

## About the Authors

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**LIZ QUAM** serves as director of the CDI Institute, an initiative of the Center for Diagnostic Imaging, dedicated to professional development for radiologists and identification of quality indicators for purchasers of health care. Liz also serves as volunteer executive vice president of Advocates for Marketplace Options for Mainstreet (AMOM), a non-profit coalition that fosters more options for health

care providers and employers. She has served on a number of non-profit boards, including her current service as president-elect of the Minnesota Rural Health Association. She is also a member of the University of Minnesota, Crookston, Advisory Task Force. She is a frequent presenter and author regarding health care industry issues.

**SARAH SPRENGELER** grew up in St. Cloud, Minn., where she attended Cathedral High School. From there, she spent a year at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter before transferring to Concordia University in St. Paul, where she majored in biochemistry and completed pre-medical coursework. In the fall of 2003, she matriculated at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine in Duluth. This summer, Sarah will begin a three-year residency in Family Medicine, location TBA.



At home in Duluth, Sarah enjoys spending time with her husband, Mike, nine-month-old daughter, Julia, and their dog and cat. She loves to cook, entertain, and grow roses. Mike is in school to be a pharmacist, and the couple plans to move to a small community in Minnesota and practice medicine. Sarah also hopes to raise

alpacas someday. She and Mike love to travel and can't wait for the day they get to return to Europe.

**KATHLEEN THIEDE CALL** is an Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health, Division of Health Management and Policy, and Investigator at the State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC) funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which assists other states in monitoring rates of coverage and using data to inform policy and improve access. Her research falls into two related areas. The first is access to health insurance coverage and health care services among low-income, young, elderly, chronically ill and rural populations and racial and ethnic communities. Within that domain, she has helped create a survey of health insurance coverage for use by states and has developed a stream of research concerning the complexities of measuring health insurance coverage. The second area of research Dr. Call is developing is community-based participatory research focusing on barriers to health care.



**JEANETTE ZIEGENFUSS** is a doctoral candidate in the Division of Health Policy and Management at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. She is a research assistant at the State Health Access Data Assistance Center (SHADAC), also at the University of Minnesota. Jeanette's primary research experience includes measurement of the uninsured and policy solutions to increase participation in public health insurance

programs. Jeanette was a collaborating author of "Health Insurance Coverage in Minnesota: Trends from 2001 to 2004."

**JULIE SONIER** is director of the Health Economics Program at the Minnesota Department of Health. The Health Economics Program conducts research and applied policy analysis to monitor changes in Minnesota's health care marketplace, to understand factors influencing health care cost, quality and access, and to provide technical assistance in the development of state health care policy. Ms. Sonier manages the work of research staff analyzing trends in health care costs, quality, and access in Minnesota and their implications for public policy. Prior to joining the Minnesota

Department of Health in 1997, Ms. Sonier was a policy analyst in Washington, D.C., for the Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget. Ms. Sonier holds a master's degree in public affairs from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and an undergraduate degree in economics from Amherst College.



**J. H. "JAY" FONKERT** is the senior health workforce analyst at the Office of Rural Health and Primary Care in the Minnesota Department of Health, where he coordinates the Minnesota health workforce survey program. His special interests include work force geography and the role of health care in rural development. Prior to joining the Minnesota Department of Health, he was a policy analyst and planner at Minnesota Planning. He worked on a wide variety of topics,

including state-local relations, airline competition, rural economic development and K-12 education. He was a contributing author of the state government budget study *Within Our Means* and a lead author for *Minnesota Milestones*. Jay has a master's degree in political science from the University of Illinois and in public affairs from the University of Minnesota. He has also done advanced graduate study in geography at the University of Minnesota.

**KAREN WELLE** is assistant director of the Minnesota Department of Health's Office of Rural Health and Primary Care and has served in that capacity since 1998. Within her broad role in helping lead programs and operations that support access to rural and primary health care, Karen has focused primarily on health workforce issues and strategic initiatives. In that context, she has led the Office's recent efforts to support development of telehealth services in response to current and predicted health workforce shortages in Minnesota's rural communities. Karen holds a master's degree in public administration from Hamline University and obtained her undergraduate degree in occupational therapy from the College of St. Catherine. She was born and raised in Melrose, Minn.





**STUART M. SPEEDIE, PH.D.**, a professor of health informatics and director of education informatics at the University of Minnesota Medical School, has directed a telemedicine network for the last 10 years. He holds a bachelor of science degree in computer science and a Ph.D. in educational research from Purdue University. As an expansion of telemedicine, Dr. Speedie is now working to extend the reach of telemedicine into the home

in research projects involving home videoconferencing, the Internet and home monitoring. His research interests focus on the outcomes of employing these technologies — patient well-being, financial costs and benefits, and impact on the providers of care.



