



**National Rural
Health Association**
Rural Health Access Conference
May 18-19, 2026 — San Diego, CA

Monday, May 18

1 – 1:15 p.m.

Conference Welcome

Seaport ABC

Alan Morgan, MPA, NRHA CEO

Mary-Katherine Smith McNatt, DrPH, MPH, NRHA Health Equity Council Chair

1:15 – 2:30 p.m.

Opening Plenary

C.A.R.R.E.: A Framework for Rural Health Equity

Seaport ABC

Dejamarie Crozier, PhD (In Progress), An Insightful Journey, Chief Executive Officer

Kayshaun Brooks, An Insightful Journey, Chief Operating Officer

Windy Ly, An Insightful Journey, Board Member

This session introduces the C.A.R.R.E. Framework (Collaboration, Advocacy, Resource, Research, and Education), a storytelling-based approach that builds community capacity and advances health equity in rural communities. Participants will learn how An Insightful Journey (AIJ) centers community—especially those historically excluded from decision-making—to identify service gaps, co-create culturally relevant solutions, and strengthen cross-sector partnerships. Including practical strategies to improve access to healthcare services while addressing race, culture, social support networks, and other critical social determinants of health.

2:30 – 2:45 p.m.

Networking Break, Poster Session

2:45 – 4 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

1A.

Racism as a Public Health Emergency: Advancing Immigrant and Refugee Health by Addressing Underlying Social Drivers of Health.

Seaport ABC

Eisha Khan, MaineHealth, Program Manager

In Maine, immigrants face disproportionate barriers across the social determinants of health due to structural inequities embedded in healthcare and public policy. This session showcases MaineHealth's equity-centered approach leveraging SDOH screening, race/language-stratified data, cross-sector partnerships, and collaboration with policymakers to drive systems change

such as LD1080, a bill to remove income-based utility deposit requirements that disproportionately impact immigrants without credit history. Participants will learn how community-informed data and partnerships are advancing health equity.

1B.

Evolving Models of Health and Community Care Collaboration

Gaslamp AB

Jessica Machler, USAging, Senior Program Manager

Jeremiah Silguero, MPH, Partnership to Align Community Care, Senior Manager

Across rural communities, “Community Care Hubs” are an emerging way to bring together health care entities and community-based organizations to coordinate services and strengthen local networks. This session will share the results from nationwide key informant interviews and case studies showing how different communities have developed hubs in unique ways. Utilizing these national examples, attendees will learn practical integration strategies and explore inspiring cases of innovation and community-driven solutions in rural health care.

Leveraging Foodcare to Reduce Chronic Disease burdens and Ease Provider Strain

Melisa Isavoran, MS, Foodsmart, VP - Network and Policy

Katie Esposito, MBA, Foodsmart, National Account Executive

Explore how medical nutrition therapy and food is medicine can be woven into routine care in rural communities to help providers prevent and manage chronic disease while easing clinic workload. Participants will see how payer, rural health clinic, and community food program partnerships use foodcare, telehealth, and digital tools to extend nutrition support, enable bi-directional referrals, and track outcomes that demonstrate better patient health and reduced provider strain.

1C.

Championing Rural Health Equity: Advocating for Lasting Change

Gaslamp CD

Rich Sutphin, MPH, West Virginia Rural Health Association, Executive Director

This session will explore effective state-level advocacy strategies to advance rural health access and equity. Participants will learn how to engage legislators, shape policy agendas, and communicate the unique healthcare needs of rural communities. Presenters will highlight policy trends, successful advocacy examples, and practical tools for influencing healthcare policies and regulations. Attendees will leave with actionable approaches to strengthen their voice and drive meaningful improvements in rural health systems.

4 – 4:15 p.m.

Networking Break, Poster Session

4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Concurrent Session

2A.

Elevating Rural Voices: Digital Storytelling with Community Health Workers and Rural Health Advocates

Seaport ABC

Cassity Gutierrez, PhD, Drake University, Professor and Chair of Pre-Medicine; Iowa Rural Health Association, Executive Director

This session explores how digital storytelling strengthens rural health access by elevating the lived experiences of Community Health Workers and rural health advocates. Participants will learn a practical process for guiding storytellers, creating ethical narratives, and using stories to build trust, support program development, and inform policy. We will share results from training sessions conducted with Community Health Workers across Iowa, demonstrating how digital storytelling increases engagement and visibility of rural health challenges and opportunities.

