



# VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP

The South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations (SDAHO) is committed to serving our members by advocating for health care issues, legislation, and policies to improve health care across South Dakota. We provide leadership and support and ensure that health care systems, hospitals and long-term care providers are represented with a unified voice.

## OUR MISSION:

Advancing healthy communities through a unified voice across the health care continuum.

## OUR VISION:

We envision communities throughout South Dakota where everyone reaches their highest potential for health.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

### Advocacy

One of SDAHO's primary focuses is advocating for our members on a variety of critical issues impacting the operations of our members and the quality of care that is delivered to South Dakotans.

- Regulatory relief is at the forefront of our efforts as we support legislative efforts to reduce the burden on health care systems, hospitals and long term care facilities.
- We are leading the effort to increase the Medicaid rates in South Dakota.
- We lobby on behalf of our members to ensure our voice is heard at the state and federal levels.

### Education

Throughout the year, members are able to earn the education credits they need to maintain licensure or certification. Education is a key value-added benefit for all members and is offered through webinars, in-person meetings and at the annual Partners in Care Conference, Rural Health Leaders Conference and Annual Convention. SDAHO partners with several organizations to bring resources and training to all health care disciplines across the continuum of care with a key focus on nurse leadership, regulatory compliance, health care quality, physician engagement and patient-centered care.

### Expert Data & Resources

SDAHO provides members with many valuable reports including: Wage, salary, benefits and turnover survey data, impact analyses of Medicare payment policy changes and quality-based programs, Medicaid skilled nursing facility cost comparison analysis and Dimensions, a statewide inpatient/outpatient database. In addition to expert reports, SDAHO staff are experienced advisors in a variety of areas and have access to information and resources to support our members.

### Collaboration & Networking

We work closely with American Hospital Association, LeadingAge, National Rural Health Association and National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, as well as many South Dakota associations and groups. Working together with others enables us to advance priorities and accomplish more. Collaboration also provides valuable networking opportunities.



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## RELATED ENTITIES



### Healthcare, Research, Education and Trust (HRET)

The Healthcare, Research, Education and Trust was established in 2017 to facilitate performance improvements and assist health care providers in meeting state and federal regulations, maintaining quality delivery of patient care and improving health. As the director of quality integration, Kristen Bunt is SDAHO's expert advisor in this area.



### SDAHO Enterprises

[www.enterprises.sdaho.org](http://www.enterprises.sdaho.org)

SDAHO Enterprises is a for-profit wholly owned subsidiary with its own board. Enterprises was established in 2017 to provide cutting edge and cost-effective purchasing solutions for our members. Through a process of due diligence, SDAHO staff perform the necessary evaluation and analysis of each potential business partner, followed by approval and endorsement by a special selection committee made up of executives from South Dakota hospitals. Connor Hickman is SDAHO's business development professional for the Enterprises program.



### Political Action Committee (PAC)

The PAC is devoted to helping elect and support candidates who understand the key issues facing South Dakota health care providers and those who are willing to protect public policies for vital health care services. As SDAHO's chief lobbyist, Tim Rave is the contact for SDAHO's PAC.

## Contact Us

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## Staff

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- ◆ **Sarah Aker** | Director, Fiscal Policy
- ◆ **Kelsey Grady** | Enterprises Business Development Manager
- ◆ **Stephanie Rissler** | Communication Manager
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- ◆ **Michelle Hofer, RN** | Clinical Improvement Consultant
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- ◆ **Sheena Thomas** | Content Specialist
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## Our National Partners

