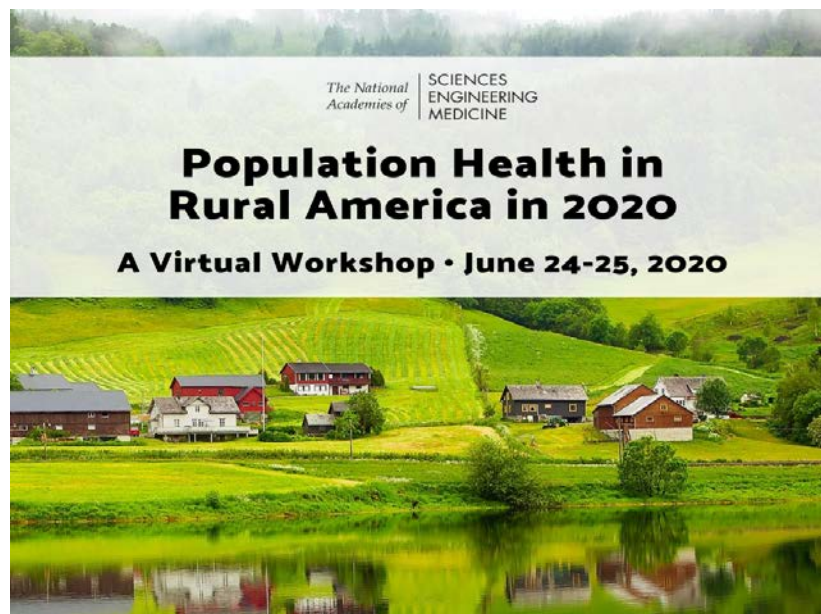




ROUNDTABLE ON  
**POPULATION HEALTH  
IMPROVEMENT**



# Population Health in Rural America in 2020

## Attendee Packet

- Draft Agenda
- Biosketches of Speakers, Moderators, and Planning Committee Members
- Readings and Resources



## ROUNDTABLE ON POPULATION HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

### Population Health in Rural America in 2020

Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> 2020 11 AM – 1 PM EST & 2-4 PM EST-NYC

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Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 11 AM – 1 PM EST & 2-4 PM EST-NYC

**Draft**

Virtual ZOOM details to registered attendees, [live webcast](#), [registration](#)

The workshop will explore the context of Rural America in 2020 and discuss salient and emerging topics in population health, public health, health care, and community sectors.

Please note that Q&A sessions will be held at the end of each agenda session.

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### Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>

11 AM

**Welcome**

**Sanne Magnan**, Roundtable Co-Chair, HealthPartners Institute

**Rural America in Context**

Rural Demographics & Social Determinants of Health

**Alana Knudson**, NORC, Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis

Structural Urbanism: Current Funding Mechanisms Systematically Disadvantage Rural Populations

**Janice Probst**, University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health

Moderator: **Lars Peterson**, University of Kentucky, Rural & Underserved Health Research Center

**Rural Health Vital Signs**

Why is Mortality Higher in Rural Areas?

**Mark Holmes**, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, North Carolina Rural Health Research and Policy Analysis Center

Tribal Public Health Activities

**Valerie Nurr'araaluk Davidson**, Alaska Pacific University President

*Continued...*

Rural Data Challenges in Healthy People 2020  
**Sirin Yaemsiri**, U.S. Government Accountability Office

Looking Ahead: Rural Healthy People 2030 Process and Rural Health Indicators

**Alva Ferdinand**, Texas A&M University, Southwest Rural Health Research Center

Do Rural Racial Disparities Get Lost in the Larger Discussion on Rural and Urban Disparities?

