
31st Annual
MISSISSIPPI
RURAL HEALTH
CONFERENCE 2026
November 11-13, 2026 | Flowood, MS
MISSISSIPPI
RURAL HEALTH
ASSOCIATION
THE MISSISSIPPI CENTER
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# Agenda

## Wednesday, November 11, 2026

### Pre-Conference Workshop

**9:00AM - 2:00PM**

**Rural Health Clinic Compliance Bootcamp: Billing, Conditions of Participation, and Survey Readiness**

*Speaker: Joanie Perkins, JP Consulting, and Kate Hill, The Compliance Team*

Maintaining compliance in today's Rural Health Clinic environment requires more than accurate billing. This interactive workshop will provide an in-depth review of Rural Health Clinic billing requirements alongside the Medicare Conditions for Certification (Conditions of Participation) that are frequently cited during state and federal surveys. Participants will explore common compliance challenges, recent survey trends, and practical strategies to identify and correct potential deficiencies before they become condition-level violations. Whether your clinic is preparing for an upcoming survey or simply strengthening its compliance program, this session will provide actionable guidance to help ensure regulatory success.

### Golf Tournament

**12:00PM - 5:00PM**

**Rural Health Golf Tournament**

Tee off with colleagues for a day of fresh air, friendly competition, and fairway fun at the Rural Health Golf Tournament! Whether you're swinging for birdie or just here for the laughs, it's the perfect way to network before the conference begins. The tournament will start with lunch at noon, with a shotgun start at 1:45PM. Awards will be presented for first, second, and third place finishers.

## Thursday, November 12, 2026

### Main Conference Day 1

**7:30 AM** **Check-in and Networking Breakfast**

**9:30 AM** **Mississippi Medicaid Update**

*Speaker: Jennifer Wentworth, Chief of Staff, Mississippi Division of Medicaid*

Join the Mississippi Division of Medicaid for an update on the latest developments impacting Mississippi's Medicaid program. This session will provide an overview of current policy initiatives, program changes, and key issues affecting healthcare providers across the state. Participants will gain valuable insights into upcoming priorities and have a better understanding of how Medicaid continues to evolve to meet the healthcare needs of Mississippians.

**10:30 AM** **Quick Hits: Hot Topics and Important Updates**

**Presentations:**

- Rural Physician Outlook – *Dr. Italo Subbarao, William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine*
- FLEX and SHIP Updates – *Greg Wolf, Wintergreen*
- Strategies for Patient Financing – *Brianna Bloemker, ClearBalance*

**11:30 AM** **Break**

**Noon**

## Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting

Join colleagues from across Mississippi celebrating excellence in rural healthcare during the Mississippi Rural Health Association's Awards Banquet and Annual Membership Meeting. The banquet will recognize outstanding individuals, organizations, hospitals, clinics, and community partners whose leadership, innovation, and service have made a lasting impact on the health of rural Mississippians. In addition to the presentation of annual awards, members will participate in the Association's Annual Membership Meeting, which will include organizational updates, the election and installation of leadership, recognition of outgoing board members, and highlights of the Association's accomplishments over the past year. This special event provides an opportunity to celebrate achievements, strengthen professional relationships, and honor those who are advancing rural health across Mississippi.

**1:00 PM**

## Legislative Panel Discussion

*Speakers: Sen. Kevin Blackwell and Rep. Sam Creekmore*

Join a panel of state legislators for an engaging discussion on the policy issues expected to shape rural healthcare during the 2027 legislative session. Panelists will provide updates on anticipated legislation, healthcare funding priorities, workforce initiatives, Medicaid and insurance issues, and other topics affecting rural hospitals, clinics, providers, and communities throughout Mississippi. This interactive session will also offer attendees the opportunity to hear directly from policymakers, ask questions, and gain valuable insight into the legislative priorities and challenges that lie ahead.

