



State Office of Rural Health Directory

and SORH Profile Survey Results Summary
(as of April 12, 2012)

National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health

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SORH Profile Survey

Brief Summary of Results

(as of 05/13/2010)



Response Rate

⚙ 40 states responded

⚙ Response rate by region:

- Region A – 73%
- Region B – 75%
- Region C – 90%
- **Region D – 100%**
- Region E – 70%

Quick Facts

⚙️ “Oldest” SORH (Nevada) established in 1966

⚙️ “Youngest” SORH (Texas) established in 1999

⚙️ **41%** –

- Percentage of SORHs established by state legislation
- Average percentage of state population considered “rural”

Quick Facts (cont.)

⚙️ Average number per state:

- Critical Access Hospitals – 28.85
- Rural Hospitals – 39.42
- Rural Health Clinics – 82.54
- FQHC/CHS Sites – 84.25
- Local Public Health Units – 65.03

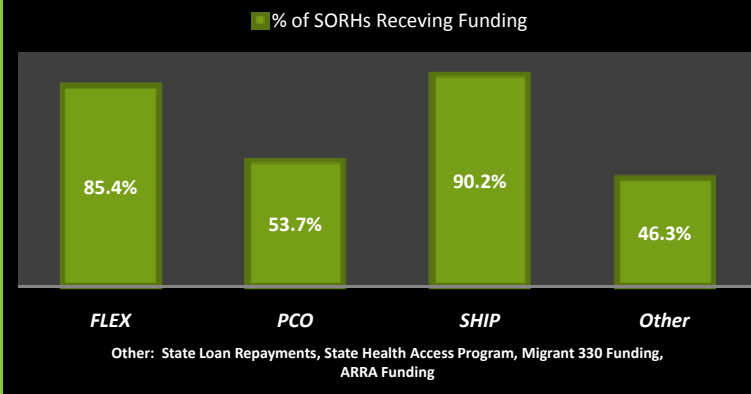
Budget Information

Average SORH Budget: \$5.45 million
(Range: \$600K - \$28.9 million)



Federal Funding

Other than SORH Funding, what Federal support does your office receive?



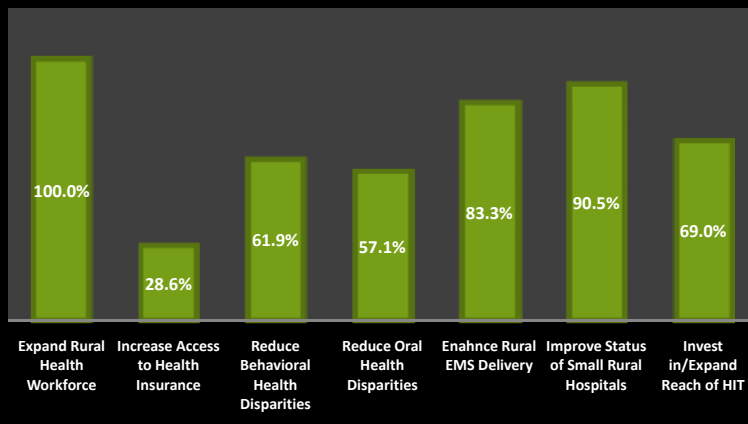
Committee Support

Does your SORH utilize any citizen, advisory or supervisory committee?



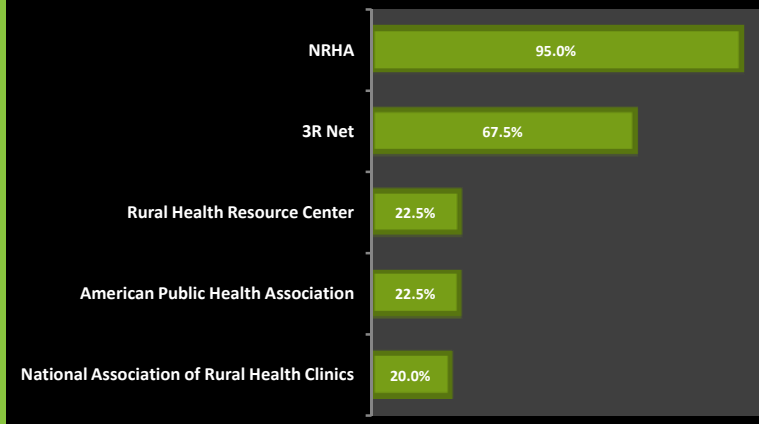
NOSORH Priority Areas

Percentage of SORHs Active in Specified Priority Area



National Affiliations

Top 5 (excluding NOSORH)



