



Communique  
**IAHQ**  
NEWSLETTER

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# Board of Directors for 2021

**President** - Amanda Schwerdtfeger, Pella Regional Health Center

**President-Elect** - Tonya Root, Franklin General Hospital

**Past President** - Megan Mollenbeck, MercyOne North Iowa

**Secretary** - Kolton Hewlett, Audubon County Memorial Hospital & Clinics

**Communication Liaison** - Danielle Lauzon/Kim Simmons, Guthrie County Hospital

**District A Representatives** - Barb Engel, Kossuth Regional Health Center

Tammy Sudtlegte, Floyd Valley Healthcare

**District B Representatives** –Kaidy Rasmussen, Buchanan County Health Center

OPEN

**District C Representatives** - Elly Shaw, Knoxville Hospital and Clinics

Denyse Gipple, Mahaska Health

**District D Representative** - DeeAnn Wedemeyer Oleson, Guthrie County Hospital

Maggie Brown, Clarinda Regional Health Center

**District E Representative** - OPEN

**IHC Liaison**– Lana Comstock

**Telligen Liaison**– Ann Loges

**IHA Liaison**– Jennifer Nutt

**LEGEND**  
Critical Access ●  
Long-Term Care ●

Hello Fellow Quality Professionals!

We are one year out from events that have completely rocked everyone's sense of normal and I've been reflecting lately on my own expectations. I have always been a person who likes to know what's next, always be working on a plan. But in the last year, it was almost impossible to have a solid plan for more than a week, even a few days at a time! Working in healthcare during 2020 was a challenge. In the last year, I have seen colleagues be stretched, overwhelmed, rise to challenges and be recognized by their communities in ways I had never experienced before.

And now going into 2021, I realize just how much my expectations have changed. We really can't know exactly what the next steps look like this year. I am grateful that I can at least go into 2021 with eyes wide open - knowing we will have to be flexible as regulations change, as new vaccines and treatments roll out. Despite the uncertainty, I do feel confident that a focus on healthcare quality will continue to be critical to all our organizations' success. As healthcare quality professionals, we have to be equipped to keep stepping up to these ever-evolving challenges.

To me, a key part of being equipped is cultivating a strong professional network and community. IAHQ has played a huge role in building that for me, and I want to encourage all of you to actively participate with IAHQ to maximize your own community and development this year! IAHQ District meetings are continuing to happen (virtually!) - plan to attend one. The IAHQ-listserv is available to everyone and a great resource for problems and ideas - reach out with your questions. Our group is only as strong as you make it through your input and participation!

I also strongly encourage all of you to register for the IAHQ Spring Conference on April 13 and 15th - the IAHQ Board has done a great job of putting together a lineup of speakers that are very relevant to the challenges we are facing in 2021.

While I may not have specific expectations - I am looking forward to learning and growing with all of you this year. I am so honored to serve as IAHQ president for 2021 and excited to see how Iowa's healthcare quality professionals continue to rise to any challenge that are thrown our way!

Amanda Schwerdtfeger, CPHQ

IAHQ Board President

Manager of Quality & Population Health, Pella Regional Health Center



# D I S T R I C T A

## District A Representatives:

**Barb Runneberg, Kossuth Regional Health Center**

**Tammy Sudtlegte, Floyd Valley Healthcare**

### Quarterly Update

District A had their first meeting on February 3, 2021, via Zoom.

The co-chair position for District A is open for facilitating meetings. Potential candidates to fill the position were discussed.

The group discussed quality monitoring for February that included: health information management, laboratory, nursing, provider-based clinics, utilization review / case management and infection prevention.

The group shared information on their ethics committee.

