HRSA Program Updates, Rural Health Resources, and Funding Opportunities

Nebraska Rural Health Conference
Kearney, NE
April 24, 2019
HRSA Overview
Overview

- Supports more than 90 programs that provide health care to people who are geographically isolated, economically or medically challenged.

- HRSA does this through grants and cooperative agreements to more than 3,000 awardees, including community and faith-based organizations, colleges and universities, hospitals, state, local, and tribal governments, and private entities.

- Every year, HRSA programs serve tens of millions of people, including people living with HIV/AIDS, pregnant women, mothers and their families, and those otherwise unable to access quality health care.
HRSA Principal Program Areas

- Primary Care
- HIV/AIDS
- Maternal and Child Health
- Health Workforce
- Rural Health
- Healthcare Systems

- Organ Donation
- Maternal Health Initiative
- Hansen's Disease
- Telehealth
- Workforce Training
- Primary Care
- Healthy Start
- Health Centers
- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program
- Women's Health
- Newborn Screening
- Rural Health
- 340B Drug Pricing
- Stop Bullying
- Global HIV/AIDS Program
- Emergency Medical Systems for Children
- National Health Service Corps
- Home Visiting
HRSA Office of Regional Operations (ORO)

Ten Regions - One HRSA

Mission: To improve health equity in underserved communities through on-the-ground outreach, education, technical assistance and partnering with local, state and federal organizations.
When should you contact ORO?

- When you would like to connect with HRSA or HHS programs
- When you have questions about HRSA or HHS programs, data, policies, or resources
- When you are looking for a new type of partner or resource (including funding opportunities)
- When you would like to share information with HRSA to inform decision making or programming
- When you would like HRSA representation at a meeting or event
- Simply to connect!
Priorities
Though opioid abuse and opioid-related death has been on the rise nationally, rural communities face unique challenges:

- Opioid-related overdose deaths in rural areas increased more than 10% from 2015 to 2016.
- Rural residents are most likely to be prescribed, and overdose on, prescription painkillers.
- Rural residents with opioid use disorder tend to be younger, less wealthy and educated, uninsured.
- More than 60% of rural counties lack a single physician that can prescribe buprenorphine, < 10% of opioid treatment programs in rural areas.
How HRSA is Addressing the Opioid Crisis

- Expanding access through health centers and other primary care
- Using telehealth to treat opioid use disorder
- Connecting stakeholders to opioid-related resources
- Sharing best practices and regional approaches
- Increasing opioid use disorder training in primary care
- Informing policy and future investment
- Addressing opioid related poisonings and overdose

https://www.hrsa.gov/opioids
Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America

We have an unprecedented opportunity to end the HIV epidemic in America. Now is the time.

Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is proposing an opportunity to eliminate new HIV infections in our nation. Learn More. (Budget info)

75% reduction in new HIV diagnoses in 5 years and a 90% reduction in 10 years.
HRSA’s Response to Ending the HIV Epidemic

Ending the HIV Epidemic

“We have an unprecedented opportunity to end the HIV epidemic in America.”

George Sigounas, MS, Ph.D.
HRSA Administrator

Ending the HIV Epidemic
Through HRSA’s Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and the HRSA-funded Health Center Program, we will play in a leading role in helping to diagnose, treat, prevent and respond to end the HIV epidemic.
Rural Hospital Toolkit for Transitioning to Value-based Systems

With the support of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, The Rural Hospital Toolkit for Transitioning to Value-based Systems (Toolkit) was developed to disseminate consultant recommended best practices and transition strategies identified through the Small Rural Hospital Transition (SRHT) Project. The Toolkit shares best practices for improving financial, operational and quality performance that position rural hospitals and networks for the future, as well as outlines strategies for transitioning to value-based payment and population health. Rural providers and leaders should use the Toolkit to identify performance improvement opportunities for their hospitals and networks, and develop strategies for successfully transitioning to population health.

