

**The Association of State Public Health Nutritionists
Biographical Sketch of Candidates for 2025 Election**

Candidate for the office of: President-Elect

Name: Jami Rokala

Credentials: MS, RDN, LD, CCNP, CFPM, CMP, CLC

Title: Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, Owner/CEO

Agency: Headwaters Nutrition Counseling, LLC



ASPHN Activities:

- Past Chair National Fruit and Vegetable Council
- CACFP Workgroup
- Governance Committee
- Board Member

Briefly describe why you are interested in filling this position:

- I am deeply committed to advancing public health nutrition and fostering impactful collaborations that drive meaningful change. My expertise spans child nutrition, Farm to Early Care initiatives, and educating youth on the importance of healthy eating, reflecting my dedication to ensuring nutrition security and reducing childhood hunger. With years of experience working at state and national levels, I bring a unique blend of strategic leadership, hands-on program implementation, and a passion for innovation. As a Registered Dietitian and CACFP consultant, I have successfully developed and implemented evidence-based programs that address barriers, enhance access to nutritious foods, and positively impact the health and well-being of underserved communities. My ability to unite diverse stakeholders, advocate for policy changes, and deliver measurable results positions me as a strong candidate to lead the Association of State Public Health Nutritionists toward achieving its mission.

Other Related Activities (professional and/or personal):

- Farm to Early Care Curriculum: Designed and implemented a curriculum tailored for Head Start and Early Head Start programs, integrating fresh produce into menus and promoting nutrition education. This initiative has demonstrated improved health outcomes, including reduced BMI in children.
- National Leadership Role: Appointed as a content expert by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics in 2022 to accelerate progress on the Strategic Plan for Nutrition Security and Food Safety, showcasing my leadership and expertise on a national platform.