VRHA News

**VRHA Partners with the Virginia Public Health Association for Annual Conference & Research Day**

The 2022 VPHA Conference & Research Day, "Rural Health in Virginia: Food Insecurity, Health Equity, Rural Education, Healthcare Access" will include speakers, networking opportunities, and poster presentations. Keynote speaker is VRHA Executive Director, Beth O'Connor. The conference will be held on Saturday, March 26th from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA. Virtual participation also available.

Discount registration rate available for VRHA members!

Only $35/person!
Virginia News

Legislative Alert

The following bills have been introduced which may have an impact on rural health:

**HB 318 Peer Recovery Support Fund; established.**

Establishes the Peer Recovery Support Fund to provide payment for the cost of peer-to-peer substance abuse recovery support services provided by individuals other than state or local government employees. The bill requires 10 percent of the net profits of the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority derived from the sale of marijuana be appropriated to the Fund in the general appropriation act. The bill also directs the Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to develop regulations setting forth criteria for payments for peer-to-peer substance abuse recovery support services provided by individuals other than state or local government employees from the Fund.

**HB 192 Opioids; repeals sunset provisions relating to prescriber requesting information about a patient.**

Repeals sunset provisions for the requirement that a prescriber registered with the Prescription Monitoring Program request information about a patient from the Program.
upon initiating a new course of treatment that includes the prescribing of opioids anticipated, at the onset of treatment, to last more than seven consecutive days.

**HB 235 Hospitals; protocols for patients receiving rehabilitation services.**

Requires every hospital that provides rehabilitation services to make arrangements for all necessary follow-up care for a patient prior to discharging such patient, including scheduling initial appointments for any follow-up care and providing the patient with the names and contact information for each provider and information regarding each scheduled appointments.

**HB 285 Clinical nurse specialist; practice agreements.**

Provides that a nurse practitioner licensed by the Boards of Medicine & Nursing in the category of clinical nurse specialist who does not prescribe controlled substances or devices may practice in the practice category in which he is certified & licensed without a written or electronic practice agreement, provided that he (1) only practice within the scope of his clinical & professional training & limits of his knowledge & experience & consistent with the applicable standards of care (2) consult & collaborate with other providers based on the clinical condition of the patient to whom health care is provided, & (3) establish a plan for referral of complex medical cases & emergencies to physicians or other appropriate providers. The bill also provides that a nurse practitioner licensed by the Boards in the category of clinical nurse specialist who prescribes controlled substances or devices shall practice in consultation with a licensed physician in accordance with a practice agreement between the nurse practitioner & physician.

**HB 1245 Nurse practitioners; practice without a practice agreement, repeals sunset provision.**

Repeals the sunset provision on the bill passed in 2021 that reduces from five to two the number of years of full-time clinical experience a nurse practitioner must have to be eligible to practice without a written or electronic practice agreement.

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**Virginia Medicaid Removes Prior Authorizations for Hepatitis C Treatment**

Viral hepatitis rates have been rising in Virginia and across the U.S. for years, despite the availability of curative treatment. In 2020, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention updated their hepatitis C screening guidelines to recommend that ALL adults get screened at least once, and those at risk to be screened regularly.

Now, Virginia Medicaid has removed prior authorizations for preferred treatments Mavyret and sofosbuvir/velpatasvir (generic Epclusa) as of January 1st. However, most prescriptions must still be dispensed through a specialty pharmacy.

Encourage your community to get tested, get treated, get CURED. Here’s how you can help:

- If you’re a provider interested in prescribing hepatitis C treatment or you’re a patient interested in receiving treatment, visit [www.virginiahepc.com](http://www.virginiahepc.com)
• If you’re interested in eliminating viral hepatitis in Virginia, join the Virginia Hepatitis Coalition at www.vahep.org

Calendar

**NARHC 2022 Spring Institute**  
**March 14-16, 2022**   **San Antonio, TX**

NARHC Institutes educate and inform the Rural Health Clinic professional community about ever-changing RHC policies and procedures.

