Susquehanna Valley Rural Regional Healthcare Summit

Geisinger

Oct. 24, 2025
Pine Barn Inn, Danville

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Geisinger
College of
Health Sciences

Agenda

8 – 9 a.m. — **Registration & continental breakfast**

9 – 9:05 a.m. — **Welcoming remarks**

Michelle Thompson, MD
Chief Education Officer and Vice Dean Graduate Medical Education and Designated Institutional Official

9:05 – 9:15 a.m. — **Opening remarks**

Julie Byerley, MD, MPH
Executive Vice President, Chief Academic Officer, Dean Geisinger College of Health Sciences

9:15 – 9:30 a.m. — **Framing remarks: The 7 vital conditions**

George Garrow, MD
Chief Executive Officer, Primary Health Network

Lisa Davis, MHA
Director, Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health & Outreach Associate Professor of Health Policy & Administration, Pennsylvania State University

9:30 – 9:50 a.m. — **Driving decisions through data**

Debra Bogen, MD
Secretary of Health, Pennsylvania Department of Health

9:50 – 9:55 a.m. — **Introduction of keynote speaker**

Michelle Thompson, MD
Chief Education Officer and Vice Dean Graduate Medical Education and Designated Institutional Official

9:55 – 10:45 a.m. — **Keynote remarks: Harnessing Collective Impact to Meet Rural Health Priorities**

Mai Pham, MD, MPH
President and Chief Executive Officer, Institute for Exceptional Care, Washington, D.C.

10:45 – 11 a.m. — **Orientation to small work groups, snack and transition**

Michelle Thompson, MD
Chief Education Officer and Vice Dean Graduate Medical Education and Designated Institutional Official

Rural Elder Care: Strategies for Supporting Aging Communities

Facilitators: Cybele Pacheco, MD, MBA, Director Geisinger 65 Forward; Marquene Klimchok, Manager Outreach & Enrollment, LIFE Geisinger; Teena Kubasti, BSN, MBA, AVP Senior Focused Care Programs, LIFE Geisinger

Empowering Health: The Impact of Lifestyle on Health & Well-Being

Facilitators: Allison Hess, MBA, VP Population Health & Quality, Geisinger; Maria Welch, MPH, Director, Community Health & Social Needs, Geisinger

Building Healthier Communities: Workforce Development

Facilitators: Rebecca Stoudt, DNP, PhD, MSN, CRNA, Associate Dean Nursing Student Education, Geisinger College of Health Sciences; Maureen Murtha, MHA, MEd, Executive Director, REACH-HEI Pathway Programs, Geisinger College of Health Sciences

Supporting Minds: Behavioral & Mental Health in Rural Areas

Facilitators: Sarah Dobeck, MSW, MBA, Program Manager, Behavioral Health Support Geisinger; Jennifer Napp-Evans, PsyD, MEd, LBS, Snyder County Children & Youth Administrator

11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Work groups and working lunch

1:30 – 1:45 p.m. Transition to large group area

1:45 – 2:30 p.m. Work group report outs: Vision, goals, actions, timelines and larger group Q&A discussion with expert panel

Panelists

George Garrow, MD
Chief Executive Officer, Primary Health Network

Lisa Davis, MHA
Director, Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health & Outreach Associate Professor of Health Policy & Administration, Pennsylvania State University

Laura Dimino, PhD
Interim Executive Director, Center for Rural Pennsylvania

Moderator

Michelle Thompson, MD
Chief Education Officer and Vice Dean Graduate Medical Education and Designated Institutional Official

2:30 – 3:15 p.m. Pennsylvania's Rural Health Transformation Plan

Lindsey Mauldin
Deputy Chief of Staff for Health and Human Services, Office of Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro

3:15 – 3:30 p.m. Closing remarks

Karen Murphy, PhD, RN
President Geisinger Health Plan, Executive Vice President Insurance Operations

This event is being photographed and recorded.

Biographies

Debra Bogen, MD

Pennsylvania Secretary of Health, Pennsylvania Department of Health

Prior to joining the Commonwealth, Dr. Bogen was director of the Allegheny County Health Department, where she and her staff stayed on top of the pandemic and provided consistent, measured and commonsense information to the public while working closely with many stakeholders in the county.

Prior to that appointment, Dr. Bogen was a member of the Pittsburgh region medical and research community for more than two decades. She held a primary academic appointment as professor of pediatrics at the University of Pittsburgh, and secondary appointments in psychiatry and clinical and translational science. Dr. Bogen also served as the vice chair of education for the Department of Pediatrics at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. She dedicated her career as a pediatrician to caring for children and families impacted by social inequities. Her clinical research focused on the impact of mental health and substance use on families.