Working Relationships

State Associations/ Organizations	Formal	Informal	None/NA
State Rural Health Association	78.0%	4.9%	17.1%
State Hospital Association	56.1%	43.9%	0.0%
State PCA	65.9%	34.1%	0.0%
State PCO	75.9%	20.5%	2.6%
State QIO	39.5%	50.0%	10.5%
State Economic Development Organizations	15.8%	60.5%	23.7%
Higher Education Institutions/Agencies	57.5%	35.0%	7.5%

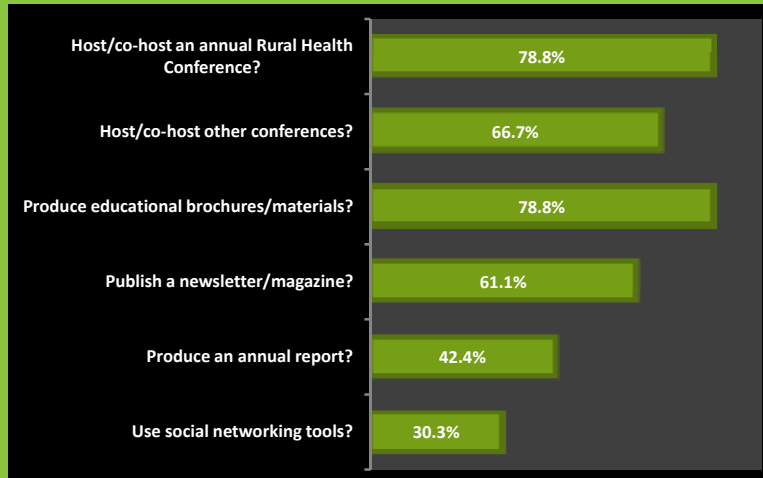
Working Relationships

State Government	Formal	Informal	None/NA
Governor's Office	46.3%	43.9%	9.8%
Department of Aging	2.6%	65.8%	31.6%
Department of Agriculture	15.0%	50.0%	35.0%
Department of Commerce/Community & Economic Development	7.5%	60.0%	32.5%
Department of Health	90.0%	7.5%	2.5%
Department of Welfare	20.5%	53.8%	25.6%
Other (i.e., Insurance Department, Department of Education, Veterans Affairs, etc.)	47.4%	26.3%	26.3%

Working Relationships

Federal Government	Formal	Informal	None/NA
AHRQ	7.7%	51.3%	41.0%
CDC	5.3%	55.3%	39.5%
HIS	5.4%	21.6%	73.0%
NIH	0.0%	27.8%	72.2%
SAMSA	2.9%	37.1%	60.0%
BPHC	52.5%	32.5%	15.0%
BHP	67.5%	25.0%	7.5%
Office of HIT	15.4%	46.2%	38.5%
ORHP	97.6%	2.4%	0.0%
RUS	2.9%	40.0%	57.1%
USDA	5.0%	52.5%	42.5%
VA	5.3%	52.6%	42.1%
Other (i.e., Department of Transportation, Department of State, Appalachian Regional Commission, etc.)	15.4%	15.4%	69.2%

Does Your Office...





Alabama Office of Primary Care and Rural Health

Charles Lail, Director

The RSA Tower, Suite 1040

201 Monroe Street

Montgomery, AL 36130-3017

Phone: (334) 206-5396

Fax: (334) 206-5434

Web: <http://adph.org/ruralhealth/>

Email: chuck.lail@adph.state.al.us

Mission:

Promote the availability of quality health care for all rural and medically underserved Alabamians.

Services:

Collect and disseminate information relating to rural health issues and needs; coordinate statewide rural health resources and activities; provide technical assistance to rural health providers and related entities; facilitate recruitment and retention of health professionals in rural areas; participate in strengthening state, local and federal partnerships.

2009 Impact Example:

The Alabama State Office of Rural Health partnered with the federal Office of Rural Health Policy and several state organizations to spearhead a Patient Safety and Clinical Pharmacy Services initiative with the Auburn University School of Pharmacy. This initiative employed the services of volunteer pharmacists to improve the treatment outcome of diabetes patients at a Federally Qualified Health Center. Target outcomes include improvements in patient counseling, medication reconciliation, drug information services, provider education and significant improvements in management of chronic diabetes. This project is being closely monitored for possible replication throughout the state.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 3

Total Annual Budget: \$1,504,512

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 69% State - 31% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 4,708,708

% of Population Considered Rural: 34%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals

3

Rural Hospitals

56

Rural Health Clinics

54

Rural FQHC/CHS Sites

130

Local Public Health Units

91



Alaska Office of Rural Health

Patricia Carr, Director

P.O. Box 110601

Juneau, AK 99811-0601

Phone: (907) 465-8618 Fax: (907) 467-6861

Web: www.hss.state.ak.us/dhcs/healthplanning/ruralhealth

Email: patricia.carr@alaska.gov

Mission:

The Alaska Office of Rural Health helps strengthen rural healthcare delivery systems by creating a focal point for rural health activities in the state.

