PHAN
PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION NETWORK

A healthier world, one breath at a time.

Public health institutions have failed. PHAN is filling the void they left behind by building global, people-powered, and unapologetically science driven public health infrastructure, with a mission to provide clean air, protect vulnerable communities, and hold power accountable. Our work spans data, legal advocacy, policy, AI tools, and global coordination with a simple goal of restoring trust, exposing institutional failure, and making clean air and public health basic rights, not privileges reserved for the few.

What is Public Health Action Network (PHAN)?

PHAN is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit acting as a shadow public health agency, building and scaling the tools, networks, and enforcement strategies that should already exist. We develop open-source platforms, launch legal action, influence public policy, and collaborate with a global network of scientists, organizers, and technologists to protect people from airborne disease and environmental harm. We don't wait for permission, and we don't compromise public safety.

Problems we address

Public health guidance is fractured and politicized
People are drowning in disinformation while institutions either stay silent or contradict themselves. Most don't know what's safe, who to trust, or where to turn. The tools they need either don't exist or are locked behind paywalls.

Indoor air isn't clean and safe
Most public spaces can't guarantee safe air. Few buildings meet basic targets for ventilation, filtration, or simple checks people can see. Those at higher risk have no reliable options, and families and workers face daily exposure. We need clear standards and tools that show when air is safe.

Most people still don't understand airborne issues
The public lacks a clear understanding of how airborne dangers actually work, from viruses to wildfire smoke to pollution. Outdated narratives and misinformation leave people unprepared to deal with the growing health risks of climate change and contaminated air, and disinformation is being pushed by governments and media.

Policy lags far behind the science
We have the research. We have the tools. But policy has not caught up. No national airborne safety mandates, no ventilation standards, and no urgency from governments to treat clean air like the life-or-death issue it is.

Our Current Projects/Solutions

We build open, science-backed public tools
We create transparent, open-source platforms that help people find clean air, understand health risks, and access real support. Our tools are free to use, easy to adapt, and built for a world where institutions have failed

We pursue clean air like clean water
Clean water improved because standards, testing, and public reporting became the norm. We apply the same model to air. Our goal is to turn clean air from an abstract idea into a legally enforced right that protects workers, children, and the most vulnerable through practical tools, solutions, and policies.

We lead public education and awareness
We make invisible threats visible through interactive open-source tools, simulations, and transparent, accessible science. From airflow visualizations to conversational platforms, to community education, we give people the knowledge they need to stay safe in a world facing pandemic risk and climate disruption.

We fight for policy that protects clean air
We push for national and global policies that reflect current science. Through coalition building, public pressure, and expert guidance, we work to establish enforceable air quality standards across schools, workplaces, transportation, and healthcare.

Our Team

- Chairman : Ian Goodfellow, Ph.D. – Principal Scientist at Google Brain and inventor of AI GAN networks.
- Board member: Ziyad Al-Aly, M.D. – Global leading Long COVID researcher, director of the Clinical Epidemiology Center and Chief of R&D at the Veterans Affairs St. Louis Health Care System, clinical epidemiologist at Washington University in St. Louis.
- Board member: Phillip Alvelda – Leader in AI healthcare, pioneer in the field of mobile TV, DARPA program manager
- CEO: Tarz Ludwigsen – Forward thinking R&D leader with a history of developing solutions in emerging industries.
- Communications Manager: Theresa O'Connor – Communications professional with a history in health and human services nonprofits
- Development Manager: Debra Rosen – Development and outreach professional with a history with media companies and nonprofits