Arizona Rural & Public Health Policy Forum

Wednesday, January 14, 2015
Arizona State Capitol | Phoenix, Arizona

The Forum is presented by the Center for Rural Health with sponsorship from the Western Region Public Health Training Center and the Arizona Rural Health Association.
AGENDA

8:15 am ........ Welcome and Opening Remarks
Amanda Aguirre, President, Arizona Rural Health Association
Daniel Derksen, MD, Director of the Arizona Center for Rural Health

8:30 – 9:15 ........ Arizona 2015 AHCCCS and 2nd Marketplace Enrollment Update
Daniel Derksen, MD, Director of the Arizona Center for Rural Health
The presentation will provide an update on Arizona’s AHCCCS and Marketplace coverage and residual uninsured as 2015 begins.

9:15 – 10:00 ........ Value of Health Management
Mark Carroll, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Flagstaff Medical Center
John McDonald, CEO, Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers
The presenters will focus on high value, high quality health care models – Health Homes, Accountable Care Organizations and Patient Centered Medical Homes – using data and analysis to inform health policy; and the contemporary tools to improve individual and population health outcomes.

10:00 – 10:15 ........ Stretch Break

10:15 – 11:15 ........ Arizona Health Organizations and the 2015 Legislative Session
See list of organizations on next page. *
The presentation will focus on their 2015 legislative priorities covering bills submitted, their status, and the impact on the health of Arizonans.

11:15 – 11:45 ........ Health Committee Report on 2015 Legislative Priorities
Senator Nancy Barto, District 15
Representative Heather Carter, District 15
The presenters will give a brief summary on bills they have supported on access to care for rural and tribal communities and provide a brief summary on their 2015 legislative priorities.

12:00 – 1:15 pm ...... LUNCH – Arizona State Legislators have been invited.
The legislators will be introduced and have an opportunity to give a brief summary of their 2015 legislative priorities.

1:30 – 2:15 ........ Oral Health Initiatives for American Indians in Arizona
Kim Russell, Executive Director, AZ Advisory Council on Indian Health Care
Brendalee Lopez, Project Coordinator, AZ American Indian Oral Health Initiative
Alida Montiel, Health System Analyst, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.
Alaska, Minnesota and most recently Maine, passed legislation and implemented programs to train Dental Therapist programs to expand oral health access in frontier, rural and tribal areas. This presentation will describe the Arizona American Indian Oral Health Initiative.

2:15 – 2:45 ........ Stretch Break / Strengthen Your Network
Meet Forum Attendees | Get re-acquainted | Make Connections | Build Partnerships

2:45 – 3:45 ........ Workforce Development and Support
Sean Clendaniel, Director, NAHEC
Rick Stone, MD, MPH, Program Director, NAHEC
Sheila Sjolander, Assistant Director, Public Health Prevention Services, Arizona Department of Health Services
Kim VanPelt, Director, State Health Policy and Advocacy, St. Luke’s Health Initiative
Lubna Govindarajan, MPH, Senior Program Coordinator, Western Region Public Health Training Center
The presentation will address the following: Teaching Health Centers; GME/AHCCCS; Loan Repayment Program; Workforce Interdisciplinary Education

3:45 – 4:15 ........ Update on State Health Improvement Plan
Will Humble, Director, Arizona Department of Health Services
This presentation will provide an update and next steps for this statewide plan.

4:15 – 4:30 ........ Wrap-up, Closing Remarks and Adjourn
Daniel Derksen, MD, Director of the Arizona Center for Rural Health
Amanda Aguirre is a former Arizona State Senator. Since 1991, she has been President & CEO of the Regional Center for Border Health and its San Luis Walk-In Clinic, a primary care rural health medical center. For over 30 years, Ms. Aguirre has been involved in health care and business administration, and has lived in Yuma for 24 years. She has a life-long commitment to education. In 2007 she established a licensed post-secondary allied health training program, generating job opportunities for over 600 individuals. She built these multi-million dollar corporations with over 90 employees in a difficult economy. In 2003 Ms. Aguirre became the first female and first Hispanic to represent District 24 (now legislative district 4) starting in the Arizona House of Representatives, and then in the Senate from 2006 through 2010. Ms. Aguirre serves on many boards and committees.