Strengthening Rural Care Through CHW Workforce

Angela Landeen, EdD, CHES, CPH, Southeast Technical College, Director, CHW Program

This session highlights how an accelerated Community Health Worker training model improves rural health access by addressing social determinants of health, care coordination, and chronic disease management. We will share outcomes from South Dakota's CHW workforce expansion, including a 61% contribution from one rural-serving college, and demonstrate how CHWs bridge gaps between clinical care and community needs. Practical strategies for rural replication and workforce pipeline development will be provided.

2B.

Understanding Multimorbidity in Rural Communities

Gaslamp AB

LaToya O'Neal, Ph.D., University of Florida, Associate Professor

Rural adults experience a disproportionate burden of cardiometabolic multimorbidity. Understanding multilevel risk and protective factors is necessary for prevention, intervention, and treatment of these conditions. Semi-structured interviews were conducted to understand the lived experiences of rural African American adults (N=24). This session highlights patterns in the onset, progression, and management of multiple cardiometabolic conditions and describes strategies for community-based interventions. Participants will learn how individual, interpersonal, and access challenges shape the experiences of rural adults.

Diabetes Prevalence and Dialysis Care in Rural America

Nicholas Yell, PhD, University of South Carolina Rural Health Research Center, Postdoctoral Research Associate

Gabriel Benavidez, PhD, Baylor University Department of Public Health, Assistant Professor

Elizabeth Crouch, PhD, University of South Carolina Rural Health Research Center, Co-Director

Rural residents have a higher diabetes prevalence than urban residents. Furthermore, dialysis care is not as easily accessed in rural areas as in urban areas. This session explores the increased risk of diabetes in rural areas and potential solutions/barriers to addressing the disproportionate diabetes burden faced by rural residents. It will also examine how prevalence has changed over time in rural areas and which socioeconomic and demographic groups have the greatest prevalence in rural areas.

2C.

Alaska's Model for Rural Behavioral Health Service Delivery

Gaslamp CD

Tonya Horn, PhD, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), Director of Program Evaluation and Research

Xiomara Owens, PhD, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), Director of Behavioral Health Aide Training

Bernice Owens, PhD Student, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), Research Assistant and Evaluation Manager

Amanda Gentz, PhD, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), Postdoctoral Fellow

As rural areas face workforce shortages and other challenges to meeting their behavioral health needs, Alaska's Behavioral Health Aide (BHA) Program provides a model that has demonstrated success in delivering behavioral health services in rural and remote areas. This presentation describes findings from a statewide environmental scan of BHA practice throughout the Alaska Tribal Health System using self-report surveys with BHAs. Implications for implementing the BHA model in other rural and remote settings are discussed.

Tuesday, May 19

7 – 8 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

Poster Session

8:00 – 9:15 a.m.

Opening Plenary

Rural Maternal Care: The Next Shift

Seaport ABC

Donna Gorby, MLD, BSN, RN, ACHC, Standards Interpretation Specialist

Rural maternity care is in crisis, with over 100 rural hospitals discontinuing labor and delivery since 2020; and disproportionately affecting women of color, Indigenous populations, frontier communities, and low-income rural families. This session examines the national landscape and operational challenges driving these closures, and how new CMS and ACHC maternal health standards, including emergency readiness requirements, can guide hospitals in redesigning

care, advancing equity, improving outcomes, and sustaining safe, local access to essential obstetric services.

9:15 – 9:30 a.m.

Networking Break, Poster Session

9:30 – 10:45 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions

3A.

Advancing Rural Aging Equity Through Policy Action

Seaport ABC

Pauline DeLange Martinez, PhD, UC Davis - Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing - Family Caregiving Institute, Research & Community Engagement Manager

Elizabeth Bogumil, PhD(c), UC Davis - Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing - Family Caregiving Institute; Inland Coalition on Aging, Consultant

Megan Burke, LCSW, The SCAN Foundation, Director of California Health and Aging Policy

Rural older adults are often overlooked in California policy, despite rapid population growth and facing workforce shortages, housing insecurity, and health disparities. Funded by The SCAN Foundation, the University of California, Davis and three regional coalitions developed policy briefs on housing, long-term services and supports, and health care access grounded in community and provider perspectives. This session shares key findings, state policy recommendations, and strategies to advance rural aging equity and strengthen cross-sector advocacy.

3B.

