Weekly Update

July 5, 2023

Check out the latest episode!

Follow VRHA

www.vrha.org

Virginia News

VTN Survey Finds Increase in Provider Confidence in Telehealth Use
Earlier this month, VTN released data from its second annual Benchmarking Telehealth Usage in Virginia Survey. The report indicated a high popularity of telehealth among providers in Virginia in 2023 and increases in trust relative to 2021.

This survey received more than 10K responses from licensed Virginia providers and was supported by the Virginia Department of Health Professions and the Virginia Department of Health. Data findings will be used to enhance Virginia’s State Telehealth Plan.

**Virginia to Receive $1.4 Billion in Federal Funding for Universal Broadband Access**

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) announced $1,481,489,572 in funding to close the digital divide in Virginia. These funds are granted through the federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program under the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act and will be prioritized to reach the remaining unserved homes, businesses and community anchors in the Commonwealth.

"Virginia continues to be a national leader for closing the digital divide, and today's announcement cements the Commonwealth’s success," said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Caren Merrick. "The funding will not only ensure that every home, business, school and community anchor in the Commonwealth will be connected to affordable, reliable high-speed broadband, but we will also focus our efforts and funding on boosting adoption, promoting digital literacy and lowering costs for all Virginians."

**Resources**

**Quality, Safety & Oversight - Guidance to Laws & Regulations: Rural Health Clinics**

Provides basic information about survey protocols and interpretive guidelines for Rural Health Clinics. Includes links to Appendix G of the State Operations Manual and related information.

**Lists of Designated Primary Medical Care, Mental Health, and Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas**
Complete lists of all geographic areas, population groups, and facilities designated as primary medical care, dental health, and mental health professional shortage areas. Includes the lists of HPSAs in a designated status as of April 28, 2023.

**Health Costs, Coverage and Delivery State Legislation Database**

Identifies enacted state legislation addressing healthcare costs, access, and health system efficiencies. Topics covered include alternative payment methods, health insurance marketplaces, health system consolidation and competition, Medicaid reforms, price transparency, surprise billing, and telehealth. Searchable by state, topic, keyword, year, status, and primary sponsor. Updated every two weeks, with information on legislation starting in 2022.

**Mental and Substance Use Disorders Prevalence Study: Findings Report**

Report discusses the lifetime and past-year prevalence of mental health disorders and past-year substance use across the United States. Breaks down prevalence data by age, race, diagnosis, and rurality, among other measures.

**Disability Rates Higher in Rural Areas Than Urban Areas**

Examines urban and rural differences in disability rates nationally and by region, based on data from the American Community Survey.

---

### Funding Opportunities

**VHCF Health Access Grant *NEW***

Funding to increase access to medical, dental and mental health care for uninsured Virginians.

**Application Deadline: July 14, 2023**

**Rural Healthcare Provider Transition Project (RHPTP) *NEW***

Technical assistance and training for rural healthcare providers to build capacity in value-based care (VBC), with emphasis on efficiency, quality, patient experience, and safety. The program's goal is to guide small rural hospitals and rural health clinics that are not currently participating in VBC to prepare for participation in a health system focused on value.
Application Deadline: August 15, 2023

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

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

**Community Mobility Design Challenge Grants**

Grants to support planning activities for communities seeking innovative ways to address the particular mobility challenges experienced by low-income community members for whom a lack of transportation is an obstacle to the pursuit of economic, health, and social well being.

Application Deadline: August 4, 2023

**Kent Richard Hofmann Foundation Grants**

Grants to support community-based organizations providing direct services, education, or research in the areas of HIV and AIDS, with priority given to smaller communities and rural areas.

Letter of Intent (Required): August 5, 2023

Application Deadline: September 1, 2023

**Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative - State and Community Grant Program**

Funding to support the development and expansion of dementia-capable home and community-based service systems in states and communities.

Application Deadline: August 7, 2023

**Family Violence Prevention and Services Culturally Specific Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Discretionary Grants**

Funding to implement culturally relevant sexual assault and domestic violence services for individuals and families impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and family violence. The program is designed to reduce the pervasive and harmful impact of violence and trauma by implementing culturally relevant, trauma-informed, and evidence-informed interventions for individuals and families who are from diverse, underserved, and historically marginalized communities.
Application Deadline: August 11, 2023

**Health Equity Leaders Program**

Provides health professions students with opportunities to explore health equity service, scholarship, leadership, and policy. Applicants are future leaders who are underrepresented in healthcare.

Application Deadline: August 11, 2023

**Berkeley Public Health Online Rural Health Innovation Program**

Scholarships for public health leaders working in rural communities to attend the online MPH program at Berkeley and participate in a rural health curricula cohort.

Application Deadline: August 13, 2023

**Rural Health Innovation Program**

Berkeley Public Health Online, with backing from the Barr-Campbell Family Foundation, will offer 25 fully paid scholarships per year to eligible online MPH students. All 25 Rural Health Scholars will study alongside a larger cohort of public health masters students across disciplines as well as a more intimate cohort that is equipped with a specialized rural health curricula.

Application Deadline: August 13, 2023 (for January 2024 start date)

**Advancing Equity in Aging**

Funding for projects designed to improve the lives of marginalized older adults by supporting healthy aging; improving access to care and support; and/or addressing ageism, racism, and systemic inequities.

Application Deadline: August 16, 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.
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.

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.

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.

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.

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** *NEW*

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

**Application Deadline: October 15, 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.
**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

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](#)

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

[Unsubscribe](#)