23 MEMBERS • 23 COUNTIES
582,000 LIVES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Julie Petersen, CEO & Past Chair | Kittitas Valley Healthcare
Josh Martin, CEO & Chair | Summit Pacific Medical Center
Tom Wilbur, CEO & Past Secretary/Treasurer | Newport Hospital & Health Services
Eric Moll, CEO | Mason Health
Robb Kimmes, CEO | Skyline Health
Leslie Hiebert, CEO | Klickitat Valley Health
Heidi Anderson, CEO | Forks Community Hospital
Mike Glenn, CEO | Jefferson Healthcare
Tyson Lacy, CEO | Lincoln Hospital & North Basin Clinics
Leianne Everett, CEO & Secretary/Treasurer | Arbor Health
Larry Cohen, CEO | Ocean Beach Hospital & Medical Clinics
Jennifer Reed, CEO | Ferry County Memorial Hospital
Renee Jensen, CEO | Snoqualmie Valley Hospital
Vacant, CEO | WhidbeyHealth Medical Center
Matthew Kempton, CEO | Willapa Harbor Hospital
Hank Hanigan, CEO | Whitman Hospital & Medical Clinics
FROM ELYA PRYSTOWSKY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AT THE RURAL COLLABORATIVE

I am at a loss for words when trying to describe the adversity our rural hospital members faced in 2021. This year we endeavored to meet this adversity head on with service, service and more service.

- We grew the multi-employer retirement plan to over $135 million dollars and saved our members’ employees over $155,681 in fees.
- We expanded our delegated credentialing program, now offering the service to 13 members for over 480 providers and expanding the number of plans from three to five.
- We now offer a grant writing service to our members, with $65,000 dollars awarded in 2021 and over $1.5 million planned for 2022.
- We launched two new committees, the Accountable Care Organization and Rural Health Clinic Committee, allowing even more opportunity for our members to network, share best practices and identify new solutions to today’s challenges.
- We extended our communication network to more workers in each member facility, totaling nearly 600 people and counting.

When reflecting on the year, I think the quote that sits on my desk as I type: “I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy.” - Rabindranath Tagore

It is truly a joy to work for this organization, alongside its amazing staff and with the brain trust of individuals working within each health system.

FROM JULIE PETERSEN, CEO
KITTITAS VALLEY HEALTHCARE
OUTGOING BOARD CHAIR

As you can see from Elya’s summary, 2021 was a build year for the Collaborative. The Collaborative continues to increase its value to Members year-over-year. This is true both financially, and in its growing support network.

Elya focused this year on aligning and supporting the network of Collaborative committees for maximum impact. As the year drew to a close, I noticed that I was hearing mention of the Collaborative’s name more and more frequently throughout the walls of Kittitas Valley Healthcare.

It has been an honor to serve as the board’s chair for the past two years. I know the Collaborative will be in good hands with Josh as the new chair starting in 2022. Over to you, Josh!

FROM JOSH MARTIN, CEO
SUMMIT PACIFIC MEDICAL CENTER
INCOMING BOARD CHAIR

While the rural health systems in Washington focused on the COVID crisis and staffing shortages in 2021, Elya steered the Collaborative to new heights. CEO participation at the Board meetings in 2021 was at an all-time high of 86%. We added three new Critical Access Hospital members in 2021 and will likely add more in 2022. This growth is a demonstration of the Rural Collaborative’s reputation and influence throughout the state as a network of innovative, committed rural health leaders.

As I step into the role of Board Chair this next year, I want to take a moment to recognize and appreciate the incredible leadership Julie Peterson brought to the Rural Collaborative over the last two years as the Board Chair. She was instrumental in aligning our collective efforts and supporting Elya. I stand by the Collaborative’s bold vision to accelerate the advancement of rural healthcare and I know Twenty-One rural hospital CEOs stand behind us as we lead the charge into this next year.
OUR VISION

To accelerate the advancement of rural healthcare

- Leverage the synergy & wisdom of our members
- Harness the value that a network of rural health systems provides
- Improve performance of our members and the health of the communities we serve, meeting members where they are.

OUR PURPOSE

- To support collaborative members to better serve their communities.
- To overcome the challenges of rural healthcare.
- To take advantage of the opportunities that a collective provides.
- To speak with one rural voice.