- Self-assessment for Transition Planning
- Strategic Planning
- Leadership: Board, Employee and Community Engagement
- Physician and Provider Engagement and Alignment
- Population Health Management
- Financial and Operational Strategies
- Revenue Cycle Management and Business Office (BO) Processes
- Quality Improvement
- Community Care Coordination and Chronic Care Management

https://www.ruralcenter.org/srht/rural-hospital-toolkit
HRSA Investments in Nebraska and Rural Health Funding Opportunities
HRSA Investments in Nebraska

Total Active Grants

- Approximately **$90 million** in total active grants
  - Awarded to **29** grantees through **68** grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Distinct Grant Count</th>
<th>Distinct Grantee Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Workforce Active Grants</td>
<td>$14,675,337</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare Systems Active Grants</td>
<td>$1,195,889</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS Active Grants</td>
<td>$12,457,049</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maternal and Child Health Active Grants</td>
<td>$17,614,846</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Administrator Active Grants</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Health Care Active Grants</td>
<td>$35,818,615</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Health Active Grants</td>
<td>$8,201,140</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: data.HRSA.gov
Rural Counties

Nebraska counties classified as Rural Health Areas for HRSA programs

Source: data.HRSA.gov
Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer

Health care providers who are located in geographic areas that are defined as Rural are eligible to apply for Rural Health Grants. Enter an address or choose a state and county to check for eligibility status.

Search Criteria
Please provide a street address, city, and state or a street address and ZIP Code.

- Street Address:
  - Address

- City:
  - City

- State:
  - State

- ZIP Code:
  - ZIP Code

For more information, contact the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy at 301-443-6835, or see:

- Federal Office of Rural Health Policy
- National listing of eligible counties and census tracts [PDF, 92 KB]
- Definition of Rural Areas
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy
(FORHP)

### Community-Based Division
- Rural Healthcare Outreach Services
- Network Planning & Network Development
- Small Healthcare Provider Quality Improvement
- Rural Health Opioid Program
- Care Coordination
- Benefits Counseling & Allied Health Workforce
- Delta Health Systems
- Black Lung Clinics Program
- Radiation Exposure & Screening Education

### Office for the Advancement of Telehealth
- Telehealth Network Grants
  - Evidence-Based (Emergency Departments)
  - School-Based
  - Rural Child Poverty
  - Substance Abuse
- Telehealth Resource Centers
- Telehealth Research Center
- Telehealth Centers of Excellence
- Flex Rural Veterans Health Access
- Licensure Portability

### Policy and Research Division
- Rural Health Research Centers
- Rural Health Research Gateway
- Rural Health Information Hub
- Rural Policy Analysis
- Rapid Response Data Analysis
- Rural Health Value

### Hospital-State Division
- State Offices of Rural Health
- Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grants
- Small Hospital Improvement Grants
### HRSA Active Rural Grants In Nebraska

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant</td>
<td>- Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Four Corners Health Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Health Network Development Grant</td>
<td>- Oakland Mercy Hospital Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Northern Nebraska Area Health Education Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Health Care Coordination Network Partnership</td>
<td>South East Rural Physicians Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Health Care Provider QI</td>
<td>Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program State Offices of Rural Health</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility</td>
<td>Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Implementation

**Program Purpose**: Support treatment for and prevention of substance use disorder, including opioid abuse in rural communities at the highest risk for substance use disorder.

**Estimated Number of Awards**: Approximately 75 grants

**Estimated Award Amount**: Up to $1,000,000 for the period of performance, subject to the availability of appropriated funds

**Period of Performance**: September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2022 (3 years)

**Eligibility**: Domestic public or private, nonprofit or for-profit entities

- Services must be provided in HRSA-designated rural areas.
- Applicant organization must be part of a consortium.

**Application Due**: May 6, 2019

**Technical Assistance Webinar**
Playback Number: 1-800-839-4845 Passcode: 4321
Telehealth Network Grant

*Forecasted*

- **Program Purpose:** Demonstrate the use of telehealth networks to improve healthcare services for medically underserved populations in urban, rural, and frontier communities.

