

Rural Health Transformation Program

Rural Health Transformation Committee Roster



The Rural Health Transformation (RHT) Committee is an advisory group created to support the implementation of the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) in Maryland. Committee membership also includes representatives from State Agencies partnering with the Maryland Department of Health on RHTP. All RHT Committee meetings are open to the public, with dedicated time for public input. Meeting agendas and notes will be published on the [RHT Committee Website](#).

Committee Members

Angie Auldridge
Rural Resident

Sara Hairgrove, MPH, CHW
Assistant Director of Public Policy,
Community Behavioral Health
Association of Maryland

Nikolaos M. Brusio, MBA, CPA
Chief Financial Officer, West Cecil Health
Center (FQHC)

Heather Hall, PA
Frostburg State University, Opal Court
Pediatrics, AHEC West

Dimitrios Cavathas, LCSW
Chief Executive Officer, HealthPort

Mary Hannah, RN, BSN, MPH, CDCES
Vice President Population Health,
University of Maryland Charles Regional
Medical Center

Maria Chaplygina
Associate Training Manager, Asian
American Center of Frederick

The Honorable Thomas S. Hutchinson
Maryland House of Delegates, District
37-B

Rene Desmarais, MD
Eastern Group Trustee, MedChi
TidalHealth Cardiology

Ebony Jenkins
Rural Resident

Michelle Folsom Elder, MD
Medical Director, Primary Care and
Outpatient Population Health,
CalvertHealth Medical Group

Carrie Johnson, LCSW
Executive Director, Washington County
Mental Health Authority, Inc

The Honorable Jefferson Ghrist
Maryland House of Delegates, District 36

Melissa Kelly
Eastern Shore External Affairs Manager,
CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield

Rural Health Transformation Program

Rural Health Transformation Committee Roster



Jennifer Kolb

Vice President Partnerships and
Workforce Development, MedCerts

Rachel Smith

Vice President for Strategic Initiatives,
Maryland Hospital Association

Sung-Jin Lee, PhD

Assistant Director and Program Leader,
Family and Consumer Sciences,
University of Maryland Extension

**Teresa Titus-Howard, PhD, MHA, MSW,
CCM**

President and Chief Executive Officer,
The Coordinating Center

David Lehr, MBA

Chief Strategy Officer, Meritus Health

Eric Wargotz, MD, FCAP

President, Board of Trustees, MedChi

Sara Rich, MPA

President & Chief Executive Officer,
Choptank Community Health

Doncella Wilson, LCSW

Executive Director, Minary's Dream
Alliance

Katherine Rodgers, EdD, MPH

Director, Community Health Initiatives,
TidalHealth; Board Member, Maryland
Rural Health Association

Amy Yankolonis, CRNP, MSN

Hampstead Primary Care and Aledade
ACO

Evan Savopoulos

CEO, Cornerstone Family Medicine,
Rural Resident

The Honorable Natalie Ziegler

Maryland House of Delegates,
District 9A

Jennifer Small

Sr. Vice President, Neighbor
Engagement; Maryland Food Bank

Representative

Maryland State Senate

Office of The Honorable Andy Harris,
U.S. House of Representatives, MD-01**Office of The Honorable April McClain**
Delaney, U.S. House of Representatives,
MD-06

Rural Health Transformation Program

Rural Health Transformation Committee Roster



State Agency Partner Committee Members

Meenakshi Brewster, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Health Officer, St. Mary's County

Doug Jacobs, MD, MPH
Executive Director, Maryland Health
Care Commission

Nancy Brown
Deputy Director Innovation, Research,
and Development, Medicaid, MDH

Annika La Fave
Resilience Program Coordinator,
Maryland Department of Emergency
Management

Shelly Choo, MD, MPH
Director, Policy and Planning, Behavioral
Health Administration, MDH

Randy Linthicum, MS, NRP, CEM
Deputy Director, Maryland Institute for
Emergency Medical Services Systems

Charlotte Davis
Executive Director
Rural Maryland Council

Mark Luckner
Executive Director, Maryland Community
Health Resources Commission

Peter G. DeMartino, PhD
Director, Prevention and Health
Promotion Administration, MDH

Chad Perman
Office of Advanced Primary Care,
Medicaid, MDH

Brittney Dillon
Director of Operations, Maryland
Department of Housing and Community
Development

Megan Priolo, DrPH, MHS
Executive Director, CRISP

Brad Gillenwater
Manager, Life Sciences
Department of Commerce

Leslie Ray
Client Community Services Director,
Maryland Department of Aging

Jennifer Hare
Health Officer, Garrett County

Allison Robinson, MPH
Associate Program Director, Maryland
Area Health Education Center, UMD

Kimberly Hiner, MPH
Director, Office of Population Health
Improvement, MDH

Sara Seitz, MPH (Chair)
Director, State Office of Rural Health,
MDH, Rural Resident

Rural Health Transformation Program

Rural Health Transformation Committee Roster



Cassie Shirk

Assistant Secretary, Maryland
Department of Agriculture

Casey Tiefenwerth

Deputy Director, Office of Strategic
Initiatives, Maryland Department of Labor

Christa Speicher

Deputy Director, Payment Reform,
Health Services Cost Review
Commission