**Jan Eberth**, University of South Carolina, Rural and Minority Health Research Center

Moderator: **Alana Knudson**, NORC, Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis

1 PM

**Lunch Break**

2 PM

**Health Care in Action**

Rural Health Care Landscape

**Paul Moore**, HRSA, Office of Rural Health

Tribal Health Care in Rural Settings

**Daniel Calac**, Indian Health Council

Wraparound Services: Implications for Rural America

**Nir Menachemi**, Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis

The Role of Community Health Workers in Addressing the Needs of Rural Americans

**Timothy Callaghan**, Texas A&M University, Southwest Rural Health Research Center

Moderator: **Tom Morris**, HRSA, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

**Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**

11 AM

**Welcome Day 2**

**Josh Sharfstein**, Roundtable Co-chair, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**Assessment and Implementation Strategies for Rural Population Health Improvement**

Coordinated Community Health Needs Assessments & Population Health

**Darold Bertsch**, Sakakawea Medical Center & Coal Country Community Health Center

Supporting Population Health Efforts: Minnesota Integrated Behavioral Program

**Rhonda Barcus**, National Rural Health Research Center

Connecting Rural Development, Health and Opportunity: The Role of Rural Development Hubs and Policy

**Katharine Ferguson**, The Aspen Institute Community Strategies Group

Innovations in Sustaining Rural Population Health

**Karen Minyard**, Georgia Health Policy Center

Moderator: **Allen Smart**, PhilanthropywRx

1 PM

***Lunch Break***

2 PM

**Rural Health Policy**

Rural Health Policy and Practice Toward Value-Based Care  
**Tim Putnam**, Mary Margaret Health, Indiana

Confronting Rural America's Health Care Crisis: BPC Rural Health Task Force Recommendations

**Keith Mueller**, University of Iowa, College of Public Health, Rural Policy Research Institute

Tribal Rural Health Policy

**Benjamin Smith**, Indian Health Service

The Cares Act

**Kate Cassling**, Bipartisan Policy Center, BPC Action

Moderator: **Karen Murphy**, Geisinger, The Steele Institute for Health Innovation

3:30 PM

**Closing Remarks**

**Karen Murphy**

**Workshop Planning Committee**

**Michael Bird**, Indian Health Council Inc. | **Alva Ferdinand**, TA&M University, Southwest Rural Health Research Center | **Alana Knudson**, NORC Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis | **Jose Montero**, CDC, Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support (CSTLTS) | **Tom Morris**, HRSA, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy | **Karen Murphy**, Geisinger, The Steele Institute for Health Innovation | **Lars Peterson**, Kentucky University, Rural & Underserved Health Research Center

Note: The planning committee's role is limited to planning the workshop. A proceedings based on workshop will be prepared by an independent rapporteur.

Follow the conversation



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<https://nas.edu/pophealthrt>

# Population Health in Rural America in 2020

## *Biosketches of Speakers, Moderators, and Planning Committee Members*

\*denotes planning committee member, †denotes roundtable member

### Rhonda Barcus



**Rhonda Barcus, M.S., L.P.C.**, joined the National Rural Health Resource Center in 2012 and manages the Small Rural Hospital Transition (SRHT) Project and population and community health services. She has worked in hospital settings since 1987. Ms. Barcus is experienced in leadership and organizational development and has assisted hospitals to address organization-wide goals related to improving patient experience and staff retention. Ms. Barcus received her Master of Science in Psychology from Georgia College and State University. She is also a licensed professional counselor and has worked in the field of substance use.

### Michael Bird\*

**Michael E. Bird, Kewa Pueblo, M.S.W., M.P.H.**, is the Public Health Program Director for the Indian Health Council. Mr. Bird has more than 30 years of public health experience in the areas of medical social work, substance abuse prevention, health promotion and disease prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention, behavioral health, and healthcare administration. He is the first American Indian and social worker to serve as President (2000-2001) of the American Public Health Association. He is also past president of the New Mexico Public Health Association, and was a fellow in the USPHS Primary Care Policy Fellowship Program. Mr. Bird has served on the boards of the Kewa Pueblo Health Corporation, American Indian Graduate Center, Bernalillo County Off Reservation Native American Commission, Health Action New Mexico, Seva Foundation, National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health Advisory Committee (Canada), and AARP National Policy Council. He earned a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Utah, and a Master's Degree in Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley. In 2018 he was honored by the UC Berkeley School of Public Health as one of the most influential public health alumni in the institution's 75-year history.

