Weekly Update

July 31, 2023

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Conference Website is Live!
Agenda, Speakers, Poster Applications, and more are now available on the 2023 Rural Health Voice Conference website.

Join us November 15-16 at the Inn at Virginia Tech:

Register Now

Virginia News

Warner & Kaine Announce Nearly $11 Million in Federal Funding to Expand Access to Health Care in Rural Virginia

Congrats to our VRHA members who received funding! (noted in green)

$5,118,100 for the Virginia Consortium to Advance Health Care in Appalachia to increase access to telehealth by expanding regional networks that will share resources, training, and educational opportunities for people living in rural areas throughout the Commonwealth. The Consortium includes the University of Virginia’s (UVA) Center for Telehealth, the Healthy Appalachia Institute at UVA’s College at Wise, the Southwest Virginia Health Authority, the Health Wagon, Tri-Area Health, and Ballad Health.

$5,000,000 for the Mount Rogers Community Services Smyth County campus to expand access to mental health, developmental disability, and substance use disorder treatment. The funding will be used to create a second eight-bed unit at the Rhea B. Lawrence Recovery Center, which will double the space available for residential services. It
will also be used to relocate the crisis care center from an offsite facility to centralize treatments and offer referral-based outpatient services in one location. These steps will help improve the quality of care available to the 32,208 residents located in the Center’s service area, which includes Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, and Wythe counties and Galax.

$850,500 for the Bath County Community Hospital to purchase an X-ray machine and an electronic medical records system subscription, which will give doctors quick access to health records from labs and clinic emergency rooms. The equipment was damaged in an electrical fire, forcing staff to use a portable machine that is inadequate in many cases. The equipment will benefit nearly 30,000 residents in Bath, Highland, and Alleghany counties.

Calendar

**REVIVING Appalachia Resource Expo**
August 11th, 2023  9:00 am - 4:00 pm  Wytheville, VA

Network with local SUD and recovery resources and learn more about ways to tackle the overdose epidemic in our communities.

**Rural Community Action Assembly: Recovery-Friendly Workplaces for Workforce Development**
August 16, 2023  10:00 - 11:30 am  Virtual

This event is for rural economic or workforce development corporations, rural chambers of commerce, nonprofits working with low- and moderate-income communities, and other rural or countywide decision makers who want to learn more about inclusive workforce models.

**2nd Annual Rural Education Summit**
August 23-24, 2023  Blacksburg, VA

Focus on Community Health & Wellness. Will feature Summit Panels & Sessions focused on Suicide Prevention, recovery, racial trauma, safe spaces for queer rural youth, Whole Health, and more.

**2023 National Telehealth Conference**
September 12, 2023  Virtual
The Health Resources and Services Administration will host a virtual National Telehealth Conference that brings public and private sector leaders together to discuss telehealth best practices. The conference will examine the importance of integrating telehealth into standard care.

**Grant Writing Training**
**September 21-22, 2023   Portsmouth, VA**

Beginning and experienced grant writers from city, county and state agencies as well as healthcare organizations, nonprofits, K-12, colleges and universities are encouraged to attend.

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**Resources**

**Rural Policymaking: Resources to Advance Rural Prosperity & Racial Equity**

Resources for local and state policymakers discussing inequity in rural communities for Black, Indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) and making policy recommendations for overcoming those inequities. Discusses economic development and includes case studies for topics such as broadband internet, housing, infrastructure, healthcare access and workforce, and more. The policy table is a tool for conducting an assessment of local policies for identifying areas of greatest impact in advancing rural prosperity and racial equity.

**Proposed CY 2024 Physician Fee Schedule Fact Sheet**

Fact sheet covering Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services proposed policy changes for 2024 outlined in the proposed calendar year (CY) 2024 Physician Fee Schedule. Covers eligible services that can be delivered by telehealth, remote monitoring services, physician supervision, diabetes self-management training (DSMT), and more.

**Demonstrating Your Value: A Guide to Potential Value-based Care Partnerships for Rural Health Care Organizations**

Provides a three-step framework to help rural healthcare organizations quantify and demonstrate their value to potential partners - understanding the potential partner, identifying the value proposition, and presenting the value message. Includes a worksheet that can be used to document and track progress through each of the three steps.

**Federal Policy to Advance Racial, Ethnic, and Tribal Health Equity**
Report explores the role of federal policy in creating or perpetuating racial, ethnic, and tribal health inequities. Discusses how past and current federal policies, directly related to healthcare or not, affect the health and well-being of racial and ethnic minorities.

**Funding Opportunities**

**Clinical and Translational Science Award** *NEW*

Funding for Clinical and Translational Program Hubs that are expected to develop, demonstrate, and then disseminate solutions to barriers that limit the efficiency and effectiveness of clinical and translational science research. A major interest of the program is improving rural health outcomes and eliminating health disparities.

**Application Deadline: September 15, 2023**

**USDA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) - Phase I** *NEW*

Funding for research that focuses on the development of new technologies that address important problems affecting people, institutions, and communities in rural America, including health, agriculture, rural development, and the environment.

**Application Deadline: September 19, 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**

**APhA Foundation Incentive Grants**

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

**Application Deadline: September 12, 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**

**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): Sep 28, 2023**
**Application Deadline: Jan 10, 2024**

**PCORI Engagement Award: Dissemination Initiative**

Funding to plan for dissemination or actively communicate pertinent PCORI-funded research findings to relevant stakeholders in ways that will command their attention and interest and encourage use of information in their healthcare decision making.

**Letter of Intent (Required): Sep 28, 2023**
**Application Deadline: Jan 10, 2024**

**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): Sep 28, 2023**
**Application Deadline: Jan 10, 2024**

**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 (RO1 - 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 (RO1)

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

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