Weekly Update

December 26, 2022

Check out the newest episode!

Virginia News
Virginia State Office of Rural Health Policy Brief:
The Nursing Shortage and its Consequences in Rural Virginia

Policy brief exploring the statewide nursing shortage in Virginia, with a focus on rural areas. Offers insights into the cause of the crisis as well as areas for improvement. Features statistics on the number of healthcare workers who left their jobs from 2000-2022, leading to an overall healthcare workforce shortage.

National News

**SAMHSA Proposed Rule to Modernize Regulations for Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently published a proposed rule to modernize regulations regarding medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and to make MOUD more accessible to all patients. Please find a full summary from the National Rural Health Association [here](#).

**Comments are due February 14, 2023.** NRHA is planning to submit a comment. If you have any questions or comments that you would like addressed in NRHA’s response to the proposed rule, please contact Alexa McKinley ([amckinley@ruralhealth.us](mailto:amckinley@ruralhealth.us)). For more information and links to submit commits, please find a SAMHSA FAQ on the proposed rule [here](#) and a SAMHSA press release [here](#).

Calendar

**National 2023 Critical Access (CAH) Hospital Coding & Billing Bootcamp**

January 24-25th, 2023   Virtual

Covers what revenue cycle and coding/billing staff in CAHs need to know related to their documentation, professional and facility coding, and medical billing processes.

**2023 MATRC Telehealth Summit**

March 15-17, 2023   Norfolk, VA
This summit will examine the technology, policy and operational best practices and lessons learned that contribute to making telehealth either a facilitator, enabler or barrier for different populations.

**Resources**

**Specialty Physician Supply and Demand Tool**

Offers a method for generating reports and maps demonstrating state and county physician supply and demand by specialty including family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, pediatrics, cardiology, neurology, and psychiatry.

**SparkMap's Community Assessment Tool**

Allows user to select data indicators such as demographics, economics, education, housing, education, health behaviors and indicators, healthcare workforce, and more by state and county to create a community assessment report. Utilizes data from multiple geographical levels and housed with the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Department of Transportation, and Federal Bureau of Investigation.

**Finding Statistics and Data Related to Rural Health**

This recently updated topic guide features information on locating and utilizing health statistics and data to make informed decisions and understand rural health needs.

**Funding Opportunities**

**Virginia Partners in Prayer & Prevention Disparities Grant *NEW***

The purpose of the program is to advance health equity and address COVID-19 related health disparities by partnering with Faith-Based Institutions/Organizations to address social determinants of health as they relate to reducing health disparities as an impact of COVID-19. Supports future initiatives up to $40,000, in response to COVID-19 efforts to address disparities in health among populations at higher risk, underserved, and specifically impacted by COVID-19.
Application Deadline: January 24, 2023

**Service Area Competition Funding for Health Center Program (Areas Served with a Project Period Start Date of September 1, 2023) *NEW***

Funding to provide comprehensive primary healthcare services to an underserved area or population. Areas with a September 1, 2023 project period start date are eligible to apply.

Application Deadline: February 13, 2023

**Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part C Capacity Development Grants *NEW***

Funding to assist eligible entities to strengthen their organizational infrastructure and to increase their capacity to develop, enhance, or expand access to high quality HIV primary healthcare services for low-income, uninsured, underinsured, and people in underserved and rural communities.

Application Deadline: February 17, 2023

**David W. and Sandra L.R. Boyes Physician Education Scholarship *NEW***

Scholarship for health professionals and specialists working on continuing education in the field of gerontology. Special consideration is given to applicants who currently practice or plan to practice in rural Virginia or southern Appalachian areas.

Application Deadline: June 1, 2023

**We Are Appalachia: Mpox Response Initiative *NEW***

Mini-grants to combat the ongoing monkeypox epidemic in rural Appalachia through outreach to LGBTQIA+ communities.

