Virginia News

Maternal Health a Priority in New Virginia State Rural Health Plan

Virginia’s State Rural Health Plan was approved last week, after months of meetings with community members & analyzing data to assess regional healthcare needs. The five-year strategic blueprint has new emphasis on boosting support for healthy moms & babies. State Office of Rural Health director Heather Anderson & her team created the action plan & presented parts of it at the Rural Health Voice Conference in November. Anderson said helping pregnant women is a high priority, because many rural communities she met with say they do not have OB/GYN or birthing services.
SAMHSA Announces Unprecedented $30 Million Harm Reduction Grant Funding Opportunity to Help Address the Nation’s Substance Use and Overdose Epidemic

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is now accepting applications for the first-ever SAMHSA Harm Reduction grant program and expects to issue $30 million in grant awards. This funding, authorized by the American Rescue Plan, will help increase access to a range of community harm reduction services and support harm reduction service providers as they work to help prevent overdose deaths and reduce health risks often associated with drug use. SAMHSA will accept applications from State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments, Tribal organizations, non-profit community-based organizations, and primary and behavioral health organizations.

Calendar

**Mental Health First Aid Training**
January 7, 2022  6-8 pm & January 8, 2022  9 am - 12 pm  
(Virtual)

Recover Fest 2021 organizers in partnership with the Virginia Rural Health Association is inviting the community to a **FREE** Mental Health First Aid Training. This event is open to those of all ages and from all walks of life, with our focus being on Virginia residents. Internet access is needed, and it is preferred that cameras are on during the training.

**Vaccines in Rural America: A Cornerstone of Patient Care Webinar**
December 15, 2021   3:00 pm  
(Virtual)

Join Wanda Filer, MD, MBA, FAAFP, who will present proven and new strategies to overcome hesitancy in vaccines and ensure communities are fully protected against all vaccine-preventable illnesses.

**32nd Annual National Leadership Forum & SAMHSA's 18th Prevention Day**
January 31 - February 3, 2022   National Harbor, MD

Conference packed with multiple adult & youth-oriented opportunities to learn the latest strategies to fight substance misuse & hear from nationally-known experts & policymakers. Brings together more than 2,700 participants representing anti-drug coalitions, government leaders, youth, addiction treatment professionals, researchers, educators, law enforcement professionals, youth & faith-based leaders.

**AHA Rural Health Care Leadership Conference**
February 6-9, 2022   Phoenix, AZ

The Rural Health Care Leadership Conference brings together top practitioners & thinkers to share strategies & resources for accelerating the shift to a more integrated & sustainable
Examine the most significant operational, financial & environmental challenges including the post-pandemic impact on rural hospitals & their communities, & present innovative approaches to transform your organization’s care delivery model & business practices.

**Rural Health Policy Institute**
**February 8-10, 2022   Washington, D.C.**

NRHA’s 33rd Annual Rural Health Policy Institute is your chance to guide the future of rural health policy with NRHA leadership & advocate for issues you care about with new & returning members of Congress & the administration.

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**Resources**

**Rural Response to Farmer Mental Health & Suicide Prevention**

This recently updated topic guide features new resources and up-to-date information on mental health and suicide prevention in rural farmers.

**Down on the Farm Training Kit**

Provides materials for a 3-hour workshop to teach people in agricultural communities to recognize and respond in cases when a farmer or farm family member may require help. Offers a PowerPoint slide deck and facilitator’s guide.

**Reaching People with HIV (PWH) in Rural United States**

Infographic describing challenges related to HIV screening and care in rural areas. Highlights strategies to address barriers to care, including telehealth HIV care delivery, investing in transportation initiatives, and minimizing stigma and denial.

**Trans*Forming Access and Care in Rural Areas: A Community-Engaged Approach**

Article exploring the healthcare experiences and barriers to accessing services for rural transgender and gender diverse (TGD) populations based on qualitative data gathered in Appalachia. Describes the limited research on TGD populations and health and barriers to care including transportation, gender-affirming care access, provider knowledge and inclusivity, and avoidance of care.