### Darrold Bertsch



**Darrold Bertsch** is the CEO of Sakakawea Medical Center, a Critical Access Hospital located in Hazen, North Dakota and is also the CEO of Coal Country Community Health Center, an FQHC with four service delivery sites in west central North Dakota. Mr. Bertsch has served in this unique shared CEO role for the last 9 years, leading collaborative efforts that have improved the delivery of patient care and the development of a patient centered medical neighborhood of care. Mr. Bertsch has worked in healthcare for 46 years, the last 26 as a CEO. Darrold is an active proponent of rural healthcare and serves on various local, state, and national boards and committees.

### Dan Calac

**Daniel Calac, M.D.**, has served as Chief Medical Officer of the Indian Health Council, Inc. located near San Diego, California, since 2003. He was raised on the Pauma Indian Reservation and graduated from San Diego State University. Dr. Calac attended Harvard Medical School, and completed his internship and residency at the University of Southern California-Los Angeles County Combined Internal Medicine/Pediatrics Residency Program. He is board-certified in both Internal Medicine and Pediatrics. He also practices hospice/palliative care medicine and is board eligible in this field. He is a member of the Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians and is actively involved in his community. His professional interests include chronic disease and clinical research. Dr. Calac serves as the Principal Investigator for the California Native American Research Center for Health, which is a National Institutes of Health funded project providing a platform for community based participatory research in American Indian

communities. He is actively engaged in several research projects which aim to improve the health of American Indians and encourage students to pursue careers as scientists and/or health care professionals. Dr. Calac also serves on a variety of committees including the Health Research Advisory Council for the Department of Health and Human Services, the Committee on Native American Child Health, Cal State San Marcos Foundation Board, and the governance board for the All Tribes American Indian Charter School. He also enjoys hiking, backpacking, and spending time with his four children and wife Jacqueline of 24 years.

#### Timothy Callaghan



**Tim Callaghan, Ph.D., M.A.,** has research interests in health politics, the Affordable Care Act, autism policy, opioid policy, rural health policy, state politics, and public opinion about health topics. He is an assistant professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Texas A&M School of Public Health. Dr. Callaghan has had research featured in prominent journals, including the American Journal of Public Health, the Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law, American Politics Research, Social Science and Medicine and Publius: The Journal of Federalism. He serves on the advisory board of the Program in Health Law and Policy and also is director of evaluation with the nationally recognized Southwest Rural Health Research Center at Texas A&M. The center, funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, was established to address the needs of rural and underserved populations across Texas and the nation by bringing together a unique combination of faculty expertise in health policy, health economics, aging, long-term care, health law, epidemiology and biostatistics and chronic disease. Dr. Callaghan received his Bachelor of Arts in political science and Bachelor of Science in biological sciences from the University of Connecticut. He then went on to receive his Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in political science from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

#### Kate Cassling



**Kate Cassling, M.A.,** is a Director with the Bipartisan Policy Center Action where she works on health care policy advocacy. Prior to joining BPC Action, Cassling worked for more than eight years on Capitol Hill, most recently serving as a Legislative Assistant for Senator Joe Manchin, specializing in healthcare, education, and labor policy. In that role, she managed the Senator's work on the Senate Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services Subcommittee and the Joint Select Committee on Solvency of Multiemployer Pension Plans. Previously, she worked as a Legislative Assistant to Congresswoman Dina Titus and as a Legislative Aide to Senator Susan Collins. Cassling has a B.A. in Economics from Swarthmore College and an M.A. in Education from Tel Aviv University. Originally from rural Maine, Kate lives in Washington DC with her husband and two children.

