New England Rural Health Conference
November 5+6, 2015
Southbridge Inn & Conference Center
Southbridge, MA
Join us in recognizing the contributions of the outgoing members of our Board of Directors:

- Nancy Dumont (past-president)
- Bryan Ayers (secretary)
- Ed Perlak (member-at-large)
- Roxie Severance (NH)
- Fred Rosa (CT)
- Scott Hanson (ME)

Join us in welcoming our new members of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors:

- Eric Turer (president-elect)
- Susan White (secretary)
- Greg Vasse (NH)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Sharon Beaty  
*Mid-State Health Center*

Past-President: Nancy Dumont  
Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital

President-Elect: Nancy Frank  
North Country Health Consortium

Secretary: Bryan Ayers  
Community Health Programs

Treasurer: Ann Chiodini  
Partners in Healthcare Management

Member-At-Large: Ed Perlak  
Berkshire Health Systems

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**New Hampshire**

- Alisa Druzba (ex-officio)  
*NH State Office of Rural Health*

- Eric Turner  
*Community Health Institute – JSI*

- Roxie Severance  
*The Morrison*

- Kristina Fjeld-Sparks  
*NH AHEC and NH PHTC at the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy*

**Connecticut**

- Heather Cappabianca (ex-officio)  
*CT State Office of Rural Health*

- John Goodman  
*United Services Director of Development and Communications*

- Gertrude O’Sullivan  
*Foundation for Community Health*

- Frederick Rosa  
*Champion Ambulance Service, Inc*

**Maine**

- Matthew Chandler (ex-officio)  
*ME State Office of Rural Health*

- John Gale  
*Muskie School of Public Health*

- Penelope Markle  
*Veterans Rural Health Resource Center*

- Jonathan Sprague  
*Rocky Coast Consulting*

- Scott Hanson (alternate)  
*Department of Veterans Affairs*

**Massachusetts**

- Cathleen McElligott (ex-officio)  
*MA State Office of Rural Health*

- Nancy Langman  
*Island Counseling Center*

- Cynthia Yered  
*Tufts University School of Dental Medicine*

- Ed Perlak  
*Berkshire Health Systems*

**Rhode Island**

- Margaret Ann Gradie (ex-officio)  
*RI State Office of Rural Health*

- Jill D’Errico  
*RI Office of Rural Health and Primary Care – RI Department of Health*

- Susan Orban  
*Washington County Coalition for Children*

**Vermont**

- John Olson (ex-officio)  
*VT State Office of Rural Health*

- Susan White  
*Southern VT AHEC*

- Lora Wise  
*Dartmouth Centers for Health and Aging*
### Thursday Agenda

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<tr>
<td>9:15</td>
<td>Registration – Rural Hospital Summit</td>
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<td>Registration – Federal Partners Day</td>
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<td>11:45</td>
<td>Lunch and discussion with Alan Morgan</td>
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<td>12:15</td>
<td>Welcome – Nancy Frank, President-Elect, New England Rural Health RoundTable</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
<td>The Road To Population Health – Policies, Initiatives &amp; Innovations</td>
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**PM:**

- **5:00 – 6:00** Reception with state colleagues and vendors/sponsors
- **6:00 – 7:30** Seated Dinner and Keynote Address with Alan Morgan

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On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the New England Rural Health RoundTable, I am pleased to welcome all of you to our Annual Rural Health Conference. Our rural New England communities are home to nearly 3 million people who rely on access to high quality affordable healthcare. Rural New Englanders pioneer in innovation, strive for solutions and have been responsible for national models in rural health care. We are thrilled that you are able to join us for this event which serves as a celebration of past accomplishments and inspiration for future developments.

Thank you to our planning committee, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors and all who supported the event.

Sincerely,

Kim Mohan,
Executive Director

NewEnglandRuralHealth.org | 802-453-5475
**Friday Morning**

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<tr>
<td>7:30–8:30</td>
<td>Breakfast served in dining room – Vendors Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30–9:30</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Hugh Silk – Integrated Care – Maximizing People, Places and Population Health Resources</td>
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<td>9:45–10:45</td>
<td>Concurrent schedule of 6 breakouts: choose 1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>● ● Innovative Methods to Provide Oral Health Care in Rural Northern NH Communities</td>
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**KEY**

- ORAL HEALTH
- HOSPITALS
- TELEMEDICINE
- BEHAVIORAL
- WORKFORCE
- GENERAL
- PUBLIC HEALTH
- HEALTH SYSTEMS

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**Rural Health Works Training**

**hosted by the RoundTable**

**December 3, 2015 8:00am–2:30pm**

Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center | Southbridge, MA

Renew your 2016 membership today.
This Rural Health Works (RHW) workshop will include training on the following RHW tools: health impact, community health needs assessment (CHNA), and health budgeting (feasibility).

A one-hour training session on how to use mapping and spatial data analysis to further support the outcomes of RHW will also be provided.

Professionals completing the workshop will be able to measure the economic impact of the health sector or individual health entities on regions, counties, zip code areas, or the state or national level. Participants will receive information on the community health needs assessment (CHNA) template. Materials will include a notebook with the entire template. Participants will receive training on how to download healthcare workforce provider data for their county or state FREE through NCAHD’s portal at: http://gis.ncahd.org/.

The cost is $75 person. Additional information and a registration form can be found on our website: www.NewEnglandRuralHealth.org Please note: There are only 25 seats available for this training.
Renew your 2016 membership today.

**People Places Possibilities**

**for Population Health**

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**Breakout Details**

### Session 1 Breakout Options (9:45am–10:45am) Choose One

- **Innovative Apprenticeships in Healthcare**
  Gerald Ghazi Co-Founder & President of HITEC (Vermont) and River Valley Workforce Institute (New Hampshire)

  Learn how Registered Apprenticeships are innovating the way healthcare organizations are building their workforce of the future including certified medical transcriptionists, certified medical coders, certified phlebotomists, certified medical assistants, certified pharmacy technicians, licensed nurse assistants, practice support specialists, registration representatives, electronic health record (EHR) support analysts and EHR data abstractors. *Meeting Room 1*

- **Perinatal Oral Health – Beyond Access to Care**
  Marty Milkovic Co-Director of the Connecticut Dental Health Partnership and Mary Alice Lee Senior Policy Fellow of the Connecticut Voices

  Connecticut has developed a unique model that uses ‘Intensive Community Outreach’ (ICO) combined with innovative data analysis to increase perinatal dental utilization. Between 2005 and 2010 dental utilization for pregnant women in its HUSKY Health (Medicaid/CHIP) dental program doubled. The initiative works with ‘trusted persons’ in local communities to influence client behavior in seeking care. The program works in OB/GYN, PCP, WIC, Head Start, FQHCs, Community Action Agencies and others to encourage perinatal clients and infant caregivers to seek regular care in a dental home. *Meeting Room 2*

- **Island Health – A Virtual Health Center Model**
  Judy Jones Medical Director and Cynthia Mitchell Executive Director from Island Health Care Community Health Center

  Island Health Care is a federally qualified health center (FQHC) that provides adult primary and urgent medical care to Island residents and visitors, with or without health insurance. Like all FQHCs, Island Health serves an area or population that is considered medically underserved, are eligible for enhanced Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement and other benefits and offer free care and sliding-scale fees to patients who need it most. *Meeting Room 3*

- **Collaborating to Improve Rural Emergency and Trauma Services - the CREST Model**
  Thomas Trimarco MD from the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Center for Rural Emergency Services and Trauma (CREST) Network

  CREST is a collaborative program of 17 critical access and community hospitals across NH and VT that supports the extension of population health-focused emergency services, telemedicine, and provider outreach/educational efforts. We will discuss rural emergency network development for providers (MD, RN, EMS, etc.) to improve regional collaboration and clinical outcomes related to bedside and transfer management of emergently ill or injured patients. Discussion of core components of a rural emergency and trauma network, interactive didactic and case-based discussions, educational offerings, best practices and protocols, and data sharing. *Ballroom 1*

