

Vermont | Julie Arel, MPH, MSW

Interim Health Commissioner

Vermont Department of Health

Julie Arel was named interim commissioner of health in April of 2025, following the retirement of Dr. Mark Levine. She was appointed deputy commissioner in July of 2022.

Arel served for eight years as director of the Health Department's Division of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. She also was the section chief managing the operational aspects of the department's COVID-19 pandemic emergency response.

Before joining the department, Deputy Commissioner Arel had been the executive director for Open Door Clinic in Middlebury, Parent to Parent of Vermont and Vermont Family Network, and the New England Rural Health Roundtable. She is a graduate of Smith College and earned Masters' degrees in social work and in public health from Boston University.