**ANDREW TRAYNOR, PHARM.D., BCPS**, is Assistant Professor of Pharmacy, Assistant Residency Director of the Pharmaceutical Care Residency Program, and a member of the Pharmacy Rural Education, Practice, and Policy Institute at the College of Pharmacy, University of Minnesota, Duluth campus. His current research interests focus on risk for loss of pharmacy services and student perceptions of pharmacy practice in rural areas,

pharmaceutical care practice development and education related to pharmacy practice skill development.

Andrew received his Doctor of Pharmacy in 2004 from the University of Minnesota and completed a Pharmaceutical Care Leadership Residency at the University of Minnesota in 2006. He has served as National President of the American Pharmacists Association — Academy of Students of Pharmacy and as a Trustee of the American Pharmacists Association.

**TODD D. SORENSEN, PHARM.D.**, is associate professor and director of the Pharmaceutical Care Residency Program and a member of the Pharmacy Rural Education, Practice, and Policy Institute at the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy. His research focuses on increasing access to pharmaceutical care and affordable medications in underserved communities. He has worked with rural communities to address



pharmacist workforce issues, evaluate risk for loss of local pharmacy services and implement innovative pharmacy practice models in Critical Access Hospitals. Todd's work has also focused on federally qualified community health centers, increasing access of affordable medications to uninsured patients while integrating pharmacists into the delivery of primary care.

Todd received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1993 and Doctor of Pharmacy in 1994, both from the University of Minnesota. He currently serves as the President of the Minnesota Pharmacists Association.



**TOM LARSON, PHARM.D., FCCP**, is Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs, Director of the Pharmacy Rural Education, Practice, and Policy Institute and Professor of Pharmacy at the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy. His current scholarship centers on rural health care systems as they relate to rural access to pharmaceutical care. Much of Dr. Larson's work has focused on pharmaceutical care practice development as a means of recruitment and retention of pharmacists in rural health systems.

Tom received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1979 and Doctor of Pharmacy in 1980, both from the University of Minnesota. He also completed an Infectious Disease Fellowship at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in 1981. He has served as president of the Minnesota Rural Health Association and was awarded their Outstanding Service Award in 2004.

**LARHAE GRINDAL KNATTERUD** has a BA from Augsburg College in Minneapolis and an MAPA from the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, with major concentrations in gerontology and health care policy. She began her career at the Area Agency on Aging for the Twin Cities, which was at that time housed at the Metropolitan Council.



She is currently Director of Aging Transformation for the Continuing Care Administration at the Minnesota Department of Human Services and has worked there for the past 12 years. Her responsibilities have included leader of Project 2030, an effort to identify the impacts of the aging of Minnesota's population over the next 30 years; chief

staff to the state's long-term care task force, from 2000 to 2003; and coordinator of Minnesota's efforts on long-term care financing reform. Currently, she is staff leader for the department's Transform 2010, a project to prepare Minnesota for the aging of the state's population, especially as the large baby boom generation begins to turn 65 in 2011.



**MICHELLE CASEY** is a Senior Research Fellow and Deputy Director of the University of Minnesota Rural Health Research Center, where she has worked since 1994. Her research interests include access to care for rural Medicare beneficiaries and underserved populations; rural quality and patient safety initiatives; hospice and end-of-life care in rural communities; the use of preventive health services by rural populations; access to

pharmacy services in rural areas; and the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Monitoring Program. She has published extensively on rural health issues in peer-reviewed journals, and received the National Rural Health Association Outstanding Rural Health Researcher Award in May 2006.

Michelle previously worked on health policy analysis and rural health programs at the Minnesota Department of Health. She played a key role in establishing the Minnesota Office of Rural Health and Primary Care and served as Assistant Director of the Office from 1992 to 1994. She has a bachelor's degree from Grinnell College in Iowa and a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

**GARY WINGROVE** is manager of Government Relations and Strategic Affairs for Gold Cross/ Mayo Medical Transportation. He is a former state EMS director and serves on the national advisory committees for the Rural EMS & Trauma Technical Assistance Center and the Technical Assistance and Services Center for the national Critical Access Hospital program. Gary chairs the National Rural Health Association's EMS Issue Group and received the 2005



American Ambulance Association President's Award for his national focus on rural EMS. He grew up in rural Iowa and lives in rural Minnesota with his wife Karen and 8-year-old twins, Joey & Allie.



**AARRON REINERT** is the executive director for Lakes Region EMS, a rural and metropolitan ambulance service composed of 40 full-time staff with a Paramedic/EMT staffing pattern covering a 450-square-mile service area. Prior to Lakes Region EMS, Aarron was the field services manager for the Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board. At the EMSRB, his projects included creating and implementing a statewide web-based data

collection system, developing statewide EMS communication systems, and coordinating EMS bioterrorism preparedness. He is a practicing paramedic, a regular educator for ambulance management, and a consultant for Public Safety Communications and EMS data collection.