- **In Serving the Creator: Narragansett Elders Speak on their Careers in Healthcare**
  Marcella Remer Thompson Assistant Professor of Nursing at the University of Rhode Island, Delores M Walters Director of the Southern Rhode Island Area Health Education Center and Everette G. Weeden Education Consultant

  This session will include a viewing and discussion of the 2013 movie: In Serving the Creator. Elder healthcare providers discuss their upbringing in tribal society, compare and contrast modern and traditional medicine, and share personal career highlights. Learn about the benefits of incorporating tribal medicine and tradition in healthcare for indigenous peoples. Discuss how healthcare professionals can engage members of a tribal community in health care and social/environmental justice issues and how to attract Native American youth to careers in healthcare. *Ballroom 2*

- **Top 10 High Impact, Low Cost Clinical Practices**
  John Matthew MD and Executive Director of The Health Center

  There are a number of relatively simple concepts and interventions which can add substantially to the welfare of our patients and potentially reduce health care costs, but do not receive research funding or get published in prestigious journals. Ten or more concepts will be introduced, some of which will be useful to the patients in your practice. Supporting material and links will be provided since covering ten or fifteen topics means some may, of necessity, involve only a tantalizing taste of a topic. *Ballroom 3*
Session 2 Breakout Options (11:00am–12:00pm) Choose One

- **Rural Recruitment & Retention Network (3RNet) – A Workforce Catalyst in Rural and Underserved America**  
  Mike Shimmens Executive Director of 3RNet

  An overview of 3RNet’s 20 year history of serving rural and underserved communities through our health professional job matching website and educational programming. New England state panelists will share their perspectives and knowledge about how they make 3RNet work in their states and explore further collaborations. Panelist may include Mandi Gingras (NH/VT), Kirby Lecy (MA), Jill D’Errico (RI) and Greta Doe (ME).  
  **Meeting Room 1**

- **Innovative Methods to Provide Oral Health Care in Rural Northern New Hampshire Communities**  
  Nancy Frank Executive Director and Francine Morgan Senior Program Manager from the North Country Health Consortium

  We don’t just think outside the box, we carry it where it needs to go! This interactive talk will focus on the Molar Express, a creative and cost effective program that brings quality oral health care to children and older adults in rural communities. Integration methods with primary care and fixed dental sites and partnerships with community organizations will be discussed, along with experiences developing and using technology (iPads and more) for evaluation and oral health education. Presenters will demonstrate the portable equipment used for Molar Express.  
  **Meeting Room 2**

- **Physical Design of a Rural Medical Home**  
  Charles Rizza Director of the Portland, ME Office of the MorrisSwitzer Environments for Health, Janet Zeigler Manager of Clinical Research from HermanMiller, Inc and TBA from Lincoln Health

  This presentation discusses physical layout and design of the Patient Centered Medical Home model. Lincoln County Health is in the process of designing their new Medical Home, specifically created to suit the needs of their rural community. It is part of the AAHF funded study, utilizing evidence-based design in its approach to PCMH. This session will focus on a new approach to collaborative space and PCMHs for rural communities, the study’s progress, and key space planning concepts, assessing how the new workflows impact overall configurations and design strategies, several new functional areas, and insights around those emerging spaces.  
  **Meeting Room 3**

- **NH Behavioral Health Integration Report Findings**  
  Yvonne Goldsberry President of the Endowment for Health

  A recently competed assessment of efforts to integrate primary care and behavioral health services in New Hampshire identified opportunities for practice improvement and payment system reform to advance behavioral health service delivery in primary care settings. The study identified contributing factors for leveraging the utilization of behaviorists in primary care to achieve improved patient outcomes and health cost savings. This session will review the study findings, the recommended strategies for integration, and plans for implementing a Learning Collaborative to advance behavioral health integration in a variety of primary care practice settings.  
  **Ballroom 1**

- **Implementing a Telemedicine Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Model**  
  Joan Meunier-Sham Director of MA SANE & Co-Director of the Nat’l TeleNursing Project, Cheryl Re Associate Director, MA SANE Program & Co-Director of Nat’l TeleNursing Program and Stacy Garrity Director from the Nat’l TeleNursing Center, MA SANE Program

  The National Sexual Assault TeleNursing Center is the first program to provide real time nurse-to-nurse support for recent adult and adolescent victims of sexual assault within four chosen Military, Rural, Tribal and Corrections pilot sites. This panel presentation will provide attendees with an understanding of the partnerships required to create a national health care center and implement the current model of telenursing practice via case studies. In addition, participants will gain an understanding of the training requirements for TeleSANEs, the challenges and obstacles that arise, and the benefits being realized by the providers and the patients.  
  **Ballroom 2**

- **Epigenetics, Self-Care and Community Health: The Future Isn’t What It Used to Be**  
  Mark Pettus MD and Director of Medical Education, Wellness and Population Health at Berkshire Health Systems

  During this session the presenter will examine the explosion of complex chronic diseases as byproducts of a growing DNA - environment mismatch. He’ll provide examples of how food, stress, inactivity and social isolation alter gene expression patterns and human health via epigenetic mechanisms. Specific lifestyle interventions with implication for inspiring more effective stewardship for self-care and for community health will be discussed.  
  **Ballroom 3**
**Session 3 Breakout Options (1:30pm–2:30pm) Choose One**

- **FQHC/CAH Integration: Lessons from the Springfield Model**  
  Andrew Majka CFO and Josh Dufresne Director of Patient Financial Services at Springfield Medical Care Systems

  Learn how Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS) and Springfield Hospital (SH) developed the SMCS FQHC network in order to preserve and expand access to primary care and better position the delivery system for health care reform. SMCS has had three successful HRSA Objective Site Visit reviews, was recently recognized by HRSA as a National Quality Leader and very recently was invited to present the “Springfield Model” alongside two other integrated systems to the top leadership at HRSA’s Bureau of Primary Health Care.  
  **Meeting Room 1**

- **Telehealth Resource Center Models**  
  Danielle Louder Program Manager for Technology Supported Initiatives and Andrew Solomon, Project Manager from the Northeast Telehealth Resource Center/MCD Public Health

  This session will highlight a diverse selection of regional efforts which have utilized telehealth to address challenges associated with rural health care issues, including patient access, provider shortages, and cost containment. Case studies are focused on collaborative efforts between the Northeast Telehealth Resource Center (NETRC) and partners throughout the region, and include discussion of how common challenges related to telehealth implementation were addressed, as well as sharing challenges and solutions unique to specific organizational culture and/or need. We will also share outcomes associated with each of these programs.  
  **Meeting Room 2**

- **Building Stronger Resuscitation Systems of Care**  
  David Hiltz from Team Resuscitate - New England

  There is a small window of opportunity, measured in minutes, for life literally to be “snatched from the closing jaws of death”. If CPR, defibrillation, and advanced medical care can arrive at the scene quickly, there is a decent chance of successful resuscitation. Though the national survival rate for cardiac arrest is in the single digits, some communities are able to achieve a survival rate of 50% or higher from cardiac arrest associated with ventricular fibrillation – the rhythm with the best chance of resuscitation. How these communities do it, and how your community can do it, is what this session is all about.  
  **Meeting Room 3**

- **Population Health – Tapping Into State and National Resources**  
  Elizabeth Foley from MCD Public Health

  Organizations such as National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) have created programs, funding opportunities, technical assistance, tools and resources that can assist rural states, public health practitioners and health care providers in implementing population health management strategies. This interactive workshop will explore the various programs, share effective strategies, lessons learned and showcase how to tap into state and national resources.  
  **Ballroom 1**

- **Leveraging Relationships for Community Oral Health Improvement – from Needs Assessment to Implementation and Evaluation**  
  Alison Webb Oral Health Consultant for the Maine Oral Health Funders and Barbara Leonard Senior Program Officer from the Maine Health Access Foundation

