



WELCOME TO OUR  
**Quarterly Newsletter!**

President's Message



Dear Mountain West Members,

AMCP 2026 in Nashville was a tremendous success, and I left energized in more ways than one. Beyond the conference itself, Nashville delivered—the food, the music, and the energy of that city made for a memorable backdrop. Most impactful to me, it was in Nashville that this role officially became mine, and I want to say plainly: I do not take it lightly. Watching our previous presidents pour themselves into this affiliate gave me a deep appreciation for what it takes, and I extend a genuine and heartfelt thank you to each of them for building something worth inheriting. I also owe a special thank you to those of you who attended our affiliate meeting in Nashville—your presence, especially given that several neighboring affiliates held their meetings at the same time, meant a great deal.

As I step into this role, the word that keeps coming to mind is momentum. The Mountain West affiliate has built something significant over the past several years, and my commitment as your president is to protect it, grow it, and make sure every member—whether you've been here for a decade or just discovered managed care pharmacy—feels that this community belongs to them.

That momentum continues this summer. Our next gathering will be the Summer Social at Top Golf on August 26th, and registration is open now. This event has become one of my favorites because of the students who show up—curious, early in their careers, just beginning to see what managed care pharmacy can offer. If you haven't attended before, I'd encourage you to come and be part of the welcome they receive. That moment when a student realizes this field is doing genuinely impactful work, and that the people in it are approachable and collaborative—that's worth showing up for.

Looking ahead to the fall, we are actively working to confirm speakers for the Mountain West Pharmacy Summit, which will be held on November 5th. The summit is our marquee annual event. We look forward to sharing the agenda with you in the coming months.

As summer gets underway, please travel safely and take care of yourselves and the people you love. This affiliate runs on the generosity, curiosity, and commitment of members like you. I am grateful to be a managed care colleague with every one of you. If you have questions, ideas, or just want to be more involved, please reach out at [mountainwest@amcp.org](mailto:mountainwest@amcp.org). I mean it. I'd love to hear from you.

With gratitude,

**Michael Stapley, PharmD**  
President, AMCP Mountain West Affiliate

## Meet the 2026–2027 Board of Directors



**PRESIDENT**  
**MICHAEL STAPLEY, PHARM D**  
**Clinical Account Manager (RealRx)**

Michael Stapley, PharmD is the Clinical Account Manager at the Pharmacy Benefit Manager RealRx. He has been working in pharmacy since 2010, when he became a pharmacy technician. In 2020, he received his PharmD from the University of Utah, and he began a residency with RealRx shortly thereafter. Michael has remained with RealRx since that time. Michael has been a member of AMCP and AMCP Mountain West since his third year of pharmacy school in 2018. More recently, before becoming President of our affiliate, he held the roles of Student Affairs Chair and President-Elect. He firmly believes he would not be where he is today without the mentorship and career direction provided by our AMCP community.



**PRESIDENT-ELECT**  
**LAUREN (REN) ALAI**  
**Director of Pharmacy Value Strategy (Optum Health)**

Lauren (Ren) Alai, PharmD, is Director of Pharmacy Value Strategy at Optum Health, where she leads national initiatives focused on pharmacy affordability, payment integrity, and value. As part of the National Office of the Chief Medical Officer (NOCMO), her work includes medical benefit drug strategy, rebate management, and partnership with analytics and claims teams to identify inappropriate spend, reduce waste, and strengthen end-to-end controls across high-cost drug processes. Her efforts emphasize translating enterprise-level strategy into scalable, market-ready execution. Ren is actively engaged in advancing the managed care pharmacy profession through AMCP and currently serves as President-Elect of the MTW AMCP affiliate. In this role, she is focused on strengthening collaboration across payers, providers, and industry partners while delivering practical, relevant programming to support pharmacist growth and leadership within managed care.



