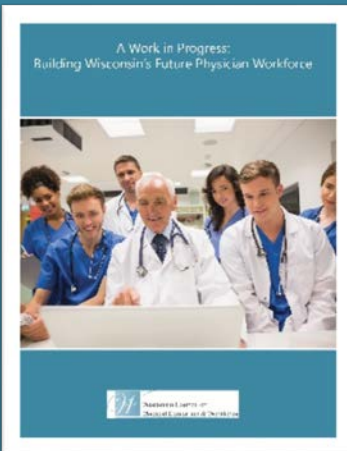


To view archived editions of WCMEW's newsletter, go to: [www.wcmew.org](http://www.wcmew.org)

For questions, contact George Quinn, WCMEW Executive Director, at 608-516-5189



## Registration Now Available for WCMEW Fall Conference

This fall, WCMEW will host a statewide conference, "The Future Landscape of Wisconsin's Health Care Workforce," focusing on interdisciplinary health care workforce challenges facing patients and clinicians. At the full-day event on Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, held in the Wisconsin Dells, participants will engage in topics ranging from public policy to provider retention and training clinicians for evolving models of care delivery. The conference is designed to bring stakeholders from across Wisconsin's business, government, and non-profit areas together to look toward the future—recognizing the urgent demand for creative and cross-sector solutions to health care workforce challenges. The event will feature a keynote by Dr. Michael Munger, president-elect of the American Academy of Family Physicians. **Click [here](#) to register now, or see the [full brochure](#) for complete information.**

The conference will serve as the ideal venue for engaging in Wisconsin health workforce policy and programming issues from multiple angles. While acknowledging the unique role of physicians, this event further recognizes that non-physician professionals play a vital part in delivery of care in today's dynamic environment. To add diverse perspectives, nursing and physician assistant representatives will discuss preparing well-rounded professionals to work in teams, mitigate workforce stressors such as burnout, and place the patient at the center of care. Challenges facing today's clinicians will be presented as opportunities for innovation and cross-sector collaboration. Non-health care community members will also find the conference meaningful, learning from leaders such as elected officials, high-level administrators and voices from education. Community leaders are invited to join the discussion, identifying opportunities to leverage relationships beyond the health care industry for community benefit. Health care educators, finally, will find sessions dedicated to preparation of clinicians and future models of integrated care.

**Panels and breakout sessions will feature discussions by Wisconsin leaders including, among others:**

- Ann Zenk, Vice President, Workforce and Clinical Practice, Wisconsin Hospital Association;
- Bruce Palzkill, Deputy Administrator, Department of Workforce Development;
- Jim Wood, Competitive Wisconsin;
- Representative Mike Rohrkaste (R-Neenah);
- Peter Sanderson, Medical Director, Informatics and Ambulatory Regulation, Ascension Wisconsin;
- Nancy Nankivil, Director, Practice Transformation and Professional Satisfaction, American Medical Association;
- Jose Franco, MD, Associate Director and Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, Kern Institute for the Transformation of Medical Education, Medical College of Wisconsin;
- Charisse Oland, CEO, Rusk County Memorial Hospital; and,
- Marilyn Frenn, Director, PhD Nursing Program, Marquette University.

**Registration for the conference is now available [here](#).** Please contact George Quinn, Executive Director of WCMEW, at [gquinn@wcmew.org](mailto:gquinn@wcmew.org) or 608-516-5189, or Richelle Andrae, WCMEW Program Analyst, at [randrae@wcmew.org](mailto:randrae@wcmew.org) or 414-469-6664, with any questions. See the full [conference brochure](#) for more info.

## **Program Spotlight: Wisconsin Rural Physician Residency Assistance Program**

Now in its seventh year of operation, the Wisconsin Rural Physician Residency Assistance Program (WRPRAP) is designed to leverage state funding to expand resident education opportunities in rural Wisconsin communities. WRPRAP collaborates with statewide partners and competitively awards grants to develop new and existing sites for rural graduate medical education (GME). Administering two grant programs (Rural GME Transformation Grants and Rural GME Operational Grants), WRPRAP primarily works with educational organizations that specialize in family medicine, general surgery, internal medicine, obstetrics, pediatrics and psychiatry as well as rural communities interested in participating in rural GME.

WRPRAP, in collaboration with the Wisconsin Collaborative for Rural GME, stimulated interest and initiative to increase education and training opportunities among the physician workforce in rural Wisconsin. Since 2010, WRPRAP awards have helped to establish 19 new annual first-year positions for residents and fellows in rural GME programs. Compared to a total of 63 residents and fellows in rural programs in 2010, Wisconsin will have a total of 150 residents and fellows in rural programs by 2020. In 2020, WRPRAP will have contributed to 117 (78%) of Wisconsin's total rural residency positions.

WRPRAP continues to influence the quantity and quality of rural GME and positively impact the future rural medical workforce throughout Wisconsin. With major new and continuing projects in process, WRPRAP is committed to organizations that demonstrate sustainable plans for growth and proven records of achievement. Technical assistance is provided for all community-based facilities and residencies that seek investment in rural training experiences for Wisconsin's current and future residents, because collaboration and education are necessary in order to achieve lasting results.

With the pronounced need to continue developing and investing in new programs and partnerships, WRPRAP's funding will continue to champion long-term, viable solutions that address the shortage of physicians in rural Wisconsin communities. In 2017, the new Aurora Lakeland Rural Training Track, UW Obstetrics & Gynecology's Rural Residency Track and MCW Central and Northeastern Wisconsin Psychiatry programs successfully recruited their first class of residents. WRPRAP is proud to create opportunities for better access to quality health care, and will continue developing paths for Wisconsin's future health care leaders in the communities they aim to serve.

## **In the News**

[The Robot Will See You Now](#) - *American Academy of PAs, July 2017*