#### Valerie Nurr'araaluk Davidson

**Valerie Nurr'araaluk Davidson,** a Yup'ik and enrolled tribal member of the Orutsaramiut Traditional Native Council of Bethel, serves as President of the Alaska Pacific University, its first female president. Davidson's prior 20 year health career included state service as Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Health & Social Services where she implemented Medicaid Expansion, Medicaid Reform and the Alaska Tribal Child Welfare Compact. Davidson later served as Alaska's first Alaska Native female Lieutenant Governor in the final weeks of the Walker Administration. Davidson began her tribal health career at the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. Davidson considers her brilliant, funny, and kind children to be her greatest accomplishment.

#### Jan Eberth



**Jan Marie Eberth, Ph.D., M.S.P.H.,** is an Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Director of the Rural and Minority Health Research Center at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Eberth conducts research in the areas of health geography, social epidemiology, and cancer prevention and control. As Director of the Rural and Minority Health Research Center at the Arnold School of Public Health, Dr. Eberth works with investigators across the

university to identify and address problems experienced by rural and minority populations in order to guide research, policy, and related advocacy. She received her M.S.P.H. in epidemiology from Texas A&M Health Science Center, School of Rural Public Health, in 2006 and her Ph.D. in epidemiology from the University of Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health in 2011. Dr. Eberth also completed an NCI-funded postdoctoral fellowship at MD Anderson Cancer Center in 2012.

**Alva Ferdinand\***



**Alva Ferdinand, Dr.P.H., J.D.**, is assistant professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Texas A&M School of Public Health. She also serves as the Director of the Southwest Rural Health Research Center at the School of Public Health. Her research interests are health laws and ethics, disparities in health outcomes, research integrity, state and federal regulation in health care delivery and effectiveness at laws aimed at improving public health. Dr. Ferdinand has examined such issues as the impact of tax-exemption status on the provision of community benefits among various hospital ownership types, the relationship between neighborhood built environments and physical activity, the effect of strict immigration laws on health services utilization among immigrant populations, and the effects of texting-while-driving bans on roadway safety. She has also examined issues of mental health, access to care, and diabetes in rural areas. Dr. Ferdinand has been called upon to provide expert testimony to state and federal legislative bodies on the effectiveness of laws aimed at improving public health. She holds a law degree from the Michigan State University College of Law and a doctor of public health degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

**Katharine Ferguson**



**Katharine Ferguson, M.P.A.**, is Associate Director of the Aspen Institute Community Strategies Group and Director of CSG's Rural and Regional Initiatives. Before joining the Aspen Institute, Ms. Ferguson served in the Obama Administration as Chief of Staff for the White House Domestic Policy Council and as Chief of Staff for Rural Development at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Previously, Ms. Ferguson worked on the Senate Agriculture Committee and as staff to multiple U.S. Senators on topics ranging from community economic development and economic mobility to conservation, agriculture, food, public health and nutrition. Committed to bridging perceived divides and advancing equity, regardless of the topic at hand, Ms. Ferguson is interested in the practical challenges of civic engagement, institution building, systems change and governance. In 2018, she served on the transition team for Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser. She currently serves on the Steering Committee for the Western Governor's Association's Reimagining the Rural West Initiative, the Service Year Alliance Rural Policy Advisory Council and was recently appointed to Colorado's Just Transition Advisory Committee. A graduate of Tufts University, Ms. Ferguson holds an MPA from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. When not in small-town America or Washington D.C., Ms. Ferguson lives and works in her hometown of Denver, Colorado.

