



NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

National Rural Health Association  
Rural Health Equity Conference  
May 7, 2018 — Atlanta, Georgia  
The Atlanta Marriott Marquis – Room TBD

**7 – 8 a.m.**

**Check-In, Continental Breakfast  
Poster Session**

**8 – 8:15 a.m.**

**Conference Welcome**

Alan Morgan, NRHA CEO  
Susan Kunz, NRHA Health Equity Council Chair

**8:15 – 9:30 a.m.**

**Keynote Speaker**

**9:30 – 10 a.m.**

**Networking Breakfast, Poster Session**

**10 – 11:15 a.m.**

**Concurrent Sessions**

### **1A. Energy extraction's impact on Native Americans' health**

**Room TBD**

*David Line, PhD, Eastern Washington University, Assistant Professor  
Mary-Katherine Smith McNatt, DrPh, AT Still University, Chair & Associate Professor*

Energy extraction has positive and negative impacts on the health equity of Native Americans in rural areas. The impacts include providing revenue, jobs, causing environmental changes, and changing cultural heritages. This presentation explores how production of energy and energy costs impact the health equity of Native Americans in rural areas.

### **Opportunities for Health Equity in Rural Tribal Oklahoma**

*Denna Wheeler, Ph.D., Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, the Center for Rural Health, Clinical Associate Professor of Rural Health*

*William Pettit, D.O., Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, Dean, Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine - Cherokee Nation Campus*

Learn about the physician pipeline partnership between the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and Cherokee Nation. The pipeline includes early recruitment in rural native communities, a medical school campus constructed and operated in partnership on Cherokee Nation land, and tribal affiliated medical residency programs.

### **1B. Creating a Culture of Health in Appalachia**

**Room TBD**

*Julie Marshall, PhD, Appalachian Regional Commission, Senior Economist  
Eric Stockton, Appalachian Regional Commission, Health Program Manager*

This initiative documents population health and disparities in the Appalachian Region as well as assets and barriers to achieving positive health outcomes. It also identifies and explores Bright Spots, and offers practical strategies to community leaders, funders, and policy makers pursuing health equity and improved population health in rural communities.

### **Healthalachia: Rural Appalachian Youth Creating Solutions**

*Frances Feltner, DNP, University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health, Director*

*Melissa Slone, University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health, Director of Inter-disciplinary Research*

*Beth Bowling, University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health, Rural Project Manager*

Healthalachia, a student-based research initiative, engaged students from three rural high schools to identify a health or social problem at their school and create a research-based solution. Students developed a research question and implementation strategies, secured resources and personnel, created an evaluation process and measured outcomes to complete their projects.

### **1C. Evaluating with an Equity Lens in Rural Communities**

#### **Room TBD**

*Samantha Tucker, Healthcare Georgia Foundation, Evaluation Manager*

*Michelle Kegler, DrPH, Emory Prevention Research Center, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Director*

*April Hermstad, Emory Prevention Research Center, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Senior Public Health Program Associate*

How do you know your organization is addressing health equity and closing the gap? The answer is evaluating with an equity lens. Join as Healthcare Georgia Foundation and Emory Prevention Research Center discuss identifying and measuring equity outcomes and indicators in the context of rural, multi-sectoral Community Health Partnerships.

### **Capacity Building in Rural Communities to Improve Health Outcomes**

*Calvin Allen, Rural Forward NC at the Foundation for Health Leadership and Inn, Director*

*Brandy Bynum Dawson, Rural Forward NC at the Foundation for Health Leadership and Inn, Associate Director*

This informative session will highlight effective services and tools employed to build capacity and develop resources that amplify the impact of rural leaders, organizations, and coalitions in rural North Carolina. The session will provide examples of healthier, more sustainable rural communities with increased capacity to solve their own health problems.

**11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Concurrent Session**

### **2A. FORHP Session**

**Room TBD**

### **2B. Premature death disparities by rurality, race, and ethnicity**

**Room TBD**

*Katy Kozhimannil, PhD, MPA, University of Minnesota Rural Health Research Center, School of Public Health, Associate Professor and Director*

*Leslie Marsh, BS, MSN, MBA, RN, Lexington Regional Health Center, CEO*

*Carrie Henning-Smith, PhD, MPH, MSW, University of Minnesota Rural Health Research Center, School of Public Health, Assistant Professor and Deputy Director*

Rural communities are increasingly diverse, with 20% of rural residents being people of color. In this session, we will present new research on racial and ethnic disparities in premature death and other aspects of health and healthcare among rural residents. We will then discuss implications, including a community-based provider perspective.

