

Newsletter

January 2021



LETTER FROM CARHC PRESIDENT - KAREN PAOLINELLI

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

There is no doubt that 2020 will live in our memories for years to come. It was unprecedented year for healthcare. Our rural health clinics and hospitals have experienced loss, increased stress and uncertainty. This has given us the opportunity to reflect, restore and learn. Every single one of us have been impacted by COVID 19.

On behalf of CARHC we want to thank our members for your continual commitment to rural health. You have worked tirelessly to tackle this virus and to take care of patients in your communities. The work you do today is more important than ever. COVID 19 has disrupted our world and RHC's have stepped up during this adverse time. At the center of this is has been testing, telehealth visits, phone visits, and now stepping up to help administer the COVID 19 vaccine. CARHC want to acknowledge and recognize the healthcare workers effort and selfless response during this pandemic.

Like many other organizations, CARHC has had to adapt the way that we work during this pandemic. We had to cancel our California Rural Health Conference in 2020 and we will not be able to have an in person conference in 2021. We are working to get more information to our clinics as quickly as possible. On our website and we have webinars throughout 2021 for our members, and I believe we have much to look forward to in 2021.

I look forward to rejoining my colleagues and members in 2021 as we continue to work and fight to continue to bring healthcare to rural areas.

It is an honor to work with all of you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Paolinelli'.

Karen Paolinelli

President

Don't forget to renew
your membership today!

Click here to log into your
member portal and pay

If you have any issues
logging in, or would like to
be sent an invoice, please
contact us at

INFO@CARHC.ORG

MEET OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS



Rocio Camacho

Clinic Operations Manager,
Ridgecrest Regional Hospital -
Rural Health Clinics

Rocio Camacho, has served the Rural Health Community since 2017. She began serving the rural health community at Adventist Health – Feather River Hospital located in Paradise. After graduating with her Bachelor of Science in Health Services Administration, Health and Community Service Administration she relocated to the rural community of Ridgecrest, CA as a Clinic Operations Manager at Ridgecrest Regional Hospital (RRH) she currently manages Rural Health Clinics which is a multi-specialty, provider based RHC serving California's East Kern County.

Rocio has continuously demonstrated her passion for serving the rural health community by facilitating innovate on to grow the clinics and skilled nursing facility.



Linda Nichols

Director of Clinic Operations

Linda has worked as a Registered Nurse in the medical field for over 30 years. She currently holds the position of Director of Clinic Operations at Dignity Health Mercy Medical Center Mt. Shasta.

Linda and her team strongly believe that quality and access to care are very important to the health community. Their clinic offer MAT, Chiropractic, OB/GYN, General Surgery, Family Practice, Podiatry, Orthopedics, Tele Psychiatric, Nutritional Services and they are currently working on mental health in pregnancy. Linda has a passion for what she does and has dedicated much of her time to the rural Health community. Linda has been a board member of the CA Association for Rural Health Clinics since 2019.

Rural Health and Telehealth Reimbursement

The Telehealth Expansion Act of 2020 was enacted on March 17, 2020. The swift action to insure access to healthcare services during the COVID-19 pandemic has transformed how many providers and patients have chosen to receive care. The

Center for Connected Health Policy, The National Telehealth Policy Resource Center, provides up to date, time stamped information on all things Telehealth by State.

Clinic here for the latest information on telehealth visit reimbursement, eligible providers, services and patient consent.

<https://www.cchpca.org/telehealth-policy/current-state-laws-and-reimbursement-policies?jurisdiction=34&category=128&topic=All>

California Health Care Foundation Regional Markets Series

The California Health Care Foundation (CHCF) recently published the California Health Care Almanac regional market studies. The studies identify healthcare systems, common themes and emerging issues influencing how healthcare is delivered in California. The market study for your region is an authentic source for framing challenges and exploring growth opportunities. San Joaquin Valley: Despite Poverty and Capacity Constraints, Health Care Access Improves

<https://www.chcf.org/publication/san-joaquin-valley-despite-poverty-capacity-constraints-health-care-access-improves/>

Inland Empire: Increasing Medi-Cal Coverage Spurs Safety-Net Growth

<https://www.chcf.org/publication/inland-empire-increasing-medi-cal-coverage-spurs-safety-net-growth/>

Humboldt & Del Norte Counties: Communi8ty Collaboration in the Face of Health Adversity

<https://www.chcf.org/publication/humboldt-del-norte-counties-community-collaboration-face-health-adversity/>

2021 California Rural Health Conference

Virtual webinar series sponsored by Anthem BlueCross



CARHC would like to thank Anthem Blue Cross for their generosity in sponsoring a series of webinars for our first ever 2021 California Rural Health Conference virtual webinar series.

Thank you to our sponsor!

Members Only Webinar



Thank you to Fairchild Medical Clinic for kicking off the first of the virtual learning series:

“Providing Visiting Nurse

Services in a Rural Health Clinic Setting”. CARHC Members can access the presentation slide deck [here](#) and may reach out to Jaxon Williams and Paulet Adams at Fairchild Medical Clinic.

Due to the excellent response and reviews of the Visiting Nurse Services presentation and thanks to the generosity of Anthem Blue Cross, we will be launching our very first 2021 California Rural Health Conference virtual webinar series.

Upcoming Webinars

1. Modernization Act – Presented by Steve Russo
Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 4pm
2. Mock Survey’s for RHC’s – Kate Hill
Friday, April 16, 2021 at 12pm
3. Leaves of Absence Under the California Family Rights Act– Presented by HR Janet Keen of Compliance Team
Date to be announced