January 30, 2023

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VRHA News
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**Clinics' behavioral health team trained on preventing suicide attempts**

**Southwest Virginia Community Health Systems (SVCHS)** Behavioral Health team was trained on suicide attempt risk prevention as the number of suicides within the United States increase year over year.

Up to 45% of people who died by suicide visited their primary care provider a month prior to their death. If almost half of the people who die by suicide saw their primary care provider (PCP) in the month prior, then it is clear that the primary care office is a key setting for suicide prevention. SVCHS has four primary care clinics in Saltville, Meadowview, Bristol, and Tazewell, where all patients are screened at least yearly for suicide risk and patients at higher risk are then offered behavioral health services.

“We see ourselves on the front lines of suicidality, self-harm, and mental health crisis prevention,” said Director of Behavioral Health Marcy Rosenbaum, LCSW. “By integrating our behavioral health services into the primary care setting, we are often able to identify risk factors before a crisis occurs.”

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**Virginia News**

**2023 Virginia Rural Hospital Report**

Hospitals and health systems in Virginia generate approximately $60 billion annually in positive economic activity even as about a third of the state's rural hospitals operate in the red, according to the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association. The figures refer to data up to and including 2021 and also highlight $3.1 billion in community support.

While nearly one-third of the state's 28 rural hospitals operated in the red in 2020, more than a quarter of them also had negative operating margins (in 2021), the report noted.

"Rural hospitals are experiencing these challenges as the national hospital sector continues to deal with the impact of COVID-related revenue losses, lower patient volumes, substantial cost increases, and staffing shortages,” VHHA said.

Virginia hospitals directly employ 120,900 people, accounting for $11.3 billion in wages and benefits, and support 242,000 additional skilled jobs in the state.
Calendar

Smiles For Children (SFC) 101
February 8, 2023  10:00 am  Virtual

Webinar for Medicaid members, nonprofit organizations, and local government entities to learn about the Smiles for Children (SFC) program and its child, adult, and pregnant benefits. Sessions include an overview of DentaQuest’s roles in Virginia, the importance of oral health, the physical and oral health connection, member education, tools, and supports, and Smiles For Children’s dental benefits review.

Resources

Rural Disability Research and Practice Summit

Recordings and presentation slides from the January 2023 Rural Disability Research and Practice Summit. Covers rural issues related to personal assistance services and digital access. Includes perspectives from rural consumers, workers, and service providers.

Grant Writing & Management Training | Zoom Workshops

Two-day grant writing workshops to learn 1.) how to find funding sources and write winning grant proposals, and 2.) how to administer government grants and stay in compliance with applicable rules and regulations.

What Happens When COVID-19 Emergency Declarations End? Implications for Coverage, Costs, and Access

Identifies federal health-related COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) declarations, the flexibilities each provides, and implications for ending them. Topics covered include COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccination; telehealth; Medicaid coverage and federal match rates; Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance flexibilities; and more.
Appalachian Investments Supporting Partnerships In Recovery Ecosystems (INSPIRE) Initiative *NEW*

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): February 21, 2023
Application Deadline: March 17, 2023

Reeve Foundation Quality of Life Grants *NEW*

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

Application Deadline: March 8, 2023

The Doctors Company Foundation *NEW*

The Doctors Company Foundation supports patient safety education for healthcare professionals and patient safety research with clinically useful applications. The focus is on projects and activities that develop knowledge, techniques, and tools whose application reduces or eliminates risk of adverse events that cause harm to patients while under care. Nonprofit entities and education institutions are eligible to apply.

Letter of Intent (Required): March 14, 2023
Application Deadline: June 20, 2023

Drug-Free Communities Support Program *NEW*

Awards funding to coalitions working to reduce substance abuse among youth and to establish and strengthen collaboration among communities, organizations, and governmental entities.

Application Deadline: March 15, 2023

AARP Community Challenge *NEW*

Grants for projects that work to improve livability for all residents of a community. The 2023 application cycle will focus on public spaces; housing; transportation; civic engagement; diversity, equity, and inclusion; digital connections; community health; and
economic empowerment, among others. Applications from rural communities are encouraged.

**Application Deadline: March 15, 2023**

**The High Obesity Program (HOP) ** *NEW*

Funding to implement evidence-based strategies and leverage partner resources to address obesity and its associated factors in populations of focus related to poor diet and/or physical inactivity. Rural communities are considered a priority population.

**Application Deadline: March 21, 2023**

**Integrated Substance Use Disorder Training Program (ISTP) ** *NEW*

Grants to plan, develop, and operate a training program for nurse practitioners, physician assistants, health service psychologists, counselors, nurses, and/or social workers that trains practitioners to provide care for individuals in need of mental health and substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

**Application Deadline: March 21, 2023**

**Improving Access to Overdose Treatment** *NEW*

Grants to expand access to Food and Drug Administration overdose reversal medications for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose through collaboration and training on policies, procedures, and models of care for prescribing, co-prescribing, and expanding access to naloxone and other medications for rural or urban populations.

**Application Deadline: March 24, 2023**

**Hillman Innovation Programs**

Grants to accelerate the development of creative nursing-driven interventions that will improve the health and healthcare of marginalized populations.