**IMMEDIATE-PAST PRESIDENT**  
**SHANNON STURTEVANT, MBA, MS**  
**Associate Director, Payer Accounts (LEO Pharma)**

Shannon Sturtevant is an Associate Director, Regional Payer Account Executive at LEO Pharma, where she leads strategic engagement with payer organizations to expand patient access and drive value-based partnerships. With a strong background in healthcare and market access, she is passionate about collaborative relationships and navigating complex payer environments. In addition to her role at LEO Pharma, she serves as the Past President of the AMCP Mountain West Affiliate, where she has worked with a dedicated group of volunteers and members to bring together the managed care community, foster relationships across industry partners, payer partners and pharmacy students in the region. In May, Shannon participated in AMCP Legislative Days 2026 along with her AMCP friends and the amazing AMCP Legislative team in Washington, DC. She values the opportunity to learn and contribute to advocacy efforts for AMCP. She enjoys her new geography with LEO Pharma, across the Pacific Northwest and Mountain West and learning from her peers across other AMCP affiliates.

**Continued...**

## Meet the 2026–2027 Board of Directors



**SECRETARY/TREASURER**  
**JULIA JARMOSZKO, MBA, PHARM D**  
Consultant Partnerships Manager (Smithrx)

Julia Jarmoszko, PharmD, MBA, is a managed care pharmacy professional with extensive experience in formulary strategy, clinical program management, and pharmacy benefit solutions. She currently serves as the Consultant Partnerships Manager at SmithRx, a next-generation pharmacy benefit manager (PBM). In this role, she leverages her clinical and business expertise to manage strategic partnerships and optimize pharmacy benefit offerings. Julia has been an active member of AMCP since 2017 and is currently serving her second term as Secretary / Treasurer.



**COMMUNICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**  
**KENNETH GARCIA, PHARM D**  
Regional Account Director (Sanofi)

Kenneth Garcia, PharmD is a Regional Account Director at Sanofi where she manages strategic payer relationships and market access initiatives across her multi-state territory to optimize patient access to Sanofi's innovative therapies. Prior to joining Sanofi, Kenneth held positions at CVS Caremark, Moda Health, and San Francisco Health Plan, and completed her PGY1 Managed Care Residency at Premera Blue Cross. A dedicated AMCP member for 10 years, Kenneth credits the organization with supporting her professional development and is committed to giving back. She has served as President of the Northwest Affiliate and currently serves as Vice-Chair of the Membership Committee. This year, she is expanding her affiliate service to support the Mountain West Affiliate, furthering AMCP's mission of advancing managed care pharmacy practice.



**FUNDRAISING CHAIR**  
**GEORGETTE DZWILEWSKI**  
Senior Account Director, Payor Access (Indivior)

Georgette Dzwilewski is a Senior Account Manager in Payor Access at Indivior LLC with over 24 years of experience in the pharmaceutical and medical device industries, including 18 years in managed access. She specializes in maximizing access across national health plans, GPOs, and pharmacy benefit managers.

Georgette's expertise includes strategic account management, contract negotiation, and cross-functional leadership, as well as presenting clinical data to support optimal product positioning and utilization. She holds a B.A. from Syracuse University and has completed executive education at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management and UCLA. Georgette has been a member of AMCP since 2009 and chose to participate in local chapters, such as MTN West AMCP, to expand her professional network, build partnerships, and remain actively engaged within the organization."

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## **Meet the 2026–2027 Board of Directors**



### **EVENT CO-CHAIR**

#### **HEATHER FREML, PHARM D**

**Scientific Director, Medical Payer Strategy (AbbVie)**

Heather Freml, PharmD, is a Scientific Director in Medical Payer Strategy at AbbVie, where she develops strategic medical education materials in Gastroenterology - Immunology tailored for healthcare access decision makers. Prior to this role, Heather held positions as a Medical Outcomes Science Liaison, Medical Science Liaison, and clinical pharmacist at Anthem and Kaiser Permanente. She has been an active member of ACMP since 2022 and is currently serving her second term as Event Board Chair.



### **EVENT CO-CHAIR**

#### **ROXANNE THATCHER, BCACP**

**Director of Clinical Pharmacy, East Region (Optum Health)**

Roxanne Thacker, PharmD, BCACP, is a clinical pharmacy leader with over 25 years of experience driving value-based care initiatives across diverse healthcare settings. She has led the development and optimization of medication management programs focused on high-risk, high-cost populations, with expertise in utilization management, quality performance, and care coordination. Roxanne has extensive experience designing and scaling care management models, improving CMS quality metrics, and aligning clinical programs with payer requirements. She has successfully implemented population health strategies, prior authorization protocols, and transitions of care programs to improve outcomes and reduce costs. A strategic leader, she partners with analytics, provider, and executive teams to deliver data-driven solutions that advance utilization and performance objectives while staying true to her north star, exceptional patient care.



