

**UAMS News Bureau**

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**UAMS, AFMC Partner to Provide  
Community Health Worker in Polk County**

FAYETTEVILLE – Alexandria Renault, of Mena, was hired recently through a partnership between the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) and Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care (AFMC) to help people in Polk County navigate the health care system.

As an embedded community health worker, Renault is available to answer basic health care questions and provide education and resources to the public. Community health workers work within their communities to help the public get the care they need and answer essential health care-related questions, such as when someone should see a doctor. They also can provide valuable information about vaccines.

“We are so pleased to work with Alexandria to provide the people of Polk County with a new resource as we enter the next, and hopefully final, stage of the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Stephanie Kruger, associate director of community programs in the UAMS Office of Community Health & Research. “We’re also excited to work with AFMC and the Polk County community as we work to create a better state of health for all people in Arkansas.”

Renault has a passion for helping others and has experience working as a case investigator for COVID-19 patients and as a coach and counselor at a health treatment facility. Renault is working toward a master’s degree in public health, concentrating on epidemiology, from the University of Arizona.

“Being a community health worker means getting resources — especially reliable information about health care services and COVID-19 — to our community by meeting them where they’re at,” Renault said.

To contact Renault with health- or vaccine-related questions, call 501-553-7656.

For more information about the UAMS Community Health Worker project, visit [nwa.uams.edu/chr/chw](http://nwa.uams.edu/chr/chw). For more information about COVID-19, including resources, mobile vaccine events and education, visit [nwa.uams.edu/covid](http://nwa.uams.edu/covid).

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$9,892,799 with 0 percentage financed with non-governmental sources.

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; a hospital; a main campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Translational Research Institute and Institute for Digital Health & Innovation. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise. UAMS is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. *U.S. News & World Report* recognized UAMS Medical Center as a Best Hospital for 2021-22; ranked its ear, nose and throat program among the top 50 nationwide for the third year; and named five areas as high performing — colon cancer surgery, diabetes, hip replacement, knee replacement and stroke. UAMS has 3,047 students, 873 medical residents and fellows, and six dental residents. It is the state's largest public employer with more than 11,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses, Arkansas Children's, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit [www.uams.edu](http://www.uams.edu) or [www.uamshealth.com](http://www.uamshealth.com). Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).

The UAMS Northwest Regional Campus includes 288 medical, pharmacy, nursing and health professions students, 64 medical and pharmacy residents, two sports medicine fellows, and 1,000 community-based faculty. The campus has nine clinics including a student-led clinic and physical, occupational and speech therapy. Faculty conduct research to reduce health disparities. Visit [www.uams.edu](http://www.uams.edu) or [www.uamshealth.com](http://www.uamshealth.com). Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).

AFMC is a private, nonprofit organization focused on improving health and health care through trusted, committed private and public partnerships. Founded on AFMC's mission, our experienced and dedicated leadership team and staff have successfully delivered value to our customers and partners for the past 50 years.

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