**Letter of Intent (Required): February 28, 2023**

**Application Deadline: Varies**

**American College of Lifestyle Medicine HEAL Scholarship Program**

A scholarship for clinicians who are underrepresented in medicine to assist with the costs associated with attaining education and certification in lifestyle medicine.

**Application Deadline: March 1, 2023**
**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**

**Research Centers in Minority Institutions (U54)**

Grants to institutions that offer doctorate degrees in the health professions or in a health-related science and have a historical and current commitment to educating underrepresented students, and for institutions that provide clinical services to medically underserved communities.

**Application Deadline: March 1, 2023**

**Weyerhaeuser Youth Initiative**

Funding for new direct service programs designed to promote resilience, stability, and psycho-social health for youth ages 14 to 21 who have been traumatized by Adverse Childhood Experiences.

**Letter of Intent (Required): March 1, 2023**

**Application Deadline: August 1, 2023**

**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 3, 2023**

**Training and Services to End Violence Against Individuals with Disabilities and Deaf People**
Grants to support multidisciplinary collaborative teams that offer services and support to individuals with disabilities and deaf individuals who have been victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

**Application Deadline: March 6, 2023**

**Offender Reentry Program**

Grants to expand substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and related recovery and reentry services to sentenced adult offenders/ex-offenders with a SUD and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders, who are returning to their families and community from incarceration.

**Application Deadline: March 6, 2023**

**Grants to Expand Substance Abuse Treatment Capacity in Adult and Family Treatment Drug Courts**

Grants to enhance and expand substance use disorder treatment services in existing drug courts, recognizing the need for treatment instead of incarceration for individuals with substance use disorders.

**Application Deadline: March 6, 2023**

**A Strategic Approach to Advancing Health Equity for Priority Populations with or at Risk for Diabetes**

Funding for evidence-based interventions to decrease risk for type 2 diabetes among adults with prediabetes and improve self-care practices, quality of care, and early detection of complications among people with diabetes.

**Application Deadline: March 7, 2023**

**Medication Assisted Treatment - Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction**

Funding to expand or enhance access to medication assisted treatment services for individuals with opioid use disorder.

**Application Deadline: March 7, 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**

**Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part F Dental Reimbursement Program**

Funding designed to improve access to oral healthcare services for low income people with HIV, and to train dental students, dental hygiene students, and dental residents to deliver dental care to people with HIV.

**Application Deadline: March 10, 2023**

**Nizar N. Oweida, MD, FACS, Scholarship of the American College of Surgeons**

A scholarship for surgeons in small towns and rural communities to either: (1) attend the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress; (2) travel and attend training; or (3) conduct research to improve performance as a rural surgeon.

**Application Deadline: March 15, 2023**

**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 15, 2023**

**Investments Supporting Partnerships In Recovery Ecosystems (INSPIRE)**

INSPIRE is an initiative addressing the substance use disorder crisis by creating or expanding a recovery ecosystem that will lead to workforce entry or re-entry. Successful projects will support post-treatment to employment continuum, which could include investments in healthcare networks that support substance abuse recovery professionals, recovery-focused job training programs, as well as initiatives designed to coordinate recovery services and training that support the recovery ecosystem.

**Application Deadline: March 17, 2023**

**Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI)**

Grants to support the development and/or expansion of local implementation of a community infrastructure that integrates behavioral health treatment and services for
substance use disorders and co-occurring mental and substance use disorders, permanent housing, and other critical services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

**Application Deadline: March 20, 2023**

**Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children’s Health Grant Program**

Grants to promote the wellness of young children from birth to 8 years by addressing the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral aspects of their development to ensure children are thriving in safe, supportive environments, and entering school ready to learn and able to succeed. Projects should work to advance equity for all, and to identify racial, ethnic, sexual and gender minority, and rural populations at highest risk for experiencing behavioral health disparities.

**Application Deadline: March 20, 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**

**The Workers Lab: Innovation Fund**

The Workers Lab seeks innovators with early-stage ideas centered around making the ways the U.S. serves workers more modern and inclusive. Up to six fellows will be selected to participate in a 4-month program providing training, mentorship, and customized support to bring their idea to life and set them up for larger-scale investment.

**Application Deadline: March 27, 2023**

**Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program**

Funding to support community-based organizations to use the EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Model to develop and implement community-driven
solutions that address environmental and/or public health issues for underserved communities. Special consideration will be given to projects located in rural areas.

**Application Deadline: April 10, 2023**

**Virginia Behavioral Health Student Loan Repayment Program**

Annual $1.6 million fund established by the Virginia General Assembly in 2021 to help recruit and retain behavioral health professionals to practice in underserved areas of the Commonwealth or to provide counseling and treatment to underserved populations. The program will repay a portion of eligible professionals’ student loan debt. In return, recipients commit to practicing in Virginia for a minimum of two years at an eligible site.

**Application Deadline: April 15, 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**

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

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**

**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.

**Application Deadline: September 7, 2023**

**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 8, 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**
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**

**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**

**Stand Down Grants**

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: September 30, 2025**
For ongoing funding opportunities, visit our website

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