### **LEGISLATIVE CHAIR**

#### **JONATHAN MAGNESS, PHARM D**

**VP, Market Growth and Strategy, Government Programs (Prime Therapeutics)**

Jonathan (Jon) Magness, PharmD, serves as Vice President of Market Growth & Strategy at Prime Therapeutics, where he leads initiatives focused on government programs, innovative product development, and strategic growth partnerships within the pharmacy benefit landscape. With deep experience in managed care pharmacy and PBM operations, Jon works at the intersection of policy, access, and market innovation—helping translate regulatory change into actionable strategy for health plans and stakeholders.

An active contributor to industry thought leadership and education, Jon frequently presents on evolving pharmacy policy, including federal and state legislative developments impacting patient access and affordability. He is passionate about advancing the role of pharmacists within the healthcare system and supporting AMCP's mission to improve patient outcomes through managed care pharmacy.

**Continued...**

## Meet the 2026-2027 Board of Directors



### **STUDENT AFFAIRS CHAIR KYLE KNUDSEN, MBA, PHARM D**

Health Outcomes Liaison (Axsome Therapeutics)

Kyle Knudsen currently serves as the Student Affairs Chair for AMCP Mountain West. He earned his PharmD and MBA from Roseman University and completed a PGY-1 managed care residency with Anthem Inc./IngenioRx. Throughout his career, Kyle has worked across managed care and pharmacy strategy roles and currently works in Medical Affairs within the pharmaceutical industry, focusing on communicating clinical and economic value to healthcare decision-makers. Kyle is passionate about mentoring students because the guidance he received during pharmacy school played a major role in shaping his career path. One of his favorite aspects of AMCP is helping students explore the many non-traditional opportunities available in managed care and the pharmaceutical industry. Kyle strives to be approachable and accessible, and is always happy to connect with students who are looking for guidance, mentorship, or career advice.

# Thank You!

## 2025-2026 Board of Directors

## **AMCP Mountain West 2025-2026 Board of Directors**



**President**  
Shannon Sturtevant  
LEO



**President - Elect**  
Michael Stapley  
CBG



**Immediate Past President**  
Caitlin Arnwine  
Amgen



**Event Chair**  
Heather Fremi  
Abbvie



**Event Chair**  
Lauren Alai  
Optum



**Fundraising Chair**  
Sharon Cahoon-Metzger  
Neurocrine



**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Julia Jarmoszko  
SmithRx



**Communications/  
Membership**  
Russ Spjut



**Legislative Chair**  
Weston Schmutz



**Student Affairs Chair**  
Kyle Knudsen  
Axsome

## A Message from Our Immediate Past President

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the President of AMCP Mountain West Affiliate this past year! Look forward to seeing everyone at our Utah events in 2026!



**Shannon Sturtevant, MBA, MS**

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PAYER ACCOUNTS (LEO PHARMA)

### **Coming Up**

- \* AMCP 2026 NASHVILLE
- \* WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO
- \* STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS
- \* UPCOMING EVENTS
- \* HOW TO SUPPORT THE SUMMIT



AT  
**AMCP 2026**  
(NASHVILLE, TN)



Thank you to everyone who joined us on Wednesday, April 15th in Nashville. We hope you had an incredible conference experience and appreciate your continued support of the AMCP Mountain West Affiliate. It was wonderful to break the ice and connect with fellow members — whether debating cats vs. dogs, morning vs. night owls, or spontaneous vs. planned — we all came together to strengthen the bonds that make our affiliate special.

**During the meeting,**

- We thanked our outgoing board of directors and warmly welcomed our incoming 2026-2027 Board.
- We also recognized members demonstrating distinguished leadership at the national level: **Jeffrey Dunn** (Cooperative Benefits Group/RealRx) and **Matthew Mitchell** (Scripius/Select Health) on the AMCP Board of Directors, and **LeeAnn Calder** (Select Health) on the AMCP Legislative Committee.
- Another highlight was announcing our **2026 AMCP Student Scholarship Recipients**, congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!
  - i. **Kayla Holland**
  - ii. **Tyler Allen**
  - iii. **Kene Ben-Umeh**
  - iv. **Cody Madsen**
  - v. **Carlee Smith**

