

**Darcy A. Czarnik Laurin** is Executive Director of the Thumb Rural Health Network (TRHN) and has filled that role since 2011. TRHN's 11 members work to improve comprehensive health services in Michigan's Thumb region by collaborating to improve health and promote wellness of the population in Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Counties through access, public awareness, education, advocacy, and leadership. By setting aside historical competitive issues and focusing on emerging collaborative opportunities, network members are better able to address the complex health issues of the Thumb's rural communities.

TRHN was formed in 2003 and became an incorporated non-profit in March 2007. TRHN membership consists of three county health departments, six critical access hospitals, and two tertiary-level hospitals. Services focus on population health management that includes access to health care for the underserved population with an emphasis on primary care and dental services as well as chronic disease management. Additional services are improved community health status, regional health behaviors data collection and utilization, community access to care, educational opportunities, and leadership development. Each TRHN member organization has a community-based mission and continually seeks and sustains meaningful relationships with other community organizations that increase viability, efficiency, and effectiveness through collaboration.

A native of rural northern Michigan, Darcy has over 15 years of non-profit experience working with both federal- and state-level grant funded organizations. She began her non-profit career working as a watershed coordinator designing and implementing watershed and wetland restoration initiatives. Soon after, Darcy's focus switched to rural health, and she has since dedicated her work to helping alleviate the health challenges and disparities found in rural communities.

Darcy holds a bachelor's degree in health sciences from Central Michigan University.