

**Contact information:**

**NRHA Rural Hospital Certification Programs**

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**First cohort for NRHA’s Rural Hospital CMO Certification Program graduates**

**[Kansas City, Mo.] –** National Rural Health Association’s (NRHA) Rural Hospital CMO Certification Program has completed its first cohort, which started in July 2023.

Leadership makes the difference. Today’s rural hospitals and clinics face tremendous challenges and uncertainty and are closing at an unprecedented rate. One in every three rural hospitals has been identified as “at risk.” According to NRHA CEO Alan Morgan, “Leadership is the biggest predicter of rural hospital success.”

Congratulations to all July 2023 cohort participants:

* Anne Millard - Frances Mahon Deaconess Hospital, Glasgow, Mont.
* Bensson Samuel - MyMichigan Sault, Sault Sainte Marie, Mich.
* Carson Seeber - Tri State Memorial Hospital, Clarkston, Wash.
* Christy Tuomi - South Peninsula Hospital, Homer, Alaska
* Ian Stormont - Memorial Hospital of Lafeyette County, Darlington, Wis.
* Kenneth Anaeme - Sage Memorial Hospital, Ganado, Ariz.
* Kevin Harada - Northern Montana Health Care, Havre, Mont.
* Kevin Omilusik - Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation, Dillingham, Alaska
* Lisa Mark - UVMHN Medical Group, Plattsburgh, N.Y.
* Marlena Strandir - Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation, Dillingham, Alaska

Sameta Sosa – Uvalde Memorial Hospital, Uvalde, Texas

**About NRHA’s Rural Hospital CMO Certification Program:** NRHA’s Rural Hospital CMO Certification Program was developed by successful rural hospital CMOs for rural hospital CMOs to help them strengthen their leadership skills and lead their hospital to success. An individual with this certification will immediately be recognized as someone qualified to be a CMO leader in a rural hospital with excellence. NRHA’s Rural Hospital Certification Programs are facilitated by the Center for Rural Health Leadership.

To learn more about all available programs, visit [www.crhleadership.com](http://www.crhleadership.com)