

Speakers

Benjamin Anderson, MBA, MHCDS, is the Vice President for Rural Health and Hospitals at the Colorado Hospital Association. He provides leadership and direction in the development and execution of the association's rural strategies, advocates on behalf of rural hospitals and health systems and works to develop strategic partnerships with organizations that affect the health of rural Coloradans. He has 20 years of experience in health care and non-profit administration and is a nationally recognized leader in health equity and transforming rural health care through an innovative approach to attracting physicians to diverse, underserved areas with a generous paid time off package to be used for international volunteer work. Benjamin is Co-Principal Investigator of a nationally released toolkit and playbook called, "Redefining Leadership: A Pathway for Rural Health to Thrive in a COVID-19 World." Prior to joining CHA, he spent six years serving as the CEO of Kearny County Hospital in Lakin, KS. Benjamin earned a Bachelor of Arts in English and an MBA from Drury University as well as a Master of Health Care Delivery Science from Dartmouth College.

Tim Blasl is the President of the North Dakota Hospital Association, a not-for-profit trade association that represents North Dakota's hospitals. Mr. Blasl joined the association in 2008 and was appointed president in 2018. Mr. Blasl has over 28 years of healthcare experience. He provides leadership and guidance for members as it relates to advocacy and education. He also leads the association's affiliated entities, Hospital Services, Inc., the North Dakota Hospital Foundation, and the NDHA Health Benefits Trust. Mr. Blasl's past experience includes 14 years with a hospital overseeing the revenue cycle operations for both the hospital and clinic. Mr. Blasl is a native of Bismarck, North Dakota. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Mary majoring in accounting and business administration.

Melissa Hauer is General Counsel/VP of Advocacy at the North Dakota Hospital Association. Prior to joining NDHA, Melissa was in private practice in Washington and North Dakota, and she was also previously the General Counsel for the North Dakota Department of Human Services, the North Dakota Insurance Department, and Sanford West. Melissa has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of North Dakota and a Juris Doctor degree from Gonzaga University School of Law.

Ralph Llewellyn has 30 years of experience in healthcare finance, leadership, reimbursement, and operations. He began his healthcare career as a hospital CFO for a 49-bed hospital with a 116-bed nursing home. Ralph has been with Eide Bailly for 25 years and is currently the Partner-in-Charge of Critical Access Hospitals and Healthcare Consulting. He assists providers by developing solutions focusing on cost report reimbursement, chargemaster development, billing compliance, operations leadership, organizational structure, process flow, use of business intelligence tools and board education.

Mike Miele is a managing partner and the Head of Development for Modern Capital Executive Solutions. As a former Regional Vice President of BFB Gallagher and Development Analyst with Stearns Financial, Mike built and led strategic partnerships, helping both companies achieve a national footprint. When it comes to his practice, Mike consults with nonprofit organizations on plan strategies and specializes in regulatory compliance matters, plan administration, and plan performance for non-qualified deferred compensation plans. Mike has a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and Entrepreneurial Leadership from Tufts University. Outside of the office, Mike is extremely active and given the time of year, you can find him golfing, skiing, biking, and surfing. Sometimes his golden retriever named Maya joins in the fun too!

James (Jamie) Orlikoff is president of Orlikoff & Associates, Inc., a consulting firm based in Chicago that specializes in health care governance, leadership, strategy, quality, safety, and system development. He has served on the St. Charles Board of Directors since January 2018. Orlikoff holds bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology. He is a national adviser on governance and leadership to the American Hospital Association. He completed 12 years on the board of Virginia Mason Health System in Seattle and during that time served as vice chair of the board and chair of the governance committee.