

2024 RURAL HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE



CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

This conference is intended for leaders of rural healthcare who are involved in strategic planning, operations, and leading teams. The sessions cover both federal and state-specific topics that are relevant to healthcare within our state. This intimate event facilitates in-depth discussions, idea sharing, and ample networking opportunities with colleagues from across the state.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

The intended audience includes C-suite executives, directors, and managers of hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living, home health and hospice organizations.

REGISTRATION

Register online at www.sdaho.org/rural-health-leaders-conference

- SDAHO member - \$200
- Non-member - \$300

SDAHO Refund/Cancellation Policy

Policies regarding refunding of registration fees for SDAHO's Rural Health Leaders Conference are

- 1) Full Refund if cancellation is received 2 weeks (June 11 or earlier) prior to SDAHO's Rural Health Leaders Conference;
- 2) NO REFUND if cancellation is received less than 2 weeks prior to (June 12 or later) to the SDAHO Rural Health Leaders Conference;
- 3) NO REFUND for "No Shows." Exceptions to this policy may be made in unusual circumstances at the discretion of the SDAHO President.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Conference Location

All conference events will take place at the Drifters Event Center in Fort Pierre, SD. The address is 325 Hustan Ave, Fort Pierre, SD, 57532.

Lodging

SDAHO is offering a special hotel rate at AmericInn (312 Island Dr. Fort Pierre, SD, 57532).

The SDAHO room rate is \$149 a night plus taxes and fees. The deadline for this rate is June 10 or when they sell out.

Click [here](#) to secure this rate.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 25

12:00-1:00 pm | Opening Keynote: Business as UnUsual: Change Essentials Executive Briefing

Steve Steckler, Senior Performance Consultant, Pritchett, LP

Learn the leadership skills necessary for driving positive change. Invariably, leaders rely on their habitual management approach which is doomed to create unnecessary problems throughout transition and change. Business As UnUsual: Change Essentials explains the organizational dynamics of change, highlights predictable hot spots, identifies urgent new priorities, and coaches individuals on the counter-intuitive moves required of leaders in this highly charged period. The Business As UnUsual: Change Essentials Executive briefing will help leaders recognize the realities of change, understand the impact of change, and manage the critical priorities during change – communication, productivity, and resistance. By implementing these strategies, leaders can protect productivity, retain talent, and build resilience during transition and change. (NHA 1.2)

1:05-2:00 pm | A View from the Hill: Rural Health Updates from DC

Alexa McKinley, Government Affairs and Policy Director, National Rural Health Association (NRHA)

Alexa McKinley will provide an update on federal legislative and regulatory activity over the past year as well as NRHA advocacy efforts and priorities. Participants will understand the current congressional environment and what is likely to happen in the rest of the 118th Congress. Ms. McKinley will discuss rules from relevant federal agencies that have the potential to impact rural health providers and patients. Lastly, she will address NRHA's key legislation and how you can help advocate for rural health priorities. (NHA 1.1)

2:05 – 3:00 pm | South Dakota Housing Challenges: A Conversation About Solutions

Roger Jacobs, State Director, US Department of Housing and Urban Development; **Mike Walker**, Executive Director Neighbor Works, Dakota Home Resources; **Dana Kleinsasser**, Deputy State Director Rural Development, US Dept. of Agriculture; **Eric Ambrosion**, Planning and Development Director iii - Community Development Specialist; **Dennise VanderWerf**, Board President, Platte Healthcare Center - Avera; **Lori Moen**, COO, Grow South; Moderator, **Stephanie Rissler**, Marketing and Media Relations Manager, SDAHO

Housing challenges impact many industries and communities across South Dakota, but how do we get beyond those challenges with ongoing workforce shortages and our state's geographic complexities? This session brings together state and federal leaders whose focus is addressing housing shortages with programs at the local, state, and federal levels. Panelists will share programs that could assist your community with housing issues. Additionally, learn from one community who worked together to create more housing for their healthcare community but also worked on building a new childcare center to address the town's lack of daycare. This session is designed to help you think outside of the box, connect you with local and state housing professionals, and focus on solutions to our state's housing shortage. (NHA 1.1)

