

ADvancing States Announce Inaugural Class for the Next Gen HCBS Leaders Program

July 5, 2022

ARLINGTON, VA – ADvancing States, in collaboration with its Alumni Leadership Network, is pleased to announce the members of the inaugural class for the Next Gen HCBS Leaders Program. The Next Gen HCBS Leaders Program will offer training, support, and mentoring to selected participants to support their growth as a state HCBS leader. Each member will also receive an all-expenses-paid scholarship to the 2022 HCBS Conference, thanks to the generous donor support.

The need for this program was identified by the ADvancing States Board of Directors, members of the MLTSS Institute Advisory Council and former state LTSS leaders which comprise the Alumni Leadership Network. Faced with increasing responsibilities, reduced staff and a wave of retirements, state agencies need support for leaders to continue to provide effective and high-quality HCBS to their citizens.

Martha Roherty, ADvancing States Executive Director, believes identifying and training the next generation of HCBS leaders is imperative. “While other programs develop Medicaid leaders, the skills and knowledge necessary to operate an HCBS program are unique. The combination of mentorship from current and former HCBS leaders as well as exposure to national policies and practices will be invaluable.”

Alumni Leadership Network President Claudia Schlossberg shared, “The Advancing States Alumni Leadership Network is thrilled to partner with Advancing States leadership to support and help mentor the next generation of HCBS leaders. As former state and federal officials, we know this work is complex and can be challenging even for the most seasoned professionals. We look forward to working with this impressive inaugural class!”

The inaugural 2022 class includes:

- Danielle Ashlock - Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
- Amber Kraw - California Department of Aging
- Cassandra Keller - Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
- Shannon Effler - Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
- Elizabeth Adkins - Louisiana Department of Health
- Mark Cooley - Michigan Department of Human Services
- Darci Buttke - Minnesota Department of Human Services
- Mindy Ulstad - Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
- Alexis Marthaller - Montana Department of Health and Human Services
- Caroline Coghlan - New Jersey Department of Human Services
- Donald Moffitt - New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities
- David Ward - Oklahoma Health Care Authority
- Emily Tumber - Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services
- Dustin Welch - South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

ADvancing States Announce Inaugural Class for the Next Gen HCBS Leaders Program

- Katie Moss - Tennessee Division of TennCare
- Joy Kearney - Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- Jacqueline Cobbs - Washington Department of Social and Health Services
- Jessica Holland - Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Elizabeth Forslund - Wyoming Department of Health

Members of the Next Gen HCBS Leaders Program will receive education throughout 2022 on a wide variety of leadership as well as HCBS topics including building a strategic vision, Federal public policy, budgeting and finance, quality and outcomes management and external stakeholder engagement.

About ADvancing States

ADvancing States represents the nation's 56 state and territorial agencies on aging and disabilities and supports visionary state leadership, the advancement of state systems innovation and the articulation of national policies that support home and community-based services for older adults and individuals with disabilities.