Dr. Bogen earned her medical degree from the University of Colorado School of Medicine and completed both her pediatric residency and general academic pediatrics fellowship at Johns Hopkins Hospital. She was one of the founders of the Mid-Atlantic Mothers' Milk Bank and served as the organization's volunteer medical director until assuming her role at the state.

Julie Byerley, MD, MPH

President, Geisinger College of Health Sciences Dean, Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer, Geisinger

Geisinger is an integrated care system striving to make better health easier, especially for the communities in central and northeastern Pennsylvania. The academic programs embrace that mission and align with system priorities to develop healthcare professionals inspired and prepared to improve the health of diverse people and populations, using Geisinger's unique assets to transform the way care is delivered.

As president and dean, Dr. Byerley oversees the academic mission of the medical, nursing and graduate schools within the college.

As chief academic officer, Dr. Byerley oversees the educational experiences for learners throughout Geisinger, including graduate medical education, nursing, pharmacy, advanced practitioners and other health professions.

She also oversees Geisinger's research environment that includes expertise in precision health, genomics, informatics, data science, implementation science, outcomes research, health services research, bioethics and more.

Dr. Byerley is a pediatrician and sees patients and teaches medical students monthly at Geisinger Wyoming Valley as a pediatric hospitalist.

Prior to her arrival at Geisinger in 2022, Dr. Byerley was vice dean for academic affairs at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. Her own academic

work has focused on educational innovation including expedited career pathways, forward-looking curriculum design, workforce development, mentoring and system improvement toward higher value health profession education.

Dr. Byerley earned her bachelor's degree in physics and a teaching certificate from Rhodes College and, after teaching high school, attended medical school at Duke University. She completed her pediatrics residency and chief residency at UNC-Chapel Hill, where she also earned a master's degree in public health with a focus on maternal and child health.

Lisa Davis, MHA

Director, Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health and Outreach Associate Professor of Health Policy and Administration, Penn State

As the director of the Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health, Ms. Davis ensures that the state office exceeds its federal mission of being a source of technical assistance, networking, coordination to advance rural health care delivery. On national, state, and university levels, she serves on a wide range of boards of directors, advisory committees and task forces focused on rural health policy, rural health research, economic development, outreach and education, health disparities and vulnerable populations. Her areas of focus are rural health transformation, maternal health and national and state rural health advocacy. She is a recipient of state and national awards for rural service, rural health leadership and health equity. The Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health received the Award of Merit and the Award of Excellence from the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health and is ranked #1 in the nation for Medicare quality reporting for two consecutive years.

Laura Dimino, PhD

Interim Executive Director, Center for Rural Pennsylvania

Dr. Dimino is interim executive director at the Center for Rural Pennsylvania. Previously, she served as assistant director, overseeing the faculty and student research grant programs. She is a member of the Advisory Board for the Mid-Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center, represents the Center at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Public Water System Technical Assistance Center Board meetings and serves as a member on the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority Board of Directors.

Dr. Dimino has a master's degree and PhD in political science from the University of Rochester. She grew up in Massachusetts, where she completed her undergraduate work at Clark University. Early in her career, her teaching and research interests included democratic theory, American politics, state and local politics, elections and communication and gender. She previously served as a public affairs program analyst at the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistant Agency within the state grant and special programs division. She has held several administrative roles in higher education, most recently serving as the associate provost at Central Penn College, a role in which she oversaw assessment, accreditation, mandatory reporting and compliance.

Sarah Dobeck, MSW, MBA

Program Manager, Behavioral Health Support, Geisinger

Ms. Dobeck is the community engagement manager for Geisinger Behavioral Health, where she brings over 25 years of experience in behavioral health to her role. A lifelong resident of the Susquehanna Valley, she has dedicated her career to advancing access to high-quality behavioral health care in local communities. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Bloomsburg University and is on track to graduate in spring 2026 with a Master of Social Work from Millersville University and a Master of Business Administration from Eastern University. Her professional journey spans a wide range of behavioral health roles, reflecting her deep commitment to community well-being and systems-level impact. She is a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success, a 2026 class member of Leadership Susquehanna Valley and serves on the Columbia County Traveling Library board.

