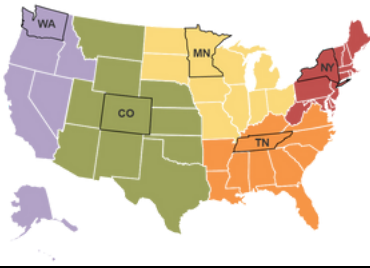


INTEGRATED FOOD SAFETY CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE



The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has designated five Integrated Food Safety Centers of Excellence (Food Safety CoEs) that are each comprised of a state health department and an affiliated university partner. The Centers work together to identify model practices in foodborne disease surveillance and outbreak response and to serve as resources to assist other state and local public health professionals in implementing these practices.

TN Food Safety CoE Hosts First Peer-to-Peer Symposium

The TN Food Safety CoE hosted its first-ever Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Symposium this month in Nashville, TN, with food safety representatives from six different states (AR, KY, LA, MS, SC, TN). The symposium's purpose was to foster meaningful connections among foodborne and enteric disease programs in Southeastern states.

The agenda for the day-and-a-half-long meeting included a team-building activity, presentations, panels, and round table discussions. All states presented on various topics, including data collection and management, data summaries and visualizations, cluster detection and management, and interesting foodborne outbreaks.

The symposium ended with a round table discussion on staff recruitment, training practices, and health equity in the foodborne outbreak space.

The TN Food Safety CoE hopes to continue collaborating with and fostering connections within their region by holding a P2P symposium annually.



P2P Participants at the TN State Museum in Nashville, TN

Participant feedback regarding their experience at the TN CoE P2P Symposium:

"To be completely honest, I typically feel that I do not walk away with much from meetings, but I will honestly say this one was totally different. It was very informative, and I feel that I not only gained knowledge but also a lot of resources and contact information to be able to bounce things off of other people/states in the future."

Find the
Food Safety CoE's Online!



[Mail List](#)



[LinkedIn](#)



[Website](#)



[YouTube](#)

Cronobacter Guidance Document

The FDA-CDC-APHL-CSTE Cronobacter Position Statement Implementation Workgroup has released guidance on the investigation of Cases of Invasive Cronobacter Illness in Infants in response to the 2023 Position Statement.

The guidance document provides product testing recommendations as well as information on clinical specimens, isolate submissions, and communications.

Access the document [HERE](#)



TN CoE WGS Live Learning Series



In June 2024, the TN Food Safety CoE hosted a Live Learning Series focused on Whole-Genome Sequencing for Cluster Detection and Investigation. The series was intended for foodborne and enteric epidemiologists involved in identifying and investigating clusters and interpreting whole-genome sequencing data.

The sessions covered:

- WGS fundamentals (including SNP-based analyses, cgMLST/wgMLST-based analyses, cluster detection thresholds and more)
- NCBI and SEDRIC tools for cluster detection and investigation
- PulseNet 2.0 transition (including an overview of features and improvements, and a timeline)

A recording will be available on the Food Safety CoE website.

A Helpful Resource: The Art of Gathering

Have you ever been to a conference you couldn't wait to leave? Have you ever rolled your eyes at yet another meeting that could have been an email?

TN Food Safety CoE and TN Department of Health staff members recently sought to change the way they run their meetings in order to gather more intentionally and foster connections among staff members.

Their team used *"The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why It Matters"* by Priya Parker as a tool to foster an environment where meetings were meaningful, collaborative, and intentional and a place where staff members felt comfortable, engaged, and valued.

The TN CoE used *The Art of Gathering* as a foundation when planning their Peer-to-Peer symposium by placing connection amongst peers as the primary purpose of gathering.

If you and your team are interested in changing the way you gather, check out *The Art of Gathering* and all of Priya Parker's tools [HERE](#)

