

## Call for Applications: National Initiative X

We are now accepting [applications](#) for participation in *National Initiative (NI) X Optimizing the Clinical Learning Environment for the Future*. Completed applications are due no later than **MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2025** and must be emailed in Word format. All applicants will be notified of selection in late June, followed by pre-work this summer and our first meeting in October.



To learn more about participation in National Initiative X, plan to attend a one-hour informational webinar on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm EDT. The webinar is free, but pre-registration is required. To register visit , [NI X Informational Webinar | AIAMC](#)

*NI X Optimizing the Clinical Learning Environment for the Future* will be an eighteen-month initiative that features bi-monthly Zoom cohorts and four in-person meetings\*. Cohort groups will be structured by themes based on focus areas identified in the applications, with best practices from all cohorts shared at the in-person meetings. Learning session topics will include identifying barriers to thriving in today's clinical learning environment; strategies to counteract those barriers; and the importance of creating and fostering environments that serve all our learners, leaders and patients. (\*Please note that Meeting Three will be virtual.)

### WHY the Clinical Learning Environment?

- **Adaptability and continuous growth:** Training environments must evolve to keep pace with technological advancements and the increasing complexity of patient care.
- **Prioritizing patient safety and interprofessional collaboration:** Ensuring that these elements are central to training can enhance the quality of care provided.
- **Physician well-being:** A supportive learning environment can reduce burnout and improve retention rates, benefiting both trainees and the healthcare system.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



*National Initiative IX  
Meeting One  
October 2023  
Omni Chicago Hotel*

*The AIAMC National Initiative is the only national and multi-institutional collaborative of its kind in which residents lead multidisciplinary teams in quality improvement projects aligned to their institution's strategic goals.*

*Seventy hospitals and health systems and over 1,500 individuals have participated in 298 quality improvement projects since 2007 driving change that has resulted in meaningful and sustainable outcomes improving the quality and safety of patient care.*

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# Call for Applications: National Initiative X

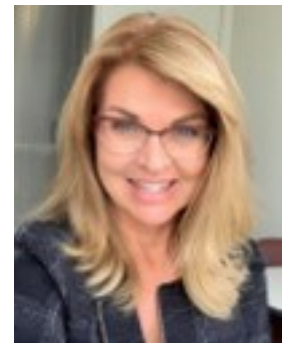
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The participation fee for AIAMC member institutions selected is \$4,250. Payment options are available. In addition to the participation fee, member institutions will be responsible for covering any costs incurred for travel to on-site meetings. The participation fee will cover one registration for each of the four meetings. In support of the AIAMC's strategic plan, team members representing pharmacy will also be eligible for free meeting registrations. If additional team members wish to attend the meetings, they may do so at a rate of \$275 per person per meeting.

Completed [applications](#) are due no later than **MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2025** and must be emailed in Word format. All applicants will be notified of selection in late June, followed by pre-work this summer and our first meeting in October. We hope you will join us in the milestone TENTH National Initiative!



*TriHealth Team  
Cincinnati, OH  
National Initiative V:  
Improving Community  
Health and Health Equity  
through Medical Education  
2015—2017*



*Theresa Azevedo-Rousso, MPA  
Regional Senior Director & DIO  
Kaiser Permanente Northern CA*

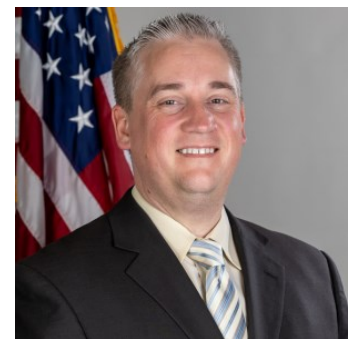
## Meet Your New Board Members

Three new Board directors were approved for appointment by the general membership at our annual Town Hall meeting held March 21st in New Orleans. Their three-year terms commenced on April 1st.

**Theresa Azevedo-Rousso** is the Regional Senior Director & DIO at Kaiser Permanente Northern California (KPNC) in Oakland, California. She served on the Committee on the Integration of Academics and Quality (CIAQ) for National Initiatives VIII & IX and has led multiple NI projects at KPNC.

**Greg Young** is a Healthcare Program Administrator at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton, California. He served as President of the West Valley Water District from 2019-2024 and led Arrowhead Regional Medical Centers' NI teams in NI VI and VII.

**Liz Zmuda** is the Director of Medical Education at OhioHealth Doctors Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. She was a National Advisory Council Member for NI IX, representing AACOM and AOGME. Dr. Zmuda led National Initiative projects at OhioHealth for NI VIII & IX.



