Weekly Update

July 17, 2023

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VRHA News

Virginia Community Healthcare Association CommonHealth Podcast:
Demystifying Healthcare in Rural America: A Conversation with Beth O’Connor of the Virginia Rural Health Association

What’s the difference between rural health and urban health? Join CommonHealth for a chat with Beth O’Connor, Executive Director of the Virginia Rural Health Association, to explore this question and the uniqueness of rural healthcare. Hear about the disparities and advantages of working in rural healthcare, from knowing generations of patients to a lower cost of living, and discover what misconceptions we have about rural healthcare.

Members in the News

New mobile medical healthcare units coming to Rockbridge area

VRHA member Rockbridge Area Health Center recently acquired two new custom mobile units to bring health care into rural areas of the community. The mobile dental unit will provide access to oral healthcare, while the medical unit provides wellness health services, lab testing, immunizations and more. Currently, the units deploy twice a week, but the center is hoping for four beginning next year. Locations include schools, churches, businesses, senior centers, community gatherings, and more in the greater Rockbridge area.

Calendar

Developing Registered Apprenticeship Programs for Hospitals & Healthcare Systems

July 26, 2023  2:00 - 3:00 pm

Representatives from the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association, the Virginia Department of Labor & Industry, the Virginia Community College System, and Mary Washington Healthcare will host an educational & informative webinar to learn tips & strategies regarding ways in which hospitals & health systems can develop Registered Apprenticeship Programs for clinical & non-clinical roles in their facilities.

HRSA IEA Maternal Health Webinar Series: Supporting Maternal Health in Rural Communities

July 26, 2023  4:00 pm  Virtual
Building Recovery Ecosystems
August 16, 2023   1:00 - 2:30 pm   Virtual

This session will provide an introduction to the current challenges around substance use, discuss factors present in strong rural recovery ecosystems, describe the recovery ecosystem index and how to use the mapping tool, and provide examples of recovery ecosystem supports implemented in eastern Kentucky.

2023 Virginia Community Healthcare Association Conference
September 27-29, 2023   Norfolk, VA

"Virginia Community Health Centers: Lighting the Path to Healthier Communities"

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Resources

Medicaid and CHIP Renewals Outreach and Educational Resources

CMS has created different materials and resources to help people with Medicaid or CHIP take steps to renew their health coverage or find other coverage options.

The Pharmacy Connection

The Pharmacy Connection (TPC), is a web-based software program created by VHCF that helps provide prescription medications to chronically ill, uninsured individuals throughout Virginia and other states. TPC helps to streamline the application process for pharmaceutical company’s Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs). Through PAPs, pharmaceutical manufacturers supply free brand name medications and low-cost generics and supplies for eligible patients.

Additional Link: TPC Training Calendar

Interactive Summary Health Statistics for Adults

Provides estimates of adults impacted by selected health topics such as circular and respiratory diseases, cancer, mental health, insurance coverage, healthcare use and access, and more between 2019-2022 via interactive tables and charts. Allows user to select health topics according to demographic, socio-economic, and geographic variables,

Addressing the Opioid Crisis: A Look at the Evolving Landscape of Federal OUD Treatment Policies
Provides an overview of five federal policies that impacted the provision of opioid use disorder (OUD) treatments during the COVID-19 pandemic. Covers regulations related to buprenorphine medication, methadone dispensing programs, overdose prevention and reversal methods, and leveraging Medicaid for pre- and post-release from prison OUD treatment services. Discusses how state laws may limit federal efforts.

### Funding Opportunities

**WITH Foundation Request for Proposals** *NEW*

Accepting applications focused on projects that foster health and healthcare systems transformation for older adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in communities of color within the United States. Proposals should prioritize one of the following approaches: implementation of models, educational resources, regional or national advocacy, or research to identify and fill gaps in knowledge and inform efforts to improve health related to the care that older adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in communities of color receive.

**Application Deadline: August 15, 2023**

**Healthcare Data for Public Health Action Challenge** *NEW*

Award challenge designed to collect and electronically report complete case information from healthcare to public health agencies (PHAs) so they can better prepare for, and respond to, health concerns in their jurisdictions. Participants from rural and tribal PHAs are encouraged.