**2:00 PM**

## Mississippi Rural Health Day Reception

This reception will celebrate the amazing success of rural health in Mississippi as well as provide an opportunity for members to network with one another and visit with vendors. In addition, it is an opportunity for members to judge the Mississippi Rural Physician Scholars posters.

**2:30 PM**

## Governor's Update

*Speaker: Governor Tate Reeves*

This session will provide attendees with an update on key healthcare priorities affecting Mississippi, with a special emphasis on rural healthcare and the continued implementation of the Mississippi Rural Health Transformation Fund. The session will highlight the state's efforts to strengthen rural healthcare infrastructure, expand access to care, support healthcare providers, and improve health outcomes in communities across the state. Attendees will also hear updates on other significant healthcare initiatives, policy priorities, and opportunities that will shape the future of healthcare in Mississippi.

**3:30 PM**

## Constituency Breakout Sessions

This new session will allow small groups to form for private conversations around issues specific to their discipline. Groups will be assigned private meeting areas, and discussion will be loosely facilitated by a member of that constituency. Groups will include rural hospital leadership, hospital staff, clinic leadership, healthcare providers, public health professionals, educators, and students.

# Friday, November 13, 2026

## Main Conference Day 2

**7:30 AM**

## Check-in and Networking Breakfast

**8:15 AM**

## Transforming Veteran Access Through VA External Provider Scheduling (EPS)

*Speaker: Stacey Swanson, MHA, FACHE, Acting EPS Program Manager*

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will introduce External Provider Scheduling (EPS), an innovative cloud-based platform that enables VA schedulers to book approved appointments directly into participating community providers' scheduling systems in real time. Attendees will learn how EPS streamlines referral coordination, reduces administrative burden, improves scheduling efficiency, and enhances the overall experience for both providers and Veterans. The session will also explain the onboarding process, how EPS integrates with existing referral workflows, and the security measures that protect patient information while allowing providers to maintain full control over their schedules. Whether you currently serve Veterans or are interested in expanding your partnership with the VA, this session will provide practical guidance on leveraging EPS to improve access to timely, coordinated care.

**9:15 AM**

## Rural Hospital Panel Discussion

*Speakers: Chad Netterville, Lorie Till, Allison Schuler, and Jim Blackwood*

Four hospital leaders will share their experiences navigating workforce shortages, financial pressures, and service expansion. This interactive discussion will provide real-world strategies for sustaining rural hospitals. Panelists will also address recent innovations in patient care and community partnerships.

**10:00 AM**

## Break

**10:15 AM**

## Critical Connections: Strengthening Emergency Ground and Air Medical Transportation in Mississippi

*Speakers: Billy Casey, GMR; Jay Chappelle, EMT, BSN, MBA; and Teresa Windham, MSDH EMS*

Timely access to emergency medical transportation is a critical component of healthcare delivery, particularly in Mississippi's rural communities where distance, limited resources, and hospital closures can significantly impact patient outcomes. This session will bring together leaders from ground EMS agencies, air medical transport providers, hospitals, emergency management, and public health to discuss the current landscape of emergency transportation across the state. Panelists will explore operational challenges, workforce shortages, reimbursement issues, interfacility transfers, disaster response, and opportunities for improving coordination between ground and air services. Attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of how collaborative planning and innovative strategies can strengthen Mississippi's emergency transportation network and improve access to lifesaving care.

**11:15 AM**

## Hot Topic Closing Keynote: Rural Health Transformation Program Design, Contracting and Implementation + MRPSP Poster Awards

*Speakers: Kyle Brewer, MBA, FACHE; Ryan Kelly, MS; and Stacy Dorris, MBA, RHIA, CPHQ*

As the conference concludes, this interactive panel will provide attendees with the latest updates on the Mississippi Rural Health Transformation Fund, including newly released guidance, implementation progress, state contracting requirements, and emerging opportunities. Participants will hear about recent developments affecting funding priorities, program administration, and project implementation across the state. The session will also offer an opportunity to discuss common questions, share lessons learned, and identify strategies for maximizing the impact of Rural Health Transformation Fund investments. Attendees will leave with timely information and practical insights to help their organizations successfully navigate the evolving program landscape.

