

# 2019

## Student Edition



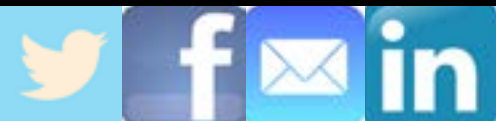
**The RTT Collaborative**  
In rural health professions education and training  
*Growing our own... together*

# AAFP National Conference Student Edition

*Welcome to National Conference*, a place to explore possibilities for a future in family medicine! For those of you interested in eventual rural practice or in a residency with a broad scope of training, see page 2 for important details, download the AAFP National Conference app and visit our booth, #1812! Also, Don't Miss our Annual Breakfast- see Page 4 for more details!

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Find us online: [rttcollaborative.net](http://rttcollaborative.net)



## Exploring Rural at National Conference

Welcome to National Conference, a place to explore possibilities for a future in family medicine! For those of you interested in eventual rural practice or an interest in a residency with a broad scope of training, here are several important features you should not miss. Make sure to visit the booths below, for they are the “heart of rural” at the National Conference.

### #1812 The RTT Collaborative booth

a place to come for answers to your questions and for rural information of all types; Get a free annual membership in the National Rural Health Association; as a cooperative of rural programs in medical school and residency, look for our symbol (see page 8).

### #1813 3RNet booth

The Rural Recruitment and Retention Network, your connection to rural practice opportunities in virtually every state.

### #1814 Rural PREP booth

The collaborative for Rural Primary Care Research, Education, and Practice; among other things a source of microresearch funding for students and residents who conduct research projects in rural places and scholarly activity relevant to rural health.

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## Attend Rural Presentations

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Patient and Community Centered Care in the Rural Landscape, *Thursday, July 25 @ 4:00 PM*, 3501A; *Friday, July 26 @ 1:30 PM*, 3501A

AAFP Rural Interest Group meeting *July 26 @ 4 PM*,j 2207

Explore Rural at  
National Conference

# Join Us for Breakfast!

*Students attending the National Conference:* [Please register for a special inquiry breakfast](#) on rural training opportunities in medical school and residency from **7:00 to 8:15 AM on Saturday morning**, July 27, in the Hotel Phillips. During this hot sit-down breakfast, courtesy of The RTT Collaborative and the Wisconsin Collaborative for Rural GME, you will have the opportunity to engage with other students and residents in conversation, facilitated by rural faculty. We are interested in today's students' questions and perspectives regarding rural residencies, including rurally-located programs and rural training tracks, and their understanding of the opportunities and challenges of rural practice.

If you wish to participate, you will need to [register](#) by July 24. We will be filling the group on a first come, first serve basis, from now until the day prior to the conference, so don't delay! Space will only be offered after that date through registration at The RTT Collaborative Booth #1812. This event is by invitation only. Faculty and residents who are not officially listed as facilitators will not be accommodated.

In any event, come visit booth 1812 and introduce yourself! Please pick up a list of the RTT Collaborative participating programs, visit our [website](#) or download it from your [AAFP NC Conference App!](#)





# Board Position Available for Student or Resident!

The RTT Collaborative is looking to appoint a medical student and resident member to our Board. Responsibilities include quarterly online meetings (using ZOOM), one of which is an in-person meeting usually in association with the Annual Meeting. This year's Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 15-17, 2020 in Stevenson, Washington. The student or resident member will receive reimbursement for any travel (not lodging) associated with in-person meetings and will receive free registration to the Annual Meeting.

To be eligible, a *student* must be a participant in a medical school rural program. Preference will be given to those students from medical schools who are currently [participants in The RTT Collaborative](#), of which there are currently only three. *Residents* must be from a rural residency on our [map of rural programs](#), and as above, preference will be given to residents from RTTC participating programs.

Please indicate your interest in applying to Dr. Longenecker, Executive Director, at [longenec@ohio.edu](mailto:longenec@ohio.edu) with the subject line: "RTTC Student (or Resident, whichever applies) Board Application."  
***Please respond by September 1.***

Please include a one-page summary as to why you believe you would be a particularly good candidate for this position. Students should include a letter of support from their medical school's rural program director and residents from their residency program director



# Featured Programs With a Proven Track Record of Producing Rural Physicians

The RTT Collaborative (or “rural training collaborative” for short) is invested in providing students interested in rural training with good information regarding their options. A “*rural program*” is an accredited program in health professions education and training in which students and/or trainees spend the majority of their time training (more than 50%) in a rural place. For a more complete description and an article about rural residency program definitions [click here](#) or visit the [RTT Collaborative website](#).