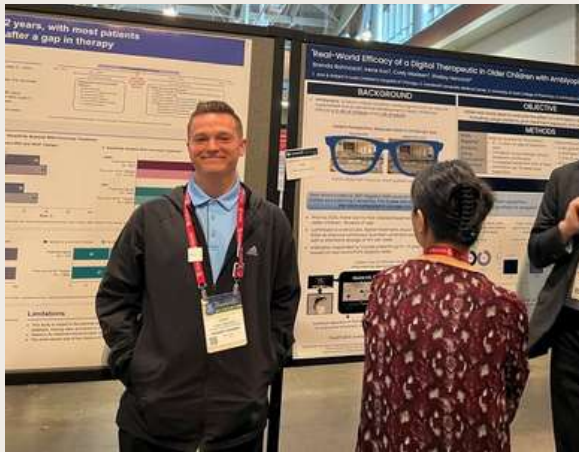
**Coming Up**

- \* WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO
- \* STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS
- \* UPCOMING EVENTS
- \* HOW TO SUPPORT THE SUMMIT

## Student Scholarship Recipients Reflect on AMCP 2026

“AMCP is more than just a place to learn about pharmacy. For students, it is one of the best opportunities to connect, network, and build lasting friendships at the student, affiliate, and national levels. Attending AMCP Annual in Nashville was no exception. Through this experience, I was able to meet amazing people who are leaders in their fields. Many of these individuals would not ordinarily have the time to sit down for a conversation, but at AMCP they were willing to step away for a few minutes to share advice and discuss their experiences with me. I was also able to find a new mentor through the buddy program and connect with incredible leaders from other student chapters during the Chapter Leadership Academy, which could lead to exciting collaborations in the future. Additionally, I attended the Mock P&T Competition and came away with great ideas on how we can make our team even more competitive at the national level next year. Most importantly, attending this conference made me even more excited to pursue a career in managed care.”

**-CARLEE SMITH (P2, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH)**



“Receiving the AMCP Mountain West Affiliate Travel Scholarship is something I am truly grateful for. This support made it possible for me to attend AMCP Annual and take part in experiences that I would not have been able to access otherwise. It allowed me to present the poster I collaborated on, connect with professionals across both payer and industry settings, and continue building long-lasting relationships with professionals across the nation.

This scholarship also helped me get more involved with AMCP at the national level. I also had the opportunity to learn about emerging trends and information that we simply do not cover in our curriculum, listen to experts in their respective fields present on current research during poster presentation sessions, help present the AMCP eModel/ePoster, and meet students from around the country to share ideas. These conversations and learning opportunities provided me deeper insight into managed care, insight you can only gain by meeting other professionals in person.

More than anything, this experience reminded me why I am so passionate about managed care pharmacy. Words cannot describe how grateful I am that the AMCP Mountain West Affiliate has invested in my growth and given me the opportunities to follow the path I truly love. After graduation, I look forward to providing opportunities to other students, just as our affiliate chapter and the amazing professionals in this field have done for me.”

**-CODY MADSEN (P2, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH)**

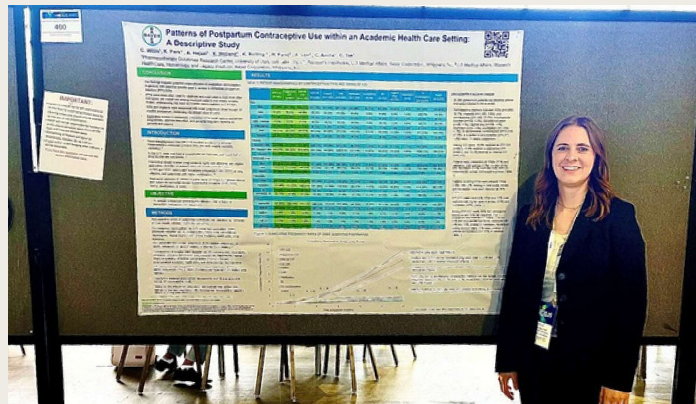
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## Student Scholarship Recipients Reflect on AMCP 2026



"This was my first time attending a national conference, and it was an incredible experience. I had the opportunity to learn so much while also gaining a deeper understanding of the many career paths available within managed care and the pharmaceutical industry. One of my favorite parts of the conference was meeting both new and old friends and connecting with professionals and students who share similar interests and goals. It was eye-opening to see the impact that managed care pharmacy has on patient care and the healthcare system as a whole. Attending this conference made me even more excited about my future in pharmacy and solidified my interest in pursuing a career in this area. I am very grateful for the opportunity to attend and look forward to participating in similar conferences in the future."