  The presentation will include a brief description of the context and history of the funders collaborative and an in-depth description of one or two of the funded community projects. The presentation will address issues of working together as philanthropists, meeting the challenges of long term funding, convening grantees to learn from each other, and funding both planning and implementation initiatives.  
  **Ballroom 2**

- **We Can’t Recruit our Way out of the Behavioral Health Workforce Dilemma – So What’s Next?**  
  Kathryn Power Director of the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an operating division of the Department of Health and Human Services

  HHS/SAMHSA has designated behavioral health workforce development as a Strategic Initiative priority for 2015-2018. Learn about tactical and strategic approaches offered for state and local organizations to face this daunting difficulty head on with creative and new frameworks for delivering health care, with a specific emphasis on regional strategies and working in partnership with other federal agencies.  
  **Ballroom 3**
Session 4 Breakout Options (2:45pm–3:45pm) Choose One

- **Lessons in Improving Transitions of Care**  
  Sheryl Leary Program Administrator from Health Centric Advisors

  The New England Quality Improvement Network / Organization (QIN-QIO) employs community organizing techniques and a population-based approach to improving care coordination in communities across New England. Our goal is safe transitions of care for patients, which results in a decrease in unplanned hospital readmissions. We will demonstrate how we use results-oriented quality improvement activities such as actively engaging partners and key stakeholders, including patients and families, and implementing a spread plan that results in system-level improvement and sustainability. **Meeting Room 1**

- **A Community Approach to the Opiate Epidemic**  
  Maria Countant Skinner Executive Director of the McCall Foundation

  The McCall Foundation, a private, nonprofit behavioral healthcare facility located in Torrington, CT, together with our local hospital and many other community partners have formed a task force to tackle the rising trend of opiate abuse and overdoses. The Task Force is comprised of representatives from each sector of the community. This session will look at best practices in forming and sustaining a productive coalition that maximizes the impact for positive change in a community. Specific strategies developed by the task force will be presented. **Meeting Room 2**

- **Medication Management and Transitions of Care**  
  Jane Driver Research Physician at the VA Boston Medical Center, Jeffrey Gosian Rural PILL Project Manager and Health Science Specialist and Katherine Rebello Primary Pharmacist from VA Boston Healthcare System

  Medication discrepancies at hospital discharge are a major threat to Veterans’ safety and have been linked to re-hospitalization. During this breakout session, our team will present the PILL program, discuss the benefits of a simple telephone intervention and its effects on medication adherence. Continuity and accessibility of care along with intra-facility team collaboration will also be addressed. Medication safety issues, the potential for error, and how errors can be avoided during a transition from hospital discharge to home will be illustrated. **Meeting Room 3**

- **Rural Models and Innovations – Rural Assistance Center (RAC)**  
  Rebecca Cruger Funding Specialist at the Rural Assistance Center

  Learn how to find evidence-based examples for rural health projects using the Rural Assistance Center’s (RAC) Rural Model and Innovations Hub. The session will focus on successful rural health projects and highlight how to make connections, learn about program implementation, and address barriers to programmatic success. Participants will hear how they can feature their own successful projects on the Hub to connect with people across the nation and find funders who are interested in supporting rural health projects that will lead to healthier communities. **Ballroom 1**

- **Ammonoosuc FQHC – Team Approach**  
  Edward D Shanshala CEO, Glenda Reynolds DDS, Dental Director, Jessica Thibodeau ARPN and Chad Proulx Health Education Specialist from Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc.

  This session will provide the attendee with a balanced didactic and interactive “all teach – all learn” educational experience. Brief didactic cases demonstrating the integration of medical, behavioral, pharmacological, oral, and enabling healthcare services into a comprehensive whole will be followed by a question and answer session. Some of the panel members will be available via a telepresence link further demonstrating how technology may enhance the patient experience. **Ballroom 2**

- **Fluoride – History, Health & How To’s**  
  John P Fisher DDS from the Better Oral Health for Massachusetts Coalition, American Dental Association

  This session will cover oral health disparities in rural areas, the factors that contribute to these disparities, the history of fluoride and optimal community water fluoridation. Community water fluoridation as a public health issue, threats to community water fluoridation and the responsibility of health professionals in promoting fluoridation will be discussed. A brief overview will be provided of caries risk assessment, why primary care physicians should promote prevention in oral health, and how to apply fluoride varnish. **Ballroom 3**

**KEY**

- ORAL HEALTH
- HOSPITALS
- TELEMEDICINE
- BEHAVIORAL
- WORKFORCE
- GENERAL
- PUBLIC HEALTH
- HEALTH SYSTEMS
Chris Bersani, Captain, US Public Health Service, Senior Public Health Analyst/Behavioral Health Lead – HRSA

Christopher Bersani is a Clinical Health Psychologist and Neuropsychologist by training and currently serves a Senior Public Health Analyst and the National Lead for Behavioral Health for the Office of Regional Operations of the Health Resources Services Administration.

Prior to taking his current assignment, Captain Bersani worked for 6 years for the Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons as Head of the Health Psychology Department at the Federal Medical Center in Devens, MA. Captain Bersani also served over 6 years as a commissioned officer in the United States Navy (Medical Service Corps). Captain Bersani received his Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Vermont (1989) and his Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology in Chicago (1995). In 2002, Captain Bersani achieved diplomat status with the American Board of Professional Psychology.

Maria Coutant Skinner, MSW, LCSW, The McCall Foundation

A Community Approach to the Opiate Epidemic

Maria Coutant Skinner is the Executive Director of the McCall Foundation in Torrington. McCall is a private, nonprofit substance abuse and behavioral health treatment facility serving the northwest corner of CT. Maria earned her Bachelor’s degree in psychology from Springfield College and a Master’s degree in social work at UCONN. She has worked at the McCall Foundation for more than 17 years. Most of that time was in the Prevention Department working with parents, families and children, to build strengths, acquire skills and reduce substance use and abuse within systems. Maria facilitated these changes at the community level as well through coalitions of key stakeholders working collaboratively to address issues such as underage drinking and substance use. Maria became executive director in December of 2013, just as the rise in opiate related deaths was peaking in the northwest corner of the state. She and other community partners came together to form the Litchfield County Opiate Task Force to address this crisis.

Rebecca Cruger, BS, Rural Assistance Center

Rural Models and Innovations Hub: Making Connections

Rebecca Cruger is a Funding Specialist with the Rural Assistance Center. She searches for federal and state-level funding opportunities, educational programs, scholarships, fellowships, loan repayment programs, and incentive programs that can be used by rural health and human service organizations and providers. She then synthesizes the information and catalogs it in the RAC database, and assists website users to find funding and information that may help them establish, operate, or expand programs.

Rebecca has presented at NHRAs annual conference, NOSORH’s Grant Writing Institute, and West Virginia’s Rural Health Conference about topics related to making community connections and seeking funding.

Josh Dufresne, MBA, Springfield Medical Care Systems

FQHC/CAH Integration: Lessons form a Vermont Model

Josh joined the Springfield system of care in 2006, as the Director of Patient Financial Services. At that time he was out of the industry, and recruited for his strong grasp of technology and data communications. After four years, his team had streamlined collections for the system, and he began his next challenge of primary care operations. After working as the Director of the Rockingham Medical Group, Josh promptly assumed three more small practices, and was responsible for moving each clinic into a single building and blending cultures, removing waste, and creating process efficiencies. Shortly thereafter, he was promoted to the Chief of Practice Operations. Currently, Josh and his team manage seven Federally Qualified Health Center practices, and five Hospital specialty practices.