Services:

Impact analysis and information dissemination on state and federal statutes/regulations; technical assistance/consultation to health facilities and community health organizations; technical assistance/consultation within the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services on the need for and provision of health services; leveraging of resources for populations and health programs within/outside state government.

2009 Impact Example:

By collaborating with many of Alaska organizations, the Alaska Office of Rural Health has been able to develop a statewide workforce plan that has been adopted by resolution by the Alaska Workforce Investment Board. The plan will also be presented to the commissioners of the Alaska departments of Health and Social Services, Education and Early Development and Labor and Workforce Development as well as the president of the University of Alaska.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 1

Total Annual Budget: \$720,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 25% State - 75% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 698,473

% of Population Considered Rural: 94%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	13	Rural Hospitals	16
Rural Health Clinics	3	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	25
Local Public Health Units	2		



Arizona Rural Health Office

Lynda Bergsma, SORH Program Director
Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health
University of Arizona
Drachman Hall, 1295 North Martin Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85724

Phone: (520) 626-2401 Fax: (520) 626-8716

Web: <http://rho.arizona.edu/>

Email: lbergsma@u.arizona.edu

Mission:

The mission of the Arizona Rural Health Office (RHO) is to promote the health of rural and medically underserved individuals, families and communities through service, education and research.

Services:

Serve as an information clearinghouse and providing targeted technical assistance to rural healthcare providers, entities and advocates; serve as a liaison between Arizona's 21 federally recognized Indian tribes/nations and the Indian Health Service; provide targeted skill development training for rural hospital/clinic personnel, EMS first responders, and other rural workforce personnel; provide rural service learning opportunities for students pursuing master's degrees in public health; conduct rural health workforce, rural health needs and other rural-health related assessments and analyses.

2009 Impact Example:

Funding from ORHP has not only enabled RHO to contribute to the survival, expansion and dramatic improvement of the state's small rural hospital system with Flex Program funding, but also provided resources to advance our capacity to provide extensive technical assistance and resources to Arizona's rural health provider agencies and their partners.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 15.82
Total Annual Budget: \$17,000,000
Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 46% State - 53% Other - 1%
Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 6,595,778
% of Population Considered Rural: 20%
Number of:
Critical Access Hospitals 14 Rural Hospitals 5
Rural Health Clinics 17 Rural FQHC/CHS Sites 145
Local Public Health Units 15





Arkansas Office of Rural Health & Primary Care

Bill Rodgers, Director

4815 West Markham Street, Slot 22

Little Rock, AR 72205

Phone: (501) 280-4560

Fax: (501) 280-4706

Web: www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/hometownHealth

Email: orhpc@healthyarkansas.com

Mission:

The Arkansas Office of Rural Health and Primary Care focuses on maintaining and increasing quality healthcare services to rural and underserved areas of Arkansas.

Services:

Administer SORH, FLEX and SHIP programs; administer state grant programs; information dissemination; recruitment and retention; network development

2009 Impact Example:

The Arkansas ORHPC collaborated with four Critical Access Hospitals, one rural hospital and The University of Arkansas' Medical Sciences Area Health Education Center to develop the Greater Delta Alliance for Health, a rural healthcare network in the southeastern corner (Mississippi Delta Region) of Arkansas. The Alliance, which has since received 501(c)(3) designation, has been successful in securing grant funding to establish a Medical Assistance Program and other health prevention programs. It also conducts outreach and provides health screening through the use of a mobile screening unit, and is now working on recruiting primary care physicians and specialists for their area.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 6.75

Total Annual Budget: \$12,171,460

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 10% State - 90% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 2,889,450

% of Population Considered Rural: 40%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	29	Rural Hospitals	14
Rural Health Clinics	69	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	62
Local Public Health Units	92		



California Office of Primary and Rural Health Care

Sandra Wilburn, Chief

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Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Phone: (916) 449-5770 Fax: (916) 449-5777

Web: www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/rural

Email: swilbur@dhs.ca.gov

Mission:

The California Office of Primary and Rural Health Care (OPRHC) provides the framework for linking small rural communities with state and federal resources for long term solutions to rural health issues



Colorado Rural Health Center

Lou Ann Wilroy, Chief Executive Officer
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Aurora, CO 80014

Phone: (303) 832-7493 Fax: (303) 832-7496

Web: www.coruralhealth.org

Email: info@coruralhealth.org

Mission:

The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) seeks to enhance healthcare services in the state by providing information, education, linkages, tools and energy toward addressing rural health issues.

