



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEV DUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

MAGGIE WOODS • Director, NC Rural Health Transformation Program



**North Carolina Rural Health Transformation Program
Advisory Committee Meeting**
Wednesday, August 5, 2026
2:30-4:30 p.m.

Location

- In-person: 1915 Health Services Way, Raleigh, NC 27607, Training Room A&B
- Virtual: [YouTube livestream](#).

Meeting Objectives

By the end of the meeting, Advisory Committee Members will be able to:

- Identify expectations of committee members
- Understand high level goals of the NC Rural Health Transformation Program
- Understand how the NC ROOTS Hub Initiative fits into the overall program goals
- Provide feedback on the NCRHTP strategy for public engagement
- Understand how to get involved at a state and regional level for NCRHTP and how to champion the effort

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Facilitator
2:30-2:40 p.m.	Welcoming Remarks	Dev Sangvai, NC Health and Human Services Secretary (Committee Chair) Debra Farrington, NCDHHS Deputy Secretary for Health (Committee Co-Chair)
2:40-2:45 p.m.	Roll Call	Maggie Woods, NCRHTP Director
2:45-2:50 p.m.	Committee Background and Expectations	Debra Farrington, NCDHHS Deputy Secretary for Health (Committee Co-Chair)

2:50-3:05 p.m.	Overview of Rural Health Transformation Program	Maggie Woods, NCRHTP Director
3:05-3:25 p.m.	ROOTS Hub Deep Dive	Alice Pollard, NCRHTP Deputy Director
3:25-3:30 p.m.	Questions	NCRHTP Advisory Committee
3:30-3:45 p.m.	Break	
3:45-4:10 p.m.	NCRHTP Public Engagement Strategy Feedback	Maggie Woods, NCRHTP Director NCRHTP Advisory Committee
4:10-4:25 p.m.	Public Comment	Members of the public attending in-person will have an opportunity to sign up on a first come, first served basis to offer brief (3 minutes or less) comment to the Advisory Committee. Members of the public attending virtually will have an opportunity to submit comment via an online form to be read to the Committee.
4:25-4:30 p.m.	Final Reflections and Closing	Maggie Woods, NCRHTP Director

Members

Listed Alphabetically

- Eric Ager, NC State Representative, D-District 114
- Jason Baisden, Senior Program Officer, Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust
- Cherry Beasley, Community Member Representative
- Greg Bryant, Chair, North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs
- Leah Catotti, Policy Director, North Carolina Department of Administration
- Leslie Cofie, Assistant Professor, Health Education and Promotion, East Carolina University
- Geoff Coltrane, Senior Director of Government Affairs and Strategy, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- Casey Cooper, Chief Executive Officer, Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority
- Philip Cooper, Founder and Chief Change Agent, Operation Gateway
- LaPonda Edmondson, President, North Carolina Healthcare Foundation and Senior Vice President, North Carolina Healthcare Association
- Lotta Crabtree, Chief Administrative Officer of the State Health Plan, Office of the State Treasurer
- Peter Daniel, Executive Director, North Carolina Association of Health Plans
- Chris Estes, Chief Program Officer, North Carolina Rural Center
- Ryan Estes, Chief Operating Officer, Coastal Horizons Center
- Kim Evans, Community Member Representative
- Debra Farrington, NCDHHS Deputy Secretary for Health (Committee Co-Chair)

- Amy Galey, NC State Senator, R-District 25
- Andrew Gardner, Associate Vice President of Workforce Strategies, North Carolina Community College System
- Vincent Ginski, Senior Director of Workforce Competitiveness, North Carolina Chamber
- Tina C. Gordon, CEO, North Carolina Nurses Association
- Zack Green, Director, High Country Area Agency on Aging
- Jennifer Greene, Health Director, Appalachian District Health Department
- Mike Hawkins, Community Member Representative
- Lacy C. Hobgood, President-Elect, North Carolina Medical Society Foundation
- Celeste Hunt, Program Director, Lumbee Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation
- Mary Jones, Director of Client Care and Engagement, El Futuro NC
- Michelle Laws, CEO and Chief Consultant, Symbiotic Strategies
- Mazine Lowe, Executive Director, Center for Energy Education
- Melinda Munden, SHIP Director and Deputy Commissioner, North Carolina Department of Insurance
- Wallace Nelson, President, North Carolina Association of County Commissioners
- Vivianette Ortiz, CASE Bilingual Supervisory Advocate, Disability Rights North Carolina
- Lilly Parker, Chair, State Consumer and Family Advisory Committee
- Dave Richard, Senior Vice President, McGuireWoods Consulting, NC Association of Public Community Health Plans
- Chilton Rogers, Community Member Representative
- Jordan Rogers, Vice President of Strategy and Growth, NC Telehealth Network Association
- Leighton Roper, Shareholder, Maynard Nexsen
- Dev Sangvai, NC Health and Human Services Secretary (Committee Chair)
- Alex Sepez, Regional Manager, North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Chris Shank, President/CEO, North Carolina Community Health Center Association
- Kandie Smith, NC State Senator, D-District 5
- Reginald Speight, Assistant Secretary of Rural Economic Development, North Carolina Department of Commerce
- Annette Taylor, Senior Adviser to the Secretary for Community Partnerships, North Carolina Department of Information Technology
- Suzanne Wertman, Certified Nurse-Midwife, North Carolina Affiliate of American College of Nurse-Midwives
- Donna White, NC State Representative, R-District 26

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