Jane Driver, MD, MPH, VA Boston Healthcare System, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School

Medication Management During Transitions Of Care

Jane (Jenny) A. Driver, MD, MPH is a research physician at the VA Boston Medical Center and a member of the Division of Aging, Brigham and Women’s Hospital. She is an Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School. Trained as both a geriatrician and an oncologist, her research focuses on the epidemiology, prediction and prevention of cancer and neurodegenerative disease. Dr. Driver has received research grants from the Veterans Affairs, Hartford Foundation, the Parkinson’s Disease Foundation and Harvard Medical School. In addition to her research work, Dr. Driver is interested in new models of care for vulnerable elderly patients. She has extended the PLL program at VA Boston to veterans in Rural Maine. She has also developed a special clinic for older patients with hematologic malignancies at the Dana Farber Research Institute. She teaches medical students, medical residents, geriatric fellows, and provides research mentorship for trainees and young faculty in both geriatrics and oncology.

John Fisher, DDS, Better Oral Health for Massachusetts Coalition

The Role and Responsibilities of Health Care Professionals in the Fluoride Debate

John has had a private family dental practice in Salem, Massachusetts since 1974 and has been active in my community serving on a number of local boards. He graduated from Temple University’s Kornberg School of Dentistry in 1972, taught there briefly and later at Boston University’s Goldman School of Dental Medicine. He is a Fellow of the Pierre Fauchard Academy, the American College of Dentists, and the International College of Dentists. John has served as Chairman and Trustee of his local North Shore District Dental Society and as President of the Massachusetts Dental Society. He is currently the Representative from the New England States, District 1, for the American Dental Society’s Council on Access, Prevention and Inter-professional Relations. He also served as Chair of the Better Oral Health for Massachusetts Coalition and is part of the Forsyth School of Dental Hygiene Advisory Committee. He has spoken before a number of boards of health in Massachusetts about the public health benefit of optimal community water fluoridation. Both John and his wife have volunteered with the American Dental Association Mission of Mercy in New Orleans as well as treating poor and underserved children on a mobile access to care van, whereby they became acutely aware of the issues surrounding access and optimal community water fluoridation. He has presented at the Yankee Dental Congress on fluoride for the past two years as well as before a number of local organizations, dental and non-dental.

Elizabeth Foley, MHA, MCD Public Health

Population Health: Tapping into State and National Resources

Elizabeth Foley has over 25 years of health care and public health experience. For the past decade, her work as focused on bridging relationships with health care and public health. She has served as advisor for the Maine CDC’s Chronic Disease Programs and MCD Public Health to national and state health improvement efforts including the National Health Disparities Collaborative, Maine’s FQHC network, the Maine Practice Improvement Network, Institute for HealthCare Improvement, Robert Wood Johnson Aligning Forces for Quality Medical Home Work Group and the Agency on Health Research and Quality Expert Panel on Practice Facilitation.
She has developed and delivered on-site and virtual trainings in Maine and throughout the U.S. for the prevention and control of chronic conditions. She developed an interactive training for public health professionals and state agencies on “The Language and Landscape of Health Care and Quality Improvement for Public Health.” Ms. Foley and her team have developed interactive web-based tools for the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors to be used by all 50 states and territories in the implementation National 1305 Grant State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk. The tools focus on "Understanding the Role of State Health Departments in Health Care Systems Interventions."

Ms. Foley has a Master’s in Healthcare Administration, was previously the Administrator of Cardiology at a Tufts Medical Center and before that worked in global public health as the Director of Infectious Disease and Social Change Program at Harvard Medical School.

Nancy Frank, MPH, North Country Health Consortium

Innovative Methods to Provide Oral Health Care in Rural Northern NH Communities

As the Executive Director of the North County Health Consortium, Nancy is responsible for supervision of all agency staff, directs the Northern New Hampshire Area Health Education Center, leads strategic planning and board development efforts, manages the agency budget, and provides oversight and technical assistance to all agency projects and programs.

Nancy’s work in rural health began in 1999 in Vermont’s Northeast Kingdom, the most rural tri-county area of the state, as the Community Resource Coordinator and Project Coordinator for the Northeast Kingdom’s National Community Center of Excellence in Women’s Health at the Northeastern Vermont Area Health Education Center. Prior to working in rural communities, she was involved with statewide policy development related to health care delivery systems in primary care and maternal and child health. Nancy holds a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Consumer Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a Masters of Public Health (MPH) in Maternal and Child Health from the University of Illinois-Chicago.

Stacy Garrity, MSN, National TeleNursing Center

Implementing Telemedicine as a Mechanism to Increase Access to Expert SANE Care in Remote Areas of the United States

Stacy is the Director of the National TeleNursing Center and is responsible for clinical operation of the project. She is a certified Adult/Adolescent SANE, a women’s health Nurse Practitioner and a Forensic Medical-Legal and Evidence Examiner.

Andrew L. Geller, MD, MPH

Building Stronger Resuscitation Systems of Care

Andrew Geller completed his residency at the Boston VA Medical Center and holds certifications in Emergency Medicine and Internal Medicine. His specialty is Emergency Medicine. He attended Tufts University School of Medicine.

Gerald Ghazi, AAS, BS, JD, Vermont HITEC and River Valley Workforce Institute

Innovative Apprenticeships in Healthcare

Mr. Ghazi is co-founder and Presidents of Vermont HITEC (VT) and River Valley Workforce Institute (NH) , two non-profit 501(c)(3) education organizations established in 2000 and committed to workforce development and apprenticeship initiatives in the fields of healthcare, information technology, and advanced manufacturing across the states of Vermont and New Hampshire. The Vermont HITEC Workforce Apprenticeship Model has received national recognition by the White House and the US DOL and has been utilized by such companies as GE Healthcare, University of Vermont Medical Center, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health, and Precyse.

Prior to founding Vermont HITEC, Mr. Ghazi worked for IDX System Corporation (now GE Healthcare) for 17 years as Director of Corporate Information Systems, was a key member of the corporate-wide Reengineering and Redesign team; and also founded and led the IDX Institute of Technology, the first technical education department for IDX employees and its customers.

Prior to joining IDX, Mr. Ghazi practiced employment and labor law for Bogle & Gates, a 250+ lawyer firm in Seattle, WA; and business law for Smith, Stratton, Wise, Heber & Brennan of Princeton, NJ. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Ghazi clerked as an intern at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Newark, NJ; at the U.S. District Court in Trenton NJ; and with AT&T’s Corporate Legal Offices in Berkeley, Heights, NJ.

Mr. Ghazi holds an A.A.S. degree in Computer Science from the Community College of Morris (NJ); B.S. degree in Computer Science from Rutgers State University (NJ); and a J.D. from Seton Hall Law School (NJ).

Yvonne Goldsberry, PhD, Endowment For Health

Behavioral Health Integration Report Findings

Yvonne Goldsberry is President of the Endowment for Health, a statewide, private, nonprofit foundation dedicated to improving the health of New Hampshire’s people, especially those who are vulnerable and underserved. Dr. Goldsberry manages a portfolio of grants, projects and policy initiatives that support a broad array of health policy, health equity and advocacy issues. She is directing the implementation of the Endowment’s strategic investment plan and evaluation process. Dr. Goldsberry previously served as Vice President of Population Health and Clinical Integration at Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth-Hitchcock Keene and as Administrator of the Community Public Health Development Unit for the State of New Hampshire, Division of Public Health Services. Dr. Goldsberry is a graduate of Brown University. She received her Masters’ degrees in Public Health and Urban Planning from Columbia University and PhD in Public Policy from George Washington University.

Rick Hoover, CMS

Rick works for CMS in the Boston Regional Office. He is a Provider Relations/Health Insurance Specialist in the Division of Financial Management Operations. Rick is responsible for the development and implementation of comprehensive educational programs and initiatives in the New England Region by ensuring that providers and beneficiaries are informed of Medicare program benefits and policies. His current duties also include contractor oversight, and serving as the Regional Rural Health Coordinator and Health Information Technology Lead for New England.

Rick has over 25 years of health care experience. Before coming to CMS, Rick was the Manager of the Provider Education & Outreach Department at National Heritage Insurance Company, a Medicare Contractor based in Hingham.

