



NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

National Rural Health Association

Rural Health Equity Conference

May 4, 2021 — Virtual

All times noted in Eastern Daylight Savings Time

10 – 10:15 a.m. (EDT)

Conference Welcome

David Line Denali, NRHA Health Equity Council Chair

10:15 – 11:15 a.m. (EDT)

Concurrent Sessions

1A.

GIS to assess learning impact of COVID-19 among rural border communities

Mary-Katherine McNatt, DrPH, MPH, AT Still University College of Graduate Health Studies MPH, Chair & Associate Professor

Susan Wright, MEd, AT Still University College of Graduate Health Studies, Instructional Designer

This session assesses the impact and disparities of COVID-19 among rural and border communities compared to their urban counterparts. Including the impact of online learning, access to technology, language of education delivered, access to special education accommodations, etc. GIS is one method used to demonstrate data.

1B.

Roadblocks to Health Equity in the Mississippi Delta (FORHP)

Rachel Moscato, Hospital State Division - FORHP, Deputy Director

Patricia Burbano, Delta States Network Development Program, Program Coordinator

Selena McCord, MPH, National Rural Health Resource Center - Senior Community Program Specialist

Debra Hawkins, Delta Memorial Hospital - Dumas, Arkansas, Community Champion,

Jacqueline Washington, DePaul Community Health Center - Dumas, Arkansas, Community Champion,

Jeffrey Franklin, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Delta States Rural Development Network Program Grantee

This panel will explore the historic systems of oppression that shaped the Mississippi Delta – from slavery to sharecropping and the rise of Jim Crow laws in the South – and the current structural barriers that continue to create health inequities in the region. FORHP grantees will share projects they are implementing to break down these barriers and achieve health equity for rural communities of color in the Delta.

1C.

Dentistry as an Anti-Racist Practice...even in Rural Health

Eleanor Fleming, PhD, DDS, MPH, Meharry Medical College, Director, Center for Educational Development and Support

The purpose of this session to describe how dentistry can work as an anti-racist practice even in rural health settings. As a practice, dental practitioners in rural settings can include anti-racist practices in their clinical and community settings. Faced with a declining workforce, how might rural dental practice embrace workforce diversity? Facing with shifting demographics in communities, how can dental practitioners deliver care to patients with lived experiences that may be different from members of the dental team. To advance health equity, improve

health outcomes, and remove barriers that impede access to care, re-imagining dentistry as an anti-practice may be an approach.

11:15 – 11:30 a.m. (EDT)

Networking Break, Poster Session

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (EDT)

Opening Plenary

COVID-19: Stress and Coping in Communities of Color

*Eboni Anderson, DHEd, A.T. Still University, Assistant Professor and Director of Community Oriented Primary Care
Melva Thompson-Robinson, DrPH, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Professor, Executive Director of The Center for Health Disparities Research Co-Editor, Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice
Daryl Traylor, MS, MPH, A.T. Still University, Adjunct Faculty*

COVID-19 is having a tremendous impact on communities of color. This session will explore national survey results related to the stress, coping, and depressive symptoms in communities of color during COVID-19. This session will conclude with implications for clinical and public health practice in rural and underserved settings.

12:30 – 1:00 p.m. (EDT)

Networking Break, Poster Session

1:00 – 1:30 p.m. (EDT)

Concurrent Session

2A.

Addressing food insecurity during a pandemic

*Michelle Altman, MEd, Clemson University, Clemson Extension Rural Health and Nutrition Agent
Jamelia Graham, MPH, Clemson University, Clemson Extension Rural Health and Nutrition Agent
Samuel Baxter, PhD, MPH, Clemson University, Postdoctoral Fellow in Public Health Sciences
Michelle Parisi, PhD MS, Clemson University, Director of Nutrition and Health Extension Programs*

In 2020, the coronavirus pandemic exacerbated issues accessing fresh produce in rural counties. This panel will highlight how CARES Act funds were leveraged and social distance guidelines were established to address food insecurity in rural South Carolina counties with high obesity rates.

2B.

Progress and challenges in rural behavioral health utilization

*Nick Zaller, PhD, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health, Associate Professor
Randy Hubach, PhD, Oklahoma State University, Center for Rural Health, Associate Professor
George Pro, PhD, MPH, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health, Assistant Professor*

This session will outline national epidemiologic studies designed to strengthen rural behavioral health policies and best practices. Topics include treatment for opioid and drug use disorders, infectious disease and comorbidities, and strategies to improve treatment uptake among historically hard-to-reach populations. Results highlight the need for equitable access to treatment services.

2C.