**Letter of Intent (Required): August 18, 2023**  
**Application Deadline: November 17, 2023**

**APhA Foundation Incentive Grants** *NEW*

Offers pharmacists seed money to implement or support an innovative patient care service within their pharmacy practice.

**Application Deadline: September 12, 2023**

**Community-Based Research for Effective Programs, Policies, and Decisions to Mitigate Cumulative Health Impacts and Environmental Health Disparities in Underserved Communities**
Funding for community-based scientific research to assess cumulative impacts from multiple combined and interacting environmental stressors upon human health in underserved communities. Underserved communities may include people/communities of color, low income, and other vulnerable populations such as the elderly, children, and those who have pre-existing medical conditions.

**Application Deadline: August 21, 2023**

**Service Area Competition Funding for Health Center Program**

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

**Application Deadline: August 21, 2023**

**Veterans Housing Rehabilitation and Modification Pilot Program**

Grants to rehabilitate and modify the primary residence of veterans who are low-income and living with disabilities, with a focus on helping them regain and/or maintain their independence to alleviate critical health, life, and safety issues. Priority is placed on increasing equity and improving customer experience across all HUD programs, which includes people who live in rural areas and those otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

**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**

**Tobacco Control Policies to Promote Health Equity**

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 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**

**Walmart Health Equity Scholarship for Pharmacy Students**

Scholarships for Doctor of Pharmacy degree students who are enrolled in a U.S. college or school of pharmacy. Awardees must demonstrate leadership, academic success, and a commitment to serving rural or medically underserved patient populations.

**Application Deadline: September 15, 2023**

**John and Polly Sparks First Responder Grant for Rural First Responders Mental Health Interventions**

Grants for evidence-based research and intervention in providing mental health training dissemination to first responders in rural areas.

**Application Deadline: October 15, 2023**

**Dental Trade Alliance (DTA) Foundation Pilot Project Grants**

Funding for innovative projects and research designed to increase access to and utilization of oral healthcare.

**Application Deadline: November 30, 2023**

**Walmart Foundation Community Grant Program**
Grants to support the unique needs of local communities in the service areas of Walmart and Sam's Club stores.

**Application Deadline: December 31, 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 LGBT youth and children seen at rural emergency departments.
Application Deadline: May 8, 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**

**Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research to Improve Pre-Pregnancy Care and Enhance Healthy Birth Intervals**

Notice of Special Interest for research that assesses the social and behavioral processes that facilitate or hinder the achievement of healthy interbirth intervals and to identify public health interventions that promote healthy birth outcomes.

**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 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

**Stimulating Research to Understand and Address Hunger, Food, and Nutrition Insecurity**

Notice of Special Interest for research on interventions that address nutrition security and the mechanisms of food insecurity on a variety of health outcomes. Priority populations include racial/ethnic minority populations, lower income populations, and rural and remote populations including tribal communities and insular areas.

Application Deadline: November 29, 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**

**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**

**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**

**Co-infection and Cancer**

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: November 16, 2025**

**Notice of Special Interest: Research to Address Vaccine Uptake and Implementation among Populations Experiencing Health Disparities**

Notice of Special Interest for research on strategies and interventions to increase vaccine uptake and implementation among populations experiencing health disparities.

**Application Deadline: June 6, 2026**

**Assessing Real-World Effectiveness & Implementation of Telehealth-Guided Provider-to-Provider Communication among Rural Communities**

Notice of Special Interest for research that generates evidence on the real-world effectiveness of telehealth collaboration among healthcare providers for consultation, second opinions, and other purposes, referred to as provider-to-provider telehealth (PPT). PPT offers remote access to critical health expertise that might not exist locally in some rural communities.

**Application Deadline: October 10, 2026**

**AHRQ Small Research Projects to Advance the Science of Primary Care (R03)**

Funding to support small research projects that advance the role and capacity of primary care to increase the value and quality of care and improve patient outcomes and population health. Rural populations are considered a priority.

**Application Deadline: March 19, 2027**

For ongoing funding opportunities, [visit our website](#)