**Virginia Public Health Association Annual Conference & Research Day**  
**March 26, 2022**   **Blacksburg, VA**

VPHA is partnering with the Virginia Rural Health Association this year to focus on rural health in Virginia. The day will include speakers, networking opportunities, and poster presentations. Conference will be held from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm at Virginia Tech.

**National Virtual Rural EMS & Care Conference 2022**  
**April 19-21, 2022**   **Virtual**

Invited attendees include rural ambulance services, rural EMS directors, medical directors and officers, rural health care providers, ambulatory agencies and staff, state EMS officials, state rural health officials, hospital administrators, federal agency officials, and State Offices of Rural Health.

**Mid-Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center (MATRC) Telehealth Summit**  
**April 24-26, 2022**   **Concord, NC (Virtual option available)**


Resources

**A New Era of Health Literacy? Expanded Definitions, Digital Influences, and Rural Inequities**

Explores rural challenges to accessing health information that is clear and usable, with insights from experts. Describes recently expanded definitions of health literacy. Discusses digital health literacy and the importance of broadband access and digital health tools for rural residents.

**HRSA Rural Health Clinic COVID-19 Test Kit Program**

This program aims to have RHCs distribute COVID-19 over-the-counter testing kits to their patients and communities. RHCs simply send an email expressing interest in the program, and HRSA will walk them through the registration process. Participants will
receive a direct shipment of the test kits to their facility. RHCs must meet these requirements to participate.

**Healthy Aging in Rural Towns (HeART) Toolkit**

A toolkit for community leaders in rural areas that contains resources to conduct needs-and-assets assessments and develop strategies to strengthen community supports for aging adults. Offers 10 modules focused on planning, data collection and analysis, developing strategies, and building coalition and community support.

**Virginia Rural Health Plan 2022-2026**

Identifies key objectives and priorities for rural health in Virginia including broadband access, healthy housing, transportation, nutrition and food security, maternal and child health, access to healthcare services, behavioral health, aging in place, and workforce development. Features statistics with breakdowns by rural and nonrural areas.

**Virginia Department of Health Data Commons**

Tool providing opportunities to explore current data insights in Virginia regions, communities, or neighborhoods. Features the Virginia State Office of Rural Health's seven priority metrics, to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the overall health and well-being of Virginia's rural communities.

**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.

**Funding Opportunities**

**NIMHD Health Disparities Research Institute** *NEW*

An intensive training experience to support the career development of promising minority health/health disparities research scientists early in their careers and to stimulate research in the disciplines supported by health disparities science.

**Application Deadline: March 14, 2022**

**Virginia Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (RS AF) Grant Program** *NEW*

Matching grants for Virginia EMS agencies and organizations for equipment, vehicles, training, education, recruitment, and retention projects.
Social Determinants of Health Academy Innovations Showcase Competition *NEW*

An interactive training opportunity that incorporates an element of competition for health centers to showcase their innovations that support the role of health centers in creating individual and systemic changes that address social determinants of health (SDOH) and improve the health of their communities.

Application Deadline: March 18, 2022

Community Innovations for Racial Equity *NEW*

Community Innovations for Racial Equity is an 18-month program available for up to ten eligible BIPOC-led CDCs motivated to engage healthcare partners to advance racial equity. A priority will be given to rural, tribal, and small- to mid-size communities that have been marginalized and have had less access to resources. Selected organizations will be awarded up to $40,000 to support staff or a consultant to lead healthcare engagement, $60,000 of in-kind technical support provided by the BHPN, and facilitated connections to a national network of peer support.