Applications accepted on an ongoing basis

**Technology Development to Reduce Health Disparities**

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: January 26, 2023
**Health Equity Research Network on Improving Access to Care and other Health Inequities in Rural America**

Funding for a Health Equity Research Network that consists of a Coordinating Center and 5 projects at distinct institutions. Network projects should have a common fundamental theme that will assess interventions and/or approaches that address rural health disparities.

**Letter of Intent (Required): January 26, 2023**  
**Application Deadline: April 4, 2023**

**Safe and Supportive Schools: Mental Health Service Professional (MHSP) Demonstration Grant Program**

Grants to support and demonstrate innovative partnerships to train school-based mental health services providers with the goal of increasing the number and diversity of high-quality, trained providers available to address the shortages of mental health service professionals in high need schools. Small, rural schools fall under the definition of high need local education agencies.

**Application Deadline: January 27, 2023**

**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: January 27, 2023**

**Rural Communities Opioid Response Program - Evaluation**

Funding for a single cooperative agreement to evaluate the impact of Rural Communities Opioid Response Program initiatives and to develop evaluation tools and resources for use in rural communities to inform future community-led rural health initiatives.

**Application Deadline: January 27, 2023**

**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program Grants**

Grants to improve telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas through the use of telemedicine, computer networks, and related advanced technologies.
**Rural HIV and Aging Challenge**

Challenge that is looking for innovative, effective solutions to address the needs of people in rural communities aging with HIV or long-term survivors, particularly among racial and ethnic minorities and LGBTQ+ populations.

**Application Deadline: January 31, 2023**

**Parkinson's Foundation: Community Grants**

Aim to further the health, wellness, and education of people with Parkinson’s disease (PD) across the U.S. The current focus is on programs that educate and deliver exercise programs specifically designed for people with PD, address the intersection of mental health and PD, and reach and support care partners of individuals with PD. Applications are accepted from nonprofit organizations, healthcare facilities, and for-profit organizations for programs offered at no cost.

**Application Deadline: January 31, 2023**

**AmeriCorps Seniors Workforce Development Demonstration Program**

Funding for demonstration projects that engage adults ages 55 and older, using service opportunities, certification, training, and mentoring as the avenue that will lead to employment in skilled, professional, and/or para-professional career employment. Public health is a focus area, and rural communities are a priority.

**Application Deadline: February 1, 2023**

**Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Nutrition Training Program**

Funding to promote the healthy nutrition of mothers, children, and families by establishing and enhancing MCH Nutrition Training Programs to provide training for future and current MCH nutrition professionals and nutrition-focused technical assistance to state Title V and other MCH programs. There is also the opportunity to apply for additional funding for the optional Nutrition Workforce Equity enhancement. Programs should implement a curricula that provides nutrition-focused clinical preparation in multiple settings emphasizing integration of MCH nutrition services and expanding the reach of MCH nutrition services in rural and underserved areas.

**Application Deadline: February 2, 2023**

**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.

**Application Deadline: February 3, 2023**

**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.

**Application Deadline: February 3, 2023**

**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, 2023**

**VA Homeless Providers Per Diem Only Grant Program**

Funding for eligible entities to provide transitional housing beds or service centers for veterans who are homeless or at risk for becoming homeless.

**Application Deadline: February 6, 2023**

**Rural Health Innovation and Transformation Technical Assistance**

Funding for a single organization to provide technical assistance for rural stakeholders. The goal is to support rural healthcare through innovative payment models and promote the value-based care landscape in the context of rural healthcare.

**Application Deadline: February 7, 2023**

**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, transportation support, and employment. Applications from rural, urban, and Native American organizations are encouraged.

**Application Deadline: February 7, 2023**

**Supportive Services for Veteran Families**

Grants awarded to selected private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives to assist very low-income Veteran families residing in or transitioning to permanent housing. Grantees will provide a range of supportive services to eligible Veteran families that are designed to promote housing stability.

