June 26, 2023

New Episode!
#98 - What Does a DO Do?

VRHA News
Members in the News

**Bath County Sheriff's patrol cars now equipped with trauma response kits**

Bath County has six ambulances to handle an average of 650 medical calls every year. Now, there will be 15 more patrol cars fully equipped with defibrillators and medical supplies.

The Central Shenandoah EMS Council provided the kits and the Titmus Foundation in Southern Virginia provided the AEDs with a $20,000 grant. **Bath Community Hospital** donated about $2,000 worth of medical supplies for the trauma kits.

By equipping patrol units with medical supplies, **Bath Community Hospital’s** president explained it can help prevent fatal outcomes.

“Seconds and minutes can save lives,” Jeff Lingerfelt said. “If you’re got the supplies that you need to be able to extend someone’s life until they can get into a more secure place like the hospital, it’s just critical.”

---

**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.

---

**National News**

**Rural Health Caucus Reintroduced in the House**
Representatives Jill Tokuda (D-HI) and Diana Harshbarger (R-TN) have teamed up to relaunch the Rural Health Caucus and shed light on the toughest issues facing rural providers.

The Congressional Bipartisan Rural Health Caucus will provide a forum for Members of Congress to advocate for legislation and policy actions that help increase access to quality, affordable health care and mental health services for all rural Americans.

In addition to supporting legislation, the Caucus will host briefings and events designed to educate and inform Members of Congress and the public about the most pressing health care needs in rural areas and potential policy solutions, including stemming hospital closures, ensuring fair and adequate reimbursement rates, strengthening the health workforce, reducing health inequities, expanding telehealth access, and other policies that enhance the quality and efficiency of health care services in rural areas.

Since 2010, 152 rural hospitals have shuttered their doors, including dozens since the onset of COVID-19. Over 40% of rural hospitals are operating with negative margins and therefore vulnerable to closure. When a rural hospital closes, not only does the community lose access to vital health care, but a major employer and community lynchpin ends affecting the larger community. NRHA looks forward to working with the Caucus to improve health care in rural areas and ensure provider doors stay open. Thank you, Reps. Tokuda and Harshbarger, for leading the effort to stand up such an important caucus and advocate for rural health. Join NRHA and the Rural Health Caucus in advocating for rural health today.

---

**Request for Data and Information on Minority Veterans**

The Department of Veterans Affairs Center for Minority Veterans is requesting data and information on minority and historically underserved Veterans. Historically underserved veterans include racial and ethnic minority veterans, including American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiians; LGBTQ+; those whose religious or conscientious identity, beliefs, and practices have been determined to be underserved; language barriers or are without citizenship status; and those in rural areas and on tribal lands. CVM requests available data and information on utilization, equity or demographic data, and potential barriers that underserved communities may face in accessing and benefitting from the agency's policies, programs, and activities. Comments are due by August 21, 2023.
**Calendar**

**Suicide Prevention in Rural Communities: A FREE SafeSide Prevention Live, Online Interactive Workshop**  
**July 25, 2023  12:00 - 3:30 pm  Virtual**

Rural service providers face unique challenges regarding the availability and access to mental health services and resources. To address these challenges, with funding from the Health Resources & Services Administration, the UR Medicine Recovery Center of Excellence has partnered with SafeSide Prevention to provide a workshop focused on suicide prevention training for service providers in rural communities at no cost.

---

**Resources**

**Changing Talk: Online Training (CHATO) Research Study**

Opportunity for nursing homes to participate in a research study testing the Changing Talk: Online Training (CHATO). The training focuses on the use of evidence-based, person-centered communication during interactions with older adults in nursing homes and other healthcare settings. Participants from rural areas are encouraged.

**2023 Scorecard on State Health System Performance**

Evaluates state health systems on a state-by-state basis. Enables comparison between state health systems across 58 measures, such as access and affordability, prevention and treatment, reproductive care and women’s health, and racial and ethnic equity, among others.

---

**Funding Opportunities**

**Community Mobility Design Challenge Grants *NEW***

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**

**Health Equity Leaders Program** *NEW*

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**

**Advancing Equity in Aging** *NEW*

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** *NEW*

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**

**Walmart Health Equity Scholarship for Pharmacy Students** *NEW*

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**

**Anti-Stigma Initiative Pilot Sites** *NEW*

Opportunity for sites to test and deploy new anti-stigma interventions and resources for communities. Applications from all over the country, including rural and tribal
communities are encouraged.

**Applications accepted on an ongoing basis**

**Rural Emergency Medical Communications Demonstration Project**

Provides funding for demonstration projects addressing rural medical communications in order to gain an understanding of barriers and best practices to coordinate emergency response across multiple jurisdictions.

**Application Deadline: July 28, 2023**

**Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas**

Grants for new organizations to assist veterans with transportation in highly rural areas. Applicants should provide transportation services to VA medical centers and assist with transportation services in connection with the provision of VA medical care to these veterans.

**Application Deadline: July 30, 2023**

**Technical Assistance and Construction for Innovative Regional Wastewater Treatment Solutions (TAC-RWTS) Grant Pilot Program**

Grants for the study, design, and/or construction of regional wastewater systems for historically impoverished communities that have had difficulty installing traditional wastewater treatment systems due to soil conditions.

**Application Deadline: July 31, 2023**

**Field-Initiated Approach to Addressing Racial Bias and Inequity in Child Welfare**

Grants for the development, implementation, and evaluation of field-initiated approaches to addressing racial bias and inequity in child welfare; and improving the safety, stability, and well-being of families in traditionally underserved communities.

**Application Deadline: July 31, 2023**

**Future Clinicians Scholarship Program**

Scholarships for underrepresented health professions students who are engaging in self-led community service and research, are developing critical professional skills, and are interested in working to address health disparities in medically underserved communities.
Application Deadline: July 31, 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

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)

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

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.

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.
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 7, 2024

The Role of Work in Health Disparities in the U.S. (R01 Clinical Trials Optional)

Grants for innovative population-based research in how work or occupation influences health outcomes and health status among health disparity populations and how work functions as a social determinant of health.

Application Deadline: September 8, 2024

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Social, Behavioral, and Economic Impact of COVID-19 in Underserved and Vulnerable Populations

Notice of Special Interest for research in understanding the response to the COVID-19 pandemic to help prepare more effectively for future public health emergencies. Populations that experience health disparities are a particular focus.

Application Deadline: September 8, 2024

The Role of Work in Health Disparities in the U.S. (R01 Clinical Trials Optional)

Grants for innovative population-based research in how work or occupation influences health outcomes and health status among health care disparity populations and how work functions as a social determinant of health.

Application Deadline: September 8, 2024

Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Disparities Affecting Healthcare Utilization and Health Outcomes Among Childhood Cancer Survivors

Notice of Special Interest for research to understand and address the full spectrum of factors that contribute to disparities in survivorship care, healthcare utilization, and health outcomes among childhood cancer survivors. Proposed projects must Include populations...
commonly experiencing disparities based on race or ethnicity, sex, sexual or gender minority status, insurance status, rural residence, socioeconomic disadvantage, or other demonstrated differences.

**Application Deadline: October 9, 2024**

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

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

**Application Deadline: May 7, 2025**

**Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Research Using Implementation Science to Support the Delivery of Evidence-Based Practices in Community-Based Mental or General Medical Healthcare Settings**

Notice of Special Interest for mental health services and implementation research to support the adoption and sustainability of evidence-based practices in community-based settings that deliver care to people with mental illness. Health disparity populations, including individuals living in rural areas, are a priority.

**Application Deadline: May 8, 2025**

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

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

**Application Deadline: May 8, 2025**

**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