

29th Annual Michigan Rural Health Conference

Navigating the Next Era of Rural Health

AGENDA



THURSDAY

APRIL 23, 2026

7:00-7:55 AM Swan Creek/ Saginaw	REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST
7:55-8:00 AM Swan Creek/ Saginaw	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">Crystal Barter, <i>Director of Programs and Services, Michigan Center for Rural Health</i>
8:00-9:15 AM Swan Creek/ Saginaw	101 - The Landscape of Rural Health⁺⁺ <ul style="list-style-type: none">Brock Slabach, MPH, FACHE, <i>Chief Operating Officer, National Rural Health Association</i>
9:20 - 10:20 AM	BREAKOUTS
Rural Health Clinics Three Fires	102 - Survey Ready Medical Records⁺⁺ <ul style="list-style-type: none">Vicy DeBruin, <i>RHC Compliance & Audit Analyst, Health Services Associates</i>Robin Veltkamp, <i>RHC Quality Assurance & Education, Health Services Associates</i>
Population Health Swan Creek/Saginaw	103 - Community Reentry Simulations & Continuum of Care for Communities⁺⁺ <ul style="list-style-type: none">Jeanne Marriott, <i>Project Associate, Northern Michigan Opioid Response Consortium</i>
Workforce Ojibway	104 - Engaging Youth in Healthcare Career Opportunities⁺⁺ <ul style="list-style-type: none">Jill Jarvis, BSN, RN, <i>Manager of Clinical Development and Education, Covenant HealthCare</i>
10:20 - 10:45 AM Swan Creek/ Saginaw	BREAK, VISIT CONFERENCE PARTNERS, & RURAL HEALTH QR QUEST <p>Take this opportunity to network with the Conference Partners and interact with the Annual Rural Health Research Day Poster Presenters</p>
10:45- 11:45 AM	BREAKOUTS
Rural Health Clinics Swan Creek/Saginaw	105 - RHCs: Creating Stronger Alignment with Hospitals⁺⁺ <ul style="list-style-type: none">Jonathan Pantenburg, MHA, <i>Principal, Wintergreen</i>
Population Health Three Fires	106 - The Food Club Model: A Dignified Approach to Rural Food Access⁺⁺ <ul style="list-style-type: none">O'Nealya Gronstal, CHRT Health Policy Fellow (2026), <i>Executive Director, Lakeshore Food Club</i>
Workforce Ojibway	107 - The Future of Medicine: Cutting-Edge Research from the Next Generation⁺⁺ Medical Students <ul style="list-style-type: none">Trinity Bauer-Wojnar Understanding Cancer Care and Incorporation of Traditional Practices in Rural Native American Communities: A Qualitative AnalysisConnor Latterman Impact of a Common Interpretation Platform on Pediatric ImagingKermanjot Sidhu Geographic Disparities in Access to Laser Hair Removal for Hidradenitis Suppurativa in Michigan
Cybersecurity Deer/Moose	108 - Cybersecurity Risk Management⁺⁺ <ul style="list-style-type: none">Eric Eder CFA, CAIA, <i>President and Founder, CyberForce Q</i>
11:45 AM-1:00 PM Swan Creek/ Saginaw	LUNCH & RURAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD AWARD AT 12:45 PM <p>Lunch Sponsored by: Hall, Render, Killian, Heath, & Lyman Law Firm</p>

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THURSDAY

APRIL 23, 2026

1:00-2:00 PM

Swan Creek/ Saginaw

109 - Health Law Update ^{+#*}

- Andrew Heberling, J.D., Attorney, Hall, Render, Killian, Heath, & Lyman Law Firm

2:00-2:20 PM

Swan Creek/ Saginaw

BREAK, VISIT CONFERENCE PARTNERS, & RURAL HEALTH QR QUEST

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2:20 - 3:20 PM

BREAKOUTS

Rural Health Clinics
Ojibway

110 - Cracking the Codes: Mastering Mental Health Billing and Z codes ^{+#*}

- Jackie King, MSHI, RHIA, CCS, CPC, COC, VP Hospital Education, ARCHPRO Coding and Consulting