- **Networks can be used to:**
  - Expand access to, coordinate, and improve the quality of health care services;
  - Improve and expand the training of health care providers; and/or
  - Expand and improve the quality of health information available to health care providers, patients, and their families.

- **Competitive again in 2020**
## Community-Based Program Funding Opportunities

### Competitive Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
<th>FY 2020</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program (Outreach)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Funding applications available Fall 2020. Awards in Summer 2021.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant

- Supports *one year of planning* to develop an integrated healthcare network to address regional or local community health needs.

- Goal is to aid providers in better serving their communities given the changes taking place in health care, as providers move from focusing on the volume of services to focusing on the value of services.

- Focus areas have included:
  - Population Health: Data Analytics/Health Information Technology
  - Alleviating Loss of Local Services and Access to Care: Telehealth
Supports mature networks of rural health care providers and community health partners to integrate administrative, clinical, technological and financial functions to improve access and quality of health care in rural areas.

Focus areas included:
- Implementing telehealth services
- Implementing Health IT and Meaningful Use activities
Community-based grant program aimed towards promoting rural health care services by enhancing and expanding health care delivery in rural communities.

Outreach projects focus on the improvement of access to services, strategies for adapting to changes in the health care environment, and overall enrichment of the respective community’s health.
- Funding can be used to meet a broad range of health care needs from health promotion and disease prevention to expanding oral and mental health services to case management for rural HIV patients.
Where to Find Funding Opportunities
Rural Communities Opioid Response Program
HRSA plans to award ~75 grants, of up to $1 million each, to enhance substance and opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery service delivery in rural communities.

**Apply by May 6**

**HRSA Program Areas**
- Health Centers
- Health Workforce
- HIV/AIDS & Ryan White
- Maternal & Child Health
- National Health Service Corps
- Organ Donation & Transplantation
- Federal Office of Rural Health Policy
- 340B Drug Pricing
- Injury Compensation
- data.HRSA.gov
- American Indian/Alaskan Native
- Poison Help

**News and Announcements**
- HRSA awards over $100 million to improve pregnancy outcomes and reduce infant mortality (3/21/2019)
- APPLY NOW: HRSA’s Federal Office of Rural Health Policy released the NOFO for a new Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Initiative (3/7/2019)

More HRSA News

[www.HRSA.gov](http://www.HRSA.gov)
The Grants.gov Mobile App
Quickly access grant search and notification tools through the Grants.gov Mobile App.

Download on the
App Store
Google Play
Just a reminder........Get Registered!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data Universal Number System (DUNS)</td>
<td>DUNS numbers are required to identify organizations and it tracks how federal grant money is allocated.</td>
<td><a href="http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform">http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System for Award Management (SAM)</td>
<td>Designating an E-business Point of Contact. Registering with SAM is required for organizations to use Grants.gov.</td>
<td><a href="https://www.sam.gov/">https://www.sam.gov/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants.gov</td>
<td>System by which organizations can submit applications for Federal funding.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.grants.gov/">http://www.grants.gov/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Up to 4 weeks
HRSA Funded Resources and Technical Assistance
Vulnerable Rural Hospitals Assistance Program

- **Program Purpose**: Provide targeted in-depth assistance to vulnerable rural hospitals within communities struggling to maintain health care services.
- **Awardee**: Texas A&M
- Serving 5 hospitals onsite and 25 virtually

https://optimizingruralhealth.org/
RURAL HOSPITALS IN FINANCIAL DISTRESS: WHAT WE KNOW AND WHAT TO DO

This webinar will explore the common factors among rural hospitals in financial distress and offer practical advice to address those topics.

WEBINAR INFORMATION

WELCOME TO OPTIMIZING RURAL HEALTH

29 October
KICK OFF WEBINAR
Online Webinar
1 PM CST

Taxonomy of Quality Improvement and Quality Improvement Strategies
Online Webinar
11 AM CST

Improving the quality of health care and assisting rural facilities in improving patient outcomes...