Application Deadline: March 18, 2022

AARP Community Challenge *NEW*

The 2022 AARP Community Challenge grant program will support quick-action projects that can help communities become more livable for people of all ages. Nonprofit organizations and government agencies may apply for grants for community-based projects to improve public spaces; housing; transportation; civic engagement; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and more. Priority will be given to projects that support residents age 50 or over, are inclusive, address disparities, and directly engage volunteers. Grants can range from several hundred dollars for smaller short-term activities to tens of thousands of dollars for larger projects.

Application Deadline: March 22, 2022

Health Information Outreach Award: Region 1 *NEW*

Funding for projects in Network of the National Library of Medicine Region 1 that improve health literacy; increase the ability of the general public to find and use health information; or improve health professionals' access to, awareness of, and skills for locating high quality biomedical and health information.

Application Deadline: March 28, 2022

TechQuity Project Award *NEW*

Funding for projects in Network of the National Library of Medicine Region 1 to purchase technology and provide online resource training that will improve health, and digital equity to underserved communities impacted by the digital divide.

Application Deadline: March 28, 2022

National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) Diversity Scholarships *NEW*
Scholarships for students of color who do not hold an EMS certification but who intend to become an EMT or paramedic. The overall goal of the scholarship program is to promote the development of greater diversity in the EMS workforce so that the workforce reflects the communities they serve.

**Application Deadline: March 31, 2022**

**Sun Life Team Up Against Diabetes** *NEW*

The Sun Life Team Up Against Diabetes grant program is dedicated to addressing the prevention of diabetes and its related complications. Grants are provided to nonprofit organizations throughout the United States and Canada that focus on the following areas: diabetes prevention, awareness, education, and care; diabetes management; recovery and support from diabetes-related complications; obesity prevention; and nutritional programs, including education, management, and awareness. Grants of $25,000, $50,000, or $100,000 will be provided.

**Application Deadline: March 31, 2022**

**Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education (THCGME) Program** *NEW*

Funding to support the training of residents in new or expanded primary care residency training programs in community-based ambulatory patient care centers.

**Application Deadline: March 31, 2022**

**Gamma Mu Foundation** *NEW*

The mission of the Gamma Mu Foundation is to make a positive difference in the lives of the LGBT community, primarily in rural and other underserved populations of the United States. The Foundation's vision is the creation of an environment that promotes health, acceptance, and pride in the LGBT community and a more accepting and inclusive environment for people regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Grants are awarded in the following program areas: HIV/AIDS Services, Community Services, and Research and Public Education.

**Application Deadline: March 31, 2022**

**Services Grant Program for Residential Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum Women (PPW)** *NEW*

Grants to expand comprehensive treatment, prevention, harm reduction, and recovery support services for low-income women, their children, and families across a continuum of specialty substance use disorder (SUD) residential and outpatient levels of care.

**Application Deadline: April 4, 2022**

**Targeted Capacity Expansion: Special Projects** *NEW*

Funding to develop and implement evidence-based, targeted strategies for substance use disorder treatment to address a specific population or area of focus identified by a community.

**Application Deadline: April 4, 2022**
Evaluating the Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic-Related Food and Housing Policies and Programs on Health Outcomes in Health Disparity Populations *(R01 Clinical Trial Optional) *NEW*

Funding for research to identify and evaluate the ongoing and long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing specifically on governmental (local, state, tribal, federal) policy and programmatic actions that address two specific social determinants of health: food/nutrition security and housing security. Projects should examine how these food/nutrition and housing policies and programs aimed at lessening the effects of the pandemic impacted health and health equity in individuals, families, and communities from health disparity populations.

**Application Deadline: April 7, 2022**

**Small, Rural School Achievement Grant Program *NEW***

Funding for small, rural Local Education Agencies for initiatives aimed at improving student academic achievement. Activities may include drug prevention, violence prevention, school-based health services, and other health-related programs.

**Application Deadline: April 15, 2022**

**Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) *NEW***

Funding to help nonprofit housing and community development intermediary organizations support housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas.