OUR VALUES

- Integrity – We build trust through our honest discourse and collective work
- Synergy – We are stronger, wiser and more effective together
- Commitment – We are committed to each other and the success of our members
- Innovation – We foster change and endless improvement

OUR MISSION

We defend, create and design the future of rural healthcare through collective strategy and action.
“I don’t think I would have been as successful as I was in 2021 if it weren’t for my peers in the HR Committee. Being able to reach out and get answers from different hospitals was amazing. I don’t know how to put it into words how much it helped. This past year, I find myself reaching out to my peers in the Collaborative before the consultants.”

HEATHER MCCLEARY | HR DIRECTOR AT COULEE MEDICAL CENTER

“Rural facilities tend to be isolated from other institutions and as such do not have a lot of connections with peers. The Collaborative gives us that connection with our peers.”

THERESA HOLLINGER | CNO AT NEWPORT HOSPITAL & HEALTH SERVICES

“When we have a question, we have a place to go.”

MICHELE TIERNEY | DIRECTOR OF CLINICS AT MASON HEALTH

“From the very beginning, the ability to be able to network with the quality leaders was critical.”

HEIDI HEDLUND | MANAGER QUALITY & RISK AT SKYLINE HEALTH
“Everybody needs to know that they are not alone. What I found for myself, and what we found as an organization, is that we are so very NOT alone. That sense of comradery and mutual support during times of stress and trouble is more valuable than gold.”

ANNIE STONE | CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER AT KLICKITAT VALLEY HEALTH

1. GRANT FROM THE MOLINA HEALTHCARE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR OUR RURAL QUALITY DASHBOARD PROJECT
2. JEFFERSON HEALTHCARE
3. SARAH WILLIAMSON, CHAR HANCOCK, JULIE TAYLOR AND LEIANNE EVERETT, ARBOR HEALTH
4. DEBORAH DILLON, FORKS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
5. MASON HEALTH
6. KITTITAS VALLEY HEALTHCARE PEDIATRICS TEAM
7. ELISE CUTTER AND CAROL NORTHUP, ISLAND HOSPITAL
8. HALLOWEEN AT KLICKITAT VALLEY HEALTH
9. RENEE JENSEN, SNOQUALMIE VALLEY HOSPITAL
10. NICOLE EDDINS, MASON HEALTH
11. PROSSER GIVING VACCINES AT THE VINEYARD

PHOTO: THE PARTNERSHIP FOR OUR FOOD SOCIETY
TOTAL PATIENTS SERVED IN 2021
622,907

TOTAL CHILDREN SERVED IN 2021
55,093

TOTAL OUTPATIENT VISITS 1,763,832

- PRIMARY CARE CLINIC VISITS: 784,080
- SPECIALTY CLINIC VISITS: 337,782
- TELEHEALTH VISITS: 51,719
- URGENT CARE: 81,494
- EMS / AMBULANCE: 11,270
- EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS: 206,234
- PHYSICAL THERAPY VISITS: 190,890
- OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY: 27,769
- RESPIRATORY THERAPY: 42,538
- SPEECH THERAPY: 12,949
- BEHAVIORAL HEALTH VISITS: 17,107
3,227 BABIES DELIVERED
238,236 COVID-19 TESTS
3,759 COVID PATIENT-DAYS
190,847 COVID VACCINATIONS

TOTAL NET PATIENT SERVICE REVENUE $1,547,310,185
CARES ACT DOLLARS $80,093,205
GRANT DOLLARS RECEIVED $14,736,564
CHARITY CARE $22,955,291
Member Savings & Benefits
Through Collaborative programs and joint member contracting negotiations

Legal Consult $77,261
Recruitment $654
PACS $32,922
Data Analytics $72,007
Compliance Hot Line $82,148
Grant $125,738
Transitional Care Consulting $186,000
Reference Lab $475,357
Retirement $155,681
Patient Satisfaction & HCAHPS Surveys $71,049
Price Transparency & Revenue Cycle Management $228,109
Insurance $2,966,961

TOTAL SAVINGS $4,473,887.15
ROI 2019 3.6:1  •  ROI 2020 5.5:1  •  ROI 2021 8.9:1
FRONT ROW: ELYA PRYSTOWSKY, MAGGIE MOORE, KAROL DIXON
BACK: HEATHER MULLER, PAUL KENNELLY