Nancy Barto is serving her third term in the Arizona State Senate after serving three terms in the Arizona House of Representatives. She represents the 15th Legislative District encompassing North Phoenix and Northwest Scottsdale. She has sponsored major health care reforms aimed at increasing affordable health insurance options, protecting patients’ fundamental privacy rights, the rights of women and the unborn. Recognized as a consistent leader for Arizona families, she has championed important medical tort, property tax and homeowner reforms and been a voice for reform in Arizona’s foster care and behavioral health systems.

Mark Carroll, MD, is the chief medical officer at Flagstaff Medical Center and the vice-president for orthopedic and cardiovascular services at Northern Arizona Healthcare (NAH). Prior to that, he was the NAH medical director for population health innovation. Between 1992 and 2012, he served Native American healthcare in diverse clinical and leadership roles at the local, regional, and national levels. He received his A.B. from Dartmouth College and his M.D. from Dartmouth Medical School. He completed residency training at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and fellowship training in the RWJ Clinical Scholars Program at the Stanford University School of Medicine.

Heather Carter serves in the Arizona House of Representatives. Elected in 2010, she has a track record of sponsoring legislation that solves many of the complex problems facing Arizona. She works to streamline government, improve the economy, encourage job creation, protect the most vulnerable, reform education and healthcare, while maintaining a balanced state budget through responsible spending measures. She is a well-respected educational leader and a clinical associate professor at Arizona State University. She works with local school districts on educational reform issues. She was a 7th grade teacher in the Paradise Valley Unified School District and currently serves as a parent/community representative on many committees for Cave Creek Unified School District and Paradise Valley Community College.

Sean Clendaniel is honored to live and work in beautiful rural northern Arizona. He loves his job, the people he works with, and the communities and people he serves. The Northern Arizona AHEC and North Country HealthCare embody his work related passions: primary care, education, and community health. He is the NAHEC Director and on the Senior Management team at North Country Healthcare (FQHC). He holds academic appointments and is actively involved with Governing and Advisory Boards and Committees. He has strong partnerships with healthcare, academic, education, public health, social service, workforce, economic, and community-based organizations.

Daniel Derksen, MD, is the Walter H. Pearce Endowed Chair and Director of the Center for Rural Health (CRH), and Professor in the Public Health Policy and Management section at the University of Arizona’s Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. As CRH Director, he oversees the Arizona State Office of Rural Health, the Rural Hospital Flexibility Program, and the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program. He serves on the Arizona Rural Health Association Board, the Arizona Academy of Family Physicians Board, the Steering Committee of the ADHS Arizona Health Improvement Plan and the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association Small Rural Hospital Constituency Group.

* Arizona Health Organizations and the 2015 Legislative Session
  • Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care, Kim Russell, Executive Director
  • Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers, Tara McCollum, Sr. Director, External Affairs
  • Children’s Action Alliance, Joe Fu, Director of Health Policy
  • Arizona Council of Human Service Providers, Emily Jenkins, President and CEO
  • Arizona Dental Association, Kevin Earle, Executive Director
  • Arizona Hospital & Healthcare Association, Barb Fanning, Director of Government Affairs
  • Arizona Public Health Association, Nicole Olmstead, Public Health Policy, Board Member
  • Arizona Rural Health Association, Amanda Aguirre, President
  • Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc., Alida Montiel, Health System Analyst
  • Mental Health America of Arizona, Eddie Sissons
  • St. Luke’s Health Initiative, Suzanna Pfister, President and CEO
  • USDA – AZ State, Alan Stephens, State Director
Kevin Earle received a Masters degree in Public Health (MPH) from Columbia University in 2004. Prior to that he earned an MBA from Rutgers University and received a Bachelor of Arts in Public Affairs from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He has served as Executive Director of the Arizona Dental Association (AZDA) since 2008. Under his leadership at AZDA, CADS AZMOM was brought from its planning stages to fruition in 2012. He works extensively in the Arizona State Legislature each year, advocating for public funds to provide basic dental care to all adult citizens, and was one of the driving forces behind establishing the dental Mission of Mercy in Arizona.

