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National Rural Health Association

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NRHA announces new Rural Health Fellows

The National Rural Health Association is pleased to announce the final selections for the new class of Rural Health Fellows.

After a competitive review process, 17 fellows were selected to participate in this yearlong, intensive program aimed at developing leaders who can articulate a clear and compelling vision for rural America.

“We are very pleased to announce this new class of fellows as this program enters its seventeenth year. Once again, this class represents various levels of rural health expertise,” NRHA CEO Alan Morgan says. “With the successes achieved by the previous classes, we look forward to continuing the tradition of building rural health care leaders through this valuable program.”

The 2023 Rural Health Fellows are:

Cynthia Calixte, Wicomico Health Department deputy health officer, Salisbury, Md.

Michelle Fortune, St. Luke’s Hospital CEO, Columbus, N.C.

Michael Hassell, Melissa Memorial Hospital CEO, Holyoke, Colo.

Kevin Lambing, T.L.L. Temple Foundation senior program officer for health, Lufkin, Texas

Shakeerah McCoy, North Carolina Healthcare Association director of rural health innovation, Cary, N.C.

Nitika Moibi, Minnesota Department of Health workforce research supervisor, St. Paul, Minn.

Jenny Niblock, Citizens Medical Center chief clinical officer, Colby, Kan.

Alexis Pierre, IV, OmniPoint Health director of dentistry, Anahuac, Texas

Abby Radcliffe, Illinois Health and Hospital Association small and rural constituency section director, Springfield, Ill.

Lisa Rantz, Hilo Medical Center Foundation executive director and Hawaii State Rural Health Association president, Hilo, Hawaii

Amah Riley, Medical University of South Carolina College of Dental Medicine program manager, Charleston, S.C.

Carrie Shaver, New Mexico State University assistant professor of health management, administration, and policy, Las Cruces, N.M.

Andrea Stephenson-Royster, Lake Okeechobee Rural Health Network CEO, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

Nicole Thill, North Central Wisconsin Area Health Education Center executive director, Wausau, Wis.

Jonathan Updike, Stanford Health Care community track child and adolescent psychiatry fellow, Palo Alto, Calif.

Brian Williams, Coal Country Community Health Center and Sakakawea Medical Center CEO, Hazen, N.D.

Lauren Wood, Appalachian Regional Commission health program manager, Washington, D.C.

About NRHA

NRHA is a nonprofit organization working to improve the health and well-being of rural Americans and provide leadership on rural health issues through advocacy, communications, education, and research. NRHA's membership is made up of diverse individuals and organizations from across the country, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health.