#### **Rural focus in state maternal mortality review committees**

*Julia Interrante, University of Minnesota, PhD Student*

*Katy Kozhimannil, PhD, MPA, University of Minnesota, Associate Professor*

*Amanda Corbett, University of Minnesota, Researcher*

Rural women experience barriers to maternity care and have worse outcomes. Maternal mortality review committees are forming in response to rising maternal deaths. This session will show committees existed in 47 states by 2018; only three mentioned rurality specifically. Rural representation is needed to inform geographically-tailored efforts to reverse trends.

#### **2C. Health, Justice, and the Role of Civil Rights Law in Public Health**

##### **Room TBD**

*Dawn Pepin, JD, CDC, Public Health Analyst - Legal*

*Samantha Bent Weber, JD, Georgia Institute of Technology/Georgia State University, PhD Student*

Discrimination contributes to significant health disparities in the US today including rural communities. Outcomes such as lower paying jobs and limited educational opportunities all contribute to health inequities. This presentation will highlight variations in civil rights laws across the 50 states and will draw together laws and public health data.

##### **Voting rights and implications on rural health equity**

*David Line, PhD, Eastern Washington University, Assistant Professor*

*Mary-Katherine Smith McNatt, DrPh, A.T. Still University, Chair & Associate Professor*

With an appreciation of “health in all policies,” the importance of representation in the development of policies has become evident. Recent voter suppression has impacted the health equity in rural communities. This session looks at disenfranchisement methods, the implications on rural health, and practices used to address disenfranchisement.

**12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**Networking Lunch**

**1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**Plenary Speaker – CDC**

**2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.**

**Networking Break, Poster Session**

**2:45 – 4:00 p.m.**

**Concurrent Session**

#### **3A. Community-Cancer Center Collaborations to Impact Rural Cancer Disparities**

##### **Room TBD**

*Robin Vanderpool, DrPH, CHES, University of Kentucky, Associate Professor, Department of Health, Behavior & Society*

*Deanna Kepka, PhD, University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute, Assistant Professor*

*Tracy Omega, PhD, Dartmouth Norris Cotton Cancer Center, Associate Professor*

This session, presented by three National Cancer Institute-designated cancer centers serving different rural constituents (Appalachia, Inter-Mountain West, and New England), will focus on building capacity among rural community and clinical partners to conduct cancer control research aimed at improving disparities in HPV vaccination, lung cancer screening, and cancer survivorship outcomes.

### **Embracing Health Equity: A Place-Based Approach**

*Lisa Medellin, Healthcare Georgia Foundation, Director of Programs*

*Arlene Parker Goldson, Partnership for Southern Equity, Just Health Manager*

*Nathaniel Smith, Partnership for Southern Equity, Chief Equity Officer/Founder*

The Two Georgias Initiative-a rural program for 11 communities in Georgia focused on engaging local coalitions/health partnerships on embracing equity in the context of addressing local healthcare issues.

### **3B. Tools for Success: Addressing the Rural Opioid Crisis**

#### **Room TBD**

*Alana Knudson, PhD, NORC's Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis, Program Area Director*

*Kristine Sande, Rural Health Information Hub, Program Director*

Explore new tools from the Rural Health Information Hub (RHInhub) and the NORC Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis designed to help rural communities successfully address the opioid crisis. Learn about factors, including social determinants of health that influence opioid use and access to treatment.

### **Mente Sana/Cuerpo Sano an Innovative Community Partnership**

*Maria Chavoya, Arizona Complete Health, Regional Manager/Community Affairs*

*Emma Torres, Campesinos Sin Fronteras, Executive Director*

The Mente Sana Cuerpo Sano Promotora Home Visitation Program presentation, will demonstrate how an Innovative Community Partnership was created between a grass roots community based organization employing community health workers and a Regional Behavioral Health Authority to assist members achieve compliance with Medicaid and Medicare performance measures in rural Arizona.

### **3C. Strategies for academic - rural community health equity partnerships**

#### **Room TBD**

*Matthew Tobey, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Fellowship Director*

Large academic health centers have historically neglected low-resource rural communities. In this session, we describe the lessons learned from a successful partnership between a large teaching hospital and a resource-limited rural community. Topics will include cultural humility, Indian Health Service partnership strategies, and tribal partnerships.

### **Equity Begins at Home: Lessons from a CAH Searching for Equity**

*Tammy Moore, DNP, Summit Pacific Medical Center, Chief Clinical Officer*

A light is shining on equity in rural America and we believe that though overdue, there are methods which can help regions overcome barriers. Learn about a critical access hospital in Western Washington State who looked internally at inequity and used those lessons learned for the good of their community.

**4:00 – 5:15 p.m.**

**Speaker – Healthy People 2030**

**5:15 p.m.**

**Conference Adjourns**

**Exhibitors**

**Thank you for your attendance and your continued support of NRHA and the Health Equity Conference! Join us next year in San Diego, CA on May 18, 2020.**

**DRAFT**