Barbara Fanning is the Director of Government Affairs and full-time lobbyist for the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association (AzHHA). She works on legislative and budgetary issues affecting Arizona hospitals, including AHCCCS/Medicaid, behavioral health, trauma and emergency care and coverage for Arizona’s uninsured. She coordinates AzHHA’s elections strategy through independent expenditures and the political action committee. Prior to joining AzHHA in 2009, she served as the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) Legislative Liaison, with the Governor’s Office and the Legislature on legislation and budget issues. She holds a B.A. in Political Science from Syracuse University.

Joe Fu is the Director of Health Policy at Children’s Action Alliance. He manages the Kids Health Link partnership, providing health outreach and enrollment services to over 30,000 Arizonans since 2011. He coauthored a report with Georgetown University examining the impact of KidsCare and the Affordable Care Act on Arizona families and has been featured in Health Affairs, the Journal of AIDS, and in popular press at Politico Pro, Washington Post, and the Arizona Republic. He holds an MPH from the Bloomberg School at Johns Hopkins University.

Will Humble, Director for the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), has more than 25 years experience working in the public health sector, 20 of those with ADHS. The Department provides a wide array of health related services including Arizona’s behavioral and public health systems, the Arizona State Hospital, medical and child care licensure and certification services, and the Arizona Public Health Laboratory, public and media.

Emily L. Jenkins is President and CEO of the Arizona Council of Human Service Providers. Its mission is to support the work of its member organizations to improve the lives of Arizona’s diverse populations. The 88 member agencies employ over 18,000 individuals who work in 700 Arizona facilities. They provide services that keep children safe, families together, and support those with mental illness and substance use disorders. An attorney, Ms. Jenkins has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arizona and a Juris Doctorate from Arizona State University. She was named Health Care Public Policy Leader for 2014 by the Capitol Times.

Brendalee Lopez, MSAC is a Project Coordinator for the Arizona American Indian Oral Health Initiative working with the 22 Arizona tribes. She is passionate about assisting others take control of their oral health. She is a member of the Walker River Paiute Tribe from Schurz, Nevada. She received her Psychology B.A. from ASU, her Masters of Science in Addiction Counseling from West Grand Canyon University, and attends Walden University’s Ph.D Psychology program. She has worked with Phoenix College Paradental Clinic, the State Sealant Program, private dentists, and as a teacher, mentor, and student advisor in oral health.

John McDonald is the CEO of the Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers (AACHC). He has a M.S. in Public and Community Health, is a Registered Nurse, and a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ). His experience includes nursing, physician practice management, hospital administration, integrated-delivery systems, FQHCs, and Independent Practice Associations. He has published articles on quality, disease and case management. He held administrator positions with Maricopa Integrated Health Systems, John C. Lincoln Physician Network, and Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He is a Veteran who served with NATO Alliance during the Vietnam Era.

Tara McCollum Plese is the Senior Director for External Affairs with the AACHC advocating for access to quality, affordable primary health care at the state and federal levels. She has a bachelors’ degree in Political Science and a Masters degree in Public Administration from ASU. She serves on the State Medicaid Advisory Committee, ADHS Arizona Cancer Leadership Team, the ASU School of Health Innovations Health Advisory Board, the Community Health Integration Healthcare Committee, Network Advisory Council (CHIN) for St. Joseph’s Hospital, Asian Pacific Community in Action (APCA), and the Advisory Board member for Maricopa County Health Care for the Homeless. She serves on the National Association for Community Health Centers’ Board of Directors and its Rural Health and Legislative committees.

Alida V. Quiroz-Montiel, Health Systems Director Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc., is a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Her work includes health policy research and liaison work with tribal governments, tribal health departments, state and federal health related agencies in Arizona, Nevada and Utah. She is a member of the National IHS Behavioral Health Work Group, the Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care and the Arizona Behavioral Health
Nicole Olmstead is the Government Relations Director for the American Heart Association in Arizona and the co-chair of the Arizona Public Health Association Legislative Section. Prior to working at the AHA, Nicole worked as a Grants Program Manager for the Translational Genomics Research Institute, a biomedical research group located in Phoenix, Arizona. Nicole began her public health career at the ADHS managing Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grants, including arthritis, heart disease and stroke. She graduated from ASU with a B.S. in Nutrition and received her master’s degree in Public Health from the UA in 2002.

