New Episode!
#66 - Faith in Vaccines

VRHA News

2021 Rural Health Voice Conference
Student Presentations

Student presentations are open to everyone!
Conference registration is not required to view.

November 9th
4:30 pm - Dawson Brown, Behavior Change and Rural Health: A Review of the Challenges and Opportunities

5:00 pm - Jasmine Johnson, Social determinants and Obstacles to Healthcare Utilization across the Lifespan (SOUL)

5:30 pm - Kamya Sanjay, Healthcare Provider Perspectives on Telemedicine Care in the Public Library Setting

November 10th

4:30 pm - Veronica Bernacchi, Rural Cancer Survivors’ Perceptions of the Nurse-Patient Telehealth Relationship

5:00 pm - Neha Jain, Implementation of Telemedicine in Rural Libraries

[Zoom Link Here]

Meeting ID: 817 2796 0231
Passcode: 729439

National News

Congressman A. Donald McEachin (VA-04) & Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) introduce bicameral Rural Health Equity Act to establish an Office of Rural Health within the Center for Disease Control

The CDC Office of Rural Health would be tasked with:

- Identifying and improving health disparities and challenges faced by rural communities;
- Serving as the primary point of contact within the CDC on matters pertaining to rural health, and coordinating within the agency to develop and promulgate policies and programs to improve health care and services for rural populations;
- Conducting, coordinating, promoting, and disseminating research regarding public health issues impacting rural populations, including rural minority and LGBTQ+ populations; and
- Administering grants and contracts to provide technical assistance to support activities related to improving health and health care in rural areas.

Biden-Harris Administration Issues Emergency Regulation Requiring COVID-19 Vaccination for Health Care Workers

The Biden-Harris Administration is requiring COVID-19 vaccination of eligible staff at health care facilities that participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The emergency regulation issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today protects those fighting this virus on the front lines while also delivering assurances to individuals and their families that they will be protected when seeking care.
Calendar

**COVID-19 Vaccine Webinar for Rural Communities**  
November 15, 2021  1:00 pm

Intended for community partners and providers working in rural areas, this webinar will offer attendees the opportunity to learn more about federal COVID-19 resources, toolkits, and information. Speakers will include CMS OMH, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and two community partners.

**Telling the Rural Star Stories**  
November 18, 2021  2:00 pm

Beyond the headlines of rural health in 2021 are extraordinary people making rural life better with their never-ending endurance, masterful collaboration, and everyday commitment to the communities they serve. This National Rural Health Day virtual live event introduces you to the real power of rural with moving stories and tributes to 50 Community Stars from 50 States! *(including VRHA Board President Bryan Price!)*

**3rd Annual Rural Oral Health Virtual Conference**  
November 19, 2021  9:00 am - 3:30 pm

This year's topic - Diversity and Inclusion: Addressing the Needs of Marginalized Populations in Rural Communities.

**3rd Annual Rural Health Clinical Congress**  
November 20, 2021

Free multi-topic CME/CE event held in conjunction with National Rural Health Day. Led by a rural health expert moderator. Designed specifically for primary care clinicians serving patients from rural & underserved areas.

**Peer Providers in Various Work Environments Webinar**  
November 23, 2021  2:00 pm

Peer providers are viable, evidence based, stand alone or additions to comprehensive teams that approach struggle interventions. Peer providers can be appropriate for any environment that have people with challenges ranging from substance use, gun violence, domestic violence to mental health experiences.

Resources

**NOSORH Grant Writing Institute: Beyond the Basics**

A four-part, on-demand training series designed to help rural health professionals build on their grant writing and grant management skills.
County by County Plan Year 2022 Insurer Participation in Health Insurance Exchanges

County-level map of the United States showing the projected number of health insurance carriers that will participate in the Health Insurance Exchanges during 2022.

Overdose Response and Linkage to Care: A Roadmap for Health Departments

Shares resources and tools organized around seven strategies for state and local health departments to implement that focus on linking individuals at risk of opioid overdose to care. Includes rural-specific considerations, examples, and resources throughout.

