



2023 HCC CONFERENCE

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Shelly Schwedhelm MSN, RN, NEA-BC - Executive Director, R7DHRE

Shelly Schwedhelm serves as the Associate Director for Clinical Operations and Emergency Management at the UNMC Global Center for Health Security (GCHS). She also serves as the Executive Director of Emergency Management and Biopreparedness at Nebraska Medicine, with operational accountability for the Biocontainment Unit and National Quarantine Unit. Shelly has previous leadership experience in Perioperative Services and Emergency and Trauma Services.

She is the Program Director and Subject Matter Expert with the ASPR & CDC funded National Emerging Special Pathogen Training and Education Center (NETEC) and is actively involved the activities of the ASPR Training, Simulation, and Quarantine Unit, CDC Infection Prevention & Antibiotic Stewardship and the ASPR Region VII Disaster Health Response Ecosystem grant(s) at Nebraska Medicine/UNMC. Shelly is also actively involved in the Omaha Metropolitan Healthcare Coalition and serves as the current chairperson of the Board of Directors.

James Lawler, MD, MPH, FIDSA - Medical Director, R7DHRE

Before his arrival at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 2018, Dr. Lawler served as a Navy commander and was chief of clinical biodefense research at the Naval Medical Research Center in Fort Detrick, MD. He was an attending physician at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and served White House assignments as Homeland Security Council and National Security Council staff, where he worked on biodefense, pandemic response, and health preparedness.

Dr. Lawler has field experience treating Ebola patients in sub-Saharan Africa, and he served as a subject matter expert in the training of Department of Defense medical personnel working with infectious diseases patients.

Abbey Lowe, PhD, MA - Assistant Professor, UNMC

Abbey Lowe, PhD, MA is an Assistant Professor in the College of Allied Health Professions, Department of Allied Health Professions Education, Research, and Practice, at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and a scholar at the Global Center for Health Security Scholar.

She co-led crisis standards of care (CSC) planning for the state of Nebraska working with a broad group of stakeholders—healthcare coalition leaders, EMS, state hospital and medical societies, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, clinicians, and healthcare administrators—to develop a consensus-driven CSC operating protocol. She has engaged deeply in the local and national conversation around CSC, presenting at national venues and currently serving on the CHEST Task Force for Mass Critical Care.

Michelle Hill, BS, EMT - HPP Coordinator, Nebraska DHHS

Michelle has 18 years of experience in numerous aspects of disaster preparedness. She has worked in the realms of healthcare, public health, firefighting, and dispatch. She holds a Professional Development Series Certificate from FEMA in Emergency Management. Michelle is a founding team member for the State of Nebraska EMS Crisis Standards of Care, the State of Nebraska Critical Access Hospital Crisis Standards of Care, and has presented her work at a variety of national conferences. She oversees the Nebraska Hospital Preparedness Program, including the six state healthcare coalitions. Michelle is also on the Incident Command Management team of the Emergency Preparedness Response Unit.

Nicole Jones - Central Iowa Healthcare Coalition

Nicole Jones has worked as a Healthcare Coalition Coordinator for six years which, overseeing a total of 21 counties in Iowa. Nicole worked in the Region 1 Regional Medical Coordination Center for over two years during COVID-19 response, that spanned 25 counties, and was a coordinated effort between healthcare coalitions, the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, and Iowa National Guard with the mission to gather and analyze data, observe and evaluate trends, and locate and move resources. Along with public health emergencies, she has assisted during real-world natural disaster response and proceeding improvement planning.

Brendan Bagby - Missouri Department of Health and Senior Servicest

Brendan Bagby has a degree in crisis and disaster management and currently serves as the manager of the Healthcare Systems Preparedness Program for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. During his time with the MO DHSS, he has provided oversight to the PPE warehouse operations and state ventilator cache during the COVI pandemic.

Brittney Seiler, MPA - Office of Preparedness, ASPR

Brittney Seiler is an analyst within the Office of Health Care Readiness (OHCR) at the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR). Within OHCR, Brittney leads the daily management of the Regional Disaster Health Response System demonstration sites.

Brittney also works on a variety of projects related to hospital data. She has served a variety of roles across ASPR supporting senior leadership, public-private partnerships, and situational awareness.

Sayedha Uddin, MD, MPH - U.S. Public Health Service ASPR

Sayedha Uddin is Commander in the U.S. Public Health Service and serves as ASPR's Chief Health Informatics Officer (CHIO) in the Information Management Division. As ASPR's CHIO, she is working to transform and evolve how ASPR collects and leverages public health and medical data to improve interoperability and innovation.

She coordinates closely with the ASPR's Chief Data Officer, the Office of Health Care Readiness and BARDA to develop and implement a health informatics strategy. She is a physician board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology and Public Health and General Preventive Medicine. CDR Uddin served as a team lead for coordinating hospital data reporting during the federal COVID-19 response.

Rachel Lookadoo, JD - Assistant Professor, UNMC College of Public Health

Rachel Lookadoo is an Assistant Professor in the Epidemiology department of the College of Public Health at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, and serves as the Deputy Director of the Center for Biosecurity, Biopreparedness, and Emerging Infectious Diseases. She also acts as the Director of Public Health Policy for the Water, Climate, and Health program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Ms. Lookadoo also conducts emergency preparedness trainings and assessments for public health departments and healthcare facilities nationally. Ms. Lookadoo's background is as an attorney, and she focuses on the various legal and regulatory issues that can arise in emergency preparedness and response.

