



# INDIANA RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

# VIRTUAL FALL FORUM



August 27, 2025, 9:00am to 3:00pm

## MEET THE PRESENTERS

### Allison Pastene

Allison M. Pastene is a Sr. Consultant of Digital Care at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, where she oversees the implementation of technology solutions designed to enhance remote patient care, improve the patient and provider experience, and Project ECHO. In her role, she leads strategic initiatives that extend specialty knowledge to primary care providers through virtual collaborative learning models, with a particular focus on behavioral health and access in underserved regions, as well as supports workflow optimization and care model design for internal specialty teams to enhance integrated service delivery.. Her prior work at a Harvard/MIT med-tech startup, coupled with her current role at one of the nation's leading children's hospitals, has provided her with unique insight into solving complex care delivery problems through innovative digital approaches. She has led teams in the successful deployment of new technologies across asynchronous platforms, mental health services, and care delivery redesigns. Allison's work is driven by a commitment to democratizing healthcare through technology, expanding access, and building sustainable models for digital health transformation



### Amy Kruger

Amy has been a registered nurse since 2002, graduating from the University of Southern Indiana. Starting her career in Cardiovascular Surgical care, she spent 11 years progressing from bedside care recovering patients from open heart and other CV surgeries, to unit charge, and ultimately supervising the CVICU to ensure patients received high quality care while managing the departmental logistics. In late 2019, Amy transitioned from direct patient care to the manager of the Deaconess "Access Center", with oversight of patient placement, transfer center, scheduling, after hours triage, nursing home triage and switchboard operators. Managing through the CV19 pandemic, the need to establish these functions at a system level became a priority in 2022.

Amy led the transformation of the Access Center into 'DCARE', not only a physical space but a legacy program to help Deaconess take on the future unknowns she DCARE command center space is a 'mission control' type atmosphere that ensure our patients are getting the right level of care, at the right place and time, and the program has connection to all portions of the Deaconess Health System. Outside of work, Amy loves to competing in triathlons and marathons with a specific affinity for cycling. She is married and has an extremely active 12-year-old son, as well as a fur baby, Miranda, who serves as the best stress reliever.



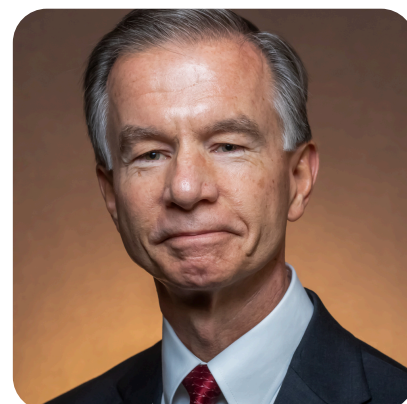
## Danielle Renckly

Danielle Renckly joined the Indiana Rural Health Association (IRHA) in 2022 as a Program Coordinator for the Upper Midwest Telehealth Resource Center (UMTRC). She also serves as the host of the UMTRC's podcast, a Virtual View. Prior to joining IRHA, Danielle was part of the Division of Emergency Preparedness at the Indiana Department of Health. While there, she served as part IDOH's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. She holds a Bachelor's of Science in Sociology with a focus in statistic and inequality from Ball State University.



## Harold Miller

Harold D. Miller is the President and CEO of the Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform (CHQPR), a national policy center that facilitates improvements in healthcare payment and delivery systems. Miller also serves as Adjunct Professor of Public Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon University. Miller is an internationally-recognized expert on healthcare payment and delivery and author of many widely-used reports on health care payment and delivery reform.



He served for four years as one of the initial members of the federal Physician-Focused Payment Model Technical Advisory Committee that was created by Congress to advise the Secretary of Health and Human Services on the creation of alternative payment models. He has worked in most of the states in the U.S. and in several other countries to help physicians, hospitals, employers, health plans, and government agencies design and implement payment and delivery system reforms. He has worked with both primary care physicians and a wide range of specialists to develop payment models designed to enable the physicians to deliver better care to their patients at lower cost. He has also worked with rural hospitals and clinics to develop better ways of sustaining high quality healthcare in rural areas, and has most recently been working to develop mechanisms for sustaining maternity care services in rural communities.

## Joel Phillippsen

Joel Phillippsen started his career in healthcare marketing as a Digital Marketing Specialist at Columbus Regional Health in 2011 following a previous career path as a newspaper photojournalist. Joel has a bachelors degree in Journalism with an emphasis in photojournalism from Ball State University and a Masters of Business Administration from Western Governors University. Currently Joel serves as Director of Marketing and WellConnect where he has a specific interest in building meaningful consumer engagement experiences across the many touchpoints of the health system.



## Nikki Murphy

Nikki Murphy is the Associate Director of Recreation for Columbus Parks and Recreation and their project management lead behind the transformation of NexusPark—a groundbreaking redevelopment of a 34-acre former mall into a hub for community wellness. With over 15 years of leadership in parks, recreation, and capital development, Nikki has championed cross-sector partnerships, including a pivotal collaboration with Columbus Regional Health to co-create an integrated health and recreation campus. Her expertise lies in aligning public infrastructure with community health outcomes, making her uniquely positioned to speak on the intersection of wellness, placemaking, and rural innovation.



**Register for this event and View Agenda [Here](#) or  
through the Events page at  
<https://www.indianaruralhealth.org/>**