**Mark Holmes**



**Mark Holmes, Ph.D.**, is a Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management in the University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health and Director of the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, where he is also the Director of the North Carolina Rural Health Research and Policy Analysis Center and the Co-Director of the Program on Health Care Economics and Finance at the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research. His interests include hospital finance, rural health, workforce, health policy, and patient-centered outcomes research. In 2014, Dr. Holmes received the Phillip and Ruth Hettleman Prize for Artistic and Scholarly Achievement by Young Faculty. In 2015 he was named Outstanding Researcher by the National Rural Health Association. Previously, he was Vice President of the North Carolina Institute of Medicine, where he gained experience in North Carolina health policy. He previously served on the board of the North Carolina Health Insurance Risk Pool. His state policy work led to his 2010 Health Care Hero "Rising Star" award from the Triangle Business Journal. He is a member of the Editorial Boards of the Journal of Rural Health and the NCMJ. He received

his BS in Mathematics and Economics from Michigan State University and his Ph.D. from the Department of Economics at UNC-Chapel Hill.

#### **Alana Knudson\***



**Alana Knudson, Ph.D., M. Ed.,** is a Principal Research Scientist and the Co-Director of the Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis (NORC) at the University of Chicago. Dr. Knudson is also the Deputy Director for the Rural Health Reform Policy Research Center, one of seven rural health research centers funded by the federal Office of Rural Health Policy. She has 20 years of experience implementing and directing public health programs, leading health services and health policy research projects, and evaluating the impact of programs. She conducted numerous health services research studies, health policy studies, and public health projects funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, Health Resources and Services Administration, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Agency for International Development, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Her research and policy project findings have informed state, Tribal, and federal health policy. She also has state and national public health experience having worked at the North Dakota Department of Health and for the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. Dr. Knudson earned a dual Master of Education degree and a Ph.D. from Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon.

#### **Sanne Magnan†**

**Sanne Magnan, M.D., Ph.D.,** is the co-chair of the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. She is the former President and CEO of the Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI) (2006-2007; 2011-2016). In 2007, she was appointed Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health by Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty. She served from 2007 to 2010 and had significant responsibility for implementation of Minnesota's 2008 health reform legislation, including the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP), standardized quality reporting, development of provider peer grouping, certification process for health care homes, and baskets of care. Dr. Magnan was a staff physician at the Tuberculosis Clinic at St. Paul - Ramsey County Department of Public Health (2002-2015). She was a member of the Population-based Payment Model Workgroup of the Healthcare Payment Learning and Action Network (2015-2016) and a member of the CMS Multi-sector Collaboration Measure Development Technical Expert Panel (2016). She is on Epic's Population Health Steering Board and on Healthy People 2030 Engagement Subcommittee. She served on the board of MN Community Measurement and the board of NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, a federally qualified health center and part of Hennepin Health. Her previous experience also includes vice president and medical director of Consumer Health at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota. Currently, she is a Senior Fellow with HealthPartners Institute, and adjunct assistant professor of medicine at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Magnan holds a M.D. and a Ph.D. in medicinal chemistry from the University of Minnesota, and is a board-certified internist.

#### **Nir Menachemi**



**Nir Menachemi, Ph.D., M.P.H.,** is the Fairbanks Endowed Chair and serves as Chair of the Health Policy and Management Department of the Indiana University Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health. He holds the rank of Professor. Dr. Menachemi also holds an appointment as Scientist with the Regenstrief Institute, an internationally recognized informatics and healthcare research organization that is dedicated to the improvement of health through research that enhances the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care. Before joining the Fairbanks School of Public Health, Dr. Menachemi held faculty positions at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Public Health and the Florida State University College of Medicine. He has published more than 200 peer-reviewed scientific papers, and his work has appeared in numerous prestigious professional journals, including the New England Journal of Medicine, Health Affairs, Health Services Research, and the American Journal of Public Health. Dr. Menachemi's research examines how organizational strategies (e.g., health information technology adoption) impact critical performance measures, including quality outcomes and financial

performance. In addition, he has published extensively on health policy and public health topics ranging from obesity issues to the impact of various laws or policies on health outcomes. Dr. Menachemi's work has been funded by such diverse entities as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and private foundations and corporations. In addition, Dr. Menachemi has developed several long-term partnerships with health departments at the state and local level in both Alabama and Florida. More recently, he has begun similar partnerships with state and local entities in Indiana.

