

## FLORIDA

### **Celeste Philip, MD, MPH**

*State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health  
Florida Department of Health*

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Celeste Philip was appointed by Governor Rick Scott as state surgeon general and secretary of the Florida Department of Health on May 18, 2016. Previously, Philip served as the deputy secretary for health and deputy state health officer for children's medical services. Philip, who is board certified in family medicine as well as preventive medicine and public health, brings a wealth of academic excellence and professional experience with her.

Philip has served as interim director for three county health departments and as interim bureau chief for the department's bureau of communicable diseases. In addition, she was medical director for the department in Polk County. While in Lakeland, she chaired the Polk Health Care Alliance Infrastructure Committee and served on the board of the Lakeland

Volunteers in Medicine, through which she provided primary care to uninsured patients.

Philip is a board member of the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation and on the Health Initiatives Committee Advisory Group to the Florida Board of Governors.

Philip's contributions to public health are not limited to Florida. She is president-elect of the American Heart Association's six-state greater southeast affiliate. Philip served at CDC as an epidemic intelligence service officer.

Philip graduated from Howard University in Washington D.C. magna cum laude, with a Bachelor Degree in English and Spanish. She later received a Master of Public Health degree in maternal and child health and a Doctor of Medicine degree from Loma Linda University in California. She completed her residency at Florida Hospital in Orlando and has remained committed to improving health in Florida throughout her career.