VRHA News

Application Deadline for 2021/2022 Student Board Reps is Friday!

The VRHA Student Representatives to the Board of Directors are expected to serve as a communication link between the current leaders of VRHA and the future ones. In order to meet this expectation, the students selected will need to interact with both the VRHA Board Members and students in a wide variety of health-related programs. Up to five students will be selected for a one year appointment.

Criteria & Application Form - Due 9/10
**State of Reform Q&A with executive director Beth O’Connor**

In this Q&A, O’Connor discusses health disparities, the need for more robust rural infrastructure to support telehealth expansion, making the insurance market more competitive and the effect of COVID on rural Virginia’s health care workforce.

---

**Virginia News**

**CDC awards Virginia $4.3M to scale up community health workers to support COVID-19 response & recovery**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) awarded more than $4.3 million to the Institute for Public Health Innovation (IPHI), which applied for funding on behalf of the Virginia Department of Health and a host of collaborating partners, to expand the roles and capacity of community health workers (CHWs) in supporting COVID-19 response and recovery in the Commonwealth. The funded effort entitled, Community Health Workers for a Healthy Virginia (CHWs for a Healthy VA), will also explore innovative financing strategies to help build and sustain the CHW workforce long-term.

---

**National News**

**Rural Healthy People 2030 Survey**

The Southwest Rural Health Research Center at Texas A&M University with funding support from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy is conducting a survey as part of Rural Healthy People 2030 – a project designed to understand the most important health priorities for rural Americans. For this survey, they are asking rural health stakeholders – individuals who work in roles aimed at improving the lives and health of rural Americans – to participate by completing the survey at the link below. The study should take about 20 minutes to complete and if you have any questions about this study, please feel free to reach out to Timothy Callaghan at callaghan@tamu.edu.

**Survey Link**

---

**Calendar**

**Overcoming Vaccine Hesitancy in Rural America**  
**September 10, 2021  1:00 pm**

Learn key insights and strategies to addressing vaccine hesitancy in rural communities. Part of NNCC's Nurse-Led Forum for Vaccine Confidence series.
Diversity & Inclusion
In Rural Health Series: Addressing Healthcare Disparities In Hospice Access And Utilization Among Minorities
September 21, 2021    3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Representatives from the Marshall University Minority Health Institute and Hospice of Huntington will present about racial disparities in hospice care.

2021 19th Annual NRHA Rural Health Clinic Conference
September 21-22, 2021

Take advantage of the educational and networking opportunities designed for clinic and hospital professionals and board members serving rural America.

2021 20th Annual NRHA Critical Access Hospital Conference
September 22-24, 2021

2021 Virginia Cancer Conference
September 15, 22, & 29, 2021    9:30 am - 12:30 pm daily

Provides education and training to key stakeholders in the Virginia cancer community. The conference will feature live presentations, breakout rooms, Q&A periods, and networking opportunities.

---

**Resources**

**2020 Census Demographic Data Map Viewer**

Map showing census data at the state and county level, including population density, change, and population over 18 years of age; race and ethnicity alone or in combination; Hispanic origin; and housing data.


Examines consumers' perceptions and sentiments related to COVID-19 booster doses. Identifies concerns related to COVID-19 vaccine confidence, content gaps and information voids, circulating mis- and disinformation, and action steps to take.

---

**Funding Opportunities**

**AAPD Foundation: Access to Care Grants *NEW***

The AAPD (American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry) Foundation is committed to supporting community-based initiatives throughout the United States and its territories that provide Dental Homes to children whose families cannot afford dental care. The Foundation offers Access to Care Grants of up to $20,000 to organizations that effectively demonstrate their ability to provide Dental Homes to children. (The AAPD defines a
Dental Home as the ongoing relationship between the dentist and the patient, inclusive of all aspects of oral healthcare, delivered in a comprehensive, continuously accessible, coordinated, and family-centered way.) Special consideration will be given to initiatives that provide care for children ages eight and younger.

**Application Deadline: October 1, 2021**

**Reeve Foundation Quality of Life Grants** *NEW*

Grants to nonprofit organizations that provide services to improve the daily lives of people with paralysis and their caregivers with projects and initiatives that foster inclusion, community engagement, and health and wellness.