Funding Opportunities

Southern Black Girls and Women's Consortium: Black Girls Dream Fund *NEW*

The Southern Black Girls and Women's Consortium supports the growing movement to improve the quality of Black girls' and women's lives and to empower women to bring about economic, racial, and social justice in the South. The Consortium's Black Girls Dream Fund provides general operating grants to organizations led and informed by black girls and women in selected states. The focus is on organizations that address one or more of the following issues: education, community development, entrepreneurship, health, travel and cultural exposure, and wellness and safety. Applying organizations must have their 501(c)(3) tax exempt status or a fiscal sponsor that is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Application Deadline: November 22, 2021

Sigma/Jonas Philanthropies Collaborative Research Grant *NEW*

Grants for nursing research designed to improve healthcare for the most vulnerable citizens in the United States. Proposals for pilot and developmental research will be accepted. Grants will be given in the areas of environmental health, mental health, rural health, veterans healthcare, and visual health.

Application Deadline: December 1, 2021

American Society of Breast Surgeons Foundation *NEW*

The mission of the American Society of Breast Surgeons Foundation is to improve the standard of care for breast disease patients through its grant funding program. Each year, the Foundation awards grants for research projects and grants related to patient breast care and patient education. Grants are made in the categories of Education, Community Outreach, and Research. Applications for the three grant categories are accepted for projects in the U.S. or other countries. In addition, the Humanism in Medicine Award recognizes an American Society of Breast Surgery member physician in the U.S. or Canada for their compassion and empathy in the delivery of patient care, cultural sensitivity, and competence in scientific endeavors.

Application Deadline: December 13, 2021
National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program *NEW*

Loan repayment assistance for eligible primary healthcare professionals who agree to serve in Health Professional Shortage Areas.

**Application Deadline: December 16, 2021**

**NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program** *NEW*

Loan repayment assistance for medical, nursing, and behavioral/mental health clinicians with specific training and credentials to provide evidence-based substance use disorder treatment in **rural communities** designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas.

**Application Deadline: December 16, 2021**

**NHSC Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Workforce Loan Repayment Program** *NEW*

Loan repayment assistance for eligible clinicians who agree to serve in an approved SUD treatment facility.

**Application Deadline: December 16, 2021**

**Agricultural Safety and Health Achievement Awards** *NEW*

Award program that honors individuals, organizations, and collaborations that have made significant contributions to agricultural safety and health.

**Application Deadline: December 30, 2021**

**NACCHO's Model Practices Award** *NEW*

Recognizes and honors outstanding local health officials and practices in the United States.

**Application Deadline: December 31, 2021**

Emerging Strategies to Improve Health Outcomes for People Aging with HIV: Capacity-Building Provider, Demonstration Sites, & Evaluation Provider *NEW*

This initiative will fund 3 components: a **capacity-building provider, demonstration sites, & evaluation provider**. All will work together using HRSA HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) implementation science framework to: Implement emerging strategies that comprehensively screen & manage comorbidities, geriatric conditions, behavioral health, & psychosocial needs of people 50 years & older with HIV; Assess the uptake & integration of emerging strategies; Understand implementation processes including assessing specific implementation strategies; Understand & document broader contextual factors affecting implementation; Evaluate impact of the emerging strategies; document & disseminate the emerging strategies.

**Application Deadline: January 25, 2022**

**Rural Health Network Development Planning Program** *NEW*
Grants to promote the planning and development of integrated rural healthcare networks in order to achieve efficiencies; expand access to, coordinate, and improve the quality of essential healthcare services; and strengthen the rural healthcare system as a whole.

Application Deadline: January 28, 2022

**Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) *NEW***

Funding for public and nonprofit institutions of higher education to provide training to health professionals at the graduate and postgraduate levels in adolescent and young adult core health disciplines, including medicine, nursing, nutrition, psychology, and social work.

Application Deadline: February 1, 2022

**AmeriCorps Seniors - American Rescue Plan Senior Demonstration Program *NEW***

Funding for for new AmeriCorps Seniors projects that engage adults age 55 and over to support communities as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Rural communities are a priority.