#### **Karen Minyard**



**Karen Minyard, Ph.D., M.N.**, has been director of the Georgia Health Policy Center (GHPC) since 2001 and is also a research professor with the Georgia State University Department of Public Management and Policy. Dr. Minyard connects the research, policy, and programmatic work of the center across issue areas including population health, health philanthropy, public and private health coverage, and the uninsured. Dr. Minyard has experience with the state Medicaid program, both with the design of program reforms and external evaluation. Her research interests include financing and evaluation of health-related social policy programs; strategic alignment of public and private health policy through collective impact; the role of local health initiatives in access and health improvement; the role of targeted technical assistance in improving the sustainability, efficiency, and programmatic effectiveness of nonprofit health collaboratives; and health and health care financing. In addition to overseeing the center's overall strategic vision, Dr. Minyard plays a leadership role in several center projects that weave together the key learnings, skillsets, and areas of expertise of the GHPC, including evaluation, technical assistance, policy and economic analysis, backbone and organizational support, health and health care financing, health system transformation, Health in All Policies, and rural health. She is currently co-principal investigator and spearheading evaluation efforts for the GHPC's national coordinating center, Bridging for Health: Improving Community Health Through Innovations in Financing, sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She also serves on the executive trio of the Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement, along with the Atlanta Regional Commission and the United Way of Greater Atlanta.

#### **José Montero\*†**



**José T. Montero, M.D., M.H.C.D.S.**, is the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support, where he oversees support to the US health departments and those serving tribal nations and insular areas. He provides leadership for key activities and technical assistance designed to improve the public health system's capacity and performance to achieve the nation's goals in population health. With his team, Dr. Montero leads efforts to create communities of practice where CDC's senior leaders work with the executive leaders of the public health jurisdictions, key partners, and stakeholders to identify new, improved, or innovative strategies to prepare the public health system to respond to changing environments. Previously, Dr. Montero served as vice president of population health and health system integration at Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth-Hitchcock Keene. He has also served as director of the Division of Public Health Services at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Dr. Montero has held many national and regional committee leadership positions, including serving as president of the board of directors of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) and chair of ASTHO's Infectious Diseases Policy Committee. Dr. Montero holds a medical degree from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia. He specialized in family medicine and completed his residency at the Universidad del Valle in Cali, Colombia. He also holds an epidemiology degree from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, Colombia, received his certification of field epidemiology from the Colombia Field Epidemiology Training Program and a master's of healthcare delivery science from Dartmouth College.

#### **Paul Moore**



**Paul Moore, D.Ph.**, is a Senior Health Policy Advisor to the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, which is part of the Health Resources and Services Administration. Dr. Moore has a lifetime of experience related to rural health care, including more than thirty years in community and hospital pharmacy. He has also served as the CEO of a county

healthcare authority, consisting of one of the nation's earliest critical access hospitals, the county EMS, a physician clinic, and a home health agency. Dr. Moore is also a Past President of the National Rural Health Association and currently serves as the Executive Secretary for the National Advisory Committee for Rural Health and Human Services.

**Tom Morris\***

 [@NCexpat96](#)

**Tom Morris, M.P.A.,** serves as the Associate Administrator for Rural Health Policy in the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). In that role, Mr. Morris oversees the work of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, which is charged with advising the HHS Secretary on rural health issues. In 2012, he was the recipient of the HHS Distinguished Service Award and in 2015 he was awarded a Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Service. Over the course of his Federal career, Mr. Morris has testified on rural health issues before the House and Senate. He has past work experience in the U.S. Senate as well as various policy and program positions within HRSA and HHS. A 1996 Presidential Management Intern, Mr. Morris came to government after a career as a newspaper reporter and editor. He has an undergraduate degree in journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Master's in Public Administration with a concentration in Community Health from East Carolina University. He also earned a Certificate in Public Leadership from the Brookings Institution in 2008.

