

# NRHA's 36th Rural Health Policy Institute is Feb. 11-13 in Washington, D.C.

## Monday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>

### *Pre-Session Day*

*All times are in EST*

#### **11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

##### **NRHA Rural Health Fellows Meeting**

*Initial training session for the new 2025 Rural Health Fellows. (Limited to incoming cohort only)*

#### **12:30 – 1:30 p.m.**

##### **State Association Council Meeting**

*Meeting of the State Association Council. (Limited to current members only)*

#### **1:30 – 2:15 p.m.**

##### **Government Affairs Committee**

*Meeting of the NRHA Government Affairs Committee. (Limited to current members only)*

#### **2:30 – 3:30 p.m.**

##### **NRHA Board of Trustees**

*Meeting of the NRHA Board of Trustees. (Limited to current Board Members only)*

#### **3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

##### **NRHA Constituency Group Meetings**

*Meeting of NRHA Constituency Groups. Open to the public.*

- *Clinical Constituency Group & Federally Qualified Health Center Constituency Group (Combined)*
- *Hospital and Health System Constituency Group*
- *Public Health Constituency Group*
- *Research and Education Constituency Group*
- *Rural Health Clinic Constituency Group*
- *Statewide Health Resources Constituency Group*
- *Student Constituency Group*

#### **5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

##### **NRHA Rural Health Congress Meeting**

*Meeting of the NRHA Rural Health Congress. Open to public for observation.*

## Tuesday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>

### *Informational Sessions Day*

*All times are in EST*

#### **7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

##### **Registration**

#### **7:30 – 8:30 a.m.**

##### **Continental Breakfast**

#### **8:30 – 8:45 a.m.**

##### **Your Voice. Louder!**

*Hear from NRHA's 2025 President to learn about the association's priorities in the coming year.*

Michelle Mills, NRHA President

#### **8:45 – 9:00 a.m.**

##### **Congressional Speakers**

Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR)

#### **9:00 – 9:15 a.m.**

##### **Welcome**

*Kick off the Policy Institute to learn key advocacy messages for rural health.*

Carrie Cochran-McClain, NRHA

#### **9:15 – 9:45 a.m.**

##### **HHS Leadership**

Associate Administrator for Rural Health, Tom Morris,

#### **9:45 – 10:15 a.m.**

##### **Rural Health Outlook under the Trump Administration**

Former Health and Human Services Deputy Secretary Eric Hargan

#### **10:15 – 10:30 a.m.**

##### **Break**

#### **10:30 – 11:00 a.m.**

##### **Future of Rural Health**

Keith Mueller, RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis

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**11:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Fireside Chat: Looking Into the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress**

Dan Boston, Health Policy Source, Inc.

**11:30 – 12:00 a.m.**

**Rural Health Safety Net Struggles to Chart Sustainable Path Forward**

Michael Topchik, Chartis Center for Rural Health

**12:00 – 1:00 p.m.**

**Networking Lunch**

**1:00 – 2:00 p.m.**

**Coverage Panel: Medicaid and the Marketplace**

Lauren Aronson, Keep Americans Covered  
Joan Alker, Georgetown Center for Children and Families

**2:00 – 2:15 p.m.**

**NRHA Awards**

Alan Morgan

**2:15 – 2:45 p.m.**

**Gubernatorial Perspectives on Rural Health Opportunities**

Former Kansas Governor Jeff Colyer  
Former Mississippi Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**2:45 – 3:15 p.m.**

**Congressional Speakers**

Rep. Terri Sewell (D-AL)  
Rep. Carol Miller (R-WV)

