

# AGENDA & SPEAKERS

CHICAGOLAND RESPIRATORY THERAPY WORKFORCE SUMMIT | NOV 4, 2025

**SETTING THE STAGE:** Our Shortage of Respiratory Therapists in Local Data.

**DIGGING DEEPER:** Understanding the Drivers & Impact of the Respiratory Therapy Workforce Shortage: A Conversation Between Training Providers & Hospital Leaders.

- Moderated by **Tess Micheals**, Founder & CEO of Clasp
- **Jane Reynolds**, Respiratory Care Program Director, Malcolm X College
- **Denise Krukenberg**, Dean of Health Professions, Elgin Community College
- **Patti DeJullio**, Director Respiratory and Diagnostic Services, Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital
- **Anne Geistkemper**, Clinical Manager, Neonatal Pediatrics, Respiratory Care Services, Rush

**ZOOMING OUT:** National Responses to our Respiratory Therapy Workforce Shortage.

- **Dana Evans**, Board President, American Association for Respiratory Care
- **Lori Tinkler**, CEO, National Board of Respiratory Care

**LOOKING AHEAD:** Alternative Respiratory Therapy Training Models & Innovative Solutions From Around The Nation.

- **Tom Smalling**, CEO, Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care

**PERSPECTIVES FROM THE FRONTLINE:** A Panel Discussion With Early Career Respiratory Therapists and Students.

- Moderated by **Jane Reynolds**, Respiratory Care Program Director, Malcolm X College

## BREAKOUT ROOMS

After lunch, attendees will chose one of three discussion-focused breakout rooms to join. Attendees should come ready to share perspectives from their organizations, brainstorm collaborative solutions, and commit to future actions. Follow-up materials will be distributed to encourage continued collaboration.

**1 OUTREACH:** How might we increase the number of people applying for Respiratory Therapy training programs?

- Facilitated by **Dana Evans**, Respiratory Regional Director, Advocate Health; Board President, AARC

**2 TRAINING:** How might we increase the number of people completing Respiratory Therapy training programs?

- Facilitated by **Peter Jaswilko**, Chair, Allied Health, Triton College

**3 RETENTION & ADVANCEMENT:** How might we increase the number of Respiratory Therapists staying in the field and advancing?

- Facilitated by **David Vines**, Chairperson and Professor, Department of Cardiopulmonary Sciences, Rush College of Health Sciences

APPLICATION PENDING FOR 5 CRCE