Suzanne Pfister is President and CEO of St. Luke’s Health Initiatives (SLHI) a non-partisan, public foundation focused on Arizona health policy, technical assistance for non-profits and strength-based community engagement and systems change. Prior to this, she worked for St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center, and Dignity Health Arizona. She served as a community relations and communications consultant for over a decade for Arizona clients. She has worked in state, regional and local government in energy conservation, air quality, transportation, taxpayer services and higher education.

Kim Russell is of the Bitter Water People, born for the Tangle People and is from Chinle, Arizona on the Navajo Nation. She is the Executive Director of the Advisory Council on Indian Health Care and has worked with Tribes, the Indian Health Service, and urban Indian Centers to advance their health agendas and priorities. She received her Bachelor degree in Biology from Northern Arizona University and will graduate this April with a Master of Health Administration degree from the University of Phoenix.

Eddie Sissons works with Mental Health America of Arizona to promote the mental health and well-being for all Arizonans through education, advocacy, and the shaping of public policy. She works in the community on issues ranging from health policy, behavioral health, welfare and state budgets. She has worked at the State Senate, DES and the Attorney General. She has an M.P.A. and a B.S. in Political Science from ASU, and is a Certified Public Manager.

Sheila Sjolander serves as the Assistant Director of the Division of Public Health Prevention Services at ADHS. She oversees 50 programs including nutrition, physical activity, teen pregnancy prevention, chronic disease, primary care, tobacco prevention, WIC, oral health, maternal & child health, and injury prevention. Sheila led the Bureau of Women’s & Children’s Health, and has over 15 years of planning, policy and leadership experience at the state level. She served as Strategic Planner for the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services and in workforce development in Oregon. She received her Master of Social Work in social policy and planning from Temple University in Philadelphia.

Alan Stephens was appointed by the Obama Administration and as State Director of USDA Rural Development for Arizona, and served seven years as Director during the Clinton Administration. He is an Advisor to Arizona Corporation Commissioner Paul Newman on renewable energy and energy efficiency issues. He served as Governor Napolitano’s Co-Chief of Staff for Operations (supervised the Deputy Chiefs of Staff for budget and urban affairs, and the Policy Advisors responsible for natural resources, transportation, health and human services, tribal affairs and regulatory agencies); and Arizona State Senator for eight years, two terms as Minority Leader and one as Majority Leader. He holds leadership roles in Western Progress and two behavioral health organizations.

Dr. Rick Stone was hired in 2014 as the founding Director for the Family Medicine Residency Program at North Country HealthCare. He was the Associate Program Director at Phoenix Baptist Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program, practicing full spectrum family medicine, including obstetrics. He teaches geriatrics sessions to third year medical students at the UA College of Medicine-Phoenix. He received his MD from Georgetown University School of Medicine and completed family medicine residency at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He did rural family medicine fellowships at Tacoma Family Medicine and East Tennessee State University.

Kim VanPelt is Director of State Health Policy and Advocacy at St. Luke’s Health Initiatives, an Arizona-based public foundation. She is responsible for analyzing health policy issues and engaging the community. She worked as an analyst and advocate for an Arizona-based children’s advocacy group and worked for 11 years in state government, serving in a senior leadership position for the ADHS and as an analyst for the Arizona Legislature. Her current work includes acting as a convener for the Cover Arizona Coalition, a coalition of more than 600 organizations focused on enrolling more Arizonans in health coverage.
Arizona Rural & Public Health Policy Forum

Planning Committee

**Michael Allison, Native American Liaison**
Office of the Director, Arizona Department of Health Services

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**Jack Beveridge, CEO**
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**Daniella Yaloz, Executive Director**
Arizona Public Health Association
On behalf of the Center for Rural Health at The University of Arizona, Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, we wish to thank you for attending the Arizona Rural & Public Health Policy Forum.

Feel free to e-mail any of our staff if you have any questions.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at future events!

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