**Application Deadline: April 19, 2022**

**Stand Down Grants *NEW***

Provides funding for events that offer homeless veteran populations a variety of social services designed to help them to reintegrate into their communities, such as housing, healthcare, and employment opportunities.

**Application Deadline: December 31, 2022**

**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**

**Direct Assistance: Assigning CDC Staff to State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Health Agencies *NEW***

Funding for CDC staff to be assigned to provide direct, individualized technical assistance, guidance, and coordination for awardees of grants and cooperative agreements made under specific CDC programs.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**
Appalachian Investments Supporting Partnerships In Recovery Ecosystems (INSPIRE) Initiative

Funding to assist in moving individuals in the Appalachian region from substance abuse treatment to recovery to employment, with a focus on support services that enable and support individual successful entry or reentry into the workforce.

**Letter of Intent (Required): March 3, 2022**
**Application Deadline: March 24, 2022**

Rigorous Evaluation of Strategies to Prevent Overdose through Linking People with Illicit Substance Use Disorders to Recovery Support Services

The CDC National Center for Injury Prevention & Control is soliciting investigator-initiated research that will support the identification & rigorous evaluation of effective strategies that link people in recovery for illicit substance use disorders to at least one evidence-based recovery support service available within their community, and, if needed, re-link people to such services following resumption of illicit substance use.

**Application Deadline: March 14, 2022**

Health Policy Research Scholars

Health Policy Research Scholars, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program, is a leadership opportunity for doctoral students from historically marginalized backgrounds and underrepresented populations across a wide range of disciplines—from economics to political science—who want to apply their research to inform and influence policy in ways that advance health equity. The program is designed to support full-time, second-year doctoral students in building the skills, tools, and networks they need to create lasting change.

**Application Deadline: March 16, 2022**

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Change Leadership Programs

Change leadership programs are designed by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to extend the influence and impact of leaders working to build a Culture of Health.

**Application Deadline: March 16, 2022**

Rural Public Health Workforce Training Network Program

Funding to support rural health networks to address the need for more trained health professionals, which has been amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic. The overall program goal is to expand public health capacity by supporting healthcare job development, training, and placement in rural communities.

**Application Deadline: March 18, 2022**

Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Grant Program

Grants to support rural primary care providers with the planning and implementation of quality improvement activities. Program objectives include increased
care coordination, enhanced chronic disease management, and improved health outcomes for patients in rural areas.

**Application Deadline: March 21, 2022**

**The Doctors Company Foundation**

The Doctors Company Foundation supports nonprofit organizations and higher education institutions throughout the country that address patient safety issues. The focus is to fund both patient safety education for healthcare professionals and patient safety research with clinically useful applications. Consideration is given to projects that develop knowledge, techniques, and tools whose application reduces or eliminates risk of adverse events that cause harm to patients while under care.

**Letter of Intent (Required): March 21, 2022**

**Application Deadline: June 20, 2022**

**Dental Faculty Loan Repayment Program**

Funding to establish a dental faculty loan repayment program with a priority for faculty within the disciplines of general dentistry, pediatric dentistry, public health dentistry, and dental hygiene. Additional preference will be given to applicants providing loan repayment to pediatric dentistry faculty supervising dental students or residents and providing clinical services in dental clinics located in dental schools, hospitals, and community-based affiliated sites. Applicants are also encouraged to consider individual loan repayment recipients from rural and disadvantaged background and from underrepresented minorities.

**Application Deadline: March 22, 2022**

**Connecting Kids to Coverage Healthy Kids Outreach and Enrollment Grants**

Grants to organizations that help families with children and pregnant individuals enroll in health coverage opportunities, including Medicaid, CHIP, and insurance affordability programs.

**Application Deadline: March 28, 2022**

**Women and Minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Fields Program**

Grants to support research and extension activities that increase the number of women and underrepresented minorities from rural areas who will pursue and complete a postsecondary degree in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) disciplines. The target audience is K-14 students, meaning kindergarten through twelfth grade plus two years of post-secondary schooling, such as vocational technical institutions and community/junior colleges. Projects should focus on challenges facing agriculture and rural communities, such as increasing global demand for food production in the face of limited natural resources; improving health and reducing obesity; and increasing economic opportunities.

