

### Quarterly Issues Programs List

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Stations: KWWK, KDCZ, KROC-FM, KYBA

October 1st, 2022 through December 31st, 2022

### SECTION I. ISSUES

**A) Politics**— This was a big election year in Minnesota: the governor and all the other statewide constitutional offices were all up for election, along with each of Minnesota's U.S. House seats and all 201 members of the Minnesota Legislature.

**B) Mental Health** —The mental health of Minnesotans continues to be a concern for health leaders. There were 723 suicide deaths in 2021. Tonya Carter from the State Health Department says more than 10,000 people are treated each year with suicide related injuries.

**C) Substance Abuse**— - Drug overdose deaths spiked 38% in Minnesota from April 2020 to 2021, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**D) Public Health** — Topics covered include lung cancer, a nursing strike, diabetes, medical cannabis, respiratory illnesses, and abortion.

**E) Public Education** — Minnesota's Education Commissioner says students are still behind because of the pandemic lockdowns. Statewide reading and math scores have dropped over the last 2+ years.

### SECTION II – RESPONSIVE PROGRAMS

**MINNESOTA MATTERS**, hosted by Scott Peterson, Tasha Redel, Bill Werner, and Mike Grim is a weekly locally produced public affairs program that discusses matters of importance to Minnesotans. Minnesota Matters runs every Sunday morning on KOLM from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

#### **September 4th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Public Health, Politics, Public Education, Employment Issues**

This week the hosts give detailed info on the pending Minnesota Nurses' Association's upcoming strike – Union leaders gave notice this week and said 15,000 Minnesota nurses would go on strike later in the week unless an agreement is reached.

The program also dives deep into the Education plans of the two leading candidates for Governor.

#### **September 11th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Public Health, Public Education, Mental Health, Politics, Public Safety**

This week the hosts discuss the fresh school year with Minnesota Education Commissioner Heather Mueller. Mueller updates the new vaccination guidelines and talks about new boosters designed to keep students and teachers safe. The hosts also discuss school shootings and how Mueller works with her team on response plans for schools across the state. The commissioner also talks about statewide test

results being down and how the state is focusing on reading, math, and mental health to help students rebound after the COVID setback.

Bill Werner highlights the latest polls in the race for Governor and other high-profile contests in the upcoming election. Warner outlines the Governor Walz's and challenger Scott Jensen's positions on key issues like abortion and education.

**September 18th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Public Health, Mental Health, Employment Issues**

This week the hosts talk about Minnesota nurse's strike - 15,000 nurses went on strike for 3-days. Staffing shortage and wages are the primary issues behind the strike.

The most recent data shows 723 lost their lives to suicide. Dr. Dan Reidenberg from S.A.V.E joins the show to discuss suicide prevention month. He says the biggest goal of the month is to raise awareness. Reidenberg says suicide doesn't discriminate based on race or age. The doctor also shares resources for people dealing with mental health issues and talks about different treatment options.

**September 25th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Mental Health, Suicide**

This week, Tonya Carter from the State Health Department joins the program to discuss Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Carter discusses the new 988 hotline and other mental health recourses available in Minnesota. Carter says more than 10,000 Minnesotans are treated each year for suicidal injuries.

**October 2nd, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Tourism, Economy, Sports**

Topics: Minnesota Apple Season, Carlson School of Management's new curriculum, Gopher Football

**October 9th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Public Health**

This week the hosts discuss RSV. The Minnesota Department of Health says hospitals have reported a drastic rise in cases. The program explains symptoms and treatments along with ways to prevent illness.

**October 16th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Winter Driving, Traffic Safety, Hunting Safety**

Topics: MnDOT snowplow operator training, Pheasant Opener, Gopher women's golfer Mariana Mesones.

**October 23rd, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Public Health, Politics, Substance Abuse, Gun Control, Abortion, Women's Rights**

The hosts discuss the upcoming election and talk about the recent debate between Governor Walz and his challenger Scott Jensen. Abortion, inflation, crime, gun control and the opioid epidemic were debated and both candidates' viewpoints were shared on this program.