19 February

7 March
Rural Hospitals in Financial Distress: What We Know and What to Do
Online Webinar
12 AM CST

This webinar will explore the common factors among rural hospitals in financial distress and ....
Small Rural Hospital Transitions Project

- Helps small rural hospitals through on-site assistance to bridge gaps between the current health care system and the newly emerging system of health care delivery and payment.
- Targets hospitals with fewer than 50 beds in persistent poverty counties.
- Serves seven hospitals per year.
- Visit Rural Health Innovations for more information.

[www.ruralcenter.org/rhi](http://www.ruralcenter.org/rhi)
Nebraska Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)

263 HPSA Designations:
- Primary Care: 105
- Dental Health: 77
- Mental Health: 81

Green Circle: HPSA Primary Care Points
Red: NHSC Sites
National Health Service Corps (NHSC) & NURSE Corps

**National Health Service Corps**  [https://www.nhsc.hrsa.gov/](https://www.nhsc.hrsa.gov/)
- Provides scholarships and loan repayment to primary care providers in NHSC-eligible disciplines.
- NHSC providers, in turn, commit to serving for at least two years at an [NHSC-approved site](https://www.nhsc.hrsa.gov/) located in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA).

**NURSE Corps**  (*Loan Repayment Program & Scholarship Program*)
- Helps build healthier communities in urban, rural, and frontier areas by supporting nurses and nursing students committed to working in communities with inadequate access to care.

[https://bhw.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/nursecorps](https://bhw.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/nursecorps)
Health Workforce Connector

- Recruit and retain providers free of charge
- Post opportunities
- Matching made easy
- Recruit NHSC and NURSE Corps Participants
- Website: [https://connector.hrsa.gov/connector/](https://connector.hrsa.gov/connector/)
## 2019 VIRTUAL JOB FAIRS

Virtual Job Fairs are online recruitment events that connect job-seeking primary care clinicians with health care delivery sites. Virtual Job Fairs help recruit and retain primary care clinicians at sites located in underserved communities nationwide.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Virtual Job Fairs</th>
<th>Participating Sites</th>
<th>Available Job Openings</th>
<th>Sign up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 26 &amp; 28, 2019 March 5 &amp; 7, 2019 Regional Behavioral Health</td>
<td>NHSC and Nurse Corps-approved clinical facilities with at least one behavioral health vacancy</td>
<td>Medical, Nursing, Dental, Mental/Behavioral Health</td>
<td><a href="http://ow.ly/10pznG">http://ow.ly/10pznG</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22, 2019</td>
<td>NHSC and Nurse Corps-approved clinical facilities with a HSPA score of 14 and above</td>
<td>Medical, Nursing, Dental, Mental/Behavioral Health</td>
<td><a href="http://ow.ly/10pznG">http://ow.ly/10pznG</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 7, 2019</td>
<td>NHSC and Nurse Corps-approved clinical facilities with a HSPA score of 14 and above</td>
<td>Medical, Nursing, Dental, Mental/Behavioral Health</td>
<td><a href="http://ow.ly/10pznG">http://ow.ly/10pznG</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 16, 2019 In Celebration of Corps Community Month</td>
<td>NHSC and Nurse Corps-approved clinical facilities with a HSPA score of 14 and above</td>
<td>Medical, Nursing, Dental, Mental/Behavioral Health</td>
<td><a href="http://ow.ly/10pznG">http://ow.ly/10pznG</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Email VirtualJobFairs@hrsa.gov with questions.

Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub)

- Nation’s rural health information source
  - library of resources
  - coverage of rural issues
  - state guides
  - toolkits
  - program models
  - much more!

- Provides customized assistance
  - By phone: 1.800.270.1898
  - By email: info@ruralhealthinfo.org

www.ruralhealthinfo.org/
What Works in Rural

The Rural Monitor

Rising from the Ashes: How Trauma-Informed Care Nurtures Healing in Rural America
Wildfires. Child abuse. Sexual assault. The negative and ongoing effects of these experiences are the reason communities and medical providers are using an approach called trauma-informed care. This article features ways trauma is understood and treated in a rural community, a Wyoming pediatrician’s clinic, and for nurses providing assault exams.

