



**VIRGINIA
RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION**



March 4, 2024



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New Episode!
[#112 - Rural Health Leadership](#)

VRHA News

Virginia Syndemic Townhall

March 14, 2024

4:30 pm

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center

Abingdon, VA

Join VRHA and Community Education Group at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center for the first Virginia Syndemic Townhall. We'll be bringing key stakeholders together in the Executive Auditorium to share their experiences addressing the syndemic of HIV, hepatitis, and substance use disorder along with economic development and workforce readiness in their community. Food and beverages provided.

If you'd like to attend or need more info, email Lovina John at ljohn@communityeducationgroup.org

Virginia News

Warner and Kaine Announce \$1.9 Million in Federal Funding for Projects in Rural Virginia

The funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission is broken down as follows:

\$700,000 for the Town of Stuart to implement projects in their downtown revitalization plan by expanding the roof at the Stuart Farmers' Market and building a 3,200 square foot "mega-deck" downtown to provide handicap accessibility to historic buildings, allow for outdoor programming, and connect the area to surrounding natural resources. Twenty-nine businesses in the area will benefit from this mega-deck.

\$700,000 for the St. Charles Monarch Waterline Replacement project in Lee County. This project will replace 9,970 feet of aging waterline, install 4 gate valves, and place 1 fire hydrant, which will improve water service for 38 homes.

\$500,000 for the Bland Ministry Center and Dental Clinic in Bland. This will support the construction of a dental clinic with seven dental procedure rooms, sterilization space, and x-ray and denture labs. This new clinic will double capacity for dental service in Bland and surrounding counties, serving an additional 3,600 patients within three years and hiring seven additional staff members.

Calendar

Rural Maternal Health Series Webinars

Webinars will cover information on achieving the Birthing-Friendly Hospital Designation from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, working with Perinatal Quality Collaboratives to improve care, implementing AIM bundles to improve patient safety, and how rural hospitals without birthing units can be prepared for patient needs.

1. [Achieving Birthing-Friendly Status in Rural Hospitals](#) – March 12, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.
2. [Engaging with Perinatal Quality Collaboratives for Rural Hospitals](#) – March 26, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.
3. [Implementing Patient Safety Bundles in Rural Hospitals](#) – April 9, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.
4. [Obstetric Readiness in Rural Facilities without Birth Units](#) – April 23, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. **Note 3:00 p.m. start time**

Research Strategies to Optimize Healthcare for People with Multiple Chronic Conditions from Populations Experiencing Health Disparities

March 18-19, 2024 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Virtual

Workshop will gather researchers, clinicians, subject matter experts, and others in the extramural community to 1) examine strategies for conducting multilevel research on MCC populations experiencing health disparities; 2) identify feasible methodologies and barriers to conducting the range of research on MCC; 3) discuss critical collaborations needed to successfully conduct such research; and 4) discuss analytical challenges and potential solutions.

Resources

Shaping Change at USDA: Final Report: Recommendations Made to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to Advance Equity for All

Report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Equity Commission to the USDA with 66 recommendations for improving equity in the department. Recommendations

cover issues such as nutrition assistance, farmers and farmworkers, rural housing, rural economies, and rural development among other topics.

Rural Economic Development Toolkit

A toolkit designed to assist rural stakeholders with improving their outdoor recreation economies. Focuses on population health, quality of life, resilient businesses and economies, and vibrant outdoor spaces. Includes information on economic development and best practices, networking and collaboration, funding, infrastructure needs, and addressing challenges.

Small Towns, Big Opportunities

Report evaluating rural employment opportunities, defined as a "good job" based on income thresholds. Discusses gender, race and ethnicity, educational attainment, population decline, disability, and more. Offers recommendations for rural growth through education, training opportunities, and emerging industries. Includes rural and urban comparisons in addition to county level maps for each state.

Funding Opportunities

Sexual Assault Services Culturally Specific Grant Program *NEW*

Grants to establish, maintain, and expand sustainable, culturally appropriate services that address the unique needs and challenges of victims of sexual assault from culturally specific communities.

Application Deadline: April 4, 2024

Opportunity Appalachia Targeted Technical Assistance *NEW*

Targeted technical assistance for downtown and **rural** development projects in Appalachian counties across 6 states. Priorities include projects focusing on downtown development, housing, manufacturing, IT, healthcare, education, food systems, clean energy, heritage tourism, and recreation.

Application Deadline: April 12, 2024

Health Equity Innovation Fund *NEW*

Through transformational, multi-year funding, the Genentech Innovation Fund grantees pursue community-driven solutions that have the power to promote lasting, widespread improvements in healthcare. Grants can be used to develop and test novel ideas or tools, implement demonstration projects, resource collaboration and partnership, and support research that goes beyond “studying the problem” or builds capacity within a single institution.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2024

Building Communities of Recovery *NEW*

Grants to support the development, enhancement, expansion, and delivery of recovery support services and recovery education for individuals with substance use disorders and co-occurring mental disorders. Rural populations are a priority.

