



# National Cooperative of Health Networks Association

Annual Meeting of Members to be Held April 17, 2013

## TO THE VOTING MEMBERS:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Voting Members of the National Cooperative of Health Networks Association (NCHN) will take place at 8:00 a.m. local time on April 17, 2013, at the Omni Royal Orleans Hotel in the (TBA Room) in conjunction with the Association's **19<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference – “All that Jazz!”** in New Orleans, Louisiana. Voting Members, as defined in Article III of the Company's Bylaws, shall be entitled to cast one vote each, in person or by proxy, on all matters properly coming before the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting shall be:

1. To elect directors, pursuant to action of the Board of Directors on March 25, 2013 to continue the number of directors for 2013-2014 at nine (9) with the election of four (4) directors in Class C to serve until the 2016 Annual Meeting of Voting Members; and
2. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting and any adjournments thereof.

Only Voting Members of record at the close of business on April 1, 2013, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment thereof.

Included with this Notice is a proxy to vote your membership interest if you are unable to send an authorized representative to attend this meeting. While we do hope that you will have a representative present, if not, to assure your representation we urge you to complete the proxy form and return it to the Secretary of the Association, for receipt before the meeting. Your vote will be cast as indicated on the proxy regarding approval of the recommended slate of directors. Unless you indicate otherwise, your proxy will be voted at the discretion of the proxy upon any other issues that may properly come before the meeting and any adjournment. Members attending the meeting may revoke their proxies and vote in person.

FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

Stephen Stoddard  
Association Secretary  
National Cooperative of Health Networks Association (NCHN)

Information on the four candidates for Director is included with this notice.



## Deena Dodd

Indiana Statewide Rural Health Network, IN

The Indiana Statewide Rural Health Network was developed out of a HRSA grant in May 2008. InSRHN was designed to improve the financial viability and sustainability of Indiana's rural healthcare providers. Our network strategy is to assist rural Hoosier hospitals in meeting the needs of their communities. The goal of InSRHN is to reduce the isolation faced by rural administrators and their teams and engage in alliances; pool resources; share best practices; leverage buying power and facilitate in peer to peer learning opportunities. Ultimately we wanted to cultivate new and existing relationships with rural partners and find opportunities for statewide

collaborations.

I have been with the network since January of 2011 and the director since September 2011.

My involvement with NCHN covers many areas: I've participated in the Annual Conference the last 3 years: Scottsdale, AZ, Denver, CO and New Orleans, LA; I've also participated in the Leadership Summits in Kansas City, MO the last 2 years. I have been part of the Transformers Learning Community, as well as engaged on different planning committees for conferences. I also, when time allows, participate in the Coffee/Tea Chats with Dr. Mary Kay Chess.

I believe my desire to help grow and sustain the NCHN membership will be welcomed as well as encourage current members to take advantage of the education opportunities, leadership development skills and networking will be advantageous to my participation. As a network director for 26 hospitals I am constantly vetting vendors and looking for opportunities for vendor resources for NCHN and I'll continue that movement as a Board Member. I'm currently networking across Indiana with economic development regional offices and am looking forward to sharing with folks how these relationships are imperative to the growth and movement within their organizations. As part of the Indiana Rural Health Association I have access to vast amount of knowledgeable people and resources. I am encouraged by these individuals willingness to share and provide me assistance and thus will allow NCHN members access too.

As a Director for NCHN it will be my privilege to encourage other healthcare network directors to engage with NCHN and obtain skills, much like I have nurtured within NCHN, to make them more attuned to their members needs. There are so many ways in which a member can grow through NCHN and none of the tools are available elsewhere in the manner with which NCHN makes them obtainable. NCHN is a wonderful organization and I'm looking forward to giving back to the group which has given so much to me. I'm thankful for NCHN and it would be an honor to serve on the board.

I grew up in rural Indiana on a 1500 acre grain farm. I had the pleasure of de-tasseling and de-roguing corn, as well as hoeing soybeans in my youth. The family farm is still alive and well and I am eternally blessed by having this in my life. It is truly who I am at my core; it gives me a sense of belonging and an understanding that I may not of had had I grown up elsewhere. I have a beautiful family, my husband, Mike, and daughter, Courtney. They are the reason that I get to work so hard every day; their support is unwavering. I enjoy traveling, wines from all over the world and experiencing new and exciting opportunities; I love to read in my free time also. I am blessed to be part of the largest state run rural health association at IRHA, as we have 3000 members and are growing. I am currently working towards my BS in Business Management.



**Heather Fuller**  
Sunflower Health Network, KS

The Sunflower Health Network (SHN) is a group of 18 hospitals in North Central Kansas that was founded in 1994. SHN works to enhance the cost effectiveness of member hospitals and providers by sharing services and/or expertise in such areas as clinical services, support services, administration, and education. Some of our services include group health insurance, group purchasing, physician recruitment, equipment maintenance, and department director education. I have served as the Executive Director of the SHN since 2005.