Kansas CARES- A statewide community health worker model

Gaslamp AB

Lisse Regehr, Thrive Allen County, President and CEO

This 75-minute presentation will offer a deep dive into the Kansas CARES (Coordinating and Assisting Reliable Enrollment Services) Program's model for sustainable rural health equity. We'll cover the Community Health Worker (CHW)-driven strategy for reducing uncompensated care and improving outcomes, the plan to stabilize funding through policy advocacy (CHW Medicaid reimbursement), and the vital role of technology and strategic partnerships required in securing the financial future of rural healthcare.

Building Effective Partnerships with Promotores de Salud to Strengthen Cancer Support in Hispanic Communities

Laura Ortiz-Ravick, MA, DrPH(c), Blood Cancer United, Director, National Outreach and Health Equity Partnerships

This session highlights best practices for partnering with Promotores and Community Health Workers to better support underserved Hispanic populations affected by cancer. The presenter will share lessons from grassroots collaborations, culturally responsive engagement strategies, and evidence-informed approaches to addressing persistent barriers to care. Participants will gain practical tools to strengthen trust, improve access to reliable cancer information, and enhance support for rural Hispanic patients and families across the cancer continuum.

3C.

Breaking Barriers: Teleneurology for Rural Veterans' Neurological Care Gaslamp CD

Carolyn Bevan, MD, MS, Jesse Brown VAMC Department of Neurology, Assistant Professor of Neurology; VA National Tele-Neurology Program Associate Director of Subspecialty Care

Rural Americans face inequities in access to neurological expertise due to workforce shortages and geographic barriers, resulting in delayed diagnoses and poorer outcomes. The Veterans Health Administration addresses barriers through teleneurology solutions. This session showcases how the Veterans Health Administration leverages telehealth, closing geographic gaps and delivering high-quality neurological care. Through a case study, attendees learn about models of virtual care and how scaling these models improves care for Veterans in rural America.

Improving Rural Enrollment, Access, and Healthcare in Rural Veterans

Emre Umucu, PHD, MPH, MBA, University of Texas, Associate Dean for Research

Jim Yates, MS, Michigan Center for Rural Health, Programs Director

John Barnas, MS, Michigan Center for Rural Health, Director

Bryan Weichelt, PhD, Marshfield Clinic Health System; Sanford Health, Research Scientist

Beatrice Lee, PhD, UTEP, Associate Professor Rehabilitation Sciences

The Improving Rural Enrollment, Access, and Healthcare in Rural Veterans program enhances healthcare access for veterans across Michigan's rural Upper Peninsula and northeastern Lower Peninsula and northern Wisconsin. Funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, the program helps veterans enroll in healthcare, resolve technology and transportation barriers, and connect with local resources. I-REACH also supports rural providers by strengthening coordination with Department of Veterans Affairs Community Care Network and advancing community-based suicide prevention.

10:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Networking Break, Poster Session

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Concurrent Session

4A.

Belonging and Rural Practice Intent in Youth Pathway Programs

Seaport ABC

Sydney Lyons, MA, California Center for Rural Policy, Program Coordinator

Rural communities face persistent healthcare workforce shortages that limit access to quality care. This session shares findings from a qualitative case study of a high school Medical Sciences Club in rural Northern California, highlighting how belonging, identity development, and place-connection influence students' interest in healthcare and intent to practice locally. Participants will learn how place-based, equity-centered educational programs can strengthen rural workforce pipelines and support "grow our own" strategies that prepare future rural healthcare providers.

Enhancing Rural Health Access through Student-Run Clinics

Benjamin Smith, BS, BA, University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, Medical Student (MS2)

Danea Pirtle, University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, Medical Student (MS3)

Tedd McDonald, MD,

The Rural Outreach Clinic (ROC) is a student-run, interprofessional organization through the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine that provides free primary care, preventive services, and health education to uninsured and underserved residents in rural Nevada. This session explores the discrepancies between urban and rural Nevadans, achievements of the ROC, the integration of Community Health Workers into clinic operations, and address disparities in health literacy between Spanish- and English-speaking patients in rural communities.