Application Deadline: April 29, 2024

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program Grants *NEW*

Grants to improve telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas through the use of telemedicine, computer networks, and related advanced technologies.

Application Deadline: April 29, 2024

Healthy Eating Research: Supportive and Equitable Policies and Programs Enabling All U.S. Children and Adolescents to Thrive

Funding for research on supportive family policies and programs with a potential to impact equitable access to nutritious food in communities, nutrition security, diet quality, and improved nutrition and health outcomes.

Letter of Intent (Required): April 3, 2024

Application Deadline: July 10, 2024

PCORI Engagement Award: Capacity Building

Funds projects that encourage the integration of patients, caregivers, clinicians, and other stakeholders as members of the patient-centered clinical effectiveness research process.

Letter of Intent (Required): April 4, 2024

Application Deadline: July 10, 2024

Licensure Portability Grant Program

Funding for state licensing boards to develop and implement state policies that will reduce statutory and regulatory barriers to telehealth, with the ultimate goal of addressing workforce shortages and improving access to care in underserved and **rural** areas.

Application Deadline: April 8, 2024

Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment

Grants to implement screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment services for children, adolescents, and adults in primary care and community health settings with a focus on screening for underage drinking, opioid use, and other substance use.

Application Deadline: April 12, 2024

Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Assistance Program

Grants for projects designed to address and prevent sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking in **rural** communities.

Application Deadline: Apr 12, 2024

First Responders - Comprehensive Addiction & Recovery Act Grants

Funding to support first responders and members of other key community sectors on training, administering, and distributing naloxone and other Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved overdose reversal medications or devices. Funding is set aside for recipients serving **rural** communities.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2024

Provider's Clinical Support System - Universities

Funding to support graduate-level education for students in medical, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, and other eligible advanced practice nursing programs with a focus on treating opioid use disorders and prescribing medications for opioid use disorder in office-based settings upon graduation.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2024

Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program

Grants to state designated entities to assist Critical Access Hospitals with quality and performance activities, including: stabilizing **rural** hospital finance; integrating emergency medical services (EMS) into their healthcare systems; incorporating population health; and fostering innovative models of healthcare.

Application Deadline: April 16, 2024

[Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part C Capacity Development Grants](#)

Funding to assist eligible entities to strengthen their organizational infrastructure and to increase their capacity to develop, enhance, or expand access to high quality HIV primary healthcare services for low-income, uninsured, underinsured, and people in underserved and **rural** communities.

Application Deadline: April 16, 2024

[Drug-Free Communities Support Program](#)

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

Application Deadline: April 17, 2024

[Staff Sergeant Fox Suicide Prevention Grants](#)

Community-based grants for eligible entities to provide, or coordinate the provision of, suicide prevention services to eligible veterans and their families. Priority is given to **rural** communities, tribal lands, and medically underserved areas.

Application Deadline: April 26, 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

The Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program Competitive Grants

Funding to support projects that will increase the purchase of fruit and vegetables among low-income consumers who participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program by providing incentives at the point of purchase.

Application Deadline: May 14, 2024

AHRQ Safety Program for Telemedicine

Free learning cohorts of healthcare professionals who use telemedicine as a care delivery model. The 2024 cohort will begin in June 2024 and will focus on appropriate antibiotic use while maintaining patient satisfaction and reducing potential side effects in patients seen via telemedicine. Providers and practices from **rural** communities are encouraged to apply.

Application Deadline: May 23, 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

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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

AHRQ Health Services Research Projects

Support for specified health services research projects related to AHRQ's mission to produce evidence to make healthcare safer, higher quality, more accessible, equitable, and affordable. AHRQ's priorities include an interest in **rural** and frontier healthcare delivery.

Application Deadline: July 8, 2024

AHRQ Small Research Grant Program

Supports different types of health services research projects, including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology. **Rural** and frontier areas are considered a priority population.

Application Deadline: July 8, 2024

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 8, 2024

Rural Healthcare Provider Transition Project

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, 2024

[Virginia Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program](#)

Offers a J-1 Visa waiver to foreign physicians who commit to serving for 3 years in an underserved area of Virginia, allowing them to remain in the United States.

Application Deadline: August 31, 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 (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

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. (Ro1 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

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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 \(NOSI\): 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

[Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program](#)

Funding for community-driven projects that address climate challenges and reduce pollution while strengthening disadvantaged communities.

Application Deadline; November 21, 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

Stand Down Grants

Provides funding for events that offer homeless veteran populations a variety of social services designed to help them to reintegrate into their communities, such as housing, healthcare, and employment opportunities.

Application Deadline: September 30, 2025

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

Virginia Rural Health Association

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