

# **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.

Attendees can earn 3 face-to-face ACHE credits and 10.6 continuing education hours are approved for nursing home administrators.

## **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 <https://members.sdaho.org/events/2025-rural-health-leaders-conference>

- SDAHO member - \$200
- Non-member - \$350
- ACHE pre-conference session - \$50

## **SDAHO Refund/Cancellation Policy**

Policies regarding the 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.

### **Lodging**

SDAHO is offering a special hotel rate at:

- Clubhouse Hotel & Suites - click [here](#). Available until May 25.
- My Place Hotel in Fort Pierre - click [here](#).

# **STRENGTHENING RURAL**

# **RURAL HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE**

## **AGENDA**

### **June 25**

**9:30 AM - 11:00 AM**

Pre-Session- ACHE Panel - Navigating Key Legislative Issues (Additional Fee)

**\*Sponsored by ACHE of South Dakota - 1.5 ACHE credits**

**12:00 PM - 12:30 PM**

Opening Remarks | Governor Larry Rhoden (tentative)

**12:40 PM - 1:40 PM**

Be the Best Part of Their Day: Supercharging Communication with Values-Driven Leadership | David Schreiner, Ph.D.

**1:50 PM - 3:20 PM**

The Cybersecurity Threat Landscape and Its Impact on Health Care | Scott Gee, American Hospital Association & Laura Kreofsky, Microsoft

**3:30 PM - 4:30 PM**

EMS in SD: Future Strategies and Building the Next Generation of Paramedics | Panel

**4:40 PM - 5:15 PM**

SDAHO Update | SDAHO Staff

**5:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

Vendor Social

### **June 26**

**8:00 AM - 9:00 AM**

A View From Washington: The State of Rural Health Policy | Zil Joyce Dixon Romero, National Rural Health Association

**9:10 AM - 10:50 AM**

Sustainable Strategies to Support Well-Being for Healthcare Professionals | ACHE Panel

**\*Sponsored by ACHE of South Dakota - 1.5 ACHE credits**

**11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

A Peek Behind the Curtain of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit | Marty Jackley, Attorney General and Amanda Miiller, Deputy Attorney General

# **STRENGTHENING RURAL**

# **RURAL HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE**

## **SCHEDULE**

### **June 25**

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

#### **Pre-Session- ACHE Panel - Navigating Key Legislative Issues (Additional Fee)**

Numerous public policy and legislative issues around healthcare delivery and public health affect healthcare organizations and demand involvement of their leaders to respond and adjust organizational policies and procedures. These issues often relate to improving population health, access and coverage through Medicaid and other programs, improving value, addressing consumer issues and workforce shortages, and more. Learning these issues and being involved in policy and organizational responses is important for healthcare leaders, regardless of how directly they may be involved.

12:00 PM - 12:30 PM

#### **Opening Remarks: Governor Larry Rhoden (Tentative)**

12:40 PM - 1:40 PM

#### **Be The Best Part of Their Day: Supercharging Communication with Values-Driven Leadership | David Schreiner, Ph.D.**

Drawing from the insights in his book, Dr. David L. Schreiner inspires attendees to lead with greater purpose, connect more authentically, and elevate everyday interactions into extraordinary moments. Through a blend of storytelling, data, and reflective exercises, participants will discover the transformative power of asking meaningful questions, listening without the urge to fix, and leading with a mission-driven mindset.

1:50 PM - 3:20 PM

#### **The Cybersecurity Threat Landscape and Its Impact on Health Care | Scott Gee, American Hospital Association & Laura Kreofsky, Microsoft**

As cyber threats grow in sophistication and frequency, the health care sector faces increasing risks to patient safety, data integrity, and care delivery. In this session, experts from the American Hospital Association and Microsoft will explore the evolving cybersecurity threat landscape and discuss the real-world implications of cyberattacks on hospitals and health systems. Learn how health care organizations can strengthen their defenses and protect critical infrastructure to ensure the continued delivery of safe, high-quality care.

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

#### **EMS in SD: Future Strategies and Building the Next Generation of Paramedics | Panel**

This panel will explore the evolving landscape of Emergency Medical Services in South Dakota, examining key challenges such as funding shortages, staffing limitations, and service closures. The discussion will highlight state-led initiatives focused on workforce development, streamlined licensing, and expanded training opportunities. Presenters will share data on recruitment efforts, available grant programs, and the return on investment for paramedic support. Looking ahead, the session will cover strategies for long-term sustainability, regional collaboration, and strengthened partnerships at the community level. It will also spotlight the next generation of EMS professionals, including expanded roles, educational pathways, and the integration of Community Health Workers. The session concludes with a forward-looking vision for EMS and a call to action for stakeholders across the healthcare system.

4:40 PM - 5:15 PM

#### **SDAHO Update | Tim Rave and Jacob Parsons, SDAHO**

5:30 PM - 6:30pm

#### **Exhibitor Social**

# **RURAL HEALTH LEADERS CONFERENCE**

## **SCHEDULE**

### **June 26**

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

#### **A View From Washington: The State of Rural Health Policy | Zil Joyce Dixon Romero, NRHA**

In this session, NRHA State Government Affairs Manager Zil Joyce Dixon Romero will provide a comprehensive overview of current federal and state rural health policy development. This will include updates from the 119th Congress and the Trump administration. Attendees will gain insights into key legislative priorities, proposed budget impacts on rural programs, workforce shortages, including South Dakota's critical primary care gaps and threats to the rural health safety net. The presentation will also highlight resources and opportunities for advocacy and engagement with your federal officials.

9:10 PM - 10:50 PM

#### **Sustainable Strategies to Support Well-Being for Healthcare Professionals | ACHE Panel**

In recent years, challenges related to healthcare professional burnout have only accelerated, exacerbating pre-existing issues within the workforce. This has resulted in significant difficulties for healthcare workers and their loved ones, as well as workforce shortages that are putting a strain on the healthcare system. Additionally, adverse patient events have been linked to healthcare staff experiencing sleep disturbances, reduced job satisfaction, impaired behavior, and anxiety. These factors contribute to more severe consequences such as burnout, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and suicidal ideation. Healthcare leaders often struggle to find long-term solutions to address this critical yet personal issue for both their staff and their organizations. During this panel, participants will learn sustainable strategies and approaches to support well-being and resiliency for healthcare professionals in today's healthcare environment. Even when leaders acknowledge this challenge, they are frequently faced with conflicting information or quick-fix solutions that fail to create lasting change and can sometimes foster cynicism among employees. During this panel, participants will explore the importance of supporting and sustaining well-being for healthcare professionals in today's healthcare environment.

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

#### **A Peek Behind the Curtain of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit | Marty Jackley, Attorney General & Amanda Miiller, Deputy AG**

Medicaid Fraud Control Units investigate and prosecute Medicaid provider fraud, abuse or neglect of residents in hospitals, health care facilities and board and care facilities, and instances of drug diversion. In this session, Attorney General Marty Jackley and Deputy Attorney General Amanda Miiller will provide an overview of the SD Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, discuss the different mechanisms by which an investigation may be triggered, and provide valuable insights into achieving favorable outcomes short of litigation. Attendees will gain an understanding of what goes into making prosecution decisions, and what steps CEOs and C-suite leaders can take to protect their institutions and strengthen community trust.

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