4B. Enhancing Reproductive Survivorship Care in Rural-Border Communities

Gaslamp AB

Shiloh Williams, PhD, RN, San Diego State University - Imperial Valley, Assistant Professor

Helen Palomino, LCSW, Cancer Resource Center of the Desert, Chief Executive Officer

Adolescent and young adult cancer survivors face complex reproductive health risks that are poorly addressed in current survivorship care plans, particularly for those with low health literacy or limited English proficiency. This mixed-methods study designed and pilot-tested a bilingual, web-based reproductive health survivorship care plan tailored for a rural U.S.–Mexico border region. The intervention demonstrated high acceptability and feasibility for integration of reproductive health information into survivorship care for culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

Addressing Postpartum Hypertension with Remote Patient Monitoring

Olivia Burke, MPH, MaineHealth, Program Coordinator

Jamil Mouehla, BA, MaineHealth, Research Data Analyst

MaineHealth's Obstetric Blood Pressure Remote Monitoring Program is a six-week postpartum initiative where patients submit daily blood pressure readings through an online portal. Local care teams, supported by centralized staff, monitor results, adjust medications, and provide

timely interventions. The program operates in rural hospitals, replacing in-person visits that often require hours of travel. By reducing barriers to access, it ensures patients receive appropriate care at the right time, improving safety and convenience during postpartum recovery.

4C. Innovations in Rural Oral Health and Community Engagement

Gaslamp CD

Joni Nelson, PhD, MS - Medical University of South Carolina, College of Dental Medicine, Associate Professor & Division Chief of Population Oral Health

Kate Peralta, MPP - Medical University of South Carolina, College of Dental Medicine, Special Project Manager

Amy Martin, DrPH, MPH - Medical University of South Carolina, College of Dental Medicine, Senior Associate Dean & Professor

This session will explore how one center is transforming rural oral health. MUSC's Center for Rural Oral Health and Community Engagement leads flagship initiatives that expand access to care, strengthen the rural oral health workforce, foster community partnerships, and implement innovative, sustainable strategies to improve oral health outcomes across rural communities.

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Networking Lunch

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Plenary Presentation

Recognizing And Understanding Rural Allyship For LGBTQIA+ Health

Seaport ABC

Jordan Godfrey, BS, ETSU Quillen College of Medicine, Medical Student

Kinner Flaglor, BS, ETSU Quillen College of Medicine, Medical Student

Jennifer Lowell, MA, MPhil, ETSU Quillen College of Medicine, Medical Student

LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual) individuals face significant health and social disparities, particularly in rural regions, yet providers often lack specific training. This session empowers rural healthcare professionals and trainees to become effective allies for patients and co-workers. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of health disparities, review gender-affirming care treatment options, and learn actionable strategies to foster an inclusive, affirming environment in their practice.

2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Networking Break, Poster Session

2:45 – 4:00 p.m.

Concurrent Session

5A.

Lessons from an FQHC Led RMOMS

Seaport ABC

Bryna Koch, DrPH, Arizona Center for Rural Health, Assistant Research Professor

Yara Castro, BS, Mariposa Community Health Center, Director of Rural Health Strategies

Brianna Rooney, DrPH, Arizona Center for Rural Health, Assistant Research Professor

Lessons from an FQHC Led RMOMS spotlights how a borderlands FQHC in rural Arizona is uniting three distinct counties, spanning desert, mining towns, diverse community cultures, and tribal communities, to sustain labor and delivery services against the odds. The session showcases how a community-based FQHC can lead a regional network, building partnerships across non-overlapping service areas to sustain local maternal and obstetrics services and tackle shared challenges in workforce, distance, and access.

5B.

Dismantling Barriers: Rural Healthcare Equity for Disabilities

Gaslamp AB

Shirley Madewell, MPH, NYSDOH / Bureau of Community Chronic Disease Prevention, Disability and Health Program Manager

This presentation highlights the profound barriers rooted in social determinants of health that limit healthcare access for people with disabilities (PWD) in rural communities. It examines findings from a linkage demonstration project designed to connect individuals with intellectual / developmental disability to preventive and health promotion services and offers actionable recommendations to improve rural healthcare access. The session emphasizes equity, inclusion, and strategies to reduce disparities and achieve fair and accessible healthcare in rural communities.

5C.

Nurtured Roots to Thriving Fruits: Federal Programs That Sustain Rural Delta Hospitals

Gaslamp CD

Suzanne Eslyn, MSW, FORHP, Public Health Analyst

Jennifer Ha, MHA, FORHP, Management Analyst

Michele Meyer, RN, BSN, MA, Washington County Memorial Hospital, CEO

Jennifer Barbour, MPA, Sparta Community Hospital, Director of Marketing & Relations

Billie Jo Russell, MSN, RN, CNO, Iron County Medical Center, Interim CEO

As rural hospitals face mounting closures, discover how the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy is strengthening healthcare across the Delta Region through a phased, sustainability-first approach—equipping hospitals to stabilize, grow, and ultimately thrive.