**Application Deadline: October 14, 2021**

**Service Area Competition Funding for Health Center Program (Areas Served with a Project Period Start Date of June 1, 2022)** *NEW*

Funding to provide comprehensive primary healthcare services to an underserved area or population. Areas with a June 1, 2022 project period start date are eligible to apply.

**Application Deadline: November 1, 2021**

**Wrigley Company Foundation Healthier Smiles Grant Program** *NEW*

Provides funding to dental hygienists for projects aimed at improving oral health, increasing access to care in underserved communities, and providing oral health education with strong preventive components.

**Application Deadline: November 1, 2021**

**National Health Service Corps Students to Service Loan Repayment Program** *NEW*

Loan repayment assistance for medical, nursing, physician assistant, and dental students who agree to provide services in eligible Health Professional Shortage Areas of greatest need.

**Application Deadline: November 4, 2021**

**New Models of Integrated HIV/AIDS, Addiction, and Primary Care Services (R01 and R34 Clinical Trial Optional)** *NEW*

Grants for research projects that develop or test innovative models of care which integrate HIV, substance use disorder (SUD) prevention and treatment with primary care services. Research in states and counties identified in the federal Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative, including areas with the highest rural HIV burden, are specifically encouraged.

**Application Deadline: November 18, 2021**

**NIH Extramural Loan Repayment Program** *NEW*

Loan repayment assistance for researchers that are not employed by the NIH. Loan repayment awards are based on an applicant’s potential to build and sustain a research career, not to support specific research.
Virginia Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program *NEW*

Offers a J-1 Visa waiver to foreign physicians who commit to serving for 3 years in an underserved area of Virginia, allowing them to remain in the United States.

Application Deadline: August 31, 2022

Intervening with Cancer Caregivers to Improve Patient Health Outcomes and Optimize Health Care Utilization (R01 and R21) *NEW*

Funding for intervention research designed to support caregivers of adult cancer patients, with the goals of optimized patient healthcare utilization, improved caregiver well-being, and improved patient physical health and psychosocial outcomes. Special consideration is given to studies targeting medically underserved and underrepresented populations, including patients-caregivers in rural areas.

Application Deadline: September 7, 2022

American Rescue Plan Act: Emergency Rural Health Care Grants

Grants to provide emergency funding for eligible Community Facilities applicants to help rural hospitals and local communities increase access to COVID-19 vaccines, testing, healthcare services (including telehealth), and food assistance.

Application Deadline: October 12, 2021

Small Town America Civic Volunteer Award

Monetary awards to recognize extraordinary volunteer service in areas with 25,000 people or less, with a goal of raising awareness of the need for citizens to fill critical civic roles including local government boards and councils, volunteer firefighters, EMTs, and advisory committees that support other key local government functions in small localities.

Application Deadline: October 15, 2021

Community Mobility Ready-to-Launch Grants

Grants and technical assistance to support communities that are ready to take concrete steps toward implementing transportation solutions to help underserved residents become more fully engaged in economic opportunities, improve their health and well-being, and/or become more integrated into their community.

Application Deadline: October 15, 2021

Economic Development Administration American Rescue Plan Funding Programs

Funding to support community-led economic development and to accelerate economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic while building local economies that will be resilient to future economic shocks. Investments made under this program will have an emphasis on equity and will directly benefit previously underserved communities, including indigenous communities, rural areas, and regions with economies that have historically relied on coal mining. Past Economic Development Administration projects
have included infrastructure to support healthcare facilities, health workforce development, and health and human services to assist people with getting jobs.

**Application Deadline: October 19, 2021**

**EMS Leadership Academy and Rural Scholarships**

A two-part, 60-hour leadership program designed to prepare participants to lead and manage EMS agencies. Scholarships are available for rural EMS providers.

**Application Deadline: October 20, 2021**

**NLM Information Resource Grants to Reduce Health Disparities (Go8 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

Funding for projects that use computers, information technology, and health sciences libraries to bring health-related information to consumers and their healthcare providers. The program focus is on innovation and outreach in which information access can reduce health disparities and support underserved communities that bear a disproportionate burden of disease.

**Application Deadline: October 22, 2021**

**National Rural Health Leadership Virtual Residency Program**

A one-year, fee-based virtual leadership training program designed to enhance the skills and ensure the success of new rural health leaders.