Services:

Workforce recruitment and retention; Critical Access Hospital programs and services; Rural Health Center programs and services; rural health policy and advocacy; annual conference and membership benefits; community and economic development

2009 Impact Example:

CRHC partnered with the Colorado Primary Care Office to get a bill passed that provided state funding for health professional loan repayment and increased funding to support the PCO with functions such as HPSA designations and the J1 Visa Waiver program.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 28
Total Annual Budget: \$3,600,000
Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 31% State - 34% Other - 35%
Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 5,024,748
% of Population Considered Rural: 20%
Number of:
Critical Access Hospitals 29 Rural Hospitals 42
Rural Health Clinics 52 Rural FQHC/CHS Sites 115
Local Public Health Units





Connecticut Office of Rural Health

Barbara Berger, Director

Northwestern Connecticut Community College

Park Place East

Winsted, CT 06098-1798

Phone: (860) 738-6378

Fax: (860) 738-6443

Web: <http://ruralhealthct.org/>

Email: bberger@nwcc.commnet.edu

Mission:

The Connecticut Office of Rural Health (CT-ORH) seeks to promote the health of persons living in rural Connecticut through education, communication and partnerships and by focusing on the enhancement, access and promotion of quality healthcare for rural Connecticut."

Services:

Small grants program for rural communities to develop or implement quality improvement healthcare initiatives; small grants program for rural EMS provider groups for management development and recruitment/retention programs; facilitation of provider group meetings around rural health initiatives; grant-writing research assistance and group facilitation for rural health initiative development and issues

2009 Impact Example:

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 1.15

Total Annual Budget: \$178,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 100% State - 0% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 3,518,288

% of Population Considered Rural: 9%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	0	Rural Hospitals	0
Rural Health Clinics	0	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	7
Local Public Health Units	77		



Delaware Office of Primary Care and Rural Health

Kathy Collison, Director

417 Federal Street

Dover, DE 23219

Phone: (302) 744-4555 Fax: (302) 739-3313

Web: www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/chca/rural

Email: katherine.collison@state.de.us

Mission:

To assist communities in building health systems that are customer-centered, prevention-oriented, cost-conscious and accessible to all rural Delawareans.

Services:

Healthcare recruitment program; provider capacity studies (supply/distribution); healthcare recruitment conference; Youth into Health Careers program

2009 Impact Example:

The Office collaborated with the Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers to conduct cultural competency training for safety-net providers. The training included the fundamentals of cultural competency for healthcare professionals, and assisted participants in understanding the National Standards of Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) and how to apply these standards in a healthcare setting. The conference, which targeted physicians, nurses, social workers, front office staff, facility and site managers and supervisors, afforded networking opportunities for participants to learn from one another and to leverage one another as resources.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 1

Total Annual Budget: \$1,526,511

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 10% State - 90% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 885,122

% of Population Considered Rural: 21%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	0	Rural Hospitals	0
Rural Health Clinics	0	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	7
Local Public Health Units	15		



Florida Office of Rural Health

Bob Pannell, Director

4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin # C-15

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1735

Phone: (850) 245-4446 Fax: (850) 414-6470

Web: www.doh.state.fl.us/Workforce/RuralHealth/ruralhealthhome.html

Email: robert_pannell@doh.state.fl.us

Mission:

The Florida Office of Rural Health is charged with addressing the particular healthcare needs of Florida's rural citizens.



Georgia State Office of Rural Health

Charles Owens, Executive Director

502 Seventh Street South

Cordele, GA 31015-1443

Phone: (229) 401-3090

Fax: (229) 401-3084

Web: http://dch.georgia.gov/00/channel_title/0,2094,31446711_32385451,00.html

Email: cowens@dch.ga.gov

Mission:

To optimize the health status and eliminate the health disparities of persons in rural and urban underserved areas of Georgia through the development of regional systems of quality health care.