**Application Deadline: February 10, 2023**

**Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship Program (NAT)**

Funding for accredited institutions to support traineeships for licensed nurses who are enrolled in a nurse anesthesia program, with preference given to projects that will benefit rural and underserved populations.

**Application Deadline: February 10, 2023**

**School-Based Interventions to Promote Equity and Improve Health, Academic Achievement, and Well-Being of Students**

Funding to protect and improve health and well-being of school-age adolescents in underserved & disproportionately affected communities. Projects should increase physical activity, healthy dietary behaviors, & self-management of chronic health conditions among students & implement strategies and activities at the school level that promote student & staff health. Projects should address social determinants of health and reach populations such as racial/ethnic minorities, students receiving free & reduced lunch, students of lower socioeconomic status, and those living in rural areas.

**Application Deadline: February 11, 2023**

**State Newborn Screening System Priorities Program**

Supports state/territory NBS programs addressing state/territory-specific challenges. Activities include expanding access to diagnosis and treatment resources for providers and families of infants with SCID and other NBS disorders with a focus on reaching underserved populations, and empowering families to actively engage at all levels of the newborn screening system.
Application Deadline: February 13, 2023

**Maternal and Child Health Secondary Data Analysis Research**

Funding to support applied research through analysis of existing databases and/or administrative records to improve the quality, efficiency, and accessibility of healthcare services and health outcomes for underserved maternal and child health populations. Underserved populations include indigenous and Native American persons, people in rural areas, persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality, among others.

Application Deadline: February 13, 2023

**Senior Medicare Patrol Projects**

Funding to provide local outreach, education, and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries through a volunteer workforce that is trained to empower and assist Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers to prevent, detect, and report health care fraud, errors, and abuse.

Application Deadline: February 15, 2023

**Research Grants to Inform Firearm-Related Violence and Injury Prevention Strategies**

Grants for research to inform the development or improvement of prevention programs, policies, or practices that have the potential to substantially reduce firearm-related violence, injuries, death, or crime within populations or settings experiencing elevated risk. Research focusing on rural and tribal communities is encouraged.

Application Deadline: February 16, 2023

**Research Grants to Rigorously Evaluate Innovative and Promising Strategies to Prevent Firearm-Related Violence and Injuries**

Grants for investigator-initiated research to evaluate the effectiveness of innovative and promising strategies to prevent all forms of firearm-related violence and injuries. Research focusing on rural and tribal communities is encouraged.

Application Deadline: February 16, 2023

**Rural Quality Improvement Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement**
Awards funding to one organization to provide technical assistance to beneficiaries of FORHP quality initiatives, such as grantees, Critical Access Hospitals, and other rural providers.

**Application Deadline: February 17, 2023**

**Lesbian Health Fund 2023 Grant Call**

Graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty interested in pursuing a research career focused on LGBTQ+ women or girls are invited to apply. Senior scholars, faculty, and non-profit organizations interested in expanding their program of research into this population are also welcome to apply.

**Application Deadline: February 28, 2022**

**HHS COVID-19 and Health Equity Impact Fellowship**

A mentored fellowship opportunity located in Washington, D.C. to conduct policy research and participate in quantitative data analyses on topics such as social determinants of health; health equity; access to healthcare services for at risk populations; and analyzing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on emergency care services, maternity care, and/or the HIV population.

**Application Deadline: March 1, 2023**

**Rural Communities Opioid Response Program - Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome**

Grants for projects designed to reduce the incidence and impact of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in rural communities by improving systems of care, family supports, and social determinants of health.

