



ASAM American Society of
Addiction Medicine
Minnesota Chapter

2026 MNSAM Board Election Packet

Nominees

Jeremiah Fairbanks

Robert “Tayler” Bockstruck

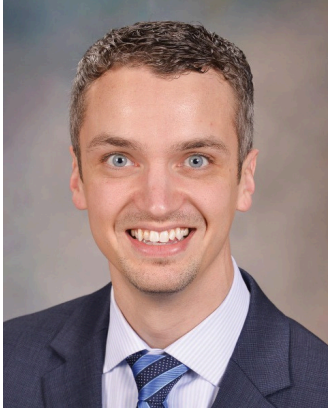
Lenore Everson

Steven Quam

Steve Delisi

Cole Pueringer

President-Elect Nominees



Jeremiah Fairbanks, DO

Addiction Medicine Physician, Allina Health

Jeremiah's biography

Hello! My name is Jeremiah and I'm an addiction medicine physician through Allina Health. I've had the privilege of being on the board of MNSAM for the past four years serving one term as treasurer and one as secretary. Outside of MNSAM, I provide outpatient addiction medicine services through my primary care clinic in Hastings and do inpatient addiction medicine consults through Abbott/Mercy/Unity hospitals. I completed my family medicine residency followed by an addiction medicine fellowship through the University of Minnesota. I'm passionate about teaching and working with primary care providers and am on leadership teams for other community-based and statewide innovative programs aimed at expanding access to treatment for those struggling with addiction. My wife and I are very proud parents to 12-year-old and 10-year-old sons, as well as an 8-year-old daughter, and two dogs. Together we love to travel, snowboard, and watch/play soccer.

Why are you interested in joining the MNSAM board?

As such a small subspecialty, having a place for Addiction Medicine providers to collaborate, interact, and support each other is so important. I have had the privilege of serving on the MNSAM board the past few years as first treasurer and now as secretary and during that time I have learned things that both work and don't work to better serve our members. I would like to be considered for a board position to foster more of this and continue to grow and adapt our goals and missions from the solid foundation that's already in place.

Secretary Nominees



Robert "Tayler" Bockstruck, MD

Addiction Medicine Physician, Allina Health

Tayler's biography

R. Tayler Bockstruck, MD, is an inpatient addiction medicine physician at Allina Health, consulting on management of substance use disorders and acute withdrawal at Mercy/Unity Hospital and Abbott Northwestern Hospital. He completed his combined Internal Medicine and Pediatrics residency training through the University of Arizona Phoenix College of Medicine and his Addiction Medicine fellowship through the University of Minnesota. He is board certified in Addiction Medicine, Internal Medicine, and Pediatrics. Throughout his training and now as faculty, he has been engaged with various quality improvement initiatives and with medical education of students, residents, and fellows.

Why are you interested in joining the MNSAM board?

As a member of the MNSAM board, I would be grateful for the chance to serve as an advocate for our patients and the field of Addiction Medicine in Minnesota. Some of my goals would be to increase engagement, specifically with the early career group of addiction physicians, and to maintain administrative organization as secretary. Thank you for the consideration for this position, and I look forward to working with you all throughout our careers.

Secretary Nominees



Lenore Everson, MD, PhD

Pain and Addiction Physician, Valley Medical and Wellness

Lenore's biography

Dr. Lenore I. Everson, MD, PhD, is a board-certified Addiction Medicine physician dedicated to caring for individuals with substance use disorders, chronic pain, and co-occurring mental health conditions. She earned her MD and PhD from Georgetown University and completed her training at the

University of Minnesota, where she now practices at Valley Medical and Wellness. Her work focuses on medically supervised withdrawal, outpatient stabilization, and long-term recovery, with an emphasis on meeting patients where they are and providing thoughtful, evidence-based care.

In addition to her clinical work, Dr. Everson is an Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota and a long-standing member of the medical school admissions committee. She is passionate about mentoring the next generation of physicians and advancing models of addiction care that expand access and improve treatment continuity. Her approach is grounded in compassion, respect, and a deep commitment to improving the lives of her patients.