The Sunflower Health Network was one of the founding members of NCHN. I have been a member of NCHN for over 7 years. I have served on several NCHN committees such as annual conference (2012 chair, 2010 co-chair), leadership summit, certification (chair), compensation, and executive committee. I have been on the NCHN board for the past 3 years and served as Secretary, Vice President, and current President. I am also part of the Leadership Learning Community and have attended the past several Leadership Summits.

I have enjoyed my involvement with NCHN and especially my time on the board. I have gained so much from NCHN including new network ideas and wonderful friends and contacts. I would love to serve another 3 years on the NCHN board of directors if the membership so chooses.

My husband Jason and I have 2 daughters: Karter Kathleen (10) and Frankie Elizabeth (6). We stay busy with all of their sporting events, playing golf, and following K-State sports.



## **Stacie Pace**

Southeast Oklahoma Rural Health Network, Inc., OK

The Southeast Oklahoma Rural Health Network (SORHN) is a vertical network that includes 3 rural hospitals, 2 FQHC's and a Community Action Agency. SORHN has partnered with My Health Access to provide an HIE and sits on the board of the HIE to represent rural health issues as health information exchange grows and develops in Oklahoma. We are currently in the process of adding a critical access hospital and a larger hospital to our network. Over the past few months we have been working with our local primary care physicians to bring them on board the HIE and will also start adding them to our network membership. I became the network director the end of 2010 when the membership was comprised of the Community Action Agency and 2 FQHC's. Our services include discounts for our HIE, human resources assistance, ICD-10 and IT services. We are currently exploring other programming options to support the network's growth as directed by the needs of our members. The Southeast Oklahoma Rural Health Network is currently funded in part through a HRSA's Rural Health Information Technology and Network Development grant.

SORHN has been a member of NCHN for a year and as director I am currently a part of the BULLS Leadership Learning Community for 2012-2013. Through NCHN I have been able to find other members and business partners to help me navigate through this crazy maze of developing a network for rural health care. Even though our network has only been an NCHN member for one year NCHN and its members has been instrumental in the success of the Southeast Oklahoma Rural Network. Not only have there been opportunities to meet other network organizations with similar goals, it has been an outstanding moral support vehicle. As a rural health network working with the communities and with our rural health providers things can get frustrating to say the least. As part of NCHN we are able to pick up the phone or email to get assistance or just have a shoulder to lean on.

My background includes 10 years of marketing experience, 12 years of economic and community development with Little Dixie Community Action Agency, as well as 20 plus years as an entrepreneur. I have been involved in advocacy for rural communities for about 10 years on a state and federal level. Being part of the local Chamber of Commerce board and president for two years helped me to see how important networking is in rural America. Over the past 12 plus years I have served on or been a member of numerous boards and organizations on a local, regional and state level. In 2003 I was selected to be a part of the Southeast Leadership Programs and in 2011 was selected to attend ORHP's 2012 Rural Voices Leadership and Policy Program.

My husband Scott and I live in rural southeast Oklahoma. Scott is a district conservationist for USDA and works with the local farmers and ranchers. We both have been very involved in our community and have raised five boys and one girl who are currently finding their way in the world. Our hobbies include raising fowl, which include peafowl, guineas, chickens and other assorted feathered friends on a twenty acre spread. Let's not forget Floyd and Bean our miniature donkeys. These critters help keep us occupied in our "spare" and are a wonderful diversion to our hectic lives. I guess I should also add that I am a Patsy Cline Tribute Artist or Rebecca will remind me to add it. Love ya Rebecca!!!!

I am truly honored to be nominated as a potential Director for NCHN. It is my hope that I will be able to help others through my experience in community and economic development as we all work together to help rural health care survive and thrive in these times of change. NCHN has a proven track record in positive leadership in health care that will help me to be the leader needed for southeast Oklahoma.



**Stephen Stoddard**  
Southwest Idaho Community Health Network, ID

The Southwest Idaho Community Health Network (SWICHN) is a hospital network with headquarters in Boise consisting of 12 hospitals. SWICHN was established in 1998 and includes 8 critical access hospitals, 1 rehab hospital and 2 regional medical centers. SWICHN exists to be a forum for healthcare professionals to educate, innovate, network and collaborate for improved healthcare delivery among our members. Steve Stoddard has served as the Executive Director for 9 years.

Steve has been an active member with NCHN for the last 8 years and has served on the Program Development Committee for 5 years, the Business Partner Committee for 1 year and as Chair of the Rural Health Network Resource Task Force to create the new consulting referral service for the last 2 years. He has served on the NCHN Board for 3 years and as the Board Secretary for 4 months. He recognizes the tremendous value that NCHN provides its members.

Steve brings 14 years of healthcare administration experience with over 9 of those years as a network executive director. His experience and skills includes strategic planning, group purchase contracting, education, peer networks, vendor relations, networking, value reporting and starting new services.

I have enjoyed serving on the Board and am pleased with the direction and progress of NCHN. I would like to continue serving on the Board to help NCHN set and achieve additional goals as we work to provide increased value to the NCHN membership.

Steve and his wife, Tonya, have a daughter Madeline (14) and a son Jacob (11) and are currently expecting a baby girl this summer. They enjoy waterskiing, snow skiing, camping and fishing.