Scaling Up Hepatitis C Care in Appalachia

*Tina McCormick, BA, Kentucky Rural Health Association, Executive Director
Barbra Cave, PhD, APRN, University of Louisville, Assistant Professor*

In 2018 the Kentucky Rural Health Association partnered with healthcare stakeholders to develop the Kentucky Hepatitis Academic Mentorship Program. In two years, the team trained more than 200 providers caring for rural and underserved patients who have treated over 1600 patients for hepatitis C. The model will be discussed.

1:30 – 2:00 p.m. (EDT)

Concurrent Session

3A.

Establishing a faith-based SNAP eligible food venter in SC

Samuel Baxter, PhD, MPH, Clemson University, Postdoctoral Fellow in Public Health Sciences

Wanda Green, Clemson University, Clemson Extension Rural Health and Nutrition Agent

Weatherly Thomas, MFA, Clemson University, Clemson Extension Rural Health and Nutrition Agent

Panelists will discuss how they connected a church with FoodShare— a food cooperative providing fresh produce. This effort established the first faith-based FoodShare partner approved to accept the USDA's SNAP benefits in South Carolina (SC). This church is the central food pantry in a low-income, rural SC county.

3B.

Combating Loneliness Through Experiential Education

MB (Marybeth) Mitcham, MPH, Doctoral Candidate, Ph.D, Cornell University Cooperative Extension, Resource Educator

In response to the growing problem of loneliness in rural populations, an innovative intergenerational educational model was developed and implemented. Rural residents of all ages hiked, snowshoed, cooked outdoors, and more, gaining valuable knowledge and skills, and connecting emotionally and socially. This low-cost program is easily replicable in other regions.

3C.

Partnering with Community Development to Improve Rural Health

Douglas Jutte, MD, MPH, Build Healthy Places Network, Executive Director

Cassandra Williams, MBA, Hope Credit Union Enterprise Corporation, Senior Vice President, Community and Economic Development

Caitlin Cain, MUP, Rural LISC, LISC VP and Rural LISC Director

The nonprofit community development (CD) sector invests over \$200 billion annually into low-income communities, addressing important social determinants of health. With many shared goals, health organizations are creating partnerships with CDs. Meet two leaders in rural Community Development Financial Institutions as we explore opportunities to improve health in rural places.

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (EDT)

Plenary Presentation

Inclusive Rural Health: Pride in Idaho Care Neighborhoods

Rachel Blanton, MHA, Cornerstone Whole Healthcare Organization, INC, Chief Officer of Innovation and Operations

In Emmett, Idaho, a critical access hospital, a rural non-profit, and a private foundation are working together to pave the way to health equity for LGBTQ+ residents in rural communities across the country. Through the Pride in Idaho Care Neighborhoods project, data, service, training, and partnership are working for all.

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. (EDT)

Networking Break, Poster Session

3:15 – 4:15 p.m. (EDT)

Concurrent Session

4A.

Improving Care and Reducing Health Disparities through Cultural Competence

Candy Canga-Picar, BSN, MBA, DNP, St. Charles Hospital Madras, Chief Nursing Officer

Salamatu (Sallay) Barrie, MA, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP), Public Health Analyst

Rebecca Dobert, BA, CRHCP, Oregon Office of Rural Health, Program Manager

St. Charles Madras Hospital in Oregon implemented an evidence-based cultural competency project targeting improved Native American Indian patient experience. The session identifies cultural competency's relevance to rural health resources, establishment of Patient Family Advisory Council, implementation of hospital policies that promote culturally congruent care, and positive outcomes with HCAHPS scores.

4B.

Telehealth, Technology and Health Equity

Kathy Wibberly, PhD, University of Virginia, Director, Mid-Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center

Telehealth is held up as a tool for moving us toward health equity, and in many ways it has lived up to that promise. However, our experience during COVID-19 highlights multiple areas where diligence is needed to ensure that the growth of telehealth does not actually exacerbate rural health disparities.

4C.

Effects of Rural Broadband Access on Tribal Nations

Mary-Katherine McNatt, DrPH, MPH, ATSU College of Graduate Health Studies, Chair and Associate Professor

Susan Thomas, MEd, ATSU College of Graduate Health Studies, Instructional Designer

During the session, attendees will learn about access issues to broadband on American Indian reservations, and how lack of access can result in health disparities and inequities that can negatively impact access to education, mental health care, telehealth, and career.