**Keith Mueller**

 [@UlowaCPH](#)

**Keith J. Mueller, Ph.D., M.A.,** is Gerhard Hartman Professor and head of the Department of Health Management and Policy, University of Iowa. He is also the Director of the RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis and Chair of the RUPRI Health Panel. He has served as President of the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) and as a member of the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services. He has also served on national advisory committees to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. He has published more than 220 scholarly articles and policy papers, and received awards recognizing his research contributions from NRHA, RUPRI, and the University of Nebraska. In 2016, he received the University of Iowa Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. His Ph.D. is in Political Science from The University of Arizona, and he completed a faculty fellowship with The Johns Hopkins University.

**Karen Murphy\*†**

 [@Murphy\\_KMG](#)

**Karen Murphy, Ph.D., R.N.,** is Executive Vice President, Chief Innovation Officer, and founding director of the Steele Institute for Health Innovation at Geisinger. Dr. Murphy has worked to improve and transform healthcare delivery throughout her career in both the public and private sectors. Before joining Geisinger, she served as Pennsylvania's secretary of health addressing the most significant health issues facing the state, including the opioid epidemic. Prior to her role as secretary, Dr. Murphy served as director of the State Innovation Models Initiative at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services leading a \$990 million CMS investment designed to accelerate health care innovation across the United States. She previously served as president and chief executive officer of the Moses Taylor Health Care System in Scranton, and as founder and Chief Executive Officer of Physicians Health Alliance, Inc., an integrated medical group practice within Moses Taylor. Dr. Murphy earned her doctor of philosophy in business administration from the Temple University Fox School of Business. She holds a master's of business administration from Marywood University, a bachelor of science in liberal arts from the University of Scranton, and a diploma in nursing from the Scranton State Hospital School of Nursing.

**Lars Peterson\***

 [@theABFM](#)

**Lars Peterson, M.D., Ph.D.,** is a family physician and health services researcher who serves as Vice President of Research for the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM). He also has an appointment as an Associate Professor of Family and Community Medicine in the University of Kentucky's Rural and Underserved Health Research Center, where he provides direct clinical care and teaches students and residents. Dr. Peterson, a native

of Utah, received his medical and graduate degrees from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio and completed his family medicine residency at the Trident/Medical University of South Carolina family medicine residency program. At ABFM, Dr. Peterson leads a research team focused on elucidating the outcomes of Family Medicine Certification, in particular the impact that certification activities have on the quality of care delivered by family physicians. In addition, Dr. Peterson and his team seeks to understand the ecology of family medicine over time—what physicians do in practice and their contribution to high quality health care. His research interests also include investigating associations between area level measures of health care and socioeconomic with both health and access to health care, rural health, primary care, and comprehensiveness of primary care. Dr. Peterson has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and made more than 100 national and international conference presentations.

#### **Jan Probst**



**Janice C. Probst, Ph.D., M.S.,** is a Distinguished Professor Emerita at the University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health. Dr. Probst is a nationally recognized researcher in the area of health services and policy, with a specific focus on rural health and health disparities. She was a founding faculty member for the Rural and Minority Health Research Center (formerly, the South Carolina Rural Health Research Center), which was established in 2000. She has more than 140 peer reviewed scientific publications, along with more than 200 presentations at scientific conferences. Dr. Probst is a member of the National Rural Health Association Health Equity Council and serves on Board of Directors of the South Carolina Office of Rural Health. Dr. Probst completed her B.A. at Duke University, her M.S. at Purdue University, and her Ph.D. at the University of South Carolina.