Judy Jones, DNP, FNP-BC, Island Health Care

Island Health Care: A Virtual GH Model

Dr. Jones is a Family Nurse Practitioner and Medical Director at Island Health Care and also a member of the Dukes County Health Council with 23 years of healthcare experience. She earned her DNP, MS, and BS degrees in nursing from the University of Massachusetts (Umass), Amherst. Dr. Jones has been an Assistant
Professor at UMass Worcester and an Instructor at UMass Amherst. Dr. Jones has 23 years health care experience. Her interests include public health, correctional health, HIV care, and infectious disease. Over her career Dr. Jones has provided primary care to adults and children, HIV care, Sexually Transmitted Disease management, rehabilitative nursing as well as detoxification nursing. She is also certified as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE). Dr. Jones holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree as a Public Health Nurse Leader and has a continued interest in public health issues that impact underserved populations. She also is passionate about social justice and health equity issues and how they impact health care delivery.

Alison Jones-Webb, MA, MPH, Maine Oral Health Funders
Leveraging Relationships for Community Oral Health Improvement: From Needs Assessment to Implementation and Evaluation

Alison Webb, MA, MPH, is an independent public health consultant with over 20 years experience in community outreach and organizing, implementing and evaluating evidence based programs and practices, linking community members to health care services, developing primary care provider protocols to link patients with services, developing communication strategies based on social marketing principles, conducting formative research, and developing messages in plain language. She has worked with and trained community groups and individuals to develop advocacy strategies to influence state legislation. She is currently the Oral Health Consultant for the Maine Oral Health Consultants.

Renée W. Joskow, DDS, MPH, FAGD, FACD, Captain, US Public Health Service, Senior Advisor for Oral Health
Health Resources and Services Administration HRSA US Department of Health and Human Services

Dr. Joskow is a dentist and a medical epidemiologist and holds both a Doctor of Dental Surgery and a Master of Public Health degree from Columbia University. She completed a hospital-based General Practice Residency at Hackensack University Medical Center in New Jersey following which she was appointed to the faculty of Columbia University. During her tenure, Dr. Joskow maintained a private practice in New York and provided Quality Assurance/Quality Control consulting services for several healthcare entities in the NY, NJ, CT, Tri-State area. After 15 years in New York, Dr. Joskow joined the National Institutes of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) as a dental public health fellow after which she joined the National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) officer in Emerging Environmental Threats. As an EIS officer, Dr. Joskow applied her epidemiology skills and expertise in outbreak investigations, scientific research, and served in pivotal roles during the response to the 9/11 attacks and Anthrax investigations and the 2002 Olympics to name a few. Dr. Joskow subsequently moved to the Office of the Surgeon General, Department of Health and Human Services where she served as Medical Readiness Manager and Director of Training and Education for the U.S. Public Health Service. She later joined the Chem/Bio Division, Science and Technology Directorate, in the Department of Homeland Security where she served as the Senior Medical Epidemiologist and Cooperative Agreements/Grants Program Manager. Subsequently, Dr. Joskow served as a Dental Research Officer and Program Official at the National Institutes of Health principally responsible for providing subject matter expertise, management and support for a multi-million dollar research portfolio to promote and accelerate the translation of scientific research discoveries into clinical practice and then community practice to improve health. Her responsibilities also included coordinating a national dental research consortium network for the National Center for Research Resources and overseeing the Clinical Translational Science Awards’ Consortium Coordinating Center.

Dr. Joskow currently serves in the position of Senior Dental Advisor for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) where she provides leadership across HRSA on issues and activities related to oral health. Dr. Joskow is Board Certified in the specialty of Dental Public Health, a fellow in the American College of Dentists, the Academy of General Dentistry, and the New York Academy of Dentists. Dr. Joskow proudly holds the rank of Captain (O-6) in the U.S. Public Health Service.

Rachel Kaprielian, Regional Director, US Department HHS Region 1
Rachel Kaprielian is the Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. As Regional Director, Rachel leads Secretary Sylvia Burwell’s efforts to improve America’s health and enhance the delivery of human services to some of the most vulnerable populations throughout New England. Prior to her appointment by President Barack Obama in 2015, she was a member of Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick’s Administration Cabinet as the Secretary of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development where her accomplishments included streamlining an online public platform for Unemployment Insurance claimants. Prior to that, she served as Registrar of the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles. Before serving in executive roles, Kaprielian was a six-term member of the Massachusetts legislature where she was a leader in health care policy throughout her tenure including the landmark 2006 Massachusetts Healthcare Reform Act. Her leadership in health policy has been recognized in multiple disciplines, notably in prevention measures such as tobacco cessation and education, early intervention and care for children, electronic health records management and numerous human services initiatives, as well as job training and services for the disabled, home and rehabilitative care, and wellness measures. Kaprielian is a lifelong resident of Massachusetts holds a B.A. from the College of the Holy Cross, a J.D from Suffolk University, and a M.P.A from the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS).

William Kassler, MD, MPH, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Dr. William Kassler currently serves as Chief Medical Office for the New England Region of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), where his major focus is to implement value-based purchasing initiatives to improve health care quality. Dr Kassler also works with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation at CMS, implementing several provisions of the Affordable Care Act pertaining to population health.

Prior to his current position, Dr. Kassler served as State Health Officer and Medical Director for the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. His responsibilities included both public health and Medicaid, and his priorities were strengthening the system of community safety net providers, and integrating population-based public health strategies and preventive services into clinical care through programmatic collaboration between public health and Medicaid. He also worked at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as an EIS Officer, a medical epidemiologist in HIV Prevention, he directed a health services research and evaluation unit, and later served as Senior Advisor for health policy in the CDC/Washington Office. Dr. Kassler received his M.D from the University of Massachusetts Medical School, completed a primary care internal medicine residency at the Rhode Island Hospital, and is board certified in internal medicine. He was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar in health services research at the University of California, San Francisco.
Sheryl Leary, LSW, Healthcentric Advisors
Community Coalitions and rural Health: How to Improve Care Coordination and Decrease Unplanned Hospital Readmissions

Sheryl Leary, LSW is a Program Administrator at Healthcentric Advisors. Ms. Leary joined Healthcentric Advisors in June of 2013. Through her current role, Ms. Leary oversees the CMS contracted Coordination of Care project in Massachusetts. She coordinates learning activities and presentations with providers across settings, facilitates meetings with stakeholders, and community partners, and completes all reporting and contract deliverables. Ms. Leary leads a multi-disciplinary team that provides on-site technical assistance to individual home health agencies, hospitals and nursing homes; supports multiple community coalitions and works to further the program's vision of improved care for all patients, regardless of payer.

In the previous scope of work, Ms. Leary organized all activities related to the CMS Special Innovation Project to improve palliative care in nursing homes. In addition, Ms. Leary coordinated presentations and outreach with medical providers regarding the Aging and Disability Resource Center and the CareBreaks respite program, both funded through the Rhode Island Division of Elderly Affairs. Ms. Leary has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Connecticut, School of Family Studies. She has also received a Certificate in Gerontology from the Center for Aging & Disability Education & Research of Boston University. She is a Licensed Social Worker. In her prior employment, Ms. Leary held multiple positions providing social services in community based organizations with a strong focus on elders, adults with disabilities and caregivers. She has extensive experience assisting consumers with navigating the broad array of long term services and supports in Massachusetts.

Mary Alice Lee, PHD, CT Voices for Children
Perinatal Oral Health: Beyond Access to Care

Mary Alice is a Senior Policy Fellow with the Connecticut Voices for Children, a non-profit organization that seeks to promote the well-being of all of Connecticut’s young people through research and public policy analysis. Dr. Lee directs the study of enrollment trends and children’s health services in Connecticut’s HUSKY Program (Medicaid and CHIP). This work builds upon the performance monitoring Dr. Lee directed when she was the Assistant Director of the Children’s Health Council, an independent oversight council established by the Connecticut General Assembly in 1995 to monitor the impact of Medicaid managed care on children’s health care and to ensure access to health care services for all children in Connecticut. Dr. Lee is also a member of the faculty of the Yale University School of Public Health. She is a graduate of the University of Illinois, College of Nursing and is certified as a nurse-midwife by the American College of Nurse-Midwives. She served five years on the Board of Directors of the American College of Nurse-Midwives. In 1995, Dr. Lee received a doctoral degree in epidemiology from Yale University, with a focus on maternal and child health policy. She is a member of the Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy, the Ambulatory Pediatric Association, the American Public Health Association, and the American College of Nurse-Midwives.