Population Health
Swan Creek/Saginaw

111 - Beyond the Resource Platform: Building Stronger Community Resource Referral Systems ^{+#*}

- Elise Bur, Director, Northern Michigan University, Center for Rural Health
- Kelly Kamm, PhD, Assistant Teaching Professor, Michigan Technological University
- Megan Murphy, MPA, Chief Executive Officer, Superior Health Foundation

Workforce
Three Fires

112 - Well-Being by Design: Reducing Burnout, Strengthening Retention, and Supporting Rural Health Teams ^{+#*}

- Stacey Gedeon, PsyD, MSCP, Founder & CEO, SRG Healthcare Consulting & Professional Coaching, PLLC

Cyber Security
Deer/Moose

113 - The Rural Hospital Cybersecurity Landscape: A PATCH Team Report and Workshop ^{+#*}

- Jenny Amos, PhD, Teaching Professor, University of Illinois

3:30 - 4:30 PM

Swan Creek/ Saginaw

114 - Michigan's Rural Health Transformation Program Updates ^{+#*}

- Vicki Riddick, State Administrative Manager, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

5:00 - 6:00 PM

Swan Creek/ Saginaw

NETWORKING RECEPTION: JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS AND NETWORKING.

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FRIDAY

APRIL 24, 2026

7:00–7:55 AM

Swan Creek/ Saginaw

BREAKFAST, VISIT CONFERENCE PARTNERS & RURAL HEALTH QR QUEST

8:00 – 8:45 AM

Swan Creek/ Saginaw

201 – Navigating Rural Innovation: Leveraging Dollars for Lasting Impact⁺⁺

- Moderator: JD Lesada, *Program Officer, Governor's Office of Foundation Liaison*
- Charly Loper, *Community Support Specialist, Michigan Dept. of Labor & Economic Opportunity*
- Megan Murphy, MPA, *Chief Executive Officer, Superior Health Foundation*
- Melissa K. Boguslawski, PhD, MPH, *Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation*

8:50 – 9:45 AM

BREAKOUTS

Rural Health Clinics
Ojibway

202 – Beyond CCM: Effective Billing Strategies for Provider Delivered Care Management (PDCM) Across Michigan Payers^{++*}

- April Marsh, BSN, RN, *Complex Care Manager, Northern Pines Health Center*

Population Health
Swan Creek/Saginaw

203 – Integrating Community Health Workers: A Regional Approach from Michigan's Thumb^{++*}

- Kay Balcer, *Executive Director, Thumb Community Health Partnership*
- Rhea Merriman, *Community Health Worker, McKenzie Health System*
- Claire Melnik, *Community Health Worker, Scheurer Health / Harbor Beach Community Hospital*
- Claire Ferency, *Community Health Worker, Great Lakes Bay Health Centers*

Workforce
Three Fires

204 – Bridging the Gap: Michigan Workforce Programs and the Statewide Community Health Needs Assessment^{++*}

- Brittany Brookshire, MPH, *Departmental Specialist, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services*
- Sharmin Salam, MSIA, *Primary Care Workforce Analyst, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services*

9:45 – 10:00 AM

Swan Creek/ Saginaw

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10:00 – 10:55 AM

Swan Creek/ Saginaw

205 – Michigan Medicaid Update^{++*}

- Meghan Groen, MPP, *Chief Deputy Director for Health Services, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services*

11:00 – 11:55 AM

Swan Creek/ Saginaw

206 – The State of Public Health in 2026: Charting a Path Forward^{++*}

- Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MD, MPH, FIDSA, FACP, *Chief Medical Executive, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services*

11:55 – 12:00 PM

Swan Creek/ Saginaw

Closing Remarks and Prizes Must be present to win!

Continuing Education Credit:

***Social Workers:** May claim up to 9 hours, Course approval number: 20260423-CA-MCRH

+Medical Providers: Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. MSUCOM designates this live activity for a maximum of 10.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

#Community Health Workers: MiCHWA approved CEUs.