**Noon**

## Conference Adjourns

## Continuing Education Information

The AL Statewide AHEC Program is an approved provider of continuing hours for nurses by the AL Board of Nursing (Provider ABNP1584 Expiration Date 6/14/2028) and has awarded contact hours for nursing and social work education for the Mississippi Rural Health Association Conference November 11-13th, 2026. Nursing home administrator and ACHE education has been awarded by their respective administrative bodies.

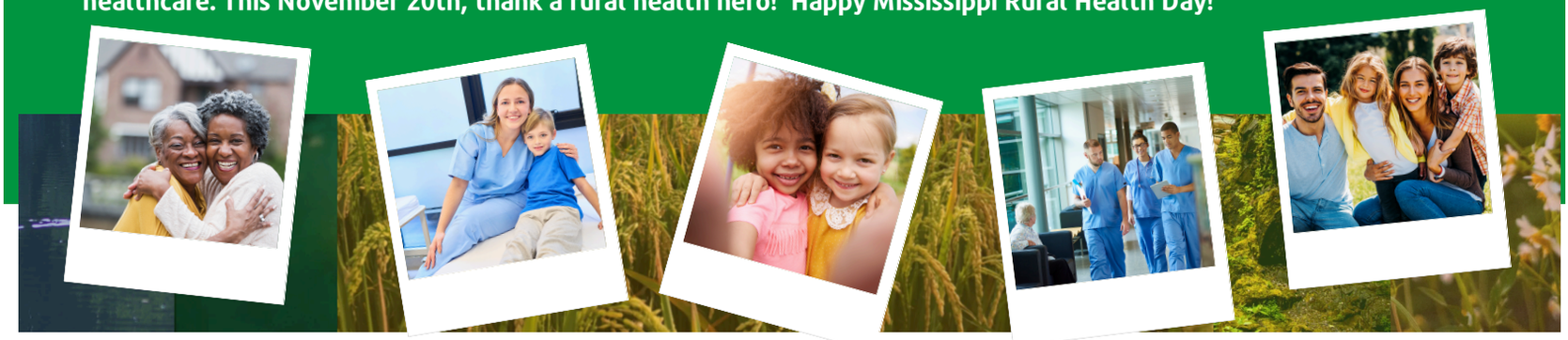
- Nursing Home Administrator: 6.0 main conference
- Nursing: 6.0 pre-conference, 1.2 main conference
- Social Work: 6.0 pre-conference, 1.2 main conference
- ACHE: 8.0 hours main conference

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# MISSISSIPPI Rural Health Day

**Mississippi is among the most rural states in the nation. To celebrate quality healthcare delivered through Mississippi's rural hospitals and rural health clinics, Governor Phil Bryant signed a proclamation in 2015 declaring November 20th of each year to be Mississippi Rural Health Day.**

**Access to preventative and emergency care is essential to those in rural areas. The Mississippi Rural Health Association expresses its gratitude to all rural hospitals, rural clinics, FQHCs, and individuals who contribute to the success of rural healthcare. This November 20th, thank a rural health hero! Happy Mississippi Rural Health Day!**





MISSISSIPPI RURAL PHYSICIANS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Don't forget to stop by the reception at 2:00 PM on Nov. 12th to view and judge poster presentations from Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program scholars. Take a few minutes to support these future physicians and their work to strengthen rural healthcare! Ballots can be found in this booklet.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

# Speakers

## Joanie Perkins, CPC, CHCM



**Chief Compliance Officer, North Sunflower Medical Center | JP Consulting**

Joanie Perkins is a nationally recognized rural healthcare consultant with more than 40 years of experience in healthcare management, including over two decades specializing in Rural Health Clinics and Critical Access Hospitals. She founded J.P. Consulting, Inc. in 1987, providing expertise in outpatient billing, Rural Health Clinic conversions, regulatory compliance, and operational improvement. Perkins serves as Chief Compliance Officer at North Sunflower Medical Center in the Mississippi Delta, where she supports regulatory compliance and quality improvement initiatives. She has served in national leadership roles with the National Rural Health Association, including its Executive Board and Rural Health Clinic constituency group. Her professional involvement also includes the Mississippi Rural Health Association, Medicare contractor advisory activities, and healthcare compliance committees. Through her consulting, education, and advocacy, Perkins has helped rural healthcare organizations across the country strengthen operations and navigate complex regulatory requirements.