**Application Deadline: October 31, 2021**

**Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Grants and Guaranteed Loans**

Financing and grant funding for agriculture producers and rural small businesses to purchase, install, and construct renewable energy systems or complete energy efficiency improvements. An example of a potential project may be the installation of solar panels for hospitals or clinics to improve energy costs.

**Application Deadline: November 1, 2021**

**America's Farmers Grow Communities Project**

Farmers enroll for a chance to direct $5,000 to local nonprofit organizations that are important to them and their communities.

**Application Deadline: November 1, 2021**

**Bloomberg Fellows**

A fellowship for individuals who want to achieve a Master's or PhD degree in Public Health, as well as on-the-ground training and experience. The program is looking for leaders working in the areas of addiction and overdose, environmental challenges, obesity and the food system, risks to adolescent health, and violence.

**Application Deadline: December 1, 2021**
NBCC Foundation Minority Fellowship Program for Addictions Counselors

Fellowships for master's degree-level addictions counseling students from minority backgrounds. For the purpose of this program, minorities include racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, gender, sexual orientation, rural, and military groups.

**Application Deadline: December 15, 2021**

NBCC Minority Fellowship Program for Mental Health Counselors

Fellowships for master's and doctoral degree-level mental health counseling students from minority backgrounds. For the purpose of this program, minorities include racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, gender, sexual orientation, rural, and military groups.

**Application Deadline: December 15, 2021**

The Home Depot Foundation: Community Impact Grants Program

The Home Depot Foundation's Community Impact Grants Program provides support to nonprofit organizations and public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve their communities. The Program focuses on support for organizations that serve veterans in local communities, as well as organizations that serve vulnerable and underserved communities. Grants of up to $5,000 are made in the form of The Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools, materials, or services.

**Requests will be accepted on a rolling basis through Dec 31, 2021**

Clinical and Translational Science Award (UM1 Clinical Trial Optional)

Funding for Clinical and Translational Program Hubs that are expected to develop, demonstrate, and then disseminate solutions to barriers that limit the efficiency and effectiveness of clinical and translational science research. A major interest of the program is improving rural health outcomes and eliminating health disparities.

**Application Deadline: January 26, 2022**

Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (R01, R03, and R21)

Funding for research that seeks to identify, develop, test, evaluate, and/or refine strategies to disseminate and implement evidence-based practices into public health, clinical practice, and community settings. This program is featured in the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences Selected List of Funding Opportunities Relevant to Rural Cancer Control.

**Application Deadline: May 7, 2022**

AHRQ Small Research Grant Program (R03)

Supports different types of health services research projects, including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology. Rural and frontier areas are considered a priority population.

**Application Deadline: July 6, 2022**
**Palliative Care in Home and Community Settings Research (R01 and R21 Clinical Trial Optional)**

Grants to support research aimed at determining needs and best practices for the integration of palliative care into home and community settings. Applications should consider approaches that may be implemented in rural/remote areas, as well as urban areas, and that are sensitive to ethnicities and cultures.

**Application Deadline: September 8, 2022**

**AHRQ Health Services Research Demonstration and Dissemination Grants (R18)**

Supports the dissemination and implementation of research projects related to AHRQ's mission to produce evidence to make healthcare safer, higher quality, more accessible, equitable, and affordable. AHRQ's priorities include an interest in rural and frontier healthcare delivery.

**Application Deadline: September 30, 2022**

**Long-Term Effects of Disasters on Health Care Systems Serving Health Disparity Populations (R01- Clinical Trial Optional)**

Grants for research focused on understanding the long-term effects of natural and/or human-made disasters on healthcare systems serving health disparity populations. Health disparity populations include, but are not limited to, American Indians, Alaska Natives, and underserved rural populations.

**Application Deadline: September 7, 2023**

**Co-infection and Cancer (R01 and R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)**

Grants for research on the roles of co-infection and cancer to inform prevention and treatment strategies for infection-related cancers. Applicants are encouraged to investigate co-infection and its relation to causes of risk among racially/ethnically diverse populations and those from urban and rural areas who are poor and medically underserved, and populations who may have a disproportionate burden of infection-related cancers.

