

## **UCare's Annie Halland, MPH, receives MPHA 2021 Albert Justus Chesley Award for contributions to Minnesota's public health**

*Halland manages [UCare's](#) county and tribal relations across the state*

MINNEAPOLIS, June 8, 2021 – The [Minnesota Public Health Association \(MPHA\)](#) selected [UCare's](#) County, Tribal and Public Health Manager [Annie Halland, MPH](#), to receive its prestigious [2021 Albert Justus Chesley Award](#). Halland was nominated by nearly a dozen health care leaders for “distinguishing herself in the field of public health and making a definite contribution to the MPHA.” The mission of the MPHA is to create a healthier Minnesota through effective public health practice and engaged citizens.



Halland will be honored during the [2021 Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony](#), held virtually the afternoon of Tues., June 15. The Albert Justus Chesley Award is named for A.J. Chesley, MD, who served 54 years with the Minnesota Department of Health, 34 years as Secretary of the Minnesota State Board of Health and Executive Officer of the Minnesota Department of Health.

“We are extremely proud of Annie’s contributions to the health of Minnesota communities,” said UCare SVP of Public Affairs and Chief Marketing Officer, Ghita Worcester. “She cares passionately about partnering with county and tribal public health agencies to meet the health care needs of Minnesotans in every region of the state.”

Throughout her 18-year career in public health, Halland has supported and advocated for individuals living in the margins – the homeless, people dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, and UCare’s Minnesota Health Care Program members. She’s been active with MPHA for 10 years. Halland co-chairs the MPHA Policy and Advocacy Committee, a position she’s held since 2012. She co-leads committee activities including gathering input from MPHA members on key public health policy issues, developing an annual policy agenda, preparing materials to inform MPHA members

about key public health policy issues, coordinating with other organizations to promote policy, and reviewing MPHA and APHA policy resolutions.

Halland has a BA in Psychology, Women's and Gender Studies, from Macalester College (St. Paul, Minn.) and a Master of Public Health (MPH), Health Policy and Management, from Boston University (Boston, Mass.).

### **About UCare**

[UCare](#) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 550,000 members throughout Minnesota and parts of western Wisconsin. UCare partners with health care providers, counties, and community organizations to create and deliver Medicare, Medicaid and Individual & Family health plans. All UCare health plans have earned accreditation from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

The health plan addresses health care disparities and care access issues through a broad array of community initiatives. UCare has received Top Workplaces honors from the Star Tribune for 11 consecutive years since the rankings began in 2010.

# # #