George Garrow, MD

Chief Executive Officer, Primary Health Network

Dr. Garrow is the chief executive officer of Primary Health Network, one of the largest community health centers in Pennsylvania. He joined the organization in 2016 as chief medical officer and was appointed CEO in 2022, following years of impactful leadership focused on enhancing patient care and improving service quality across the network.

Dr. Garrow earned his medical degree from The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine. He completed his internal medicine residency and served as chief resident at Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center in Colorado and pursued a fellowship in medical oncology at Vanderbilt University in Tennessee, where he was recognized as an American Cancer Society Fellow. Before returning to Pennsylvania in 2001, he held faculty positions at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and the University of Rochester Medical Center.

Board-certified in internal medicine, medical oncology, hospice and palliative medicine, Dr. Garrow brings decades of clinical expertise along with a mission-driven approach to leadership. His exceptional contributions to rural health have earned him multiple accolades, including recognition as both a Rural Health Hero and Rural Health Star by the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health. He has also been named an Inspiring Leader for two consecutive years by Inspiring Workplaces for exemplifying People-first leadership, marked by courage, compassion, strong communication and the ability to unlock potential in others.

A passionate advocate for non-medical drivers of health and workforce development, Dr. Garrow engages in state, regional and national forums. He contributes to rural health symposia, workforce pipeline initiatives, legislative briefings, environmental health collaboratives and policy workgroups with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and Department of Health. He serves as a leading voice on issues such as reimagining rural healthcare and strengthening partnerships between rural hospitals and community health centers.

Dr. Garrow also lends his expertise to advisory boards such as Penn State's Clinical and Translational Science Institute and participates in key initiatives including the Weitzman ECHO Prenatal & Maternal Health sessions, Area Health Education Center collaborations, and leadership forums through the Pennsylvania Association of Community Health Centers.

Allison Hess, MBA

Vice President, Population Health & Quality, Geisinger

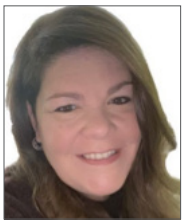
Ms. Hess has over 20 years of experience in healthcare and is responsible for the oversight and implementation of health services programming that includes Geisinger patients, GHP insured members and community members. She started her career in community health education serving underserved and uninsured populations while expanding her scope to include innovative employer wellness and population health initiatives driven by data analysis and clinical outcome measurements. Most recently, her work has focused on addressing disparities by focusing on social needs screenings, resources and innovative programs targeting food insecurity, transportation, health equity and quality/prevention initiatives.

Ms. Hess has earned a Bachelor of Science in Health Education and her MBA from Bloomsburg University. She has received several awards in various areas of health, including social needs, health equity, worksite wellness and innovative supply chain. She has also been recognized nationally for her work with the Fresh Food Farmacy program.

Marquene Klimchok

Manager, Outreach & Enrollment, LIFE Geisinger

Ms. Klimchok brings over 30 years of experience in geriatric healthcare, with a strong focus on community advocacy for older adults. She has been with LIFE Geisinger for the past 10 years, serving first as outreach and enrollment coordinator and now, for the past three years, as manager of outreach and enrollment. Her work centers on connecting seniors with essential services and promoting access to care that supports aging with dignity.



Teena Kubasti, BSN, MBA

AVP, Senior Focused Care Programs, LIFE Geisinger

Ms. Kubasti leads 65 Forward, Geisinger's PACE program known as LIFE Geisinger and the Skilled Nursing Program under the division of Population Initiatives. She has over 25 years of experience in healthcare, spanning both clinical and administrative roles. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Business Administration degrees from Misericordia University. Her work focuses on strategies to improve quality outcomes, optimize efficiency and align the principles of clinical care with strategic initiatives by implementing and advancing various programs that have included sexual assault, community paramedicine, comprehensive stroke care and Geisinger's Senior Focused Programs to improve the quality of care and services available to patients in the community.

Lindsey Mauldin

Deputy Chief of Staff for Health and Human Services, Office of Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro

Ms. Mauldin is a seasoned health policy leader with over 15 years of experience in advocacy and government. In her current role, she oversees strategic initiatives across public health, human services and healthcare systems in Pennsylvania. Previously, she spent nearly a decade at Planned Parenthood Pennsylvania Advocates, where she led public affairs, legislative strategy and statewide organizing efforts to protect reproductive rights and expand access to care. She later joined the Wolf Administration, serving as director of the Office of Social Programs and executive policy director at the Department of Human Services. At the Department of Health, she helped lead Pennsylvania's COVID-19 Response Unit, coordinating efforts with local health departments during the height of the pandemic.

