

The North Dakota Rural Health Association's mission is to bring together diverse interests and provide a unified voice to promote and enhance the quality of rural health through leadership, advocacy, coalition building, education and communication.

## Visit the NDRHA website at ndrha.org!

January 20, 2021

Brad Gibbens Director ND AHEC Center for Rural Health UND SMHS 1301 N. Columbia Road, Stop 9037 Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037

Katelyn Brinkman Eastern AHEC Director Mayville State University 330 3<sup>rd</sup> St NE Mayville, ND 58257 Denise Andress Western AHEC Director PO Box 615 109 S Main Street Hettinger, ND 58639

Dear Mr. Gibbens, Ms. Brinkman, and Ms. Andress,

As Executive Director of the North Dakota Rural Health Association (NDRHA), I want to acknowledge the NDRHA Board of Director's support of the North Dakota Area Health Education Centers and their programs that focus on providing support for health workforce, specifically the North Dakota HOSA program.

North Dakota HOSA, a program administered by the AHEC, is a valuable resource for high schoolers interested in health professions. The workforce development work that is conducted is a service to the state.

As many North Dakota health facilities are struggling with workforce shortages, the importance in having programs that promote those professions is vitally important.

Sincerely,

hyli flisse

Kylie Nissen, Executive Director North Dakota Rural Health Association

President:

Brittany Ness, COVID Coordinator/School Nurse Northwood Public School 4 N Park St. Northwood, ND 58267 Tel: 701-430-1972 brittany.ness@ndhc.net

## President-Elect:

Ben Bucher, CEO Towner County Medical Center 7448 US-281 Cando, ND 58324 Tel: 701-968-2500 benb@tcmedcenter.org

## Secretary/Treasurer:

Pete Antonson, Administrator Northwood Deaconess Health Center 4 N Park Street Northwood, ND 58267 Tel: 701-587-6060 pete.antonson@ndhc.net

Past President:

Gretchen Dobervich, Public Health Policy Manager North Dakota State University 1301 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. N. Fargo, ND 58105 Tel: 701-277-9757 gretchen.dobervich@ndsu.edu

Executive Director:

Kylie Nissen, Program Director Center for Rural Health 1301 N Columbia Rd. Stop 9037 Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037 Tel: 701-777-5380 kylie.nissen@und.edu