**Application Deadline: January 7, 2023**

**Comprehensive Care for Adults with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus from Populations with Health Disparities (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)**

Funding for research focused on developing and testing strategies that adapt/implement recommended guidelines of comprehensive clinical care for individuals with Type 2 diabetes from health disparity populations.

**Application Deadline: September 7, 2024**

**Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Telehealth Strategies for Individuals with HIV and Substance Use Disorders**

Notice of Special Interest for research to explore and develop telehealth methods and strategies for diagnosis, prevention, treatment, and population analysis in individuals living with HIV and substance use disorder.
Effectiveness of Implementing Sustainable Evidence-Based Mental Health Practices in Low-Resource Settings to Achieve Mental Health Equity for Traditionally Underserved Populations (R01)

Grants for research to develop and test the effectiveness of strategies for implementation and sustainable delivery of evidence-based mental health treatments and services to improve mental health outcomes for underserved populations in under-resourced settings. Under-resourced settings and populations include members of minority groups, other individuals experiencing disparities in mental health outcomes, and people living in a geographic area with a shortage of healthcare services.

Innovative Mental Health Services Research Not Involving Clinical Trials

Funding for innovative research that will inform and support the delivery of high-quality, continuously improving mental health services to benefit individuals with, or at risk for developing, a mental illness. Research on innovative service delivery models that seek to reduce disparities in service access, quality, and outcomes for racial and ethnic minority groups, individuals limited by language or cultural barriers, sexual and gender minorities, individuals living in rural areas, socioeconomically disadvantaged persons, and other underserved groups is encouraged.

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Social, Behavioral, and Economic Impact of COVID-19 in Underserved and Vulnerable Populations

Notice of Special Interest for research in understanding the response to the COVID-19 pandemic to help prepare more effectively for future public health emergencies. Populations that experience health disparities are a particular focus.

The Role of Work in Health Disparities in the U.S. (R01 Clinical Trials Optional)

Grants for innovative population-based research in how work or occupation influences health outcomes and health status among health care disparity populations and how work functions as a social determinant of health.

Southeast Rural Community Assistance Loan Fund Program

Community development loans to local governments, public service authorities, user associations, nonprofit organizations, and other community entities for the development and/or construction of large-scale community projects.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

Quality Payment Program Support for Small, Underserved, and Rural Practices
Customized technical assistance for clinicians in small practices, including those in rural locations, Health Professional Shortage Areas, and Medically Underserved Areas to help them participate and succeed in the Quality Payment Program.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

**The Oak Hill Fund: Women's Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice**

The Oak Hill Fund was established to promote the well-being of mankind through effective and inspiring grantmaking. The Fund’s Women’s Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice program area invests in nonprofit organizations in the southeastern United States (including Virginia) that support the reproductive health and rights of women. The Fund supports efforts to provide, promote, or defend access to safe, affordable reproductive healthcare and services, and to educate policymakers and the public on the importance of reproductive health, rights, and justice to women and families. Letters of inquiry may be submitted throughout the year.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

**Dispensary of Hope Dispensing Site Network**

A national collaborative lead by a nonprofit medication distributor that sources donated medications to assist nonprofit health systems, hospitals, clinics, and pharmacies in serving their patient population, especially individuals experiencing poverty and those that are uninsured.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

**USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program**

Direct USDA loans and/or grants to purchase, construct, enlarge, or improve essential community facilities for healthcare, public safety, education, and public services in rural areas.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

**Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant**

The Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Program provides $10,000 in funding for resident-driven groups in small cities and towns to start the Community Heart & Soul model. Grant funding requires a $10,000 cash match from the participating municipality or a partnering organization.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

**Public Health Student Intern Program**

A one-semester internship experience within one of HRSA's bureaus or offices for students enrolled in a public health program.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

**Zero Suicide Academy**
A 2-day training for senior leaders of healthcare and behavioral healthcare organizations that seek to dramatically reduce suicides among patients in their care.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

### Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program

Funding that provides communities with a source of financing for economic development, housing rehabilitation, public facilities, and physical development projects, including improvements to increase resilience against natural disasters.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.**

