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Contact: Lindsey Corey  
816-756-3140  
corey@NRHArural.org

## **NRHA announces 2017 Rural Health Fellows**

The National Rural Health Association is pleased to announce the final selections for its 2017 Rural Health Fellows program.

After the completion of a competitive review process, 16 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 tenth year. Once again, this class represents various levels of rural health expertise,” NRHA CEO Alan Morgan said. “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 new NRHA Rural Health Fellows are:

**Zach Allen**, Children’s International Medical Group Divisional senior vice president, Sidell, La.

**Tasha Brown**, Mississippi State Office of Rural Health and Primary Care SORH coordinator, Jackson, Miss.

**Sue Grafstrom**, LifeCare Medical Center development coordinator, Roseau, Minn.

**Brian Hanson**, Center for Rural Affairs senior policy associate, Lyons, Neb.

**Carrie Henning-Smith**, University of Minnesota Rural Health Research Center research associate, Minneapolis, Minn.

**Sarah Huling**, Forks Community Hospital sonographer and radiology technologist, Forks, Wash.

**Nikki King**, Margaret Mary Health administrative fellow, Batesville, Ind.

**Brian Lady**, Concho County Hospital CEO, Eden, Texas

**Gregory Maurer**, Sheridan Memorial Hospital Association CEO, Plentywood, Mont.

**Joni Nelson**, Medical University of South Carolina post-doctoral scholar in oral health interprofessionalism, Charleston, S.C.

**Marcus Pigman**, Kentucky Office of Rural Health rural project manager, Hazard, Ky.

**Rebecca Sanders**, Indiana Rural Health Association director of operations, Terre Haute, Ind.

**Erin Tanenbaum**, Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis at NORC senior statistician II, Bethesda, Md.

**Jacob Thatcher**, Pacific Northwest College of Medicine medical student, Yakima, Wash.

**Kathy Whitmire**, National Rural Accountable Care Consortium regional vice president, Toccoa, Ga.

**Joy Williams**, North Carolina Council for Churches Partners in Health and Wholeness regional coordinator, Raleigh, N.C.

The fellows' first meeting will be during NRHA's Rural Health Policy Institute Feb. 7-9 in Washington, D.C.

NRHA is a nonprofit organization working to improve the health and wellbeing of rural Americans and providing leadership on rural health issues through advocacy, communications, education and research. NRHA's membership is made up of more than 21,000 diverse individuals and organizations, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health.

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