Making Informed Decisions about Rural EMS
In rural America, many community members do not understand the skill level, training, and availability of the people who answer their 911 calls. The Informed Self-Determination Process helped the community of St. George, Maine learn about their EMS system and created consensus about what EMS would look like in their town.

Find rural project examples in Rural Health Models and Innovations and proven strategies for strong rural programs with Evidence-Based Toolkits like the Rural Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Toolkit.

Learn about issues that impact rural health in RHICub's Topic Guides. Recently updated:

- Rural Mental Health
- Browse all 50+ topics
RHIIhub Evidence-based Toolkits

- Rural Community Health
- Aging in Place
- Access to Care for Rural People with Disabilities
- Care Coordination
- Transportation
- Community Health Workers
- Diabetes Prevention and Management
- Food Access
- Health Networks and Coalitions
- Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
- HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment
- Obesity Prevention
- Oral Health
- Philanthropy
- Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse
- Services Integration
- Tobacco Control and Prevention

Mental Health Toolkit
Discover resources and models to develop rural mental health programs, with a primary focus on adult mental health.
Telehealth Resource Centers

TelehealthResourceCenters.org

2 National Resource Centers

12 Regional Resource Centers
Examples of TRC Technical Assistance

- Help hub sites receive technical assistance on selecting technologies, platforms, and purchasing options that will work for all of its spokes
- Assist with assessing available wireless and broadband strengths in the region
- Collaborate with hub staff on providing training with rural spoke clinics
- Assist hub and spoke sites on understanding telehealth regulations, reimbursement models, and parity laws in states
Telehealth - Centers for Excellence

- Examine the efficacy of telehealth services in rural and urban areas
- Serve as national clearinghouse for telehealth research and resources, including TA
- Collaborate with Telehealth Resource Centers and the Rural Telehealth Research Center
Rural Health Research Gateway

- Free online library with access to research from all 11 federally-funded Rural Health Research Centers

- Use the library to find:
  - rural health research products and journal articles
  - information about the research centers
  - information about individual researchers
  - current research center projects
  - much more!

- Subscribe to Research Alerts
  - Email notifications when new research products are complete
  - Alerts posted on Facebook and Twitter
AIDS Education and Training Centers

Midwest AIDS Education and Training Center
Call for technical assistance or training
Teresa Haro
Email: tharo@uic.edu / Phone #: 312-996-3160

The AIDS Education and Training Center (AETC) Program supports national HIV priorities by building clinician capacity and expertise along the HIV care continuum.

https://aidsetc.org/
Clinical Consultation Center

- HIV/AIDS Care Consultation
  (800) 933-3413
- Perinatal HIV Consultation
  (888) 448-8765
- Hepatitis C Consultation
  (844) 437-4636
- Substance Use Consultation
  (855) 300-3595
- Pre-Exposure/PrEP Consultation
  (855) 448-7737
- Post-Exposure/PEP Consultation
  (888) 448-4911

- Monday-Friday
- 9 am - 8 pm EST
- Some weekends/holidays
- All services are FREE!
- http://nccc.ucsf.edu/
Poison Control Centers

https://poisonhelp.hrsa.gov/
Explore Data and Maps on HRSA’s Health Care Programs

Each year

57,000,000
women and children served through the Maternal and Child Health Title V Block Grant program

In FY2016

17,383
geographic areas, populations, and facilities designated as having too few primary care, dental, and mental health providers

More than

60,000,000
people supported by Federal Office of Rural Health Policy programs in FY2016
Contact Information

Nancy Rios
Deputy Regional Administrator
Office of Regional Operations, Region 7
Health Resources and Services Administration
Email: NRios@hrsa.gov
Phone: 816.426.5206
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To learn more about our agency visit

www.HRSA.gov

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