

**Committee on Rural Health**  
**Full Committee Meeting**  
**7/15/2025 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (CST)**

**Attendees:**

- ✧ **APA Staff:** Maddie Boenig, Connie Galietti, Andrew Strickland, Aliza Epstein, Robin McLeod
- ✧ **CRH Committee:** Tess Kilwein, Douglas Knutson, Christianne Connelly, Mary Louise Cashel, Ashley Norwood, Reed Maxwell, Christine McKibbin, Royleen Ross (absent), Calista Kern-Lyons (absent)
- ✧ **Guests:** Mary Ann McCabe (BOD Liaison), Emily Selby-Nelson (Division 31 Liaison)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Ethics Code Task Force – Royleen’s attended 5/29 meeting as CRH liaison
  - Reviewing 2,600+ public comments received on the revised Code draft
  - ECTF presentation on Thursday, August 7th at 2:30
- Dr. Wendi Williams 2026 Youth Mental Health Summit (YMHS) Initiative – Tess & Douglas attended Working Group strategy meeting, email sent to listserv
- Excellence in Rural Health Award - make a decision and report back to APA
  - **Continue:** Awards should be maintained, including a rationale explaining how the award advances APA’s mission and strategic priorities.
- Division 31 Rural Health Section – Emily Selby-Nelson
  - Building membership

**ONGOING BUSINESS:**

- ✧ Excellence in Rural Health Award – Jennifer Blossom, PhD awarded, unable to attend convention (awaiting plaque & stipend)
- ✧ APA Convention (Denver, CO)
  - Meeting agenda items
    - Review final Needs Assessment Report
    - 2026 Workplan ideas (e.g., repeat Needs Assessment)
    - Big Beautiful Bill update – Andrew Strickland
  - Recommendations for Conducting Psychotherapy with Socioeconomically Marginalized, Diverse Clients (Symposium, Christianne Connelly)
    - Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>
    - 1:00-2:00 PM MST
    - Colorado Convention Center, Terrace Level, Bluebird Ballroom 3A
  - **CRH full HYBRID committee meeting**
    - Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>
    - 2:30-3:30 PM MST
    - Hyatt Regency Denver, Mineral Hall D Room

- Beyond Belief: Religious Trauma and Mental Health in Diverse LGBTQ+ Populations (Symposium Chair, Douglas Knutson)
  - Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>
  - 11:30-12:30 AM MST
  - Colorado Convention Center, Street Level, V710-712
- Regional Differences in Recommendations for Improving Rural Mental Healthcare from Clinicians (Poster Presentation, Calista)
  - Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>
  - 4:00-5:00 PM MST
  - Colorado Convention Center, Exhibit Hall A, Solutions Center, Poster Sessions
- Division 31 Social Hour
  - Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>
  - 5:30 PM-6:30 PM MST
  - Hyatt Regency Denver, Level 3, Centennial Ballroom A
- Building Psychologist Resilience in Rural Health Practice (Paul Korte & Emily Selby-Nelson)
  - Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>
  - 1:30 PM-2:30 PM MST
  - Colorado Convention Center, Ballroom Level, Mile High Ballroom 4AB
- Development and Preliminary Validation of the Trans Disordered Eating Scale (Bek Urban & Douglas)
  - Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>
  - 3:00-4:00 PM CST
  - Colorado Convention Center, Ballroom Level, Mile High Ballroom 4AB
- ✎ Subcommittees/Liaison Updates
  - [Healthcare Financing Advisory Group](#) (Christianne) - next meeting in July
  - BPA Rural Health Priorities Subcommittee (Mary Louise, Royleen, Calista)
    - Received by BPA, no feedback, subcommittee to be archived
  - CRH Factsheet Subcommittee (Tess, Royleen, Christine, Christianne)
    - Final draft [Complete!](#) To be sent to advocacy, APA Update; Washington Update; CRH site
  - Rural Mental Health Needs Assessment (Douglas, Mary Louise, Calista)
    - Preliminary report received by BPA
    - Data collection ongoing
    - APA Psychologist Locator – in progress
    - Dissemination plan: CRH website, BPA, Division 31, COR Rural Health Caucus

**Next CRH Full Committee Meeting:** APA Convention 8/7/2025 at 2:30 PM MST