Application Deadline: February 3, 2022

**AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Program & Senior Companion Program Replacement Opportunity *NEW***

Program that engages adults age 55 and over to provide mentorship for children and youth with special or exceptional needs, or who would benefit from the one-one-one attention. AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve an average of 20 hours per week in schools, hospitals, drug treatment centers, correctional institutions, and childcare centers. Rural communities are a priority. The current funding cycle is for replacement programs in specific geographic areas.

Application Deadline: February 3, 2022

**Summer Health Professions Education Program *NEW***

A free summer enrichment program designed to improve access to information and resources for college students interested in the health professions. Eligible students include, but are not limited to, individuals who identify as African American/Black, American Indian and Alaska Native and Hispanic/Latino, and those who are from communities of socioeconomic and educational disadvantage.

Application Deadline: February 5, 2021

**Getting To Zero: Understanding HIV Viral Suppression and Transmission in the United States (R01 Clinical Trial Optional) *NEW***

Grants for projects designed to improve understanding of viral suppression and HIV transmission in the U.S. using population-level epidemiology, tools from data science approaches, and implementation science research.
Certified Rural Health Clinic Professional Course *NEW*

A course designed to teach directors, clinic administrators, and other Rural Health Clinic leaders how to operate a successful Rural Health Clinic. Upon course completion and the attainment of an 80% or higher exam score, participants will earn certification.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans and Loan Guarantees *NEW*

Loans and loan guarantees for the construction, maintenance, improvement, and expansion of telephone service and broadband in rural areas.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

Primary Care Training and Enhancement: Physician Assistant Rural Training Program

Grants to increase the number of primary care physician assistants in rural and underserved settings by implementing longitudinal clinical rotations in primary care and supporting the training and development of preceptors in rural areas.

Application Deadline: December 9, 2021

Graduate Psychology Education Program

Grants to support doctoral-level psychology education and training programs to prepare psychologists to address the behavioral health needs, including opioid use and substance use, in high-need underserved and rural populations.

Application Deadline: December 9, 2021

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part C Early Intervention Services Program: New Geographic Service Areas

Funding to provide, on an ongoing outpatient basis, high quality early intervention services and comprehensive primary care services for individuals with HIV infection in new geographic service areas.

Application Deadline: December 10, 2021

Rural Veterans Health Access Program

Grants for current Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program award recipients in states with certified Critical Access Hospitals to work with providers and other partners to improve access to needed healthcare services and to improve the coordination of care for veterans living in rural areas.

Application Deadline: December 10, 2021

RADx-UP CDCC Community Collaboration Mini-Grant Program
Grants to support community partners working to advance capacity, training, support, and community experience with COVID-19 testing initiatives.

**Application Deadline: December 10, 2021**

**RADx-UP CDCC Rapid Research Pilot Program**

Grants to evaluate the feasibility of implementing emerging COVID-19 testing technologies in underserved communities.

**Application Deadline: December 10, 2021**

**Ending the HIV Epidemic Primary Care HIV Prevention**

Funding for HIV prevention to current Health Center Program operational (H80) grant award recipients located in Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America geographic locations.

**Application Deadline: December 14, 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**

**Circle for Justice Innovations: Strategic Opportunities Support Fund**

Rapid response funding mechanism that issues micro-grants of up to $5K to organizations addressing crises with strategic organizing & advocacy to meet emergency needs in their community. Enables organizations to take advantage of unexpected opportunities for organizing & advocacy that may be prohibitive due to a small funding gap. Must have budgets under $750K and be led by & serve formerly incarcerated people & families of those impacted by excessive policing, the criminal legal system, and/or the immigration system.

**Application Deadline: December 17, 2021**

**Rural Residency Planning and Development Program**

Grants to develop newly accredited, sustainable rural residency programs in family medicine, internal medicine, public health, general preventive medicine, psychiatry, general surgery, and obstetrics/gynecology. The overall goal of the program is to support expansion of the **physician workforce in rural communities**.
**Application Deadline: December 20, 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.

**Application Deadline: December 31, 2021**

**Health Center Controlled Networks**

Grants to support Health Center Controlled Networks to advance the adoption and meaningful use of health information technology strategies and to leverage technology to deliver high-quality, culturally competent, equitable, and comprehensive primary healthcare.