**Applications for the Virginia Rural Center Inaugural Virginia Rural Leadership Institute (VRLI) are now OPEN!**

The Rural Leadership Institute (RLI) is a rural leadership program that develops and supports highly-skilled, highly-motivated leaders who are committed revitalizing their communities across the Commonwealth. RLI addresses the need for high-quality, professional leadership and economic development training that equips community leaders with the skills they need to lead long-term economic advancement in their community and region. The program also seeks to increase cooperation, collaboration, and
coordination across a broad array of organizations and sectors. Each training session will accept up to 30 applicants. Applications due March 15, 2022.

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**Funding Opportunities**

**Bob Woodruff Foundation Grant Program** *NEW*

Supports nonprofit organizations that offer programs to help service members, veterans, & their families & caregivers thrive. The Foundation focuses on innovative programs that produce measurable outcomes that best meet emerging & long-term needs. Priority is given to programs that 1) improve social determinants of health; 2) decrease barriers to accessing physical & mental healthcare; 3) increase accessibility to programming that fosters a healthy lifestyle; & 4) enhance opportunities for veterans to thrive after service.

**Application Deadline: January 7, 2022**

**Clinical Workforce Development Training, Technical Assistance, and Learning Collaboratives for FQHCs** *NEW*

Training, technical assistance, and learning collaboratives for Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and FQHC look-alikes in the areas of comprehensive primary clinical care teams, HIV prevention, sustainable training models, and postgraduate residency and fellowship programs.

**Application Deadline: January 14, 2022**

**Harm Reduction Grant Program** *NEW*

Grants to support community-based, trauma-informed overdose prevention programs, syringe services programs, and other harm reduction services. Priority populations include rural communities, LGBTQ+, and/or racial and ethnic minorities.

**Application Deadline: February 7, 2022**

**Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention-Mobile Health Training Program (NEPQR-MHTP)** *NEW*

Funding to expand experiential training opportunities for nurses through nurse-led mobile health training sites, with the goal of strengthening nursing workforce to provide quality culturally aligned care in rural and underserved areas.

**Application Deadline: February 22, 2022**

**New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) Program**

Tax incentives for investments in business and economic development projects in distressed rural and urban counties, including capital investments in healthcare facilities. Investors give to Community Development Entities who then offer low-interest financing to businesses; in return for their investment, investors receive a tax credit against their federal income tax.
Application Deadline: January 13, 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

**COPIC Medical Foundation**

COPIC Medical Foundation supports nonprofits that address healthcare issues in the United States. The goal of the Foundation is to be a catalyst in improving the quality of healthcare delivery by reducing adverse outcomes & supporting innovation. COPIC provides grants for initiatives that improve safety & quality of care through education & training of health professionals or through systems changes & improvements, pilot programs designed to reduce medical errors, & the development & implementation of checklists & other tools to improve disease management & transitions in care.

Application Deadline: January 14, 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.
**YouthBuild Grants**

Grants to organizations providing pre-apprenticeship services that support education, occupational skills training, and employment services for at-risk youth, ages 16 to 24, while performing meaningful work and service to their communities. The YouthBuild program model contains wrap-around services such as mentoring, trauma-informed care, personal counseling, and employment.

**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**

**Regional Public Health Training Centers Program**

Grants to support Regional Public Health Training Centers designed to increase the number of individuals in the public health workforce; enhance the quality of the workforce; and improve the ability of the workforce to meet national, state, and local healthcare needs.

**Application Deadline: January 24, 2022**

**Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Resident Grants Program**

Grants to support pediatric residents in the planning of community-based child health initiatives that increase children’s access to optimal health and well-being and address unmet child health needs.

**Application Deadline: January 24, 2022**

**Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Planning and Implementation Grants**

Funding to support pediatricians and fellowship trainees in the initial planning and/or pilot stage of implementing innovative, community-based projects to increase children’s access to optimal health and well-being and address unmet child health needs.

**Application Deadline: January 24, 2022**

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

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**

**Empowering Communities to Address Behavioral Health and Chronic Pain through Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Programs**

Funding to help communities develop and support chronic disease self-management programs for older adults and adults with disabilities, particularly those in **underserved geographic areas and/or populations**.

**Application Deadline: January 25, 2022**

**Empowering Communities to Deliver and Sustain Evidence-Based Falls Prevention Programs**

Funding to help communities reduce falls and/or falls risk among older adults and adults with disabilities through the implementation of evidence-based falls prevention programs.