Jennifer Watts, MD, MPH - Co-lead, R7DHRE Pediatric Specialty Team

Dr. Jennifer Watts is a Pediatric Emergency Medicine Physician, whose extensive experience has led to her serving as the Principal Investigator for the Pediatric Pandemic Network, Chief Pediatric Medical Office of MoDMAT, Chief Emergency Management Medical Officer, and Chief Patient Progression Officer at Children's Mercy in Kansas City. She has been recognized for founding the Global Health Program at Children's Mercy, where she adeptly served as Director for 12 years, mentoring over 100 pediatric physicians for impactful work in the global health arena. Dr. Watts also serves in a leadership role in the Region VII Disaster Health Response Ecosystem (R7DHRE) Pediatric Specialty Team, focusing on the development of protocols associated with pediatric-specific deployment teams.

Jennifer Sutherlin, MPH, BSN - MARC HCC Coordinator

Jennifer Sutherlin is the Emergency Services Health and Medical Program Manager and Missouri Region A Readiness and Response Coordinator at Mid-America Regional Council. As the MARC Region Health Care Coalition Coordinator, Jennifer works across agencies and disciplines to increase health care resilience through collaborative planning, preparedness and response. Jennifer holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master of Public Health degree and has been in her role since 2019.

Steven Hoeger, NRP, CHEP - Chair, MARC HCC

Steven Hoeger is the Corporate Director of Emergency Management at University Health Truman Medical Centers in Kansas City, a Level 1 Trauma Center and Safety Net Hospital for western Missouri. Steve began his health care career as a paramedic in the Kansas City area in 1990. He has been part of the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council since the early 2000s. Steve helped found the Kansas Metro Healthcare Coalition in 2012 and served as its coordinator until 2019 when he went to work at University Health. He has served as the Missouri Chair of the MARC HCC since 2019.

Michael Moncure, MD, FACS - Professor, UMKC

Dr. Michael Moncure is a traumatologist and general surgeon at University Health in Kansas City where he is board certified in general surgery and surgery critical care. After five years at Cooper Health Systems in Camden, NJ as a Trauma Surgeon, he worked at KU for 20 years helping to establish a Level 1 Trauma Center, and has been at Truman Medical Center, now University Health since 2017, where he helped establish a Level 1 ACS Trauma Center as well. Dr. Moncure is member of the Department of Surgery, and a Professor of Surgery at UMKC and the Paul Coffey Endowed Chair of Surgery for Education. His major focus of research interest is microvasculature damage as a result of shock, sepsis, and tissue trauma.

Andy Marshall, BSN, RN - Emergency Preparedness Manager, University of Kansas Health System

Andy Marshall is the Emergency Preparedness Manager at The University of Kansas Health System. He has over 10 years of bedside emergency medicine and trauma experience as Registered Nurse. While working in the emergency department at the health system, he was charged with the ED's preparedness program including mass casualty response planning, single/mass decontamination before formally joining the emergency management team in 2021. In this role he has over site of emergency management activities for the KC Division of the health system.

Mark Heath - Chief of EMS, KCFD

Chief Heath is currently serving as the Assistant Chief in the EMS division. He began his firefighting career in 1990 outside of Topeka and has been with Kansas City Kansas Fire since 1997. He is a Paramedic and has worked in many roles within the organization, including Hazardous materials response, as an EMS supervisor, and in the investigations division.

Danielle Marten, MPA, CHEP

Ms. Marten has over 16 years' experience in budgeting and financial planning with 11 of those years working directly with contracts, grants, and State of Kansas budgets. She has served as the Northeast Kansas Healthcare Coalition Regional Coordinator since 2016 and a Co-Owner of Healthcare Coalition Partners of KS since 2019. Her Master's in Public Administration has equipped Ms. Marten with the skillset necessary to work with all levels of Government. Ms. Marten will serve as the project management Subject Matter Expert, Liaison and Public Information Officer for all KS Healthcare Coalitions.

Tami Wood, RN

Tami Wood has over 30 years of experience in the medical field with 12 plus years of experience in local, regional, and state-wide disaster planning, training, exercise, evaluation and sharing of lessons learned. She has served as a Healthcare Coalition and Regional Hospital Preparedness Coordinator since 2007 and a co-owner of Healthcare Coalition Partners of Kansas since 2019. Ms. Wood has also developed, evaluated, and facilitated numerous exercises in the past thirty years as an Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic, local hospital preparedness coordinator, regional hospital preparedness coordinator and regional healthcare coalition coordinator.

Angela Krutsinger - FPO and Acting Supervisor, ASPR

Angela Krutsinger has been working in healthcare and public health for over 30 years, 26 of those years spent in preparedness and response. From 2007 - 2014, Angela was Director of the Hospital Preparedness for the Nevada Hospital Association. And since 2014, has been the ASPR Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) Field Project Officer (FPO) for Region 7. For the last 3 years, Angela has supported COVID response while continuing her R7 position and also been the acting supervisor/team lead for Regions 1, 3, 4, 7 & 8 and FPO for CO & WY and 2 years ago added MA & CT.

Andrew Conyers - Kansas Metro HCC Coordinator

Andrew Conyers currently serves as the Readiness and Response Coordinator for the Kansas Metro Healthcare Coalition. He has also served as an Emergency Planner for Johnson County, Kansas. His background is in public administration and includes an MPA from Park University.

Lauryn Burbridge, EMT-B

Lauryn Burbridge has more than ten years of experience in emergency medical services as a nationally registered emergency medical technician. Additionally, she has served as a patient care technician with the Nebraska Biocontainment Unit for five years and an adjunct instructor for the NDMS Isolation, Simulation and Quarantine Course. Lauryn also serves as an adjunct faculty member teaching CPR, First Aid and EMT courses. She has worked on multiple health security programs and initiatives including the Training, Simulation and Quarantine Center, National Infection Control Strengthening grant, and Region VII Disaster Health Response Ecosystem grant.