However, there are a significant number of *rurally-focused programs* that do not meet the RTT Collaborative definition outlined above and yet produce many rural doctors. The RTT Collaborative each year awards special recognition to any residency program, urban or rural, in any specialty that has a history of placing graduates in rural community practice. Any program can be recognized for the percentage and/or number of graduates who, on a 3-year rolling average, have established an initial place of practice in a rural community and/or who are in rural practice 3 years following graduation.

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The top producers by percentage or number of rural graduates per year are highlighted in green. If a program is not listed, it could be that the program has less than 3 years of graduates to report or has simply not applied for recognition. Encourage them to apply next year!

*For an interactive map of rural programs in Family Medicine in the United States*, visit the Student section of The RTT Collaborative website: <https://rttcollaborative.net/rural-programs/residency-map/>; for questions please contact Dr. Longenecker, Executive Director, The RTT Collaborative at [longenec@ohio.edu](mailto:longenec@ohio.edu).



**The RTT Collaborative**  
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# Recognized for Rural Graduates

- Center for Family Medicine (Sioux Falls) Program, Sioux Falls, SD – 72% and 6 rural graduates per year
- *Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana, Missoula and Kalispell, MT – 70% and 7 rural graduates per year*
- Fox Valley Family Medicine Residency, Appleton, WI – 35%
- Firelands Regional Medical Center Program, Firelands Regional Medical Center, Sandusky, OH – 50%
- Hidalgo Medical Services Family Medicine Residency Program, Silver City, NM – 60%
- Hood River RTT, Hood River, OR – 80%
- Maine-Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency, Augusta, ME – 56.67% and 6 rural graduates per year
- North Colorado Medical Center Program, Greeley, CO – 3 rural graduates per year (33.3%)
- *North Colorado Medical Center Wray Rural Program, Wray, CO – 100%*
- OHSU-Cascades East Family Medicine Residency, Klamath Falls, OR – 82.61% and 6 rural graduates per year
- Osteopathic Medical Education Consortium of Oklahoma (OMECO/Talihina) Program, Talihina, OK – 87.5%
- Sioux Falls Family Medicine Residency, Sioux Falls, SD – 66.67% and 6 rural graduates per year
- Texas A&M Family Medicine Residency, Bryan, TX – 40.74% and 4 rural graduates per year
- University at Buffalo Rural Program, Olean, NY – 66.7%
- University of Kansas-Wichita/ Wesley Program - , Wichita, KS – 57.14% and 4 rural graduates per year

# What is a Rural Program?

Randall Longenecker MD, Executive Director

## What is a “rural program” and what does it matter anyway?

I remember my first visit to National Conference in 1998. I was there representing my newly minted rural training track residency program in Bellefontaine, Ohio. I was eager to connect with others and was pleased to see a listing of over 150 rural programs in the conference brochure. Imagine my dismay, when I discovered that this was a self-reported designation, and that many of the programs offered a fairly restricted scope of training and were actually located in the suburbs! My subsequent experience as a rural program director of an integrated 2-2-2 rural training track has convinced me that for students seeking to prepare for rural practice or looking for a broad scope of training in any location, definitions do matter. Even though 60% of the students we recruited to our rurally-located program had no initial intention of going into rural practice, 75% of them ultimately did. They

had become comfortable with the idea of rural practice and had come to experience its rewards. The federal government established a definition in 2003 that I believe it is a good one, i.e. any



residency in which trainees spend >50% of their time training in a rural location. Separately accredited rural training track programs and programs that are primary located in a rural place, on the average, have a rate of graduation to rural practice that is 2 to 3 times that of urban programs and *a rate of retention leading to more than 10 times the years of sustained rural practice than graduates of*

## *urban programs.*

If you want to know if a family medicine residency is in a rural location, you can enter the address of the family medicine practice in the [“Am I Rural?”](#) tool online. For residencies in hospital-centric specialties other than family medicine, simply enter the address of the main participating hospital. Since that first visit to Kansas City in 1998, I have committed myself to providing meaningful information to medical students at this conference and elsewhere. For more information about rural education and training and an [interactive map](#) of the 96 rural family medicine programs in the United States, go to the student section of [The RTT Collaborative website](#). Admittedly, many physicians in rural practice did their residency training in the city. This year, we have chosen to recognize any program, including urban programs, who produce large percentages or large numbers of rural graduates. See Featured Programs With a Proven Track Record of Producing Rural Physicians on page 8.



# Rural will be represented at the 2019 National Conference

**More than 30 RTT  
Collaborative Participating  
Programs will be  
represented this year at  
National Conference in  
Kansas City. Watch for the  
logo on the right at booths  
throughout the exhibit hall.  
Visit [The RTT Collaborative](#)  
website to see a listing of  
rural programs and more.**



Make sure to look for  
the RTTC logo at  
participating booths!