4:15 – 5:15 p.m. (EDT)

Plenary Presentation

Addressing Rural Disparities in Comprehensive Cancer Control Plans

Whitney Zahnd, PhD, Rural & Minority Health Research Center at the University of South Carolina, Research Assistant Professor

Jan Eberth, PhD, Rural & Minority Health Research Center at the University of South Carolina, Associate Professor and Director

Donoria Evans, PhD, American Cancer Society, Senior Data and Evaluation Manager, Systems Partnerships

The National Advisory Committee on Rural Health & Human Services recommends state and tribal Comprehensive Cancer Control Plans address rural disparities. We will present a content analysis of rural inclusion in these plans, preliminary findings from interviews with program directors, and a non-profit organization perspective on plan development and implementation.

5:15 – 6:00 p.m. (EDT)

Plenary Presentation

The Importance of Maintaining Rural Involvement in the All of Us Research Program

Stacy Fontenot, Louisiana Rural Health Association, Executive Director

Juanita Rogers, MS, CHES, National Rural Health Association, Program Services Coordinator

Markey Pierre, MBA, DBA, Pearls of Humanity Foundation, Program Coordinator

The *All of Us* Research Program is an initiative of the National Institutes of Health that seeks to improve the health of all people in our nation. To achieve program goals, *All of Us* aims to increase involvement from groups that have historically been left out of clinical research, including rural communities. This session will provide perspectives from two rural Community and Provider Gateway Initiative (CPGI) partners within the *All of Us* Research Program, who will share why they initially wanted to be involved. Innovative methods these partners used to ensure rural research participation throughout the pandemic will be shared.

6:00 p.m. (EDT)

Conference Adjourns

Exhibitors

All of Us

Accepted Posters

Addressing Medical Epistemic Injustice in African American Populations

Bahareh Sharafi, BS, Medical Student, Ross University School of Medicine

PHRAME: Amplifying rural youth voices through photovoice

Eric Wiedenman, PhD, MPH, Post Doctoral Research Associate, Washington University in St. Louis

Achieving Health Literacy in Underserved Rural Communities

Nathan Rivas, BS, Health Education Coordinator, Flying Samaritans at UCLA

COVID-19's Impact on Rural/Urban Clinics' Contraceptive Care Provision

Kate Beatty, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Health Services Management and Policy; Co-Director, Center for Rural Health and Appalachian Health, East Tennessee State University

Residential Racial Segregation in Timely Breast Cancer Surgery

Sidra Mesiya, Medical Student, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine

Rural-Urban Comparison in the Rates of Self-harm

Jing Wang, MPH, Epidemiologist, Center for Disease Control and Prevention/National Center for Injury Prevention Control

Development of a Phone Application to Improve Screening and Intervention Rates for Maternal Risks

Jennifer Ball, PharmD, BCACP, BCGP, Associate Professor, South Dakota State University

Utilization of Rideshare Transportation on Prenatal and Postnatal Show Rates

Jennifer Ball, PharmD, BCACP, BCGP, Associate Professor, South Dakota State University

START-SD: Addressing OUD in Rural South Dakota

Erin Miller, PharmD, MBA, Assistant Professor, South Dakota State University

Medication Assisted Treatment Access in Rural South Dakota

Aaron Hunt, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor, South Dakota State University

Patient Satisfaction with Telehealth Visits in a Rural County

Rosemary Acosta Wright, Program and Research Coordinator, Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc.

Social determinants of Stroke in Rural Alabama

Mudasir Andrabi, PhD, Assistant Professor, The University of Alabama

Reaching Rural Communities with Overdose-Related Outreach Strategies

Brittany Curtis, MBA, Health Communication Specialist, Division of Overdose Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, CDC

Medicaid Innovation and Rural Dental Health

Jason Semprini, MPP, Research Fellow, University of Iowa

Promoting Health Equity Through Physical Activity in Rural Moldova

Autumn Curran, Certified Health Education Specialist, Rollins School of Public Health

Stress and Coping: African Americans during COVID-19

Daryl Traylor, M.S., MPH, Adjunct Faculty, A.T. Still University

Reaching Rural Communities with Home Visiting during the COVID-19 pandemic

Lauren Workman, PhD; 1 Maria McClam; 1 Melinda A. Merrell, PhD, MPH; 2 Elizabeth Crouch, PhD; 2 Jennifer Browder, LMSW 2

1 Core for Applied Research and Evaluation, 2 Rural and Minority Health Research Center
Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

LGBTQ+ Health Provision in Rural South Carolina

Brooke Wilson , Undergraduate Student, University of South Carolina

Self-Cervical Swabs for Screening HPV and Cervical Cancer

Rachael Mignin MS, SNM, Columbia University School of Nursing

Thank you for your attendance and your continued support of NRHA and the Health Equity Conference! Join us next year in Albuquerque, NM on May 10, 2022.

DRAFT