

Arizona Telemedicine Council

January 17, 2024

Speaker Bios

Susy Salvo-Wendt

Susy Salvo-Wendt is a proven leader in telehealth and telemedicine program development for over 14 years, with extensive knowledge in healthcare operations and reimbursement options for telehealth. She uses her entrepreneurial experience along with sound judgement in financial planning and project implementation. She is known for driving innovative solutions to improve patient care while lowering costs using evidence-based solutions. Ms. Salvo-Wendt has extensive knowledge in grant development and implementation and collaborates on a variety of policy and legislative initiatives. She is currently the Project Director of a RCORP-OD/SUD implementation grant that will utilize telehealth options. Ms. Salvo-Wendt has been volunteering for Suicide Prevention for over 15 years.

Chris Flake, PA

Chris is a native to the White Mountains of AZ and has worked at Summit Healthcare for approximately 8 years in various roles. He has over 4 years of acute care experience working as a Hospitalist Physician's Assistant and has ongoing clinical experience in the ambulatory setting. He is currently working as the Director of Telehealth and functions as the Provider IT liaison. He has a passion for telehealth and was instrumental in obtaining a USDA DLT grant to provide telehealth carts to the region. Chris continues to lead telehealth technology improvements in the White Mountain area which includes two of the most remote and poorest counties in the state, Navajo and Apache.

Nathan Adson

Nathan Adson is the Telemedicine Services Coordinator for the Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation (TCRHCC). Nathan coordinates all telemedicine services and ensures all telemedicine equipment is up-to-date and working properly. He began his career at Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation in the Information Technology department as a Help Desk Technician and was then promoted to an Endpoint Engineer. In 2019, he was selected for the Telemedicine Services Coordinator position and continues in this role currently. Nathan was born and raised in Tuba City, graduating from Tuba City High School. He received his bachelor's degree in Information Technology from the University of Phoenix, and is currently pursuing his master's degree in Information Systems.

Natalia Hatathli, MT (AMT), MPH

Natalia Hatathli is the Chief Ancillary Officer for Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation. Natalia has oversight of six departments including Radiology, Laboratory, Telemedicine, Pharmacy, Cardiopulmonary, and Physical Rehabilitation. She began her career at Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation in the laboratory department as a Medical Technologist and moved into leadership as the



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Director of Laboratory Services. In March of 2021, she transitioned to an administrative role to the ancillary department. Natalia is from the Tuba City Community and graduated from the local high school. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Arizona State University and master's in Public Health from Grand Canyon University.

Elizabeth A. Krupinski, PhD is a professor at Emory University in the Department of Radiology & Imaging Sciences and is vice-chair of research. She is also Associate Director of Evaluation for the Arizona Telemedicine Program and Director of the federally-funded Southwest Telehealth Resource Center, headquartered at the University of Arizona. She is past president of the American Telemedicine Association, president of the Medical Image Perception Society, and past chair of the Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine. She serves regularly as a grant reviewer for the National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense, and other federal, state, and international funding agencies and has served as a member of a number of Food and Drug Administration review panels. Dr. Krupinski has been doing research and publishing scholarly on telemedicine papers for over 30 years. Dr. Krupinski frequently commutes back and forth “virtually” between Tucson and Atlanta over Zoom.

Carrie Foote, BA, BS

Carrie Foote is Associate Director of Administration at the Arizona Telemedicine Program and serves as the Program Administrator for the Southwest Telehealth Resource Center. In her capacity, she exercises administrative oversight for both the ATP and SWTRC. Ms. Foote represents these organizations at regional and national meetings, assuming responsibility for the creation and curation of public relations materials. Additionally, she plays a pivotal role in fulfilling reporting obligations and coordinating activities for both the ATP and the numerous partnering organizations associated with the SWTRC.

Michael J. Holcomb, BS is the interim director for the Arizona Telemedicine Program and is also ATP's associate director for information technology. He has 26 years of experience working with telemedicine and telehealth technologies and has 21 years of experience serving on the Arizona Telemedicine Program Executive Team. He has served as a technology expert for the Southwest Telehealth Resource Center since 2009 and served as the chair of the Technology Special Interest group of the American Telemedicine Association from 2012-2014. As interim director for the ATP he is responsible for all of ATP's programs, operations, grants, agreements, and facilities. He has co-authored numerous papers about telehealth topics in peer-reviewed journals along with meeting presentation abstracts and posters and multiple book chapters. Following the loss of ATP's founding director, Dr. Ronald S. Weinstein in December of 2021, Michael was selected to serve as site principal investigator on the NIH rural ostomy self-management training telehealth grant that ATP has partnered with the University of Pennsylvania on since 2019. Subsequently, following the retirement of Kris Erps Stewart, ATP's



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former associate director of administration, who served as ATP's interim director from December 2021 to June 2023, he was appointed as interim director of the ATP by College of Medicine Tucson Dean Michael M I Abecassis, MD, and selected to serve as the principal investigator for the ATP's Southwest Telehealth Resource Center grant from the United States Health Resources and Services Administration Office for Advancement of Telehealth, and to serve as a co-investigator on the University of Arizona Center for Rural Health's Arizona Health Improvement Plan grant from the Arizona Department of Health Services.