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**Seventh cohort for NRHA’s Rural Hospital CNO Certification Program launches**

**[Kansas City, Mo.] –** National Rural Health Association’s (NRHA) Rural Hospital CNO Certification Program launched its eighth cohort in May 2024.

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 CNO Alan Morgan, “Leadership is the biggest predicter of rural hospital success.”

The following individuals were accepted into the May 2024 cohort:

* Nicole Newberry - Harbor Regional Health, Aberdeen, Wash.
* Lisa Gates - Southwest Health, Cortez, Colo.
* Beth Goetz - Coulee Medical Center, Grand Coulee, Wash.
* Melissa Southworth - Reedsburg Area Medical Center, Reedsburg, Wis.
* Kerri Snyder - Muenster Memorial Hospital, Muenster, Texas
* Tonya Guffey - Memorial Hospital District, Seminole, Texas
* Debra Jenkins - Jay Hospital, Jay, Fla.
* Haley Medley - Unity Medical Center, Manchester, Tenn.
* Sammantha Cox - Central Valley Medical Center, Nephi, Utah
* Trina Hargis – Cox Health, Mo.
* Shannon Earl - Columbia Memorial Hospital, Astoria, Ore.
* Julia Sbragia - Kane County Hospital, Kanab, Utah
* Carly Haag - UVM Health Network, Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital, Plattsburgh, N.Y.
* Carol Bojorquez - Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District, Brawley, Calif.
* Cassandra Hildreth - Roane General Hospital, Spencer, W.Va.
* Jill Rollins - Bridgton Hospital, Bridgton, Maine
* Julie Carr - Roane General Hospital, Spencer, W.Va.
* Linda Pierce - Martin County Hospital, Stanton, Texas

**About NRHA’s Rural Hospital CNO Certification Program:** NRHA’s Rural Hospital CNO Certification Program was developed by successful rural hospital CNOs for rural hospital CNOs 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 CNO 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)