

Dr. Jeff Howard is a resident of Louisville, KY, where he lives with his wife, Dr. Brandy Howard, and two children, Jeffrey and Katherine. Jeff and his wife are proud natives of rural Appalachian KY. Brandy serves the local community as the principal of Old Mill Elementary in Bullitt County, KY.

Currently serving as the Interim Director & Chief Health Strategist and Medical Director of the Louisville Metro Department for Public Health and Wellness. Additionally, he is a practicing surgeon at Norton Healthcare. As Louisville's Chief Health Strategist, Dr. Howard is focused on efficiently delivering evidence-supported public health initiatives, preventing infectious disease, and working toward greater public health equity. To accomplish these goals Dr. Howard utilizes his experiences in state and federal health policy, population health management, healthcare expertise, and an understanding of the healthcare challenges faced by many Kentuckians.



Previously, he served our Nation as a White House Fellow (Class of 2019-2020) and Health Policy Advisor to the Vice President of the United States. The White House Fellowship, created by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964, is a non-partisan leadership program designed to give highly competitive and successful mid- to early-career Americans the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in the process of governing our Nation. The expectation is that these individuals will go on to hold significant leadership positions across our country in a variety of public and private sectors. In this role, Dr. Howard advised the Vice President and senior officials on the entirety of our Nation's healthcare policy portfolio.

In 2017, Dr. Howard was appointed Commissioner of Public Health and Chief Medical Officer of his home state of Kentucky. At 29, he was the youngest State Health Official in the country and the youngest person to hold this role in Kentucky history. During his tenure, Dr. Howard led a large-scale transformation project that restructured the state's public health system to improve efficiency, offer value-based services, align incentives and outcomes, and balance the profit and loss components to ensure Kentuckians continued to receive vital public health services.

Dr. Howard holds a B.S. in Biology from Union College, a medical degree from the University of Louisville, an MBA from Northern Kentucky University, and an MPH from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. His recent awards include Louisville Business First Forty under 40, de Beaumont Foundation's Forty leaders under 40 in public health in the U.S., Kentucky Public Health Association President's award for meritorious service to Kentucky's public health, and Louisville Business First's 20 young leaders of Louisville.