications of the research. The journal welcomes readers who will use the published findings in both the health and non-healthcare fields in which they work to affect change in their communities.

“We are very excited to launch this new journal as a hub for community and academic research in Appalachia. We anticipate that the journal will foster new research collaborations that will ultimately improve the health of the region,” said Dr. Erin Haynes.

Authors interested in submitting articles for publication in the journal may follow the instructions located via the links provided on the website. Initially, subscribers can expect to receive issues on a quarterly basis. As article submissions increase, the journal may publish additional issues throughout the year. Those interested in subscribing may follow instructions provided on the website to join the mailing list, connect with the journal via Twitter or contact the editors via email.

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About the Journal of Appalachian Health (JAH): The journal conducts and supports rigorous research on ways of creating a healthy and thriving Appalachia. Building on a foundation of scientific progress from both health services research (HSR) and public health services and systems research (PHSSR), JAH seeks to identify system-level strategies for improving the reach, quality, efficiency, and equity of services and supports that promote health and well-being of residents in all of Appalachia. The journal is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and is a collaboration between the leadership of more than twenty universities and organizations. Administrative and information technology support is provided by the team at the College of Public Health, Libraries, and University Press located at the University of Kentucky.