**Application Deadline: January 4, 2022**

**Family-to-Family Health Information Centers**

Funding for new and existing Family-to-Family Health Information Centers that provide information, education, technical assistance, and peer support to families of children and youth with special healthcare needs and the professionals who serve them. A focus of the program is to advance health equity by reaching territories, tribal regions, and other diverse, underserved communities, including rural areas.

**Application Deadline: January 5, 2022**

**AmeriCorps State and National Grants**

Funding for programs that are designed to strengthen communities and solve local problems, including those found in rural and underserved areas. Funding priorities include COVID-19 response and recovery, education, environmental health, and rural intermediary organizations.

**Application Deadline: January 5, 2022**

**Rural Communities Opioid Response Program - Implementation**

Grants to strengthen and expand substance use disorder/opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery service delivery in high-risk rural communities.

**Application Deadline: January 13, 2022**

**Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP)**

Funding for accredited schools of nursing to establish and/or operate a student loan fund. Grantees will loan money to students, and up to 85% of each loan may be forgiven upon completion of up to 4 years of full-time employment as a faculty member in an accredited school of nursing.
Application Deadline: January 13, 2022

**CDC Public Health Associate Program (PHAP)**

Announces an experiential learning opportunity for early-career public health professionals through the Public Health Associate Program (PHAP). Provides information on the academic and work requirements for the associate program and application information. The 2022 application cycle will be open January 17-24.

**Social and Behavioral Intervention Research to Address Modifiable Risk Factors for Cancer in Rural Populations (R01 Clinical Trial Required)**

Funding to develop, adapt, and test interventions to address risk factors for cancer in rural populations. Applications should focus on primary prevention and assess and address one or more of the social and behavioral risk factors that contribute to cancer disparities in rural populations: tobacco use; diet, physical activity and weight; alcohol use; UV exposure; and HPV vaccination.

Application Deadline: January 18, 2022

**Truth Initiative Tobacco/Vape-Free College Program**

Grants and technical assistance for minority-serving institutions and community colleges to support the adoption and implementation of a 100% tobacco/vape-free college-wide policy by December, 2023. Colleges that were early adopters of 100% smoke or tobacco-free policies may also apply to include e-cigarettes.

Application Deadline: January 20, 2022

**Virginia Health Access Grants**

Funding for projects to increase access to healthcare for uninsured Virginians and those who live in areas with limited access to care.

Concept Paper Due (Required) January 24, 2022
Application Deadline: March 11, 2022

**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

**REAP Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Program**

Grants for intermediary organizations to assist rural small businesses (including healthcare facilities) and agricultural producers by conducting and promoting energy audits and providing renewable energy development assistance.

Application Deadline: January 31, 2022

**State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)**
Grants to states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Territories to assist them in operating their own state educational loan repayment programs for primary care providers working in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) within their state.

**Application Deadline: April 8, 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**

**Pilot Practice-based Research for Primary Care Suicide Prevention (R34 Clinical Trial Optional)**

Grants to support evaluations of factors that impact or account for the effectiveness of existing suicide prevention practices and/or pilot clinical trials that develop, optimize, and pilot test interventions and service delivery approaches at key intercepts in the chain of care. Research that seeks to reduce disparities 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.

**Application Deadline: June 21, 2022**

**Research on Biopsychosocial Factors of Social Connectedness and Isolation on Health, Well Being, Illness, and Recovery (R01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed)**

Grants for research projects that examine how social isolation and social connectedness affect outcomes in health, illness, recovery, and overall well being.

**Application Deadline: June 21, 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**

**Virginia Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program**

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)**
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

**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

**Tobacco Control Policies to Promote Health Equity (R01 and R21 Clinical Trial Optional)**

Funding for observational or intervention research focused on reducing disparities in tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure. Populations of focus include older individuals, black Americans, Hispanics, people with low socioeconomic status, and people living outside metropolitan areas.

Application Deadline: September 8, 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.

**Application Deadline: September 7, 2024**

**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.

**Application Deadline: September 7, 2024**

**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.

**Application Deadline: September 7, 2024**

**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.
Application Deadline: September 8, 2024

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.

Application Deadline: September 8, 2024

For ongoing funding opportunities, visit our website

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