## Kate Hill, RN



**Vice President of Rural Health, The Compliance Team**

Kate Hill serves as Vice President of Rural Health for The Compliance Team, a nationally recognized healthcare accreditation organization. Since joining the organization in 2012, she has led initiatives supporting Rural Health Clinic accreditation, patient-centered medical homes, and swing bed certification. A graduate of Albert Einstein Medical Center School of Nursing, Hill began her healthcare career as an Army nurse serving in Vietnam, where she received the Bronze Star for meritorious service. Her professional background includes clinical nursing leadership and experience in the medical device industry. Hill has served on the boards of the National Rural Health Association and National Association of Rural Health Clinics, contributing to national discussions on rural healthcare quality and sustainability. In 2022, she received the National Association of Rural Health Clinics' Ron Nelson Award in recognition of her leadership and service to rural healthcare. A frequent presenter at state and national conferences, she is widely recognized for her expertise in accreditation, regulatory compliance, and quality improvement.

## Jennifer Wentworth



**Chief of Staff, Mississippi Division of Medicaid**

Jennifer Wentworth serves as Chief of Staff for the Mississippi Division of Medicaid, where she provides executive leadership and oversight of several major operational and financial functions. Her responsibilities include finance, rate setting, fee schedule updates, utilization management, procurement, contracts, third-party recovery, and managed care. Prior to assuming her current position, Wentworth served as the agency's Chief Financial Officer from 2018 through 2024. Her experience includes oversight of financial operations and reimbursement policies affecting healthcare providers throughout Mississippi. In her leadership role, she works across multiple divisions to support the administration and financial stewardship of the state's Medicaid program. Her work provides valuable insight into the evolving policies and reimbursement structures affecting rural hospitals, clinics, and healthcare professionals.

## Dr. Italo Subbarao, DO, MBA



**Dean, William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine**

Dr. Italo Subbarao serves as Dean and Chief Academic Officer of William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. An emergency medicine physician and nationally recognized leader in disaster preparedness, he has provided medical and technical assistance during major emergencies, including Hurricane Katrina, earthquakes in Haiti and Pakistan, and terrorist attacks in Mumbai. Before joining William Carey University in 2012, he worked as an emergency physician and disaster medicine fellow at Johns Hopkins University and served as Director of Public Health Readiness for the American Medical Association. He became Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2019, providing leadership in medical education, physician workforce development, and institutional growth. Under his leadership, the college has continued expanding its commitment to preparing physicians for primary care practice in rural and medically underserved communities. In 2025, the college received a 10-year accreditation designation from the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation, the highest accreditation term available. Dr. Subbarao is actively involved in state and national medical organizations and remains committed to addressing physician shortages throughout Mississippi and the Gulf South.



## Gregory (Greg) Wolf

Principal and Co-Founder, Wintergreen | President, Lilypad, LLC

Gregory Wolf is a Principal and Co-Founder of Wintergreen, a Maine-based healthcare advisory firm specializing in rural healthcare performance improvement and strategic planning. Throughout his career, he has served as Principal, Chief Technology Officer, and Director of Business Development for several healthcare consulting organizations. His expertise includes developing web-based analytics and benchmarking tools designed to support rural hospitals and primary care providers. Wolf has helped more than 100 healthcare organizations develop strategic plans and performance management systems to improve operational and financial performance. He also serves as President of Lilypad, LLC, a healthcare analytics company focused on rural primary care practices and supporting benchmarking and performance improvement initiatives for more than two dozen State Offices of Rural Health. In 2022, he co-founded Wintergreen to help rural and community healthcare organizations address operational challenges. A frequent presenter at state and national rural health conferences, Wolf shares expertise in healthcare analytics, strategic planning, Rural Health Clinic operations, and rural hospital sustainability.