**3:15 – 3:45 p.m.**

**Medicare Advantage: Holding Payers Accountable with Provider Data**

Travis Gentry, Hyve Health

**3:45 – 4:00 p.m.**

**Break**

**4:00 – 4:50 p.m.**

**Breakout sessions**

***Cybersecurity Resources and Insights for Rural Providers***

Ashley Jones, Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Agency

Laura Kreofsky, Microsoft

Kristen O'Brien, McDermott+

Facilitator: Marguerite Peterseim, NRHA

***What's Next for Rural Emergency Hospitals***

Aaron Herbel, Mercy Hospital

Mark Holmes, Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research

Facilitator: Alexa McKinley Abel, NRHA

***Working with State Government***

Asia Riviere, National Governors Association

Zach Snyder, Louisiana Rural Health Association

Facilitator: Zil Joyce Dixon Romero, NRHA

***Future of Rural Health Discussion***

Robert Duehmig, Oregon Office of Rural Health

Shena Popat, NORC

Brock Slabach, NRHA

Facilitator: J.T. Douglas, West Health

**5:00 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Advocacy 101**

NRHA Government Affairs team

**5:30 – 6:00 p.m.**

**State Prep Meetings**

*Time for conference participants meet by state to prepare for Hill visits.*

**6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

**NRHA Rural Health Fellows Graduation and Reception**

*Graduation ceremony and reception to celebrate the 2024 Rural Health Fellows cohort.*

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## Wednesday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>

### *Advocacy in Practice*

All times are in EST

7:30 – 11:00 a.m.

#### **Registration**

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

#### **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

#### **NRHA Priorities and Advocacy Tools**

Welcome to day two as we take our fight to Members of Congress. Learn messages and tools for advocacy.

Carrie Cochran-McClain, NRHA

9:30 – 10:00 a.m.

#### **Enhance Your Advocacy: Updates to the State and Congressional District Rural Health Profiles**

Keith Bubblo, Stroudwater Associates

10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

#### **Capitol Hill Advocacy**

Opportunities to meet with participants' state delegations on rural health priorities.

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

#### **Congressional Reception**

Dirkson Senate Office Building SD-G50

## Thursday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>

### *Rural Health Disparities Summit*

All times are in EST

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

#### **Continental Breakfast**

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

#### **Special Interest Group Breakfasts**

- Behavioral Health
- Indigenous Peoples Health
- Veterans' Health
- Rural Medical Education

8:30 – 8:45 a.m.

#### **Rural Health Disparities Summit Kickoff**

Carrie Cochran-McClain, NRHA

8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

#### **Congressional Speakers**

Rep. Buddy Carter (R-GA)

Rep. Kim Schrier (D-WA)

9:45 – 10:00 a.m.

#### **Break**

10:00 – 10:50 a.m.

#### **Breakout Sessions**

##### ***Older Americans Act and Rural Communities***

Abby Cox, ADvancing States

Rani Snyder, John A. Hartford Foundation

##### ***Ensuring Medicare Advantage Works for Rural***

Jed Hansen, Nebraska Rural Health Association

Kevin Stansbury, Lincoln Health

Facilitator: Alexa McKinley Abel, NRHA

##### ***Federal and State Telehealth Policy***

Alexis Apple, ATA Action

Jodi Schmidt, University of Kansas Health System

Facilitator: Zil Joyce Dixon Romero, NRHA

##### ***Tapping into TA: How Rural Hospitals Can Access Federal Resources For Financial Sustainability***

Brock Slabach, NRHA

Michael Fallahkhair, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

#### **Breakout Sessions**

##### ***The Oral Health Policy Landscape***

Keith Benson, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

Gina Sharps, West Virginia Oral Health Coalition

Facilitator: Zil Joyce Dixon Romero, NRHA

##### ***Contract Pharmacy Updates for Rural Covered Entities***

Andrew Askew, Essentia Health

Amanda Nagrotsky, 340B Health

Facilitator: Alexa McKinley Abel, NRHA



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***State and Federal Approaches to Promoting Rural  
Physician Training***

Emily Hawes, University of North Carolina

Dr. Bryan Hodge, MAHEC

Facilitator: Julie Wood, American Academy of Family  
Physicians