Why are you interested in joining the MNSAM board?

I am deeply committed to advancing the field of addiction medicine through compassionate, evidence-based care, and innovative approaches that expand access to treatment. My clinical work focuses on caring for patients with complex substance use disorders, chronic pain, and co-occurring mental health conditions, with an emphasis on meeting patients where they are and supporting long-term recovery.

I am particularly interested in improving systems of care, mentoring the next generation of physicians, and helping shape policies and practices that reduce barriers to treatment and address the stigma surrounding addiction. My goal is to contribute meaningfully to the continued growth and integrity of addiction medicine as a specialty.

Secretary Nominees



Steven Quam, MD

Addiction Medicine Fellow at the University of Minnesota

Steve's biography

Steve is a product of Minnesota. He grew up in the Saint Paul Public School education system and took a sojourn out east before returning to Minnesota to raise a family and practice medicine. He studied English in undergrad at Oberlin College and then worked as a preschool teacher and in outreach at a sexual and domestic violence shelter. Later, working in administration at a large social services nonprofit in Brooklyn made Steve miss more direct connection and led to his turn to medicine. He completed medical school at the University of Pittsburgh where he met his wife and had his first child before moving back to Minnesota for residency. Steve completed his family medicine residency at Allina Health's United Family Medicine program. Steve's love for addiction medicine blossomed in residency. The program often functioned as a resource for the hospital to provide excellent and compassionate addiction care. Steve's mentor in residency, Dr. Joel Giffin, was addiction board certified and was a great early teacher. This exposure to addiction medicine sparked a love for treating addiction and led Steve to the University of Minnesota's Addiction Medicine fellowship.

Why are you interested in joining the MNSAM board?

I turned to medicine as a career because medical providers have both the great honor of providing individual care and the ability to make a systemic impact. This marriage of personal interaction and broad import is unique and something that inspires me as a physician. I treasure the moments I have with patients, but I know that there is only so much that I can do in direct patient care. Time is limited and policies impact our patients both directly and through spill-over effects. MNSAM has an important role to influence Minnesotan policy around addiction care. I want to be part of a collaborative and strategic group that seeks to promote the best addiction care possible across the state.

Treasurer Nominees



Steve Delisi, MD, DABAM, FASAM

CMO at YourPath, Co-Director of UC-Irvine TNT Primary Care Training in Addiction Medicine, Adjunct Faculty- Hazelden Betty Ford Grad School, Med Dir - Steve Rummeler Hope Network

Steve's biography

Dr. Delisi is board certified by both the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and the American Board of Addiction Medicine. Before joining the YourPath team as CMO and President, Dr. Delisi served as a psychiatrist for the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation from 2005-2023. During his time with Hazelden, Dr. Delisi most recently served as Medical Director, Medical Education Services. Prior to that role, he was Medical Director of Professional Education, Training & Consultation, Assistant Dean of the Hazelden Betty Ford Graduate School, and Midwest Regional Medical Director for Recovery Services at Hazelden Betty Ford. Dr. Delisi continues as an Adjunct Professor at the Hazelden Betty Ford Graduate School and as an On-call Medical Trainer. Prior to joining Hazelden Betty Ford, he held positions as Director of Psychiatric Services at Rush Behavioral Health-DuPage and Associate Director of the Psychiatric Residency Program at Rush University Medical Center. Dr. Delisi is a nationally recognized leader, speaker, and consultant on the use of evidence-based, integrated treatments for co-occurring and substance use disorders, as well as the risk conferred by the epigenetic effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences and trauma.

Why are you interested in joining the MNSAM board?

