

Dear

It has been almost a year since the Kansas Center for Rural Health (KCRH) was established at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Salina. It has been a productive year of activity. If you are interested in being a partner, please let me know. Please share this letter with colleagues you feel would be interested in partnering. The Center has several important initiatives in the works, and we are looking forward to sharing some of this work with rural stakeholders.

The Center's mission is to improve the health of rural Kansans through focused education, relevant research, collaborative services, and health policy leadership. We understand our mission will only be possible if we address concerns at the community level, identified by those who best understand the challenges of rural health care. We are looking to partner with rural health stakeholders to identify critical rural healthcare challenges and how to best deal with them. This group of stakeholders, or KCRH "Partners," would have a voice to help formulate policy and launch new initiatives to improve rural health.

We invite you to become a Kansas Center for Rural Health "Partner." We value your knowledge about rural healthcare and would like to talk with you, and other healthcare and rural community thought leaders as we move forward. We hope these brief virtual discussions can lead to developing new initiatives or programs to support you and others working in rural health care. These conversations will also help inform others unfamiliar with rural living and health care.

Improving rural health disparities will only happen with a multi-sector and multi-disciplinary effort. We intend to use information gathered through our KCRH Partners, with focus groups from a broad representation of rural Kansas, to help develop and share innovative interventions already in place in rural Kansas.

We would be honored if you would be part of this program. There are no membership costs for our Partners, but we do have some membership levels that support the operations of our Center if interested.

Please let me know your interest in being a KCRH Partner. We want to schedule our first virtual membership meeting early this summer to share more about the Center, the current work, and how you can be part of this work. You can reach out for any questions or more information by emailing our primary email at KCRH@kumc.edu or me directly at rmoser@kumc.edu. We would be happy to visit by phone as well at 785-822-0402. You can also learn more about the Center at kumc.edu/kcrh.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bob

Kansas Center for Rural Health

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