## Brianna Bloemker

Vice President of Sales, South Region, ClearBalance Healthcare

Brianna Bloemker serves as Vice President of Sales for the South Region at ClearBalance Healthcare, a national provider of patient financing solutions. In this role, she works with healthcare organizations to develop financing strategies that improve patient affordability while supporting financial sustainability. Her expertise includes healthcare revenue cycle management, patient financial engagement, and strategies to improve self-pay collections. Bloemker collaborates with hospital executives and healthcare finance professionals to identify opportunities for strengthening financial performance while reducing barriers to care. She is an active presenter at healthcare finance conferences and educational events, addressing topics such as patient financing, revenue optimization, and financial access to healthcare. Her recent speaking engagements include the Transformational CFO Healthcare Providers Assembly, where she discussed strategies for balancing patient affordability with organizational financial performance. Through her work with ClearBalance, Bloemker helps healthcare organizations implement patient-centered financial solutions that support both patients and providers.



## Senator Kevin Blackwell

Mississippi State Senate, District 19

Senator Kevin Blackwell represents District 19 in the Mississippi State Senate, where he has served since January 2016. He serves as Chairman of the Senate Medicaid Committee, playing a significant role in legislative discussions involving Medicaid policy, healthcare financing, and access to medical services. His legislative responsibilities have also included service on the Appropriations, Public Health and Welfare, Business and Financial Institutions, Elections, and Highways and Transportation committees. Before his election to the Senate, Blackwell was active in business and community leadership in DeSoto County. He served as a two-term chairman of the DeSoto County Republican Party and held leadership positions with the Southaven and Olive Branch chambers of commerce. His work in the Legislature includes consideration of policies affecting healthcare providers, Medicaid beneficiaries, and communities throughout Mississippi.



## Sam Creekmore IV

Mississippi State Representative, District 14

Representative Sam Creekmore IV has represented District 14 in the Mississippi House of Representatives since January 2020. He serves as Chairman of the House Public Health and Human Services Committee, providing legislative leadership on issues affecting healthcare delivery, public health, and human services throughout Mississippi. His committee responsibilities place him at the center of discussions involving healthcare access, regulatory policy, and the needs of hospitals and healthcare providers. A native of Starkville, Mississippi, Creekmore is a graduate of Mississippi State University. His legislative work includes consideration of issues affecting rural communities and the sustainability of healthcare services across the state. As a member of the conference's legislative panel, he brings insight into healthcare policy priorities and the challenges facing Mississippi's rural healthcare system.



# Governor Tate Reeves

65th Governor of Mississippi

Tate Reeves serves as the 65th Governor of Mississippi, having assumed office in January 2020. Before becoming Governor, he served two terms as Mississippi's Lieutenant Governor from 2012 to 2020 and two terms as State Treasurer from 2004 to 2012. First elected State Treasurer in 2003, Reeves became the youngest state treasurer in the nation at that time. Throughout his public service career, he has focused on economic development, fiscal management, education, workforce development, and government operations. As Governor, he has overseen the state's response to major emergencies and supported initiatives intended to strengthen Mississippi's economy and public infrastructure. His administration has also been involved in statewide healthcare policy and rural healthcare transformation efforts. A Rankin County native, Reeves graduated with honors from Millsaps College with a degree in economics and holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation. He and his wife, Elee, have three daughters.