3:15 – 4:10 pm | Revolutionizing Rural Mental Wellness: Bridging the Gap Between Policy and Reality

Jason Haglund & Renee Schulte, Rural Policy Partners

This session will address the unique challenges rural, remote, and frontier communities face in addressing behavioral health issues. Through discussions and expert insights, we'll explore hurdles in system readiness, workforce development, and care coordination, as well as discrepancies between policies and their implementation. Gain an understanding of these challenges and complexities, the impact of mental health disorders and substance abuse, and strategies to bridge the gap between policy and practice in rural behavioral health. (NHA 1.1)

4:15 – 5:00 pm | SDAHO Update: Medicaid Expansion, Financial Updates & Workforce Initiatives

Tim Rave, SDAHO CEO; **Jacob Parsons**, SDAHO Director of Advocacy and Reimbursement; **Becky Heisinger**, SDAHO Director of Quality Integration

Join the staff of the South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations (SDAHO) for an informative session on healthcare initiatives taking place within the state. The session will cover key topics such as Medicaid expansion efforts in the state, changes to healthcare reimbursement policies, and workforce initiatives aimed at addressing staffing shortages and improving the healthcare workforce in the state. (NHA 0.9)

5:15 – 6:30 pm Social Reception

2024

RURAL HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

8:00-8:30am | South Dakota Department of Health Welcome & Update (.6)

South Dakota Department of Health

Join us for a special session featuring the South Dakota Department of Health as they provide updates and insights into the state of health in South Dakota. This session will offer an overview of current health initiatives, happening across the state. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear directly from key representatives of the Department of Health, gaining valuable insights into the latest developments and future plans for improving health outcomes in South Dakota.

8:35 – 9:30 am Be the CHANGE: Effective Leadership Comes from Within

Darren Walker, *Owner & Principal, Soundmind Leader*

In the complex and ever-changing world of healthcare, the key to effective leadership lies within. This session explores the profound truth that "structure determines performance," especially in leadership roles. Understanding your inner game is not just about self-awareness; it's about building a structured identity that enhances decision-making, communication, and relationship-building as a healthcare leader.

This session is a journey towards raising your consciousness of your inner game thus creating a well-structured leadership identity. By exploring the intricacies of your inner game, you will learn to construct a robust framework that influences your leadership style, decision-making, and ability to inspire your team. In doing so, you'll be equipped to navigate the complexities of healthcare leadership, driving meaningful change, and becoming an effective leader. *(NHA 1.1)*

9:40 – 11:10 am | Healthcare Compliance: Emerging Trends and Best Practices for Managing Risk

South Dakota Healthcare Executive Panel

Healthcare compliance affects every type of healthcare provider from the solo practitioner to the largest global healthcare conglomerate. It is an important area of the healthcare industry given the focus on different areas of compliance and compliance professionals' need to be aware of standards set forth by accrediting bodies and regulators. To understand where the area of compliance is heading, healthcare professionals stay current on topics of False Claims, Cybersecurity and Privacy Risks, Third-Party Risk, Regulatory Changes, and Ethics. This program will present strategies for successfully navigating these important areas of compliance, leadership challenges and insight into trend and best practices of managing risk. *(NHA 1.8)*

11:15 am – 12:15 pm | The Future is Human: Creating People-First Work Cultures

Lisa Walden, *Co-Founder, Good Company Consulting & Future of Work Expert*

We are entering a new era of work, one where businesses win when leaders are compassionate, communication is empathetic, and people are prioritized. But that transformation, much like any kind of change, requires a great degree of intention and care. By embracing the workplace lessons learned during the pandemic years there's an opportunity to design the kind of organization we all want to work in, and a culture we can all be a part of. In this presentation, you'll learn how to create a healthier, happier, and ultimately more successful workplace culture by putting people first. Steeped in years of research and listening (really listening) to employees at all levels, it will paint the picture of what the future of work can and should look like, and how you can get started with that redesign right away. *(NHA 1.2)*

12:15 pm Closing Comments