Barbara Leonard, Maine Health Access Foundation
Leveraging Relationships for Community Oral Health Improvement: From Needs Assessment to Implementation and Evaluation

Barbara Leonard guides the development of program and grant-making strategies to achieve MeHAF’s mission and strategic priorities. She leads several efforts to related health reform and state systems enhancement. She oversees the Foundations’ efforts to improve access to oral health care in Maine and helps to coordinate the Maine Oral Health Funder’s group. Barbara joined the MeHAF team in October as a senior program officer and became vice president for programs in May 2008. She brings over 20 years of experience in public health development, administration, management and evaluation at the state and national level to her work at the foundation.

Danielle Louder, BS, Northeast Telehealth Resource Center/MCD
Public Health Case Studies: Partnering for Success in Rural Telehealth

Danielle Louder is Program Manager for Technology Supported Initiatives within Medical Care Development’s Public Health Division, where she guides implementation and growth of the Northeast Telehealth Resource Center, in partnership with the University of Vermont Medical Center. She has spent the last fifteen years developing, implementing and evaluating programs focused on increasing access and enhancing quality of care at regional, state-wide and local levels, and played a significant role in the establishment of a network which utilizes telehealth to ensure timely and accurate diagnosis and treatment of stroke throughout the state of Maine.

Andrew Majka, BS, Springfield Medical Care Systems
FQHC/CAH Integration: Lessons form a Vermont Model

Andy Majka is the Chief Financial Officer of Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS), Springfield, Vermont and also serves as the Project Director for grants awarded through Health Resources Services Administration. He has spent 25 plus years in healthcare finance and policy focusing predominantly on the needs of rural and safety net providers. He has served as the CFO of small, rural hospitals for more than 15 years and as the CFO for rural FQHC networks for 10 plus years. When not serving as a CFO, Andy consulted with small rural hospitals in evaluating and implementing CAH designation and with hospitals and physician practices in the evaluation/pursuit/implementation of practice designation alternatives including provider-based designation, RHC, FQHC and FQHC Look-Alike. He has participated in numerous regional and national presentations regarding collaborative relationships and integration between FQHCs and CAHs. Andy is a 1985 graduate (BS, Accounting) of LeMoyne College, DeWitt, NY.

Penelope Markle, RN, MSN, MEd, Deputy Director, Veterans Rural Health Resource Center-Eastern Region
Department of Veteran Affairs

Ms. Markle joined the Department of Veteran Affairs (VHA) in 1996 as a Registered Nurse at the Nashville Campus for rural Veterans with scheduling and coordinating Specialty Consult Clinic Coordinator, Penelope Markle, RN, MSN, MEd, Deputy Director, Veterans Rural Health Resource Center-Eastern Region, Springfield Medical Care Development’s Public Health Case Studies: Partnering for Success in Rural Telehealth, Danielle Louder is Program Manager for Technology Supported Initiatives within Medical Care Development’s Public Health Division, where she guides implementation and growth of the Northeast Telehealth Resource Center, in partnership with the University of Vermont Medical Center. She has spent the last fifteen years developing, implementing and evaluating programs focused on increasing access and enhancing quality of care at regional, state-wide and local levels, and played a significant role in the establishment of a network which utilizes telehealth to ensure timely and accurate diagnosis and treatment of stroke throughout the state of Maine.

Barbara Leonard is Program Administrator at Healthcentric Advisors. Ms. Leonard oversees the CMS contracted Coordination of Care project in Massachusetts. She coordinates learning activities and presentations with providers across settings, facilitates meetings with stakeholders, and community partners, and completes all reporting and contract deliverables. Ms. Leonard leads a multi-disciplinary team that provides on-site technical assistance to individual home health agencies, hospitals and nursing homes; supports multiple community coalitions and works to further the program’s vision of improved care for all patients, regardless of payer.

In the previous scope of work, Ms. Leonard organized all activities related to the CMS Special Innovation Project to improve palliative care in nursing homes. In addition, Ms. Leonard coordinated presentations and outreach with medical providers regarding the Aging and Disability Resource Center and the CareBreaks respite program, both funded through the Rhode Island Division of Elderly Affairs. Ms. Leonard has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Connecticut, School of Family Studies. She has also received a Certificate in Gerontology from the Center for Aging & Disability Education & Research of Boston University. She is a Licensed Social Worker. In her prior employment, Ms. Leonard held multiple positions providing social services in community based organizations with a strong focus on elders, adults with disabilities and caregivers. She has extensive experience assisting consumers with navigating the broad array of long term services and supports in Massachusetts.
was the VA Maine Community Based Clinic (CBOC) Coordinator managing their network of outpatient clinics which served more than 18,000 Veterans, many of whom were from rural communities. In 2008 Ms. Markle joined the Veterans Rural Health Resource Center – Eastern Region (VRHRC-ER) where she continued to work on projects supporting patient centered care and coordination of healthcare between VHA and community resources. Stationed at the VRHRC-ER office in Lewiston, ME, she and her team are engaged in telemedicine, health professions education, care coordination and health information exchange projects. Ms. Markle received her undergraduate and Master degree from Tufts University and her Master of Science in Nursing from Vanderbilt University.

John Matthew, MD, The Health Center

Dr. Matthew’s Top Ten Low Cost, High Impact, Evidence-based, Clinical Interventions that You Won’t Believe!

John has been a practicing family physician and internist in a small rural community for more than 40 years. He is the CEO/medical director of the FQHC which our practice became and the medical director of Community Health Accountable Care, an FQHC-based ACO endeavoring to share and promote best practices to achieve the triple aim. Their practice has, in the VT Blueprint for Health data for 2013, the second lowest risk adjusted total per capita health care costs in the state, with low use of costs for ER, Hospital days, readmissions, specialist consultations and imaging for our combined Medicare, Medicaid and commercial populations.

Joan Meunier-Sham, RN, MS, National TeleNursing Center Project, MA SANE Program

Implementing Telemedicine as a Mechanism to Increase Access to Expert SANE Care in Remote Areas of the United States

Joan is the Director of the MA SANE Program and is responsible for the statewide delivery of Adult/Adolescent and Pediatric SANE services. Joan serves as the Co-Director of the National TeleNursing Project.

Marty Milkovic, MSW, Connecticut Dental Health Partnership

Perinatal Oral Health: Beyond Access to Care

Marty is Co-Director of the Connecticut Dental Health Partnership (CTDHP), the Connecticut’s dental program for residents in the HUSKY Health (Medicaid/CHIP) programs. The program serves more than 750,000 people including nearly one third of Connecticut’s children. It is the largest dental plan in the state. He is a graduate of the University of Connecticut for both his undergraduate and graduate degrees. He is also an adjunct faculty member of its graduate School of Social Work. A twenty-year veteran of the United Way system in Connecticut, he served as President of the United Ways in Bristol and Danbury as well as of United Way of Connecticut, where he oversaw its Infoline/211 program. Prior to his present position he was Executive Director of the Connecticut Oral Health Initiative. Marty has initiated several innovative projects at CTDHP including establishing a state-wide dental care coordination system covering six regions of the state with resident Dental Health Care Specialists (DHCS). In addition he began target outreach efforts for prenatal clients and children with special health care needs.