**Application Deadline: January 25, 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**

**Rural Health Network Development Planning Program**

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**

**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**

**Racial Equity in Postpartum Care Challenge: Innovative Methods to Improve Postpartum Care for Black or African American and American Indian/Alaska Native Women**

A prize competition to identify effective programs that can **address equity of postpartum care** for Black or African American and American Indian/Alaska Native
beneficiaries enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP. An emphasis is on follow-up care for conditions associated with morbidity and mortality in the later postpartum period, including diabetes, postpartum depression, postpartum anxiety, hypertension, and substance use disorders.

**Application Deadline: January 31, 2022**

**Grants to States to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities**

Offers funding to states to develop and implement programs that address the dental workforce needs of designated **Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas**.

**Application Deadline: January 31, 2022**

**American Psychiatric Association Diversity Leadership Fellowship**

A 2-year fellowship for **minority psychiatry residents or those interested in minority and vulnerable populations**. Activities are designed to prepare residents to teach, administer, and provide culturally competent, evidence based mental health and substance abuse services for diverse minority groups and at-risk populations. Populations include American Indians, Native Alaskans, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, Native Pacific Islanders, Black/African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, LGBTQ, and religious minorities.

**Application Deadline: January 31, 2022**

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

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**

Funding 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**

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**
**Research Grants to Prevent Firearm-Related Violence and Injuries (R01)**

Grants for research to understand and prevent firearm-related injuries, deaths, and crime, including firearm suicide and self-harm in rural areas.

**Application Deadline: February 4, 2022**

**Summer Health Professions Education Program**

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**

**Predoctoral Training in General, Pediatric, and Public Health Dentistry and Dental Hygiene**

Awards funding to plan, develop, and operate predoctoral training programs in dentistry and dental hygiene for dental and dental hygiene students that address enhancing pediatric training to support improved access to oral health care for vulnerable, underserved, or rural communities.

**Application Deadline: February 7, 2022**

**Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program**

The U.S Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will provide funding for nonprofit organizations and consumer cooperatives that provide supportive services for very low-income veterans and their families. Grants of up to $2 million each will be equitably distributed across geographic regions, including rural communities and tribal lands.

**Application Deadline: February 7, 2022**

**Dental Clinician Educator Career Development Program**

Grants to strengthen the primary care workforce by supporting the academic career development of faculty who teach primary care dentistry or focus their teaching on the integration of oral health in family medicine, general internal medicine, or general pediatrics. Training for rural practices and addressing social determinants of health are two of the program’s focus areas.

**Application Deadline: February 14, 2022**

**SAMHSA Minority Fellowship**

A 1-year fellowship for psychiatry residents who are interested in addressing minority psychiatric mental health issues and committed to a career providing culturally sensitive psychiatric services for minority underserved populations. African Americans, Alaska Natives, American Indians, Asian-Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders are encouraged to apply.

**Application Deadline: February 14, 2022**
Home Visiting Research and Development Platform

The purpose of this program is to support a practice-based research network (PBRN) that engages in scientific collaboration and innovative research. Research conducted through this program should increase the evidence base for and strengthen the capacity of home visiting programs to measurably improve family health and well-being outcomes and improve equity in access to services and in family and community outcomes.

Application Deadline: February 22, 2022

Rural eConnectivity Broadband Loan & Grant Program (ReConnect)

Loans, grants, and loan/grant combinations to expand broadband service to rural areas without sufficient broadband access.

Application Deadline: February 22, 2022

NIH HEAL Initiative: Preventing Opioid Misuse and Co-Occurring Conditions by Intervening on Social Determinants (R01 Clinical Trials Optional)

Funding for research that will help to build an evidence base for multi-level interventions that affect social conditions and opioid misuse. Projects should seek to reduce health inequities in a population or population subgroup affected by the opioid crisis.

Application Deadline: March 2, 2022

Rural Health Care Program – Healthcare Connect Fund

Provides assistance to healthcare providers for eligible expenses related to broadband connectivity at a flat discounted rate of 65%. Participants can apply as a member of a consortium or a stand-alone entity.

Application Deadline: April 1, 2022

Rural Health Care Telecommunications (Telecom) Program

Assistance to healthcare providers for eligible expenses related to telecommunications and voice services for the use of telemedicine and telehealth.

Application Deadline: April 1, 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**

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

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.

**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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