

ARKANSAS

Nathaniel H. Smith, MD, MPH

ASTHO Representative, Region VI

Director and State Health Official, Arkansas Department of Health



As a member of the governor's cabinet, Nate Smith serves as director and state health officer of the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH). In this position, he provides senior scientific and executive leadership for the agency with over 5,000 personnel and a budget of over \$400 million delivering services throughout the state in over 94 different locations. He was selected as interim director in May 2013 by Governor Mike Beebe and then appointed as director in August 2013.

Smith has a strong commitment to the mission of ADH: "To protect and improve the health and well-being of all Arkansans." In his role as director, he strives to help his colleagues achieve their full potential using public health best practices supported by science-based decisions.

Smith has previously served ADH as branch chief for infectious diseases, state epidemiologist, and deputy director for public health programs. He is board-certified in internal medicine and infectious diseases and holds voluntary faculty positions in the division of infectious diseases at the UAMS College of Medicine and in the epidemiology department at the College of Public Health. From July 2006 until he returned to Arkansas in August 2009, Smith served as infectious diseases consultant at Kijabe Hospital, country medical director for the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Kenya, and senior medical technical advisor for the AIDSRelief program in East Africa.