Cynthia Mitchell, MA, Island Health Care Community Health Center

Island Health Care: A Virtual CHC Model

Cynthia is the founding director of Island Health Inc., serving as its Executive Director since 2002, and recently appointed in 2015 by the Board of Directors as Chief Executive Officer. Her background in public service and management includes over 27 years as an elected official in the Town of West Tisbury where she is currently in her 18th year as a member of the Board of Selectmen. She served as that town’s Treasurer from 1986 – 2003. Cynthia became interested in health care and community health planning through her membership on the Martha’s Vineyard Hospital’s Board of Directors from 1990 – 1996. She served as that Board’s chair, and went on to chair the Dukes County Health Council from 1998 – 2002, and again from 2004 – 2008. She founded Island Health Care, Massachusetts’ first (and only) Rural Health Clinic, in 2004 and led the organization to its present designation as a Federally-Qualified Community Health Center.

Alan Morgan, National Rural Health Association

Evening Keynote Address

Alan Morgan serves as Chief Executive Officer for the National Rural Health Association. He has more than 25 years experience in health policy development at the state and federal level. He served as staff for former US Congressmen Dick Nichols and former Kansas Governor Mike Hayden. Additionally, his experience includes tenures with the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and with the Heart Rhythm Society where he established a Washington, DC based government affairs office. Prior to joining NRHA, he served as a federal lobbyist for VHA Inc.

Mr. Morgan’s health policy articles have been published in: The American Journal of Clinical Medicine, The Journal of Rural Health, The Journal of Cardiovascular Management, The Journal of Pacing and Clinical Electrophysiology, Cardiac Electrophysiology Review, and in Laboratory Medicine. He also served as a co-author for the publication, “Policy & Politics in Nursing and Health Care,” and for the publication, “Rural Populations and Health.” He holds a bachelor’s degree in journalism from University of Kansas, and a master’s degree in public administration from George Mason University. In 2014, he was selected by readers of Modern Healthcare Magazine as being among the top 100 most influential people in healthcare.

Francine Morgan, MBA, North Country Health Consortium

Innovative Methods to Provide Oral Health Care in Rural Northern NH Communities

Francine works with a variety of program areas at the North Country Health Consortium. As the Senior Program Manager, she oversees and supports substance misuse prevention and dental access initiatives. Dental access responsibilities include the day to day operations of the Molar Express Portable Public Health Dental Program, including the development and maintenance of the organizational systems as needed to maximize clinic team efficiency and improve program performance measures. Francine has 20 years of management experience in event management, human resources and public health. Her work with NCHC has allowed for the coordination of programs such the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, The Heart Truth, Health Careers Opportunities Initiative and Marketplace Outreach and Enrollment. Francine holds a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Business and Hospitality Management from the University of NH, and a Masters of Business Administration in Human Resources Management from University of Phoenix.

Mark Pettus, MD, FACP, Berkshire Health Systems

Epigenetics, Self-Care & Community Health “The Future Ain’t What It Used To Be”

Dr. Mark Pettus is a board certified Internist, Nephologist, and Integrative Health clinician-educator practicing for over 25 years. He received his A.B. from Boston University and his M.D. from The University of Massachusetts Medical School. His postdoctoral training was at Harvard Medical School. He completed his renal fellowship at The Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Dr. Pettus is also an alumnus of The Advanced Program for Conflict Resolution, Negotiation, and Mediation at The
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2015 Annual Conference
People Places & Possibilities for Population Health

Speaker Bios

Chad Proulx, BS, LMT, Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc

Putting the Mouth in the Head and the Head Back on the Shoulders of Integrated Patient Centered Primary Healthcare Delivery

Chad Proulx is the Health Education Specialist at Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc. – a Federally Qualified Community Health Center (FQHC) based in Littleton, NH, with satellites in Franconia, Whitefield, Woodsville, and Warren, NH. Chad meets directly with patients on a referral basis for nutrition and wellness consultations. He oversees the workplace wellness programming at the agency while continuing to invest in the community via his outreach role - collaborating with, and being a resource for local schools, businesses, and community organizations.

Chad earned his B.S. in Nutritional Sciences from UNH – Durham in 2000. His interest in complimentary therapies led him to a certification in massage therapy at the North Eastern Institute of Whole Health in Manchester, NH. He has been licensed and actively practicing in varied capacities for over 12 years in bodywork.

Chad has over 13 years prior experience in the public health field, working as a nutritionist, local program manager and local program director for the NH Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Chad’s experience has resulted in a well-rounded knowledge of various public health topics, from breastfeeding education/counseling and healthy food access, to Motivational Interviewing techniques and chronic disease self-management. Chad’s ability to build rapport and meet clients and patients “where they are at” in their wellness journey have built him a solid reputation in the community as a good communicator and coach. His ease with presenting to groups is evident as a resource for local schools, businesses, and community organizations.

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Kathryn Power, M.Ed, Substance Abuse and Health Services Administration - SAMHSA

Federal Partner Panelist (Thursday)

We Can’t Recruit Our Way Out of the Behavioral Health Workforce Dilemma….so what’s next? (Friday)

A. Kathryn Power, M.Ed. is the Director of the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an operating division of the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) as well as SAMHSA-HHS Senior Lead for the population focus on military service members, veterans and their families. CMHS provides national leadership in mental health promotion, mental illness prevention, and the development and dissemination of effective mental health services. Director Power leads a staff of professionals in facilitating the transformation of our nation’s mental health care system into one that is recovery-oriented and consumer-centered. Director Power participated in an executive exchange for six months, from July 2010-January 2011, serving as the Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP), SAMHSA. CSAP provides national leadership in the Federal effort to prevent alcohol, tobacco, and other drug problems.

Director Power received the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary’s Award for Distinguished Service in 2004 for outstanding leadership and accomplishments in the national effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate seclusion and restraint in mental health and substance abuse service settings; in 2005 for outstanding collaborative spirit in leading an unprecedented Federal coalition to transform behavioral health services in the United States; and in 2006 for distinguished service in providing increased capacity for mental health and substance abuse treatment services following Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma.

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Cheryl Re, RN, BSN, SANE, National TeleNursing Center Project, MA SANE Program

Implementing Teledicine as a Mechanism to Increase Access to Expert SANE Care in Remote Areas of the United States

Cheryl is the Associate Director of the Massachusetts SANE Program and the Co-Director of the National TeleNursing Project. She is a certified Adult/Adolescent SANE and takes call in the southeast region of Massachusetts.

Katherine E. Rebello, PharmD, VA Boston Healthcare System

Medication Management During Transitions Of Care

Katherine Rebello received her PharmD from the University of Kentucky and began her career as a pharmacist in the United States Air Force. While on active duty, her experience included inpatient pharmacy services, anticoagulation management, preceptor for pharmacy students, outpatient pharmacy supervisor, and oversight of pharmacy IT and software. She started at the VA Boston Healthcare System in 2013 as an outpatient pharmacist and recently joined the Rural Health PILL (Pharmacological Intervention in Late Life) team as the primary pharmacist on this transition of care project. The Boston based PILL program has received multiple national awards in the field of medication safety, and the team has begun expanding the concept of this program to the rural health setting in Maine.

Marcella Remer Thompson, PhD, University of Rhode Island College of Nursing

In Serving the Creator: Engaging Tribal Peoples in Healthcare and Health Professions

Dr. Marcella Remer Thompson is Assistant Professor of Nursing at the University of Rhode Island, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Brown University, and Co-Leader of Community Engagement for Brown University’s Superfund Research Program. In this role, she facilitates partnerships among academics; government legislators and regulators; healthcare, public health and environmental professionals; community and Tribal leaders and their members. For the last four years, she has worked closely with the Narragansett Tribe and the Rhode Island Indian Council to build their capacity to address specific environmental health-related issues. Thompson has a breadth of experience in clinical, corporate and academic venues. Currently, she is a member of the Rhode Island Department of Health Fish Advisories Committee and the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences’ FISHNET and
Indigenous Populations Working Groups. Thompson is a Fellow of the Academy of American Occupational Health Nurses; Treasurer of Sigma Theta Tau Delta Upsilon Chapter-at-Large; and a Member of the Environmental Affairs Committee for the American Nurses Association – Rhode Island. In 2011, she was named one of 100 Women Making a Difference in Safety, Health and Environment by the American Society of Safety Engineers. Thompson teaches public health nursing and research to undergraduate and graduate nursing students.