**Application Deadline: March 8, 2023**

**Health Services Research on Minority Health and Health Disparities**

For health services research that can directly contribute to the improvement of minority health and/or the reduction of health disparities, while taking into consideration the interaction between system-level healthcare, individual clinical care and social determinants of health, including the role of structural systemic factors, place and neighborhood factors. Focuses on services provided in the healthcare setting where individuals from health disparity populations seek care with a clinician for preventive services, chronic disease management, urgent symptomatic care, emergency care, and hospital care.
Application Deadline: March 27, 2023

**AgriSafe Nurse Scholar Program**

A distance learning opportunity available to rural nurses designed to increase knowledge base in prevention, identification, and assessment of diseases related to agricultural work exposures. A 50% scholarship is available for nurses working in nonprofit organizations, Rural Health Clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers, government agencies, and educational institutions. A full scholarship is available for nurses from Illinois and for nurses from Missouri that work in Rural Health Clinics, government agencies, academia, and nonprofit organizations.

Application Deadline: May 15, 2023

**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.

Application Deadline: July 8, 2023

**AHRQ Health Services Research Projects (R01)**

Support for specified health services 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: July 8, 2023

**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, 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.
**Notice of Special Interest: Advancing the Science of Geriatric Palliative Care**

Notice of Special Interest to encourage research focused on palliative care in geriatric populations. Studies may take place in a variety of settings including hospitals, post-acute care settings, outpatient clinics, doctors' offices, homes and other residential settings, long-term care facilities, hospices, and other healthcare or community settings. Research in disparity populations and in rural/remote settings is encouraged.

**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**

**Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) Hearing Healthcare for Adults: Improving Access and Affordability**

Notice of Special Interest for research to improve access and affordability of hearing healthcare (HHC) in adults, which includes research addressing rural health issues potentially affecting HHC utilization and the unique HHC needs of rural populations.

**Application Deadline: January 7, 2024**

**Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Telehealth in Cancer Care**

Notice of Special Interest for research on the use of telehealth in cancer-related care, with a focus on populations that experience inequities in access to care and have worse cancer outcomes compared to the general population.

**Application Deadline: March 8, 2024**

**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**

**Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Risks for Abuse and Injury Among Vulnerable Children and Youth**

Notice of Special Interest to fund research on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and risks for abuse and injury among vulnerable children and youth. Emphasis is placed on disparity populations related to abuse and neglect prior to the pandemic, as well as populations that have been disproportionately affected by the coronavirus. Disparity populations include American Indians, Alaska Natives, LGBT youth, and children seen at rural emergency departments.

**Application Deadline: May 31, 2024**

**Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Dissemination and Implementation Research to Advance Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Health Preventive Interventions in School Settings**

Notice of Special Interest for dissemination and implementation research to support innovative approaches to overcoming barriers to the adoption, adaptation, integration, scale-up, and sustainability of evidence-based interventions to support children’s mental, emotional, and behavioral health in school settings. Health disparity populations, including individuals living in rural areas, are a priority.

**Application Deadline: June 5, 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**

**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**

**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**

**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**

**Innovative Mental Health Services Research Not Involving Clinical Trials (R01)**

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**

**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 disparity populations and how work functions as a social determinant of health.

**Application Deadline: September 8, 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**

Leveraging Health Information Technology (Health IT) to Address Minority Health and Health Disparities (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Grants for research that examines how health information technology adoption impacts minority health and health disparity populations in access to care, quality of care, patient engagement, and health outcomes.

**Application Deadline: May 7, 2025**

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research Using Implementation Science to Support the Delivery of Evidence-Based Practices in Community-Based Mental or General Medical Healthcare Settings
Notice of Special Interest for mental health services and implementation research to support the adoption and sustainability of evidence-based practices in community-based settings that deliver care to people with mental illness. Health disparity populations, including individuals living in rural areas, are a priority.

**Application Deadline: May 8, 2025**

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Implementation Science to Advance Maternal Health and Maternal Health Equity for the IMPROVE Initiative

Notice of Special Interest for research to address health disparities associated with pregnancy-related and pregnancy-associated morbidity and mortality. Populations of focus include American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and underserved rural populations, among others.

**Application Deadline: May 8, 2025**

For ongoing funding opportunities, visit our website

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

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