**October 30th, 2022- Issues Discussed: Farm Economy, Agriculture, Politics**

The Minnesota AgriGrowth Council is spotlighted on this program. They are a nonprofit, nonpartisan member organization representing the agriculture and food systems industry in Minnesota. Other topics included: Thanksgiving turkey costs, Gopher Women's Soccer, Final Push to Elections.

**November 6th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Politics, Public Health**

Bill Warner joins the program to discuss the election and the latest polls. Professor Scott Scheer from Carleton joins the program to discuss the issues that matter most to Minnesotans.

Mayo Clinic's new diabetes treatment could be a game changer. The hosts welcome Dr. Andrew Storm from the clinic to the program to discuss this potential lifesaving treatment. Storm starts by discussing diabetes and its symptoms. He encourages people to discuss diabetes and get checked out before the disease worsens. The Mayo doctor says this new treatment is one procedure that would eliminate daily medicines.

**November 13th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Minnesota Non-Profits, Veterans Affairs, Politics**

Topics: Give to the Max Day, Harvest Wrap-Up, New Book Aimed at Veterans, Election Day Results

**November 20th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Politics, Public Health, Abortion, Women's Rights**

Carleton College Professor Scott Scheer and Hamline University Professor David Schultz join the program to discuss post-election results.

The hosts discuss the key items that will be a focus during the 2023 legislative session including abortion rights and recreational marijuana.

**November 27th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Substance Abuse, Traffic Safety, Food Insecurity**

Topics: Law enforcement targeting impaired drivers, State Fair GM Retiring, Gopher/Badger Border Battle, Salvation Army Holiday Efforts

**December 4th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Mental Health, Public Health**

This week the hosts discuss the psychological impact of the pandemic with Dr. Kaz Nelson from the University of Minnesota. They cover several topics including existing effects of pandemic stress, repeat infections, and long-covid. Nelson says the virus impacts a person's brain which can exacerbate mental health issues. COVID-Fatigue is also wearing on people and causing more stress.

Pat McKone from the MN American Lung Association joins the program to discuss lung cancer stats from 2021 – She says it's the leading cause of cancer deaths in men and women in Minnesota. She discusses prevention and treatment. McKone outlines the high-risk group and encourages screening to achieve better outcomes.

**December 11th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Public Health, Mental Health, Substance Abuse**

Thousands of nurses have authorized union leaders to set a strike deadline of 12/11. Bill Werner says these nurses' contracts expired 6-months ago. Wages and Staffing Shortages continue to be the key issue.

The hosts discuss new qualifying conditions from the Minnesota Department of Health for medical cannabis. Irritable bowel syndrome and obsessive-compulsive disorder have been added as qualifying conditions.

Dr Abe Jacob from M-Health Fairview joins the show to talk about how to avoid illnesses during holiday get togethers. Jacob says the state is seeing a rise in viral infections including RSV and influenzas.

Dr. Alta DeRoo from Hazleton Betty Ford Clinic joins the program to talk about substance abuse recovery and how that can be challenging through the holidays. She shares advice and recourses. She encourages people to reconsider holiday parties where alcohol may be present and suggests people that will go should have an escape route to use if they feel the pressure to drink. Alta DeRoo says a first good step

for someone seeking help is to reach out to Alcoholics Anonymous or to talk to their primary care physician.

**December 18th, 2022 – Issues Discussed: Public Health, Wildlife Management**

This week the show provides tips on staying healthy during the busy holiday season. State Health Officials worry holiday gatherings could fuel another rise in respiratory viruses. State Health Commissioner joined the program to warn people to not let their guard down because COVID is still a real concern. Other Topics: Increasing the state's moose population, Annual Army/Navy Football game, Nurses Ratify new Contracts

**December 25th, 2022 – a year in review**

This week the hosts discuss the biggest new stories of 2022.