### Direct Relief Partnership Network

A partnership program for healthcare facilities that extends medication access to patients who are unable to afford prescriptions, reduces procurement costs of medications and supplies, and leverages resources to foster healthier communities. Partner facilities order online from Direct Relief’s pharmaceutical inventory.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

### Appalachian Community Fund Technical Assistance Grants

Funding for technical assistance needs for community-based organizations that address underlying causes of economic and social distress in the Appalachian region.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.**

### DATA 2000 Waiver Training Payment Program

One-time direct payment of $3,000 to Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics for each eligible provider who possesses a DATA 2000 waiver to prescribe buprenorphine for the treatment of opioid use disorder.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

### Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Training and Mentoring/DATA 2000 Waiver

Training to provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for clinicians in high-need communities. Clinicians who complete the training may be priority applicants for some NHSC loan repayment programs, and qualified disciplines can become eligible for the Loan Repayment Program Continuation Contract MAT Award Enhancement.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

### 3RNET Recruitment and Retention Assistance

Helps health professionals find jobs in rural and underserved areas and assists employers in recruiting and retaining health professionals in rural and underserved areas.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

### CareQuest Executive Director’s Fund
Supports convenings, events, and activities that promote oral health with a focus on reducing oral health disparities and advancing health equity.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

**SEARCH - Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households**

Funding for financially distressed rural communities of less than 2,500 people to assist with feasibility studies, design assistance, and technical assistance on water and waste disposal projects.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.**

**American Electric Power Foundation Grants**

Supports nonprofits working in the areas of hunger, housing, health and safety, human services, education, and the environment in American Electric Power's eleven state service area.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

**Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) J-1 Visa Waiver Program**

Offers a J-1 Visa waiver to foreign physicians who commit to serving for 3 years in rural Appalachian areas, allowing them to remain in the United States.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

**Appalachian Community Fund Technical Assistance Grants**

Funding for technical assistance needs for community-based organizations that address underlying causes of economic and social distress in the Appalachian region.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

**Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Scholarship**

Scholarships for nurse practitioners working in safety-net settings to pursue a post-master's certificate as a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

**Southeast Rural Community Assistance Loan Fund Program**

Community development loans to local governments, public service authorities, user associations, nonprofit organizations, and other community entities for the development and/or construction of large-scale community projects.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

**Virginia AHEC Scholars Program**

A multidisciplinary certificate program for health professions students in Virginia that offers opportunities for hands-on training, experience in rural and underserved communities, and networking with other students and professionals.
Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

**Virginia EMS Scholarship**

Scholarships to support qualified applicants seeking to earn an initial or advanced EMS credential within Virginia.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

**Evidence for Action: Investigator-Initiated Research to Build a Culture of Health**

Grants for research that expands the evidence needed to build a Culture of Health. A Culture of Health is broadly defined as one in which good health and well-being flourish across geographic, demographic, and social sectors; public and private decision making is guided by the goal of fostering equitable communities; and everyone has the opportunity to make choices that lead to healthy lifestyles.

Application Deadline: Accepted on an ongoing basis

**Virtual Living Room - Using Technology to Address the Critical Healthcare Needs of Veterans in Rural Areas**

A grant program that combines rural technology, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs resources, and local support to provide solutions to improve healthcare access for veterans in rural areas.

Application Deadline: Accepted on an ongoing basis

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Pioneering Ideas Brief Proposals**

Grants for innovative projects that are working to build a culture of health, ensuring that everyone has access to the care they need and all families have the opportunity to make healthier choices.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

**Angel Flight East COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment and Vaccine Transport**

A volunteer pilot network that transports personal protective equipment and COVID-19 vaccines for distribution to areas in need.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

**HUD Section 242: Hospital Mortgage Insurance Program**

Loan and mortgage insurance program to help acute care hospital facilities with remodeling, expansion, modernization, equipment, refinancing, and acquisition. Small, rural Critical Access Hospitals are eligible to apply.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

**COVID Tech Connect Smart Device Donation Program**
A smart device donation program for hospitals, care facilities, and hospice centers to allow critically ill COVID-19 patients to connect with their loved ones. Priority is given to those in greatest need, including facilities in rural areas.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

Virginia Rural Health Association
1872 Pratt Drive, Suite 1125
Blacksburg, VA 24060
(540) 231-7993  staff@vrha.org

Unsubscribe