

**Rural Health Association of Tennessee Leadership Academy  
Spring 2021**

Rural Health Association of Tennessee is proud to announce the inaugural class of the Rural Health Leadership Academy! The below individuals were selected for their commitment to rural health and their desire to grow as leaders.

The academy will be led by Dr. Bill Auxier, Executive Coach, CEO and President of Dynamic Leadership Academy, and Executive Director of Rural Health Leadership Radio. Over the course of 10-weeks participants will complete a variety of in-person, on-demand, and group learning modules, earning a certificate in Rural Health Leadership.



Dr. Lisa Beasley is an Assistant Professor with the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Nursing. Prior to joining the UTHSC CON faculty she was Director of Clinical Education and a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Memphis Loewenberg College of Nursing. In her 10-year career as a nurse educator, Dr. Beasley has enjoyed teaching both undergraduate and graduate nursing students. Prior to becoming a nurse, Dr. Beasley enjoyed an 18-year career in media.



Sabrina Blue, Founder and CEO, Helping Hands of Middle & West Tennessee, a nonprofit organization that provides dental and medical services for uninsured and low-income populations. Blue serves as a board member in other nonprofit organizations and participates in several community and networking programs. She has earned over 30 years of corporate and business management experience, including creating sales and marketing strategic plans for top Fortune 500 companies.



Stacey Brawner is the Director of Outreach and Patient Advocate at Macon Community Hospital. She has 25 years of health care experience after obtaining her degree as a Medical Laboratory Technician and working in a laboratory performing medical test and procedures. Stacey's love of helping people navigate the health care system grew over time and eventually lead her to the marketing side of health care. She currently is employed at Macon Community Hospital which is a Rural Hospital located in Lafayette Tn. Stacey also is very active in her community and iso a American Heart Instructor were she certifies healthcare professionals along with the community on life saving CPR.



Tanya Johnson, Operations Manager, Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center.

Tanya has been with MWCHC since 2009 where she started as an intern and has since excelled in many roles. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management from Austin Peay State University and Masters in Business from Bethel University. Tanya is passionate about Healthcare and assisting others in the community.

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with family and working on special projects where she continues to incorporate change in the lives of others.



Ms. Johnson-Lockett is the Chief Nursing Officer for Bolivar Hospital and joined the team in March 2020. Previously, she worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs as the Patient Safety Manager, Risk Management Specialist, Peer Review Coordinator, Critical Care RN and Med-Surg RN. In her role as the Patient Safety Manager, she helped the organization receive 2 Gold Cornerstone Awards along with 1 Silver Cornerstone Award from the VA National Center for Patient Safety. She has been a clinical supervisor, adjunct clinical instructor and a prison infirmary nurse. Ms. Johnson Lockett has 15 years of healthcare experience and has been a volunteer for various organizations for 24 years. She will begin her DNP in Executive Nursing Leadership this summer.



My name is Samuel LeFave and I am a native of Cookeville, TN! I am a senior at Tennessee Technological University and I am graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry this May. During my time at Tennessee Tech, I led two Community Host Groups (CHG) to hold local Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinics! I am now on staff at Life Church, where we are developing a mobile Health and Wellness bus program for the remote parts of the Upper Cumberland.



A resident of Jackson, TN, Dr. Christie Manasco joined the UTHSC College of Nursing faculty as an assistant professor in July 2020. Prior to joining UTHSC, she was Assistant Dean of Nursing/Clinical Professor at the University of Memphis Lambuth, Loewenberg College of Nursing, where she was instrumental in leading and developing the first public BSN program in Jackson, Tennessee. Dr. Manasco has more than 25 years of experience as a registered nurse. Her practice areas include medical-surgical, home health, oncology, palliative care, and hospice nursing.



Dr. Tyler Melton is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Translational Science at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC), College of Pharmacy. He has nine years of pharmacy practice experience including inpatient and outpatient pharmacy in rural environments. His areas of research expertise include community pharmacy practice, rural health, health disparities, and prescription drug abuse.



My name is Kayla Brummitte Newcomb and I am from Union County, TN. I have been a Nurse Practitioner for about 10 years and the Practice Administrator at Summit View Health Services for over 5 years. I manage providers and staff in various settings as well as manage Family Practices while focusing on business development. I am blessed with the opportunity to provide direct patient care and community support.





Robyn is a Certified Transcultural Nurse who is passionate about seeing the health of people radically transformed in the Appalachian Region. Facilitating improvement in the high rates of health disparities in the Appalachian Region is her heartfelt desire. She is the owner of Appalachian Healthcare Training & Consulting and regularly provides Appalachian focused professional development workshops and consultation services for health and human service providers.



Yvette Windham, MHL, CMRM, is the founder and managing partner of W-Squared consulting.

I began my career with the passion and personal duty to support rural communities in providing quality healthcare to their residents. Although my clients face core industry challenges just like urban providers, most lack support, funding, and resources needed to sustain facilities in those areas.



Jessica obtained a Bachelors of Public Health and History from the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, KY. In 2017, she received her Masters in Public Administration from the University of Illinois at Springfield. A native of Northwest Ohio, Jessica currently resides in Morristown, TN with her husband and 4-year-old son.