4:00 – 5:15 p.m.

Plenary Presentation

Strengthening the Research Capacity of Rural Tribes to Address Substance Use, Overdose, Mental Health, and Pain

Seaport ABC

Alicia Miller (Absentee Shawnee), Little Axe Health Center, Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, AST Research Center Executive Director

*Kellie Webb (Eastern Shoshone), Doya Natsu Healing Center, Eastern Shoshone Tribe, Director
Cherry Beasley (Lumbee), Department of Health and Human Services, Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, Director*

Brianna Skahan White (Yakama), Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, NIH N CREW Project Manager & Intervention Coordinator

Ángel Vásquez, University of New Mexico, Clinical Research Associate

Despite the many strengths of Tribal Nations, American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) in the United States are faced with high rates of substance use, overdose, and compounding and contributing health conditions like pain. This session will describe work funded directly to or led directly by rural Tribes that seeks to build research capacity and infrastructure to better understand the scope, context, and identification of solutions to substance use, overdose, mental health, and pain. This work, supported by the National Institutes of Health, encourages locally-prioritized research that embraces Indigenous knowledge and methods and leverages research to improve services.

5:15 p.m.

Conference Adjourns

2026 Accepted Poster List

Improving Rural Access to the Cancer Treatment Pathway

Margarita Elestwani, BSN, MPH Candidate, May 2026, Texas Tech University - Health Science Center, School of Population and Public Health SPPH

Frances Rodriguez, MPH Candidate, Texas Tech University - Health Science Center, School of Population and Public Health SPPH

Recruitment of Underrepresented Populations in Disease Prevention Research

Francis Kazungu, MS, Research Specialist, University of Illinois College of Medicine, Rockford

Manorama Khare, PhD, Research Professor, University of Illinois College of Medicine, Rockford

Cultural Stress and Cardiovascular Equity in Rural Communities

Amnazo Muhirwa, PhD, FNP-C, RN, BSN, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of North Carolina School of Medicine

Understanding Health Literacy Practices Among Healthcare Professionals

Candace Juhala, MPH, Research Assistant, San Diego State University

Unique Expenditure Signature of Indian Health Service Users

Zev Allen, MD, MPH, MBA, Rural Health Leadership Fellow, Massachusetts General Hospital: Rural Medicine Program

Matthew Tobey, MD, Rural Health Program Director, Massachusetts General Hospital: Rural Medicine Program

Community-Led Food Access for Rural Health Equity

Adrienne Markworth, MA, Executive Director, Leah's Pantry

Carlos Alessandrini, BS Nutrition, Community Programs Manager, Leah's Pantry

Emilio Codorniz, Leah's Pantry

Mobile Health Four Year Impact in Rural

Alexia Hopkins, Program Coordinator, SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare

Andrea Mitchell, MPH, Program Officer, SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare

Michele Stanek, MS, Associate Director, SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare

School-Based Community Health Workers Transforming Rural Access

Eve-Lynn Nelson, PhD, Professor, University of Kansas Medical Center

Chase Koob, BA, Manager, Telehealth ROCKS

Sage Brown, MA, Operations Director, Telehealth ROCKS

Scaling Rural Care with WHO Problem Management Plus

Sophia Ryder, BA, Clinical Research Associate, The New School Center for Global Mental Health

Adam Brown, PhD, Professor, Clinical Psychologist, The New School Center for Global Mental Health

Linda Kim, BA, Clinical Research Coordinator, The New School Center for Global Mental Health

Azanah Khadduri, MA Student, The New School Center for Global Mental Health

Social Support and Rural Dementia-Related Stigma

Juanita-Dawne Bacsu, PhD, Assistant Professor, Thompson Rivers University

Behavioral Intervention for Rural Veterans with Cardiac Risk

Lauren Garvin, PhD, Clinical Associate Professor, University of Iowa Healthcare

Providing Health Care for Unhoused Individuals in Illinois

Manorama Khare, PhD, Research Professor, University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford

Emily Orr, MA, Research Associate II, University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford

Overcoming Barriers to Healthcare for Adults with IDD

Rahma Arif, BS, Student, The University of Texas at Dallas

Interviews With Rural Physicians On Medical Ethics Experiences

Henry Skocy, Medical Student, University of Rochester School of Medicine

Rural Healthcare Touchpoints Advance Nonpartisan Voter Engagement

Kendyl Naugle, BA, Medical Student, University of California, San Diego

Building Awareness to Strengthen Rural Health Access

Stephanie Kiser, BSParmacy, Executive Director, Rural Pharmacy Health Initiative; Professor of the Practice, UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy

Mary McClurg, PharmD, MHS, Executive Vice Dean-Chief Academic Officer; Professor, UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy

Collaboration for Equitable Health In Native American Pueblos

Rene Gonzalez, PhD, Director of Health Access and Quality, American Diabetes Association

Joshua Martinez, Director of Health Access and Quality, American Diabetes Association

TOLACs in Rural versus Urban Hospitals

Halle Ciganick, Medical Student, Michigan State University College of Human Medicine

Strengthening Rural Healthcare Through Sensory-Aware Autism Training

Abbey Dotson, B.S, Medical Student, University of Illinois, College of Medicine Rockford

Rural Libraries and Health Initiative: A Pilot Overview

Alanti Price, MPH, Program Manager, South Carolina Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare

Mobilizing Community Partnerships for Summer Health Camp Implementation

Theresa Fenner, DrPH(c), MPH, Diabetes Educator, Otto Kaiser Memorial Hospital

Digital Case-Management Model for Rural CHW Care

Melissa Clements, Partnerships and Operations Analyst, Dimagi

Lilian Olson, Managing Director of Strategy, Dimagi

Atopic Dermatitis Prescription Access in Rural Communities

Allison Loisselle, PhD, Associate Director, Data Science & Research, National Eczema Association

Jessica Johnson, MPH, Director, Community Research & Engagement, National Eczema Association

Building Rural Recovery: PREP's Hospital-Community Partnership Model

Jamie Strohmeyer, BSN, RN, Program Director, Rural Health Redesign Center

Pharmacist Billing to Sustain Rural Primary Care Capacity

Jordin Millward, PharmD, MPH, Clinical Assistant Professor, Idaho State University

Nurse Navigation: Rural-Urban Equality and Equity Outcomes

Jude Walker, Student Researcher, Fort Lewis College

Nora Flucke, PhD, RN, Associate Professor of Public Health, Fort Lewis College

Occupational Therapy Rural Health Committee pilot year reflections

Sara Kelleher Peña, MS, OTR/L; M.Ed., Clinical Health Specialist, Occupational Therapy Rural Health Committee Lead, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Perinatal Substance Use Disorders and Psychosocial Needs

Jannelle Bannor, BS, Medical Student (M2), ETSU Quillen College of Medicine

Building the Rural Health Workforce Together

Patricia Barfield, PhD, RN, Associate Dean, OHSU

Outcomes from the Veggies for Vets Produce Prescription Program

Isabella Alessandrini, MS, RD, Outpatient Dietitian, White River Junction Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Reproductive Health Access in Rural America in the Wake of the Dobbs Decision

Michael Shepherd, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Michigan

Increasing Community Participation with a Trusted Messenger

Laurie Anne Ferguson, DNP, Professor & Family Nurse Practitioner, University of Texas Medical Branch School of Nursing

Bilingual CPR Training for Rural Migrant Farmworkers

Stacie Fairley, PhD, Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology and Director of IPE, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Mauricio Soto Abrego, OMS III student, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Thomas Last, PhD, Professor, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Establishment & Characterization of a Vaginal Microbiome Repository

Laken Woods, Student, ETSU James H. Quillen College of Medicine

A Literature Review of OUD Treatment in Rural Populations

Olivia Manke, MS-2, N/A, Michigan State University College of Human Medicine

Advancing Health Workforce with Collaborative Statewide Data Innovations

Sara Smith, MS, LSSGB, Program Operations Director, MU Center for Health Policy, University of Missouri, College of Health Sciences, Center For Health Policy

Kate Trout, PhD, MS, Assistant Professor of Health Sciences Affiliate Faculty, MU Institute for Data Science and Informatics Director, National Food Security and Innovation (NAFSI) Hub

Director, Center for Convergence Science and Innovation (C2SI), University of Missouri, College of Health Sciences

**Thank you for your attendance and your continued support of NRHA!
Join us next year in New Orleans, LA on May 17-18, 2027.**