**Application Deadline: March 31, 2022**

**Virginia State Loan Repayment Program**
Educational loan repayment assistance for eligible healthcare providers in return for service in a medically underserved area of Virginia.

**Application Deadline: March 31, 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**

**Technologies for Improving Minority Health and Eliminating Health Disparities (R41/R42- Clinical Trial Optional)**

Funding for small businesses to develop products, processes, and services that can be used to improve minority health and/or reduce and ultimately eliminate health disparities in one or more NIH-defined health disparity population groups. Technologies should be effective, affordable, and culturally acceptable.

**Application Deadline: April 4, 2022**

**Innovations for Healthy Living - Improving Minority Health and Eliminating Health Disparities (R43/R44)**

Funding for small business concerns to develop a product, process, or service with the aim of improving minority health and/or reducing and ultimately eliminating health disparities in one or more NIH-defined population groups.

**Application Deadline: April 4, 2022**

**Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award: Stakeholder Convening Support**

Funding for organizations and communities to hold convenings that include patients, researchers, clinicians, purchasers, payers, health system leaders, and other stakeholders. Convenings should focus on supporting collaboration around patient-centered outcomes research and clinical comparative effectiveness research.

**Letter of Intent (Required): April 4, 2022**

**Application Deadline: July 11, 2022**

**Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award: Capacity Building**

Funds projects that encourage the integration of patients, caregivers, clinicians, and other stakeholders as members of the patient-centered outcomes research/clinical effectiveness research process.
**Letter of Intent (Required): April 4, 2022**  
**Application Deadline: July 11, 2022**

**American Rescue Plan Act - Pediatric Mental Health Care Access - New Area Expansion**

Funding for the expansion of state and/or regional networks of pediatric mental healthcare teams into new states and geographic areas. Teams will provide tele-consultation, training, technical assistance, and care coordination for pediatric primary care providers to diagnose, treat, and refer children with behavioral health conditions. Projects should focus on achieving health equity related to racial, ethnic, and geographic disparities in access to care, especially in **rural and other underserved areas**.

**Application Deadline: April 5, 2022**

**Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies Program (RMOMS)**

Funding to improve access to, and continuity of, maternal and obstetrics care in **rural communities** through regional aggregated care, coordination of a continuum of care, use of telehealth, and the implementation of financial sustainability strategies.

**Application Deadline: April 5, 2022**

**Notice of Funding Opportunity: Maternal, Infant, & Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Home Visiting Collaborative Improvement & Innovation Network (HV CoIIN 3.0)**

Objects of the program include: Identify, manage, and execute the scaling up of interventions to at least 30 state recipients and 300 local implementing agencies; Refine and test a new set of evidence-informed change strategies using accepted evaluation methodologies and the MIECHV Program performance measures; Further refine the health equity framework and parent leadership toolkit developed in HV CoIIN 2.0 and support the integration of the health equity and parent leadership principles across all activities; and assist MIECHV recipients and in building their capacity to use continuous quality improvement as a tool for ongoing program monitoring and improvement.

**Application Deadline: April 6, 2022**

**Area Health Education Centers**

Grants to develop and enhance education and training networks within communities, academic institutions, and community-based organizations. The networks support the Bureau of Health Workforce's strategic priorities to increase diversity among health professionals, broaden the distribution of the health workforce, enhance healthcare quality, and improve healthcare delivery to **rural and underserved areas** and populations.

**Application Deadline: April 6, 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**

**Rural Business Development Grant Program: Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation Systems**

Funding to provide technical assistance and training for rural and tribal transportation system agencies nationwide for the purpose of improving passenger transportation services and/or facilities.

