

Agenda
Rural Health Association of Utah/Southern Utah AHEC
General Board Meeting
September 30, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Rita Osborn
Locke Ettinger - Facilitator
Samantha Thompson
Mark Dalley - Chair
Mike Magill
Greg Rosenvall
Marla Shelby-Drabner
Cynthia Kimball Davis
Scott Langford

1. Welcome - Locke Ettinger
2. Strategic Plan - Review the Draft - Any input? Are we ready to move forward?
 - a. Dr. Magill - Drawn on a statewide effort. All centers pulling together to help the communities. Appreciate that we have all been able to align all our goals.
 - b. Greg - There's definitely a lot involved. Supporting of this document.
 - c. Marla - Strategy 3, membership. What is membership today?
 - i. Previously we had just used the conference as membership, but we are hoping to adjust that.

Can we expand/explain the effort towards loan forgiveness?

- ii. Matt said that they have presented and it will likely go into the budget. But we need to be sure that it stays in there. A few legislatures are feeling like they want to oppose it. So we still have some legislatures that need to be educated on this issue. Evan Vickers is our champion.

The hospitals have no resistances to this bill. Locke will reach out to legislatures that had some questions and were unsure of the necessity of this bill

- d. Scott - Works with the hospitals and what we want to achieve.
 - e. Cynthia - Approves!

- f. Locke - Aligned with AHEC on purpose. As we evolve, let's be sure that that continually occurs.
 - g. Rita - Let's be sure that we list out our **partners** and that we are aligned with them.
3. RHAU Conference - April 10, 2020, DSU "Building Partnerships for Rural Health"
- a. We shared the Save the Date with you! Please note that date and share with those that would be interested.
 - b. Pre-Conference is the day before for clinic managers. Matt McLough
 - c. We are focused on **partnering**
 - d. Get Healthy Utah is our title sponsor! We will be reaching out to other sponsors and institutions to become members.
 - e. We'll have two tracks, professional track and community partner track. Hopefully UROHC and USU Eastern will be on a panel. Medical cannabis, and MAT treatment.
 - f. We are working on CME approval.
 - g. This will be used to solicit membership. We are hoping to build from this conference and have this be our launch.
 - h. What do you think we need to be successful?
 - i. Trails will be easy to set-up. Mark will still want to golf! **Marla, Rita, Locke, and Mark will get together and plan that out.**
 - j. The 9th is by invitation only so please only worry about the 10th. Friday is a tough day for attendance, but St. George should be a draw in and of itself. **Rita will look into the hotel for a weekend package.** We have used Abbey Inn previously.
 - k. This is could be an opportunity to let students show research. Do we need scholarships for them to attend?
 - l. David Gessel is someone to look into as a presenter. **Greg can you please reach out to him and inquire about his availability?** Marla seconds Dr. Gessel.
 - m. Reaching out to the community is approved.
 - n. Patient and Doctor speakers are recommended by Cynthia. Someone who is seeing success in these rural areas.

- o. Does anyone have a recommendation for a keynote speaker? Please email those recommendations to Locke.
 - p. Sponsorships - Who should we be approaching? Coimage, hospital association, Rural nine network, interlayer (Mark will speak to them). Locke will outline some organizations and send those to the board for approval and confirmation.
 - q. Save the date. Send out to your contacts and constituents.
 - r. This conference will be a great kickoff for our membership.
4. Upcoming State Legislative Session
- a. Loan Repayment Support -
 - b. 340B Support - Discounted medication through hospitals for patients that can not afford medication. AUCH supports.
 - i. Greg - this is being monitored closely by the federal side, as it is a large issue. How will this impact our communities?
 - c. AHEC Support - Request was sponsored by Evan Vickers previously but it was not successful. It is for infrastructure support in rural utah. We are trying again. We need this state component for our projects to be completed successfully. Locke will write a letter of support as needed.
 - d. Monitoring Medicaid expansion
 - e. Rural hospital physician payments should be ongoing. But we need to monitor it. We are more than happy to provide a letter of support as needed.
 - f. We wrote a letter of concern to Mitt Romney and others. Contacted Utah Hospital Association and asked that they are the main contact for this bill and its issues.
5. Locke's Listening Tour - Update with common themes
- a. In Vernal (last night), met Ed the gardner. He invited Locke and his wife into his garden and shared his produce with them.
 - b. Heber Valley was so beautiful. Fall is coming!
 - c. Locke and his wife had an experience visiting the hospital in Price and it was great. The people he has been able to speak with have all agreed that the healthcare is great. He also has used telehealth and it worked for him!
 - d. Had a hard time meeting with safety net clinics. So we likely will need to do a second round to see some of the places that have been more hesitant.

- e. Attended the Rural Nine Meeting. This is a great opportunity for exposure.
 - f. One main concern Locke has heard is hospitals are all struggling under all the regulations and having a hard time connecting to community resources. Questions about telehealth, reimbursement, and how to engage communities that are far.
 - g. Locke is attending a telehealth conference and will bring up some of those issues there.
 - h. Marla - heard a common theme at one of her conferences, relating to millennials avoiding face-to-face and preferring electronically. Rural hospitals might be able to benefit from this desire but it could also be a big issue.
 - i. Locke will bring this issue up at the telehealth conference.
6. AHEC Reports - Rita
- a. Youth Programs - In person at high schools, Utah career training directory, summer camps. Intermountain reached out and asked for help focused on working with students with diverse backgrounds - highlighting Washington county.
 - b. Rural Health Scholars - SUU, Dixie, Snow College, and USU Eastern. 960 students enrolled currently!! We are hoping to expand this program.
 - i. We want to take this online. Allow high school students to enroll and take classes electronically. We want to keep connected to our rural students through online platform. Evan Vickers agreed that this is a great platform and deserving of funding.
 - ii. August that was mentioned in Dixie magazine could be a good speaker. Rita will reach out to him.
 - iii. Dr. Magill - We should look into recruiting through other programs that expand and encourage similar things that we do.
 - iv. Intergenerational poverty could be something to address
 - c. 3R Net - This is growing. Employers are beginning to look for employees sooner and sooner. We see clinics paying stipends to residents to keep them on board and to be sure they are filling their spots with the best. This is a great resource for getting new upcoming doctors to rural areas.
 - i. RHAU could use 3RNet as a benefit to becoming a member. As we get closer to a time where paying a small annual fee might become necessary

- d. Primary Care Conference - in Salt Lake City in two weeks. 200 people addressing issues in rural health. We will have a table where we will be promoting the RHAU conference
- e. Opioid Grants - \$1 Million HRSA Grant: Iron, Beaver, Emery, Carbon, and Grant counties will now be helped by this grant. We are excited but a bit overwhelmed. We hope to do some good work.
 - i. Rita will provide a one pager for next time.
 - ii. We also have some great videos that we want to share with you. As well as our webpage and facebook.
 - iii. Physicians are now required to educate their patients about the addictive qualities that some medications have.

7. Adjourn