# Stacey L. Swanson, MHA, FACHE

Acting EPS Program Manager, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Stacey L. Swanson is an accomplished healthcare executive with more than a decade of progressive leadership experience within the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. She currently serves in a detailed assignment as Enterprise Patient Scheduling Program Director, providing executive oversight of a $140 million national portfolio encompassing community care scheduling, direct care scheduling, and Veteran self-scheduling programs. In this capacity, she leads a team of 17 professionals supporting scheduling innovation across the VA healthcare system. Previously, Swanson served as National Clinical Resource Hub Director of Business Operations, overseeing business processes across 18 Veterans Integrated Service Network Clinical Resource Hubs. Since joining the VA in 2014, she has held several leadership and project management positions supporting primary care operations, clinical access, and organizational improvement. Before beginning her VA career, she served five years in the U.S. Navy as a Hospital Corpsman, gaining clinical experience in ambulatory care, obstetrics and gynecology, and emergency medicine. Swanson holds a master's degree in healthcare administration and earned Fellowship in the American College of Healthcare Executives in December 2025. She resides in New Jersey with her family.



# Chad Netterville

Director, Mississippi Rural Hospital Alliance and Center for Rural Health, Mississippi Hospital Association

Chad Netterville serves as Director of the Mississippi Rural Hospital Alliance and the Center for Rural Health at the Mississippi Hospital Association, where he advocates for the sustainability and advancement of rural hospitals throughout the state. In this role, he works with hospital leaders, policymakers, and healthcare organizations to address challenges involving financial stability, workforce shortages, regulatory requirements, and access to care. Before joining the Mississippi Hospital Association, Netterville served as Chief Executive Officer of Field Health System, gaining firsthand experience managing a rural hospital. He holds a Master of Business Administration in Business and Health Administration from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and has an educational background in accounting from Louisiana State University. His work includes supporting rural hospital collaboration, operational improvement, and innovative approaches to preserving essential healthcare services. He has participated in statewide rural healthcare planning and policy discussions, bringing the perspective of both hospital administration and association leadership.



# Lorie Till

Chief Executive Officer, Northwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center

Lorie Till serves as Chief Executive Officer of Northwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center in Clarksdale, Mississippi, bringing more than 20 years of experience in nursing, healthcare administration, and hospital operations. Her professional background includes leadership positions as Chief Nursing Officer, Chief Operating Officer, and Director of Care Coordination, with expertise in utilization management, population health, and value- based care. She previously supported patient safety and quality oversight for 71 healthcare facilities through Health Management Associates. Till helped establish Health Connect, Mississippi's first care transitions team, which achieved a seven percent reduction in hospital readmissions during its first year. Her work addressing emergency department utilization and hospital readmissions was published in the Generations journal in 2014. She serves on the Mississippi State Board of Health, is President of the Delta Health Transformation Council, and is a member of the Mississippi Rural Health Association Board of Directors. Till earned her bachelor's degree in nursing from Mississippi College, a master's degree in nursing and healthcare administration from Loyola University, and an executive master's degree in population health management from the University of Mississippi Medical Center. She is committed to strengthening rural healthcare through innovation, collaboration, and organizational leadership.



## Allison Schuler, MSN, RN

CEO & CNO, Baptist Memorial Hospital-Ayala

Allison Schuler, MSN, RN, serves as CEO/CNO of Baptist Memorial Hospital–Attala, a critical access hospital in Kosciusko, Mississippi. She has more than 25 years of nursing and health care leadership experience, including emergency nursing, performance improvement, infection prevention, education, and hospital operations. Allison has been with Baptist Attala since 2010 and is passionate about expanding access to high-quality care in rural communities. Her leadership has focused on patient-centered care, operational excellence, quality and safety, and bringing needed services closer to home, including the development of local chemotherapy and infusion services. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing Administration from the University of Mississippi Medical Center.