Jessica Thibodeau, ARNP, MSN, MAT, ANP-BC, WHNP-BC, Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc.

Ammonoosuc FQHC- Team Approach

Jessica is an Adult NP working with ACHS since January 1996. Jessica completed her MSN at MGH-Institute of Health Professions. She has a special interest in Women’s Health, including prenatal care. Her philosophy of care includes consideration of the whole patient, not just the illness or disease. She firmly believes in the ACHS mission to care for all patients, regardless of social or economic status.

Glenda Reynolds, DDS, Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc

Ammonoosuc FQHC-Team Approach

Charles Rizza, AIA, MorrisSwitzer Environments for Health

Designing a Rural Medical Home

As Director of the Portland, Maine Office, Charlie’s career in healthcare planning and architecture spans 30+ years with organizations throughout Northeast and beyond. Drawing from his broad experience in all aspects of healthcare planning, design and construction, Charlie possesses a keen understanding of rural health organizations and how important their mission is toward the health of their communities.

Edward Shanshala II, MSHSA, MSEd, Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc

Ammonoosuc FQHC-Team Approach

Ed Shanshala is the CEO of ACHS, a Federally Qualified Health Center in the White Mountains of Northern New Hampshire. After being founded in 1975 as Title X Family Planning service provider with two staff and a $12,000 budget, ACHS has evolved over forty years into a NCQA recognized Patient Centered Medical Home. A Patient Centered Medical Home that has and continue to lead the healthcare paradigmatic shift from disintegrated healthcare to healthcare that fully integrates medical, behavioral, pharmacological, oral, and enabling healthcare services into a comprehensive whole.

Mike Shimmens, BS, MS, 3RNET: A Workforce Catalyst in Rural and Underserved America

3RNET Workforce Development Model

Mike Shimmens joined the 3RNet (National Rural Recruitment and Retention Network) as Executive Director in August of 2012. In this role he works with a nine member Board of Directors to assist 53 non-profit member organizations in the recruitment and retention of quality health care professionals in rural and underserved areas of our country. Prior to coming to this position, he worked for 6 years at the Missouri Primary Care Association as Director of Recruitment and Workforce Development and nine years as Director of Medical Staff Development at St. Mary’s Health Center in Jefferson City, MO.

Hugh Silk, MD, MPH, University of Massachusetts Medical School

Hugh Silk is a Professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health at UMass Medical School. He is Medical Director of the Primary Care Wellness Center at Community Healthlink in Leominster, MA. He is also Chairman the Oral Health Committee of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

Andrew Solomon, MPH, Northeast Telehealth Resource Center/MCD Public Health

Case Studies: Partnering for Success in Rural Telehealth

Andrew Solomon is the Project Manager for the Northeast Telehealth Resource Center. Andrew holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Minnesota and a Master of Public Health from the Boston University School of Public Health. His diverse experiences include roles as a Project Manager for the Boston Public Health Commission’s Infectious Disease Bureau and as the Director of Education at Science from Scientists (a science, technology, engineering, and math enrichment program). Experiences with robotic surgery and remote presence telemedicine robots inspired Andrew to pursue telemedicine as a tool to improve health access and public health.

Jennifer Throwe, Aging Services Program Specialist, Administration on Aging/US Administration for Community Living

Jennifer is an Aging Services Program Specialist for the US Administration for Community Living, Administration on Aging in the Boston Regional Office. She currently serves as liaison to the states of Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey. Prior to Federal employment Jennifer worked in State Government with responsibilities including CT State Health Insurance Assistance Program Statewide Coordinator, and CT Aging & Disability Resource Center Statewide Coordinator. She earned a Masters in Social Work from the University of Connecticut with a Certificate in Aging.

Thomas Trimmero, MD, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

Collaborating to Improve Rural Emergency Care

Dr. Trimmero is a board certified emergency physician who works as an attending in the section of Emergency Medicine at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC). He completed his emergency medical residency training and emergency medical services fellowship at the University of Cincinnati. He currently serves as the EMS Medical director at DHMC, and as such, acts as medical director for 27 EMS agencies in the upper valley area in both New Hampshire and Vermont. He also serves as Associate Medical Director of Dartmouth Hitchcock Advanced Response Team helicopter EMS (HEMS) and as Co-Chair of the DHMC Emergency management Committee. Dr. Trimmero is the program director for CREST for EMS network, which focuses on delivering high quality simulation based education to rural prehospital providers in NH and VT.

Delores M. Walters, PhD, Southern Rhode Island Area Health Education Center (sriAHEC), University of Rhode Island College Of Nursing

In Serving the Creator: Engaging Tribal Peoples in Healthcare and Health Professions

Dr. Delores M. Walters is an educator and advocate committed to advancing diversity, inclusion, equity and cultural competency in academic, local and global communities. She directs the Southern Rhode Island Area Health Education Center (sriAHEC) - a collaboration with the College of Nursing in the University of Rhode Island, which resulted in the Pathways to Nursing Program in 2010. Pathways, provides tutoring, mentoring, curricular, academic and social supports for students of color and economically disadvantaged students. Walters was Associate Dean for Diversity in URI’s College of Human Science & Services and Director of Faculty Recruitment & Retention in the Office of Community, Equity & Diversity from 2011-2013. Her doctorate in Cultural Anthropology, based on field research conducted among an African-identified group in Yemen, resulted in articles and a film on

**Everette G. Weeden, Jr., Education Consultant**

**In Serving the Creator: Engaging Tribal Peoples in Healthcare and Health Professions**

Everett Weeden is a Mashantucket Pequot/Wampanoag Native American who has been active in lecture over the years, giving speeches and performances at various universities and public educational institutions. Given his Native American name, “Tall Oak”, at the age of 16, he has devoted his life to the survival of the native people of the Americas, with emphasis on the Northeast. This struggle has involved a life-long accumulation of knowledge about his people through not only research, but also the fortunate exposure to much Native American oral tradition.

**Janet Zeigler, RN, MN, MBA, Herman Miller Inc.**

**Designing a Rural Medical Home**

Janet has served as a nurse leader in acute care as well as manager of clinical research at Herman Miller. All of her work is in the spirit of promoting person centered quality healthcare, safety and continuous improvement initiatives. She has spoken both domestically and internationally on creating healing environments and improving materials flow in healthcare. Janet considers it a privilege to work with others who are striving to create better places to heal, learn and work in healthcare.

**Exchanging Health Information**

**Paul Boucher, Veteran Initiated Electronic Care Coordination Coordinator**

**VA Maine Healthcare System – Togus**

**Demystifying Coordination of Care with the VHA**

**Penelope Markle, Acting Deputy Director, MSN, M.Ed, Veteran’s Rural Health Resource Center – Eastern Region, VA VRHRC-ER**


**Celine Kuhn, MS, Program Manager, MaineHealth**

**An Educational and Training Program Designed to Improve Treatment of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in Rural Veterans**

**Nancy, Bernardy, PhD, Clinical Research Psychologist, Department of Veteran’s Affairs National Center for PTSD**

**UMass Medical and Nursing Student Rural Health Pathway Participants: Where are they now?**

**Suzanne Cashman, ScD, MS, UMass Medical School**

**Improving Access to Mental Healthcare in Rural Settings: GAPP: The Creation of A Multidisciplinary Association of Private Providers**

**Donna Campbell, LCSW, Executive Director, Greenwoods Counseling Referrals**

**Exploring and Sharing the Role of the Town Nurse**

**Lynn Blanchette, PhD, RN, Faculty, Rhode Island College School of Nursing**

**VA SCAN ECHO Leveraging Teleconferencing Capabilities – Bringing the Medical Center to the Remote Provider**

**Wendy Bellmore, MSN, FNP-BC, Project Manager, Region 1 VA Scan Echo, Department of Veterans Affairs**
To Do List From Conference

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