**- TYLER ALLEN (P1, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH)**



"Annual was one of the most professionally productive — and genuinely fun — experiences of my career journey so far. Weeks before the conference, I proactively combed through the attendee list and arranged 15+ meetings with new professionals for brief interviews and advice sessions. By the end of the session, I met 100+ new people, built meaningful connections, and walked away with more valuable advice than I knew what to do with.

It was like an intense round of professional speed dating — my pickup lines weren't exactly smooth, but people responded with remarkable kindness and a genuine eagerness to help.

None of it would have been possible without the generous support of AMCP Mountain West. Thank you for sponsoring my scholarship and giving me the opportunity to show up, reach out, and make the most of every moment!"

**- KAYLA HOLLAND (P3, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH)**

### Coming Up

- \* WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO
- \* UPCOMING EVENTS
- \* HOW TO SUPPORT THE SUMMIT

# Recap of our Q1 2026 Events



## WINTER BOWLING



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



At the Mountain West AMCP Spring meeting, **Drs. Jon Magness, David Young,** and **Joseph Simpson** provided an overview of key outcomes from the 2026 Utah Legislative Session and emerging federal policy changes impacting pharmacy practice. The session highlighted major state legislation affecting pharmacy operations, including updates to prescription requirements, expanded pharmacist prescribing authority (e.g., vaccines and epinephrine), and new oversight and penalties related to PBM reimbursement and MAC pricing appeals.

Attendees also explored legislation impacting medication access and safety—such as naloxone liability protections, controlled substance updates, and evolving policies around specialty products—alongside broader healthcare provisions affecting provider scope and licensure.

At the federal level, the discussion covered the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2026, which introduces significant reforms to PBM transparency, rebate structures, and Medicare Part D pharmacy access, signaling a continued shift toward greater accountability and a net-cost-driven pharmacy ecosystem.

The session concluded with an interactive discussion, enabling members to share perspectives on how these changes may shape pharmacy practice, payer strategies, and patient access across the region.

## Upcoming Events



### SUMMER SOCIAL



**TOPGOLF SALT LAKE CITY**  
920 JORDAN RIVER BLVD  
MIDVALE, UT 84047



August 26, 2026  
6-8pm



[Register here:](#)



### PHARMACY SUMMIT

Join us for an exciting day of innovating managed care speakers networking. More details to follow.



**RICE-ECCLES STADIUM**  
451 S 1400 E  
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84112



November 5, 2026  
9:30-4:00 pm



[Register here:](#)



### Next Page

\* MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO SUPPORT THE SUMMIT!

# Support the Summit!

## Sponsorship Opportunities Available

### Platinum Sponsor – \$5,000

- Premier logo placement on all materials and website
- One scientific poster presentation opportunity (AMCP or ISPOR encore)
- Verbal recognition throughout the conference
- Recognition as a conference sponsor in the program
- Up to 4 registrations

### Gold Sponsor – \$2,500

- Logo on all materials and website
- Verbal recognition during the conference
- Recognition as social event sponsor
- Up to 3 registrations

### Silver Sponsor – \$1,500

- Logo on all materials and website
- Verbal recognition during the conference
- Recognition at poster session and coffee breaks
- Up to 2 registrations

### Bronze Sponsor – \$750

- Logo on all materials and website
- Verbal recognition during the conference
- 1 registration

CONFIRM  
SPONSORSHIP:



INTERESTED?  
QUESTIONS?



MOUNTAINWEST@AMCP.ORG

#### WHY SPONSOR?

SUPPORTING THIS SUMMIT PROVIDES A VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY TO:

- SHOWCASE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO A TARGETED AUDIENCE OF PHARMACISTS AND DECISION-MAKERS
- STRENGTHEN CONNECTIONS WITHIN THE MOUNTAIN WEST HEALTHCARE COMMUNITY
- SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUTURE PHARMACY LEADERS