Ms. Mauldin holds degrees from Shippensburg University and Arcadia University and is recognized for her leadership on health equity, reproductive justice and integrated health and human services policy.

Karen M. Murphy, PhD, RN

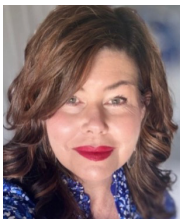
Executive Vice President, Insurance Operations, President, Geisinger Health Plan

Dr. Murphy is a proven healthcare executive with a history of leading complex organizations and programs in the public and private sectors. Before her current role, Dr. Murphy was a senior adviser and value-based platform co-leader at Risant Health and previously served as executive vice president, chief innovation and digital transformation officer and founding director of the Steele Institute for Health Innovation at Geisinger.

Prior to coming to Geisinger, Dr. Murphy served as the Pennsylvania Secretary of Health. She previously served as director of the State Innovation Models Initiative, a $900 million Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services program, as well as in various administrative leadership roles including president and chief executive officer of the Moses Taylor Health Care System in Scranton.

Dr. Murphy earned her Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration from the Temple University Fox School of Business, Master of Business Administration from Marywood University, Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts from the University of Scranton and a diploma in nursing from the Scranton State Hospital School of Nursing. Dr. Murphy is also an author and national speaker on health policy, payment transformation and healthcare innovation.

An active board member, Dr. Murphy is affiliated with several healthcare organizations, including the Healthcare Innovations Professional Society, Keystone Accountable Care Organization, Node Health Global Advisory Council, Health Velocity Capital and the University of Pennsylvania Leonard Davis Institute for Economics.

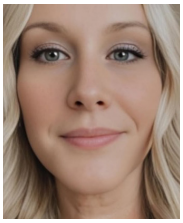


Maureen Murtha, MHA, MEd

Executive Director of REACH-HEI Pathway Programs, Geisinger College of Health Sciences

Maureen Murtha is a transformative leader in education and health equity, with over 30 years of experience driving community impact through innovative programming and strategic partnerships. She currently serves as executive director of REACH-HEI Pathway Programs at Geisinger College of Health Sciences, where she has pioneered a vertically integrated ecosystem that supports students from K–12 through medical education. Her work has empowered thousands of learners — particularly those from non-traditional and disadvantaged backgrounds — to pursue careers in healthcare, medicine and STEM through mentorship, experiential learning and equity-centered curriculum design.

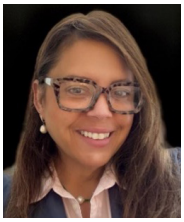
With advanced degrees in education, health administration and counseling, she brings a multidisciplinary lens to her leadership. She has secured over $10 million in competitive grant funding, built robust mentor networks and led initiatives that consistently exceed national benchmarks in student achievements and college matriculation. Her commitment to operational excellence, data-driven strategy and community collaboration has positioned her programs as national models for educational innovation and workforce development. A passionate advocate and dynamic speaker, she continues to shape the future of healthcare by investing in the next generation of leaders.



Jennifer Napp-Evans, PsyD, MEd, LBS

Snyder County Children & Youth Administrator

Dr. Napp-Evans is a licensed behavior specialist with over 25 years of experience in child welfare, juvenile justice and behavioral health. She has been the administrator of Snyder County's Children and Youth Services since 2017. Dr. Napp-Evans is a servant leader who has been honored to serve on many state-level workgroups and task forces and has presented at various conferences. Workgroups of note are the OCFC State Roundtable's Congregate Care Workgroup, Autism Task Force and Mental Health Task Force. She has presented at the PDE Positive Behavior Intensive Supports Conference, Family Engagement Initiative Meetings, Family Group Decision-Making Conference, and SWAN Permanency Conference. She was most recently co-chair of the Chief Justice Max Baer Children's Summit, Leadership Eight Roundtable, and co-chair of the AOPC MDJ Ops. Mental Health Task Force. Dr. Evans presented at the April PCCD conference with AOPC and the Mental Health Statewide Webinar with OCFC. She is passionate about maximizing early points of prevention and intervention and enhancing family engagement through natural supports and community linkages to reduce child maltreatment.