Other items discussed included:

- Blue Cross Blue Shield updates
- MSDS sheets on chemotherapy drugs
- PASR requirements

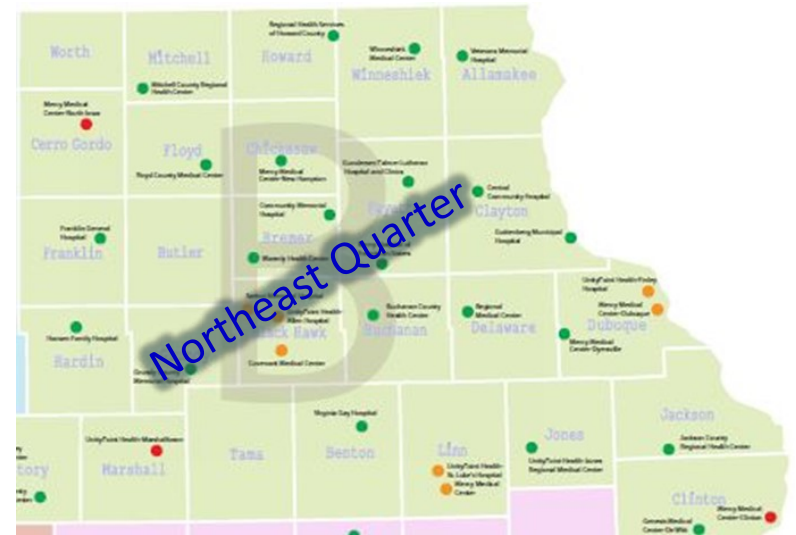


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District B Representatives:

Kaidy Rasmussen, Buchanan County Health Center

OPEN



District C Representatives:

Elly Shaw, Knoxville Hospital and Clinics

Denyse Gipple, Mahaska Health

2021 Meeting Dates

All meetings will be virtual and start at 10:00 a.m.

- Thursday, Feb 4, 2021
- Thursday, May 6, 2021
- Thursday Aug 5, 2021
- Thursday, Nov 4, 2021

Please email Elly or Denyse any questions or request for a calendar invite.

Elly Shaw at [eshaw@knoxvillehospital.org](mailto:eshaw@knoxvillehospital.org) or  
Denyse Gipple at [dgipple@mahaskahealth.org](mailto:dgipple@mahaskahealth.org)

Quarterly Update

District C held their first meeting of 2021 via Zoom on February 4, 2021.

During their February meeting, quality projects in the following departments were discussed: laboratory, med/surg floor, clinics, utilization review, case management, infection prevention and health information management.

District C welcomed their newest members:

- Rhonda Fellows, Van Buren Hospital & Clinics
- Mark Mattes, Decatur County Hospital
- Klaire Wisniewski, Pella Regional Health Center
- Sherri Church, Pella Regional Health Center



District D Representatives:

DeeAnn Wedemeyer Oleson, Guthrie County Hospital  
Maggie Brown, Clarinda Regional Health Center



2021 Meeting Dates

All meetings are quarterly and start at 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 18, 2021— virtual

Thursday, June 17, 2021— Shenandoah Medical Center

Thursday, September 16, 2021— Dallas County Hospital

Thursday, December 16, 2021— virtual

Quarterly Update

District D did not have a quarterly meeting in December 2020.

District D is well-represented on the IAHQ Board! They include:

- Our new District D representative on the IAHQ Board is Maggie Brown, BS, RN, CWOCN from Clarinda Regional Health Center
- Kolton Hewlett from Audubon County Memorial Hospital & Clinics graciously agreed to stay on as the IAHQ Board Secretary
- Kim Simmons RN, and Danielle Lauzon, CMA, CPHQ, from Guthrie County Hospital are co-chairs of the newsletter / communications board position.

District E Representatives:

OPEN



2021 Meeting Dates

At this time there is no meeting information available for District E.







IOWA ASSOCIATION FOR  
**HEALTHCARE  
QUALITY**

VIRTUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

**Tuesday, April 13**

**Thursday, April 15**

*Click on the image to  
register for the  
conference*



*We care about Iowa's health*



**Click on IHA logo to visit their website**