## Billy Casey

Regional Director, Global Medical Response

Billy Casey serves as a Regional Director with Global Medical Response, a national provider of ground and air emergency medical transportation services. His professional background includes leadership and clinical experience in emergency medical services, with a focus on emergency response and critical care transportation. Casey has held professional credentials as a registered nurse, paramedic, certified flight registered nurse, and flight paramedic. His experience includes emergency medical transportation operations in Mississippi and the Mid-South region. Through his work with Global Medical Response, he supports partnerships with healthcare organizations and emergency medical transportation programs serving patients who require specialized care. He has been involved in the company's partnership with the University of Mississippi Medical Center's AirCare program, including efforts to expand access to air medical transportation. His professional interests include improving emergency transportation coordination and supporting access to timely, high-quality emergency care in rural communities.



## Jim Blackwood

Administrator, Tallahatchie General Hospital

Jim Blackwood serves as Administrator and Chief Executive Officer of Tallahatchie General Hospital in Charleston, Mississippi. He is also a managing partner of Sunflower Management Group, which was recruited to lead financial and operational improvements at the hospital. Prior to his healthcare leadership career, Blackwood practiced law for 14 years. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alabama and a Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi. His work in rural healthcare focuses on strengthening hospital operations, improving financial sustainability, expanding access to care, and developing innovative revenue streams for rural hospitals and clinics.



## Jay Chappelle, EMT, BSN, MBA

VP of Operations - Global Medical Response

Jay Chappelle is an emergency medical transportation professional with Global Medical Response (GMR), a national leader in ground and air emergency medical services. Based in Corinth, Mississippi, his professional responsibilities have included work across Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, and Texas. He holds the Certified Medical Transport Executive (CMTE) credential, reflecting specialized professional development in medical transportation leadership. Through his association with GMR, Chappelle brings a regional perspective on emergency medical transportation and the challenges of delivering timely care across rural communities. GMR's extensive network of ground ambulance and air medical services supports emergency response, critical care transportation, and interfacility patient transfers. His participation in the Mississippi Rural Health Conference will contribute to discussions surrounding transportation access, coordination among healthcare providers, and the sustainability of emergency medical services in rural Mississippi.



## Teresa Windham

State EMS Director, Mississippi State Department of Health

Teresa Windham serves as Mississippi's State Emergency Medical Services Director and leads the Office of EMS and Acute Care Systems within the Mississippi State Department of Health. In this position, she provides statewide leadership for emergency medical services and acute care systems supporting communities throughout Mississippi. Her responsibilities include oversight of programs and regulatory activities related to emergency medical services and coordination with organizations involved in emergency healthcare delivery. Windham also represents the Mississippi State Board of Health's EMS Division on the state's Board on Emergency Telecommunications Standards and Training. Through her leadership, she works with emergency medical providers, healthcare facilities, and public safety partners to support the effectiveness of Mississippi's emergency response systems. Her work is particularly relevant to rural communities, where timely emergency medical transportation and coordination among healthcare providers are essential to patient outcomes.



## Ryan Kelly, MS

Executive Director - Mississippi Rural Health Association

Ryan Kelly serves as Executive Director of the Mississippi Rural Health Association (MRHA), where he oversees all association activities and provides leadership in advancing rural health across the state. In addition to his work with MRHA, he serves as executive director of the Alabama Rural Health Association and as an administrator for the Rural Health Associations of Arkansas and Arizona. Kelly brings extensive executive leadership experience, including roles as Director of External Relations at The University of Southern Mississippi, College of Health, and Chief Advancement Officer at William Carey University. He holds a Bachelor of Science from The University of Southern Mississippi and a Master of Science from Mississippi College. Actively engaged in more than twenty statewide and national health committees and coalitions—including two with the National Rural Health Association—Kelly is recognized as a go-to leader in healthcare throughout multiple southeastern states.



## Kyle Brewer, MBA, FACHE

Telehealth Administrator - UMMC

Kyle Brewer, MBA, FACHE serves as Telehealth Administrator at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC), where he provides administrative and financial oversight supporting the Center for Telehealth and Emerging Technologies. In this role, he helps advance innovative healthcare delivery models and the effective use of resources to expand access to care. Brewer is actively involved in advancing rural healthcare across Mississippi, with a focus on telehealth, healthcare technology, and improving access to specialized services in rural communities. His work has included initiatives supporting tele-critical care programs at rural Mississippi hospitals. He also serves in leadership with the Mississippi Rural Health Association, contributing to statewide efforts to strengthen rural healthcare.



