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**Western Pennsylvania Regional Rural Health Summit**

**Event Wi-Fi Access**

Network: HawkNet

Password: ruralhealth

**Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex |PNC Room | Indiana, PA 15701
Wednesday, April 16, 2025| 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**



* **9:00 - 10:00 AM: Registration, Light Refreshments, and Networking – PNC Room**

**10:00 – 10:15 AM: Welcome and Opening Remarks**

* + Michael Driscoll, PhD, President, IUP
	+ Steve Wolfe, RPh, President and CEO, IRMC
	+ Miko Rose, DO, Founding Dean, IUP proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM)



 **10:15 – 10:30 AM: Valerie Arkoosh, MD, Secretary, Department of Human Services**

* + Work with Commonwealth General Assembly on stabilizing rural hospitals
	+ Long term stability for hospitals considering outpatient as well as inpatient services
	+ Purpose to assure access to essential health services and collaborative specialty care
	+ Regional rural health care summit initiative



* **10:30 – 10:45 AM: Debra Bogen, MD, Secretary, Department of Health**
	+ Regional Health Status Data: Physical and MH/BH conditions, Causes of Premature death: (CVD, ID, OD, GSW, Suicide, MVC, Injuries, etc.)
	+ Other regional health status indicators: e.g. Maternal mortality, Adolescent BH Risk behaviors, teen pregnancies, vaccination rates, DWIs, Depression, SUD, etc.
	+ Life expectancy by rural vs urban
	+ DOH Roles: track health status, provide basic clinical services, hospital regs, EMS
	+ Current Activities/Solutions - Updating Hospital Regulations, Addressing EMS challenges, working on expanding access to Maternity Services through mobile and other DOH innovations
	+ **10:45 – 11:00 AM:** **Lara Luetkehans, PhD, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, IUP**
	+ From Bricks to Books, Books to Bricks - Solutions in Progress: Current Activities and Lessons Learned Addressing Rural Health Challenges from Western PA Rural Health Collaborations

 **11:00 – 11:20 AM**: **Laura Dimino, PhD, Assistant Director, Center for Rural PA**

**Lisa Davis, PA Center for Rural Healthcare**

* Pennsylvania’s population trends and business investments in progress (data from Center for Rural PA)
* New Rural Revitalization Commission role
* The Workforce Crisis in Rural Healthcare: A Key to Economic Development
* Persistent workforce shortages: Then and now: Workforce Solutions in Progress
* Reframing healthcare as a driver of economic development



* + **11:20 – 11:30 AM:** **Christina Koren, Director of Strategic Partnerships, IUP, Facilitator**
		- Goals for the day
		- Workgroups, pre-work, and moving forward
		- Dean Scheib to introduce break and the musical interlude to follow regarding humanities in medicine
	+ **11:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Inspirational Musical Interlude – metaphor for the role of coordination and collaboration in creating beauty: IUP musicians. Strategic planning introduction. George Garrow, MD**
	+ **12:00 – 1:00 PM** **Lunch and panel discussion session**: **Topic: The State of Rural Health in Pennsylvania (challenges, trends, and opportunities)**
	+ Miko Rose, DO, Founding Dean, IUP proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM), Moderator

**~ Panelists ~**

* Senator Pittman – role of PA legislature, support for rural economic health
* Representative Struzzi - role of PA legislature, support for rural economic health
* Michael Driscoll - PhD, President, IUP
* Steve Wolfe – RPh, President and CEO, IRMC

**1:10 – 2:30 PM: Five Strategic Planning Work Groups: Addressing Key Rural Health Challenges – Mastermind - Discussion Breakout Sessions**

**1) Expanding Access to Women’s Health and Maternity Care – Conference Room 6**

**2) Strengthening Regional Mental & Behavioral Health Response – Conference Room 7**

**3) Meeting the Needs of an Aging Population – Conference Room 8**

1. **Strengthening Rural Healthcare Partnerships – PNC Room**
2. **The Business of Healthcare & Rural Economic Development**
	* **2:30 – 2:45 PM: Break**

**2:45 – 3:15 PM: Workgroup Report-Outs – PNC Room**

* Each group presents key takeaways and next steps – SEE Workgroup Worksheets – 8 minutes each, followed by Q&A.

**Closing and Next Steps – PNC ROOM**

**3:15 – 3:45 PM: Lindsey Mauldin, Chief of Staff, Governor Shapiro’s team**

* NEXT STEPS after last year’s Governor’s roundtables

**3:45 – 4:00 PM: Val Arkoosh, MD, Miko Rose, DO, and Christina Koren**

* Final reflections and gratitude
* Reinforcing next steps for regional action