Cybele Pacheco, MD, MBA

Director, Geisinger 65 Forward

Dr. Pacheco's experience in medicine spans almost 25 years. She started her career as a registered nurse. A decade later, she graduated medical school and entered a Family Medicine Residency with the goal of practicing full-spectrum primary care. Her passion for preventive care and holistic patient well-being led her to narrow her primary care scope to older adult medicine. She leads the Senior Focused Primary Care division within Geisinger, which includes Geisinger 65 Forward and the LIFE Geisinger program (PACE) as part of the division of Population Initiatives. Geisinger's senior focused primary care programs are part of a value-based care strategy aimed at quality improvement, decreasing high-cost utilization and managing total cost of care, which are critical for the future of healthcare, especially for older adults.

She is a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians and in 2019 completed her MBA at the University of Scranton.

Hoangmai (Mai) H. Pham, MD, MPH

President and CEO, Institute for Exceptional Care, Washington D.C.

Dr. Pham co-founded the Institute for Exceptional Care in 2020 with the goal of advancing equitable healthcare outcomes for people with IDD.

She is a nationally recognized healthcare policy leader who was vice president of provider alignment solutions at Anthem, Inc., where she was responsible for value-based care initiatives. She previously served as chief innovation officer at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, where she was a founding official and the architect of Medicare's foundational programs on accountable care organizations and primary care. Dr. Pham has published extensively in medical literature on healthcare payment policy and its intersection with health disparities, care coordination, quality performance, provider behavior and market trends. She serves as a director on Boards of Atlantic Health Systems and the Coalition to Transform Advanced Care, and the Board of Advisors for StationMD. She also serves on the faculty at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

Dr. Pham holds an undergraduate degree from Harvard University, an MD from Temple University and an MPH from Johns Hopkins University, where she was also a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar.

Rebecca Stoudt, DNP, PhD, MSN, CRNA

Associate Dean Nursing Student Education, Geisinger College of Health Sciences

Dr. Stoudt is responsible for the Geisinger School of Nursing, oversees the annual 3,000 graduate and undergraduate visiting nursing student placements across the system and works to administer the Geisinger's Nursing and Health Sciences Scholars Program. She serves as PI for a $4 million HRSA grant to create and nationally disseminate the Clinical Faculty and Preceptor Academy for nurses and advanced practice providers, which is in partnership with the Pennsylvania Nursing Workforce Coalition. A CRNA at Geisinger for 22 years, she also continues her practice of anesthesia for high acuity cases of all ages.

Dr. Stoudt began her nursing career in a CICU at St. Anthony Medical Center in Indiana after graduating with her BSN from Valparaiso University in 1998. A few years later, she graduated with her MSN in Nurse Anesthesia from the University of Pittsburgh. After beginning her CRNA career with Geisinger, she completed her DNP from Chatham University in 2008, and her PhD in Nursing Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2017.

A. Michelle Thompson, MD

Chief Education Officer and Vice Dean Graduate Medical Education and Designated Institutional Official, Geisinger

Dr. Thompson has led innovations in medical education curriculum at Geisinger for the last two decades with an emphasis on advancing the clinical learning environment for students, residents and faculty.

She came to Pennsylvania from North Carolina after completing her BS at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and MD at The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. After completing a combined Internal Medicine-Pediatrics Residency Program at Geisinger, she served as chief resident for the Internal Medicine residency and joined the faculty in Pediatrics and Medicine.

Dr. Thompson has held numerous roles in education, notably serving as the residency director for the Internal Medicine-Pediatrics program. She is currently engaged with the AAMC as the chair-elect for the Group on Residency Affairs steering committee. Dr. Thompson has presented nationally at the ACGME, AAMC and APPD and has secured grants from the HRSA, Josiah Macy Foundation and the Picker Institute to advance innovation in graduate medical education. She was the 2025 recipient of the ACGME Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award, recognizing her contributions in graduate medical education leadership. She has also been honored with the Drs. Henry P. and M. Page Laughlin Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching from Temple University School of Medicine, Geisinger Health System Housestaff Teaching Award and the Geisinger Excellence in Leadership Engagement Survey award.

Her professional interests include advancing rural healthcare through residency development and advancing the interface between clinical healthcare and graduate medical education using data-driven strategies.

Maria Welch, MPH

Director, Community Health & Social Needs, Geisinger

Ms. Welch has been with Geisinger for over 12 years and leads the clinical and health plan organization's social determinants of health strategy, which includes the identification of social needs, connection to local community resources and the creation of new programs to support members and patients. She also leads the Health Equity strategy for the Geisinger Health Plan. A native of Pennsylvania, Ms. Welch earned her BS in Biology from Juniata College and her MPH from West Chester University of Pennsylvania.

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