*Gregory Young, MBA, PMP  
Program Administrator  
Arrowhead Regional Med Center*



*Elizabeth Zmuda, DO  
Director of Medical Education  
OhioHealth Doctors Hospital*



# SPOTLIGHT

## ON OUR VENDOR PARTNERS

### PYA: Silver Sponsor

#### Leverage PYA's Thought Leadership to Stay Ahead

PYA recognizes the unique, complex, and ever-evolving challenges faced by academic health centers, especially in the current regulatory environment. As part of our core mission, "We Serve to Solve," PYA is committed to providing valuable insights through publications, including articles, white papers, and case studies; tools, such as checklists and infographics; and webinars and podcasts on critical healthcare topics. Our experts are nationally recognized as thought leaders in the industry.

At PYA, we believe access to timely and relevant information is essential for healthcare leaders. That's why all of our thought leadership resources are available at no cost. For those who can't attend our live webinars, the content is recorded and shared publicly. Many of these sessions are also converted into podcasts for convenient, on-the-go listening on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and YouTube Podcasts.

Check out [all of PYA's upcoming and on-demand webinars](#), and learn from these select webinars that may be of interest to you and your organization:

CPE webinar: ["Here We Go Again: Medicare Rulemaking in Full Swing"](#)

On-demand webinar: ["Washington Updates – Navigating the Latest Regulatory Changes in Healthcare"](#)

On-demand webinar: ["Tightening Your Belt: Prepare for Site-Neutral Payment Reforms"](#)

On-demand webinar: ["Building Your Dream TEAM: How to Win at Episode Payment Models"](#)

On-demand webinar: ["Timely, Tough, or Tricky: Going for Gold in Physician Compensation Planning"](#)

**[PYA](#) is an independently owned, national professional services firm providing healthcare management consulting and accounting.** For expert assistance, reach out to [Deborah Biggs](#), Esq., PYA Principal and Director, Academic Medicine Consulting Services, for help today.



### Partnership Program



*The AIAMC Partners Program is designed to cultivate a meaningful relationship between our members and the companies that sponsor AIAMC educational outreach programs. Partner support is critical to our ongoing ability to develop and present substantive programs with knowledgeable faculty in central and appealing locations.*

***Thank you  
to our vendor  
partners!***

*If you would like to be a vendor partner with AIAMC, contact Kimberly Pierce Burke, Executive Director, by e-mailing [kimberly@aiamc.org](mailto:kimberly@aiamc.org).*

# Lyft Healthcare: Bronze Sponsor

## Get access to reliable, on-demand rides for residents

With Lyft Healthcare, GME programs can help improve resident and fellow well-being and enhance recruitment and retention. GME programs use Lyft Pass to give their residents and fellows access to on-demand rides for their commutes. So residents can focus on patient care—not their commute.

### Lyft Pass Benefits

#### Streamlined management

Set up and automate a Lyft Pass program in just minutes with our simple sign-up process.

#### Attract top talent

Enhance recruitment for your GME program with competitive transportation benefits.

#### Control costs and usage

Lyft Pass's built-in controls enable you to ensure rides are taken for the intended use case and enable you to more easily stay within budgets.

#### Fatigue mitigation and well-being support

Residents and fellows don't have to worry about commute logistics like traffic, tolls, and parking. They can rely on a Lyft ride to get them home to rest—and enjoy more time to focus on their life outside of medicine.

### Quote:

"GME programs are demanding, with long hours and intense clinical work placing significant emotional and intellectual demands on residents and fellows. Fatigue is a critical concern as it can impair patient care and resident well-being. Our program using Lyft Pass has alleviated this stress by promoting safety and reducing impaired driving. [We are] eternally grateful that Lyft offers such a wonderful solution that has effortlessly become an integral part of our program."

— Aditi Joshi, Administrative Program Coordinator at Lee Health



## AIAMC Mission Statement

*To serve as a learning organization of independent academic medical centers through the application of innovative education and scholarship that drives exceptional patient care.*

## AIAMC Vision Statement

*To be the leader in achieving exceptional health and well-being outcomes for the communities we serve through medical education and scholarship.*

The Alliance of Independent  
Academic Medical Centers  
PO Box 35756  
Canton, OH 44735

*Alliance Update is a  
bi-monthly, members-only  
publication provided by the  
Alliance of Independent  
Academic Medical Centers  
(AIAMC).*

*Please send news  
submissions to Kimberly  
Pierce Burke, Executive  
Director, by e-mailing  
kimberly@aiamc.org or by  
calling 330.497.8332.*

*Follow us on social media!*



### In our next issue:

- National Initiative X Teams Announced
- 2026 Annual Meeting: Call for Proposals
- NCICLE Professionalism Resources



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Alliance of Independent  
Academic Medical Centers