

NRHA Rural Hospital CEO Certification Program

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Second cohort launches for NRHA's Rural Hospital CEO Certification Program

[Kansas City, Mo., October 2020] – The National Rural Health Association's (NRHA) Rural Hospital CEO Certification Program began its second cohort of 26 participants in October.

The new cohort consists of the following participants:

- Aaron Edwards – Ferry County Memorial Hospital, Republic, Wash.
- Andrea McKay – Cody Regional Health, Cody, Wyo.
- Ashley Anthony – Delta Memorial Hospital, Dumas, Ark.
- Bensson Samuel – War Memorial Hospital, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.
- Brittni Oehmke- Hanover Hospital, Hanover, Penn.
- Edred Benton – Cleveland Area Hospital, Cleveland, Okla.
- Jake Kempton – Whidbey Health, Coupeville, Wash.
- James Dowell – Little River Memorial Hospital, Ashdown, Ark.
- Jessica Fisher – Tri Valley Health System, Cambridge, Neb.
- Jerry Cayer – Lewis County Healthy System/Lewis County General Hospital, Lowville, N.Y.
- Josh Conlee – Lawrence Memorial Health, Walnut Ridge, Ark.
- Juli Stec – Mercy Hospital Fort Smith, Charleston, Ark.
- Kandice Allen – Share Medical Center, Alva, Okla.
- Kim Skidmore – Community Medical Center of IZARD County, Pineville, Ark.
- Lesley Ogden – Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital, Lincoln City, Ore.
- Marie Harrington – Mangum Regional Medical Center, Elk City, Colo.
- Michelle LeBeau – University of Vermont Health Network, Morrisville, N.Y.
- Paul Arsenault – Northern Light Health Sebecook Valley Hospital, Pittsfield, Maine

- Pedro Toledo – Petaluma Health Center, Petaluma, Calif.
- Rena Salamacha – Mee Memorial Healthcare System, King City, Calif.
- Sarah Ragsdale – Smith County Memorial Hospital, Agra, Kan.
- Steve Henson – Bradley County Medical Center, Warren, Ark.
- Tamra White – Burnett Medical Center, Grantsburg, Wis.
- Tracy Warner – Greene Medical Center, Jefferson, Iowa
- Trent Bourland – Coal County General Hospital, Coalgate, Okla.
- Tylie Mills – Pike County Memorial Hospital, Louisiana, Mo.

About NRHA's Rural Hospital CEO Certification Program: Today's rural hospitals and clinics face tremendous challenges and uncertainty and are closing at an unprecedented rate. One in three rural hospitals is potentially at risk of closure, and nearly half of rural hospital CEOs are new to the job. Hospital CEO turnover continues to lead all industries, limiting the pool of qualified candidates. NRHA's Rural Hospital CEO Certification Program was developed by successful rural hospital CEOs to help current rural hospital CEOs strengthen their leadership skills and lead their hospital to success. An individual with this certification will immediately be recognized as someone qualified to lead a rural hospital with excellence.

To see the pilot cohort's graduation ceremony, click [here](#).

For more information, on the program, visit <https://www.ruralhospitalceo.com/ceo-certification-program>.