#### **Tim Putnam**

**Tim Putnam, D.H.A., M.B.A., F.A.C.H.E.,** is President and CEO of Margaret Mary Health in Batesville, Indiana and has over 30 years of healthcare experience. He received his Doctorate in Health Administration from the Medical University of South Carolina, where his dissertation was focused on acute stroke care in rural hospitals. He currently chairs the National Rural Health Association's Policy Congress, the National Rural Accountable Care Consortium and was appointed by the Governor to the Indiana Board of Graduate Medical Education, which he also chairs. In 2015, Dr. Putnam was certified as an Emergency Medical Technician and serves on the Batesville Fire and EMS Lifesquad.

#### **Allen Smart**

**Allen Smart, M.P.H., M.A.,** is a national spokesperson and advocate for improving rural philanthropic practice under his group PhilanthropywoRx. In addition, he recently completed a role as the Project Director for a national rural philanthropic project partially supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and based at Campbell University in Buies Creek, North Carolina. He regularly consults with regional and national foundations on rural and philanthropic strategy. Allen is the former Interim President, Vice President of Programs and Director of the Health Care Division at the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust. Prior to coming to the Trust in 2006, Allen was the Vice President of Programs at the Rapides Foundation, a healthcare conversion funder, in Alexandria, Louisiana. He has also served as Director of Community Development for a midwestern Catholic Hospital System and as Grants Administrator for the City of Santa Monica, California. Allen received his Master of Public Health from the University of Illinois at Chicago, his Master of Arts in Telecommunication Arts from the University of Michigan and his Bachelors in Arts in Philosophy from Macalester College. As part of his personal and professional interest in philanthropy, Allen regularly writes for sites such as The Daily Yonder, Inside Philanthropy, Grantcraft and Exponent Philanthropy, as well as presenting to national and regional organizations like Grantmakers in Health, Southeastern Council of Foundations, National Rural Assembly and the federal Office of Rural Health Policy. He is a member of the National Advisory Committee for the Rural Resource Hub at The University of North Dakota; the Culture of Health Prize Selection Committee for Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Board of Directors for Healthy Communities by Design and the Board of the North Carolina Healthcare Association Foundation.

**P. Benjamin Smith, M.B.A., M.A.,** an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation, is the deputy director for intergovernmental affairs for the Indian Health Service. The IHS, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the principal federal health care provider and health advocate for American Indians and Alaska Natives. As the deputy director for intergovernmental affairs, Mr. Smith provides leadership on tribal and urban Indian health activities, in particular the implementation of the Title I and Title V authorities under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act and Title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, through oversight of the Office of Tribal Self-Governance, the Office of Direct Service and Contracting Tribes, and the Office of Urban Indian Health Programs. Mr. Smith previously served as the director of the Office of Tribal Self-Governance, where he oversaw all aspects of the administration of the Tribal Self-Governance Program, authorized by Title V of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. Prior to his federal service, Mr. Smith worked as a self-governance specialist for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, performing research, advisory services and consultation on health programs with national, state, and local health departments. Throughout his career, Mr. Smith has received numerous awards, including the 2014 Arthur S. Flemming Award from the George Washington University Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, which honors outstanding federal employees for their exceptional contributions to the federal government. He has also received several IHS National Director's Awards for his contributions to tribal consultation activities, IHS Strategic Plan updates, and the agency lead negotiators curriculum. Mr. Smith received his Master of Business Administration from George Washington University, a Master of Arts in International Peace and Conflict Resolution from American University, and a Bachelor of Arts from Brigham Young University. He is also one of the Navajo Nation's Chief Manuelito Scholars.

**Sirin Yaemsiri, Ph.D., M.S.P.H.,** is a Senior Statistician at the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Previously, she was a Health Statistician at the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), where she provided data expertise to the Healthy People 2020 initiative. In addition to rural health, Dr. Yaemsiri's areas of interest include vital statistics, health disparities, developing key indicators, assessing data quality, statistics, and data visualization. Dr. Yaemsiri holds a Ph.D. in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is an adjunct professor the University of Maryland, College Park.

# Readings & Resources for Population Health in Rural America in 2020

## Panel I: Rural America in Context

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