**Application Deadline: April 14, 2022**

**Health Workforce Research Center Cooperative Agreement Program**

Funding to support and disseminate research on trends in health workforce. In this cycle, up to 9 centers will be funded in the areas of public health workforce, behavioral health workforce, health equity in health workforce, allied health workforce, long-term care support/services, oral health workforce, emerging workforce topics, and technical assistance.

**Application Deadline: April 14, 2022**

**Rural Communities Opioid Response Program - Behavioral Health Care Support**

Funding to improve access to and quality of substance use disorder and other behavioral healthcare services in rural communities including utilization of prevention, treatment, and recovery services to improve the care for those affected by behavioral health conditions.

**Application Deadline: April 19, 2022**

**Catalyst for Infant Health Equity**

The goals of the new Catalyst for Infant Health Equity program are twofold: 1) to continue reducing overall infant mortality (IM) rates in the United States, and 2) to decrease and ultimately eliminate disparities in IM across racial/ethnic groups by achieving steeper declines for groups with the highest rates. To accomplish these goals, award recipients are expected to address the broader social and structural determinants (or root causes) contributing to IM disparities at the county or jurisdiction1 level.

**Application Deadline: April 19, 2022**

**Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program**

Funding for community-based outreach education and extension programs at land-grant colleges and universities that provide individuals and families based in rural areas with information on health, wellness, and prevention. Projects should utilize telehealth, telemedicine, and distance learning strategies for education and training in minority rural communities related to opioids, preventing spread of COVID-19, and/or mitigating infection and transmission of COVID-19.

**Application Deadline: April 29, 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

Cancer Health Equity Research Centers at Minority-Serving Institutions

Funding to support the formation of Cancer Health Equity Research Centers (CHERCs) designed to target cancer health disparities that are unique to a local or regional community. Applicants must be from Minority-Serving Institutions and are required to demonstrate that 30% of the planned research participants will be racial and ethnic minorities or live in rural or medically underserved areas.

Application Deadline: May 16, 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

Surgical Disparities Research (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Grants to support investigative and collaborative research focused on understanding and addressing disparities in surgical care and outcomes in minority and health disparity populations.

Application Deadline: July 5, 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

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research to Address Vaccine Hesitancy, Uptake, and Implementation among Populations that Experience Health Disparities
Notice of Special Interest for community-engaged research to evaluate strategies to facilitate vaccination uptake in clinical and community contexts and address the barriers to increasing reach, access, and uptake of vaccinations among health disparity populations at high risk and likely to experience vaccine hesitancy.

**Application Deadline: January 8, 2023**

**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**

**Technology Development to Reduce Health Disparities (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)**

Funding to develop and translate medical technologies aimed at reducing disparities in healthcare access and health outcomes. Medical technologies should be effective, affordable, culturally acceptable, and deliverable to those who need them. Priority health disparity populations include racial and ethnic minorities, socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals, sexual and gender minorities, and medically underserved populations in **rural** and urban areas.

**Application Deadline: May 2, 2024**

**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**

**Health Care Models for Persons with Multiple Chronic Conditions from Populations that Experience Health Disparities: Advancing Health Care towards Health Equity (R01 - Clinical Trials Optional)**

Funding for research to study the effective adaptation, integration, and implementation of recommended guidelines of care of persons with multiple chronic conditions from populations that experience health disparities.

**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

**Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Disparities Affecting Healthcare Utilization and Health Outcomes Among Childhood Cancer Survivors**

Notice of Special Interest for research to understand and address the full spectrum of factors that contribute to disparities in survivorship care, healthcare utilization, and health outcomes among childhood cancer survivors. Proposed projects must include populations commonly experiencing disparities based on race or ethnicity, sex, sexual or gender minority status, insurance status, rural residence, socioeconomic disadvantage, or other demonstrated differences.

Application Deadline: October 9, 2024

For ongoing funding opportunities, visit our website.