AJFP National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students  
July 25-27, 2019  
Kansas City Convention Center  
Kansas City, MO



Rural is Everywhere at National Conference

# Meet the RTTC Residents

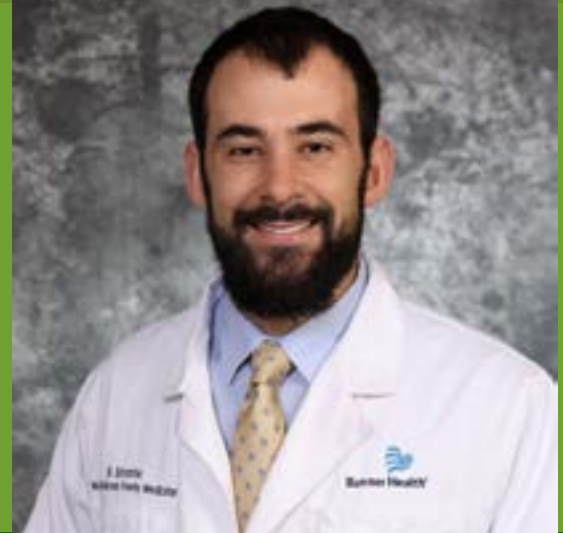
## Morgan Hungenberg



Morgan is approaching her third year of family medicine residency. She discovered her interest in rural medicine after being involved in research her first year in medical school at A.T. Still University School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona. She now attends the University of Colorado Family Medicine for Residency. So far, being part of the RTTC Board has allowed her to meet other residents and medical students from across the country who are focusing their studies on rural practices. She also enjoys having the opportunity to meet program directors and learn from their experiences. "I feel that rural areas provide you with a unique

opportunity as a physician to work beyond your clinic walls and be involved in the community," Hungenberg said. When making the decision to join the board, she knew she wanted to train in a rural area and return to Colorado for residency. While on the board she hopes to get involved with RTTC and attend annual meetings. This way, she can meet others who care about rural medicine and learn training from rural doctors. "I hope to encourage medical students to pursue training through RTTs. I would also like to continue to learn ways to enhance my own RTT by meeting with people from other RTTs and learn from their experiences," Hungenberg said.

## Cameron Scranton



Cameron has grown up around rural communities all his life. He is passionate about the outdoors and grew up fishing, hunting, hiking and camping. Having been raised in Fairbanks, AK, and the son of two parents who worked in rural, underserved communities, he was inspired to return to rural communities as a physician. "I was interested in becoming part of the RTT because of my passion for rural communities and my understanding of the difficulties of providing health care to this population," Scranton said. He appreciates getting to work with others who share his goals and who understand the importance of rural training tracks and practices. He chose

to do RTTC residency because it gives him the ability to practice medicine in full spectrum, whether that be delivering baby's, doing EGDs/colonoscopy, and have a close knit outpatient clinic. He values working in family medicine at its absolute definition. He was first introduced to RTT at the national conference in Kansas City. After his interest was sparked, he did some research online and begun exploring how to get involved. He finds the opportunity to work with other physicians to be invaluable and recommends that anyone interested in RTT should follow that desire. "I can not imagine practicing medicine in any other way," Scranton said.

# Photo Contest!

What does rural health education look like? Show us by entering the RTT Collaborative Photo Contest with your photos that depict health care education and training in rural places.

Watch for upcoming photo contest applications later this year!

## Submission Guidelines

- Must be original work by entrant
- Photos must be .jpeg format, resolution at least 1200 x 600 pixels
- May submit up to 5 photos
- Photos and entry form must be submitted together using this link.
- If a person is portrayed, a signed release form must be submitted.
- By submitting a photo and consent form, entrant acknowledges that we acquire the right to use photos both printed and electronically.



2019 first place photo by Ash Sampath

## Prizes

1st place: \$250

2nd place: \$125

3rd place: \$75

4th place: 2 @ \$25





# RTTC Collaborations



The Rural Health Information Hub is an excellent destination and one-stop shop for information, opportunities, and resources in rural health, and the RTT Collaborative is proud to have been a partner of the RHI Hub since our inception in 2012.



The National Rural Health Association is a leading non-profit and membership driven organization of individuals and organizations across the US, providing communication and leadership with regards to all rural health issues.



Rural PREP is the collaborative for Rural Primary care Research, Education, and Practice, a grant funded effort to promote research in building a solid evidence base in health professions education and training in rural places.



National Rural Recruitment and Retention Network, or 3RNet, leads the way in the recruitment and retention of rural physicians in practice. They help to match quality healthcare professionals to people in rural or underserved areas.