



Liz Schenkel | SD External Affairs Manager

Liz Schenkel joined CHAD in October 2023 as the SD External Affairs Manager where she supported the Navigator Program, overseeing several aspects of the Federal Navigator Cooperative Agreement for SD. In July of 2024, Liz transitioned to her current role as CHAD's SD Policy and Partnerships Manager where she engages with stakeholders and policy makers to support CHAD's vision of ensuring access to high-quality health care for all Dakotans. Liz works to support health centers by advocating for policies and resources needed to serve patients. She also leads Coverage and Care, a program designed to capture the experiences of people who have been on Medicaid, working to reduce societal stigma with subsidized health coverage and care while unearthing the systemic and programmatic barriers that prevent eligible people from enrolling.

Prior to joining CHAD, Liz completed her Master of Social Work from Washington University in Saint Louis with a concentration in Social Impact Leadership and a specialization in Policy. During her graduate studies, Liz engaged in health advocacy work, policy drafting, and research with a focus on rural health. Liz gained valuable insight and experience interning at Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health System in Administration, where she worked with leaders in health policy to ensure citizens in the region had access to life-sustaining services through the growth of the Community Health Worker Program. Before obtaining her MSW, Liz worked as the Rural Outreach Coordinator at a non-profit dedicated to extinguishing interpersonal violence.

Liz lives on an acreage near Yankton, SD with her husband and two dogs.