I have been a member of ASAM for over 20 years and a member of MNSAM for over a decade. While my past career roles and positions frequently conflicted with my ability to attend our MNSAM meetings consistently, I am entering what I like to refer as "the final third" of my career. As such, I have pivoted my career away from my FT position at a specialty SUD treatment facility (HBFF) and joined a small and passionate team at YourPath. This, coupled with my role with the SRHN and UC-Irvine, have redefined my work towards a greater focus on teaching and an intersection with peer recovery specialists and RCO's and with Harm Reduction programs in our state. I have much greater flexibility in my weekly schedule (as compared to the many years of on-call and 7-day weeks) and I am more committed than ever to accepting the invitation to serve where I can to support treatment, advocacy, recovery, and harm reduction for our communities. The nomination to serve on the MNSAM board comes at a time when I can respond and serve this wonderful organization that I have been a member of for many years, but for which I have not before served directly.

Treasurer Nominees



Robert "Cole" Pueringer, MD

Medical Toxicologist, Addiction Medicine Specialist, Internist;
Medical Director of the Substance Use and Addiction Care
Program, Essentia Health

Cole's biography

Dr. Robert "Cole" Pueringer is a Medical Toxicologist, Addiction Medicine Specialist, and Hospitalist. He joined Essentia Health in September 2022. He is the Medical Director of the Substance Use and Addiction Care Program at Essentia Health. He completed his medical training in the Twin Cities, including Medical School at the University of Minnesota, Internal Medicine Residency, and Chief Resident year at Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC), Medical Toxicology Fellowship at HealthPartners/HCMC, and Addiction Medicine Fellowship at the University of Minnesota. He received his CTropMed certification for Tropical Medicine & Travelers' Health at the University of Minnesota. His academic interests include medical education, Global Health, and the overlap of Medical Toxicology and Addiction Medicine. He is particularly passionate about addiction/substance use disorder - a disease that has affected most aspects of his own life – and hopes to contribute significantly to substance use treatment, education, de-stigmatization, and harm reduction in Minnesota.

Why are you interested in joining the MNSAM board?

I'd like to expand MNSAM's reach and influence to other parts of MN and be involved in education and advocacy for this disease throughout the state. I'd like to broach the idea of a MNSAM conference. I want to be part of MNSAM's growth.

Vote

President-Elect Candidates

Jeremiah Fairbanks

Secretary Candidates

Robert “Tayler” Bockstruck

Lenore Everson

Steven Quam

Treasurer Candidates

Steve Delisi

Robert “Cole” Pueringer

Voting is open until **May 3** at mnsam.org/2026-elections or the QR code below.

To vote for board members, you must be an active MNSAM member. Each member may only vote once. If you’re not sure of your member status or have any other questions, reach out to MNSAM Administrator, Jeni Huff, at admin@mnsam.org.



Current Board Members Continuing On



Ashwin George, MD

Addiction Medicine Physician, Valley Medical and Wellness

Dr. George has more than a decade's worth of experience working as a hospitalist, managing cancer pain for palliative care patients. He is triple-board-certified in internal medicine, palliative care, and addiction medicine. He co-founded Valley Medical and Wellness in 2014 and currently serves as the company's Chief Executive Officer. He is also an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota Medical School, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Dr. George has served on the MNSAM Board as Secretary and President-Elect, and will begin as President in May. He is also the chair of the advocacy committee.



David Peter, MD, MPH, FASAM

Addiction Medicine and Family Physician, VA

Director of Addiction Medicine Fellowship, University of MN

Dr. Peter is the director for the addiction medicine fellowship at the University of Minnesota and is associate faculty, also working with the Medical Discovery Team on Addiction (MDTA) as a clinical research liaison.

At the VA, he is the Primary Care Pain Champion for the site, helping veterans who have been on chronic opioids taper down or transition to safer alternatives. He also has a substance use disorder clinic within the primary care setting. He is board certified in addiction medicine and family medicine.

Dr. Peter has served on the MNSAM Board and President-Elect and President, and will transition to Past President in May.

Board Members Finishing Terms

*Thank
you!*

Thank you to Dr. Levy and Dr. Laes who are completing their terms on the MNSAM Board this year!



Bob Levy, MD

Dr. Levy has served on the MNSAM Board for 12 years, in every board position.



JoAn Laes, MD

Dr. Laes has served on the MNSAM Board for 4 years, as the secretary and treasurer.