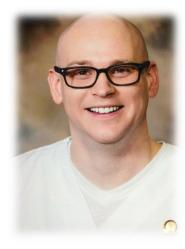
Meet **Dustin Baker** from Ottawa KABC board member since 2020



"I originally became involved with KABC in 2020 after our family suffered the trauma of a nursing home eviction of my grandfather who had dementia and was having difficulty communicating his needs with staff members. It was through the state's Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Camille, who introduced me to Mitzi and Lenette at KABC. After learning our rich history and mission to improve the quality of long-term care for older adults in Kansas, I knew I needed to be a part of the movement. Having spent over twenty years in nursing and healthcare, I have seen first-hand the conditions our seniors face with regard to quality and access to care.

It's why I have made it my life's mission to ensure we allow our seniors to age at home as long as possible.

My vision for KABC's future is to continue to sustain the legacy of Petey Cerf, KABC's founder, lives on. We must not forget our history, purpose and mission of the organization as we continue to grow. Seeing that our voices are being heard on a state and national level. Ensuring our communities have access to highly qualified and trained staff to care for our citizens. Raising the bar on the quality of care that all care homes deliver and ensuring we continue to be the voice for those who feel voiceless."

Dustin has over 20 years of diverse healthcare and nursing expertise. He is the owner of <u>Tallgrass Primary Care & House Calls</u>, a home-based primary care practice servicing the residents of Kansas. He serves as Clinical Faculty for MidAmerica Nazarene University and Johnson County Community College. Dustin volunteers his time leading mission trips twice a year to Guatemala and servicing as a Nurse Practitioner. Dustin received his LPN from Johnson County Community College, ADN from Neosho County Community College, BSN from MidAmerica Nazarene University, and MSN with Family Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Educator focus from Graceland University. He currently serves as the Secretary of KAPN and is the Legislative Chair and Board Member of the Kansas State Nurses Association. He was recently asked to join the Advisory Committee on Adult Care Home Involuntary Discharge Appeals by the Kansas Judicial Council. Dustin has spent many years advocating for APRNs, nurses and the patients he serves at a state and national level, including bringing full practice to Kansas nurses, expanding access to care, and safer work conditions for nurses.