



Arizona Rural Health Association

Presenters



Lupe Campos
Board President



Carrie Foote
President Elect



Why AzRHA Exists

History

- ❖ Founded in 1994 as an independent organization after serving as the Advisory Committee of the Arizona Center for Rural Health.

Role

- ❖ Ensure rural voices are informed, connected, and represented
- ❖ Expand statewide advocacy for rural health programs
- ❖ Protect and strengthen the long term stability of rural healthcare systems

Mission

The mission of the Arizona Rural Health Association is to be a **leader in partnerships, education, and policy** for improving the health status of rural communities in Arizona.





Who We Are

The board reflects a wide range of expertise across rural healthcare delivery, public health, policy, and community leadership.

We Are:

- ❖ Passionate about promoting public health in rural AZ
- ❖ Statewide leader in partnerships, education, and policy focused on rural health

Executive Board

- Lupe Campos, **President**
- Holly Figueroa, **Immediate Past President**
- Carrie Foote, **President-Elect**
- Elizabeth Kizer, **Treasurer & Program Chair**
- Elizabeth Hall-Lipsy, **Secretary, NRHA Fellow**

Board Members

- Amanda Aguirre
- Jeff Axtell
- Jack Beveridge
- Jill Bullock
- Daniel Derksen
- Kevin Driesen
- Robert Guerrero
- Aaron Guest, **Policy Chair, NRHA Fellow**
- Alison Hughes
- Carol Lewis
- Shiloh Williams, **Membership & Communications Chair, NRHA Fellow**

How the Board Supports the Mission

- ★ Strategic direction
- ★ Financial oversight
- ★ Committee leadership

while keeping AzRHA aligned with its mission and rural needs



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What We Have Been Working On Recently

2025 Strategic Plan

- Membership Growth
- Grants and Funding
- Public Health Education
- Policy



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Policy Engagement in Action



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- **State and Local** advocacy & engagement
- **[Feb 10-12] NRHA Policy Institute** - met with AZ legislators on rural health care priorities



Recent Highlights and Accomplishments



- National Rural Health Day webinars
- Rural Health Day Proclamation
- Grants

OB Simulation Training (2025-2026)

- 7 rural critical access hospitals
- 172 health professionals

Age-Friendly Rural Arizona Initiative (2026)

- Workforce Development
- Recent NRHA Fellow graduates (2/10)



Shiloh Williams

Aaron Guest





AzRHA Membership

AzRHA members include:

- Healthcare providers
- Hospitals
- Public health professionals
- Community organizations
- Academic partners
- Individuals committed to rural health

- ❖ Supports education, policy engagement, program development, and collaboration
- ❖ Provides timely information, networking, and leadership opportunities
- ❖ Strengthens rural representation in decisions shaping practice, funding, and policy

How Members Get Involved



Membership & Communication Committee

- Manages membership lifecycle, applications, nominations, and engagement
- Leads recruitment, outreach, and marketing to grow and retain members
- Oversees communications - website, social media, newsletter, and press

Chaired by: Shiloh Williams

Program & Policy Committee

- Monitors legislation and guides state and federal rural health priorities
- Leads advocacy efforts and coordinates with partners and elected officials
- Identifies education needs and organizes programs for rural communities

Program: Elizabeth Kizer
Policy Chair: Aaron Guest

JOIN AZRHA

Membership in the Arizona Rural Health Association is open to anyone who has a passion for preserving and strengthening rural healthcare in the state.