## Stacy Dorris, MBA, RHIA, CPHQ

Hospital Quality Improvement Consultant - HQI

Stacy Dorris, a Hospital Quality Improvement Consultant with Health Quality Innovators, has dedicated more than 26 years to helping hospitals, dialysis clinics, nursing homes, physician practices and other healthcare organizations improve quality, safety and patient outcomes. She has extensive expertise in CMS quality programs, QIN-QIO initiatives, ESRD Network operations, provider engagement, clinical data analytics and performance improvement. In her current role, she supports hospitals across the Southeast region in implementing data-driven strategies that enhance care quality, strengthen care coordination and advance the use of health information technology. Throughout her career, she has led quality improvement initiatives for hundreds of healthcare providers, developed AMA-accredited educational programs and advanced health equity efforts. Stacy holds an Executive MBA from the University of Memphis and maintains certifications as a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ) and Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA).

# National Rural® Health Day

## 15th Anniversary

Celebrating the Power of Rural!

**November 19, 2026**

## Thank you!

**Another fantastic year for rural health...**

We sincerely thank all sponsors whose generous support made this year's Mississippi Rural Health Conference possible. We also appreciate every attendee's enthusiastic participation. Your support and engagement help make this event a success year after year.



MISSISSIPPI RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

## Stay connected!

**Follow the MRHA on social media!**

- Mississippi Rural Health Association
- @MSRuralHealthAssociation
- Mississippi Rural Health Association
- @MississippiRHA

Please share any photos taken with #MSRuralHealth2026


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MISSISSIPPI Air Rescue
MedStat Emergency Medical Services
Global Medical Response


## Notes:

MISSISSIPPI RURAL PHYSICIAN SCHOLARS

# Poster Contest

## 2026 / SCORING BALLOT

Score each student's Community Health Needs Assessment poster.
Mark one circle per row, from 1 to 5. A score of 5 is the highest.

**HIGHEST TOTAL SCORES WIN** **1st $200** **2nd $100** **3rd $50**

| STUDENT NAME | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Allyson Beard | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Emma Bruce | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| William Clark | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Meadow Cooper | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| John Gaines | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Mennah Ibrahim | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Liliana McGee | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Alec Nunley | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Ava Randall | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Taylor Robinson | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Emily Rogers | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Benson Schexnaydre | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Luke Smith | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Arjun Singh Sohal | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
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| Nyja Wilson | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Nyla Wilson | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Lennie Wood | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Ann Woodson | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

MISSISSIPPI RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

# EXHIBITOR BINGO!

30 exhibitors. New connections. A chance to win.

## VISIT. CONNECT. GET YOUR SQUARE SIGNED.

Chat with each exhibitor, then ask for a stamp or initials in their square.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Octapharma Critical Care | Robertson Health Care CFO Advisors | ★ FREE SPACE | CoachCare | Edward Jones | AirCare |
| Meridian | UMMC Center for Telehealth | Culotta Insurance and Investments | EqualizeRCM | ★ FREE SPACE | Strategic Healthcare Solutions |
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| The Compliance Team, Inc. | Ambetter Health | Impact Healthcare Solutions | UAMS \| South Central Telehealth Resource Center | TrueCare | ★ FREE SPACE |
| SMG | ★ FREE SPACE | Global Medical Response | Community Infusion Solutions | Magnolia Health Plan | EnviCare |
| Cleveland Medical Mall | MSORH | National Blood Clot Alliance | ★ FREE SPACE | Oscar Health Inc. | UMMC CHAMP |

## HOW TO WIN

Complete a row, column or corner-to-corner diagonal for one prize drawing entry.
Visit all 30 exhibitors for a blackout and one additional bonus entry. Free spaces count!
Return your completed card to the registration desk.

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