Services:

Leveraging state and federal resources (including financial) to improve health of Georgians; provide technical assistance to communities, providers and stakeholders regarding rural health; recruitment of health professionals; offer grant resources to communities and providers

2009 Impact Example:

The Georgia SORH received \$2.5 million from The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to support the development of four emergency room diversion clinics (including staffing) affiliated with hospitals (three rural, one urban). The project brought together several organizations that traditionally had not worked together formally to alleviate the burden of non-emergent care delivered in hospital emergency rooms.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 12

Total Annual Budget: \$11,000,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal – 60% State – 40% Other – 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 9,829,211

% of Population Considered Rural: 20%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	34	Rural Hospitals	32
Rural Health Clinics	80	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	121
Local Public Health Units	159		



Hawai'i State Office of Rural Health

R. Scott Daniels, Performance Improvement/Flex Coordinator

1250 Punchbowl Street, Room 120

Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: (808) 586-4188

Fax: (808) 586-4193

Web: <http://hawaii.gov/health/family-child-health/family-child-health/rural-health/>

Email: sorh@doh.hawaii.gov

Mission:

The Hawai'i State Office of Rural Health works with community partners to improve health in Hawai'i's rural communities; works with rural hospitals to improve care; works with providers to increase access to care by rural residents; and provides information concerning the health needs of rural Hawai'i.

Services:

Working with community partners to provide technical support for rural policy and advocacy activities; administer the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program, 3RNet and various community projects; identify and provide technical support and leadership for grants and federal programs with rural implications; administer J1-Visa program; coordinate with Primary Care Office on rural designations

2009 Impact Example:

In partnership with the University of Hawai'i, the Hawai'i SORH has implemented an open source electronic health records (EHR) system in three CAH facilities, expanded the high-speed data network to rural areas and is currently working on creating a regional extension center for Hawai'i and the Pacific.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 4

Total Annual Budget: \$1,090,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 59% State - 41% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 1,295,178

% of Population Considered Rural: 30%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	9	Rural Hospitals	14
Rural Health Clinics	2	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	48
Local Public Health Units	0		



Idaho State Office of Rural Health and Primary Care

Mary Sheridan, Director

P.O. Box 83720

450 West State Street, 4th Floor

Boise, ID 83720-0036

Phone: (208) 334-0669

Fax: (208) 332-7262

Web: www.ruralhealth.dhw.idaho.gov

Email: ruralhealth@dhw.idaho.gov

Mission:

To promote access to quality health care for people in Idaho.

Services:

Provide technical assistance, information and data to clients, agencies, organizations and communities; fortify health infrastructure by supporting statewide programs; strengthen workforce recruitment and retention efforts; collect and disseminate information and increase awareness on health resources, policy and information; provide workshops and training to support the healthcare safety net in rural and underserved areas.

2010 Impact Example:

In partnership with Family Medicine Residency of Idaho and Boise State University, the Idaho State Office of Rural Health created a tool to identify facility and community challenges and strengths related to primary care physician recruitment and retention. The “Community Apgar Program” tool, which helps healthcare leadership and boards create an action plan to address their specific needs, is being applied in Critical Access Hospitals and Community Health Centers statewide. The Idaho SORH also awarded sub-contracts totaling \$226,000 to improve healthcare quality, financial/operational performance and Emergency Medical Services in Critical Access Hospital communities. Projects include activities such as overcoming barriers in reporting to Hospital Compare, health information technology and financial education.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 4.0

Total Annual Budget: \$1,310,566

Primary Funding Sources: Federal – 85% State – 15% Other – 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 1,545,801

% of Population Considered Rural: 34%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	27	Rural Hospitals	29
Rural Health Clinics	46	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	28
Local Public Health Units	7		



Illinois Center for Rural Health

Julie Casper, Public Service Administrator

535 West Jefferson Street

Springfield, IL 62761

Phone: (217) 782-1624

Fax: (217) 782-2547

Web: www.idph.state.il.us/about/rural_health/rural_home.htm

Email: julie.casper@illinois.gov

Mission:

To improve access to primary health care and to encourage community involvement in health issues

Services:

Provide grants to hospitals, community-based organizations and community health centers; provide scholarships for nursing, medicine, PA and APNs, podiatry; assist rural hospitals through Flex and SHIP programs; develop designations for underserved areas; administer state and federal educational loan repayment programs

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 6.5

Total Annual Budget: \$12,658,810

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 20% State - 57% Other - 23%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 12,910,409

% of Population Considered Rural: 17%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	51	Rural Hospitals	79
Rural Health Clinics	213	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	386
Local Public Health Units	95		



Indiana State Office of Rural Health

Ann Alley, Director of Primary Care and Rural Health

2 North Meridian Street, 2J

Indianapolis, IN 46204-3003

Phone: (317) 233-7830 Fax: (317) 233-7761

Web: www.in.gov/isdh/24432.htm

Email: aalley@isdh.in.gov

Mission:

For Indiana to become a leader in supporting rural health providers and in providing rural citizens with the quality and performance improvement support needed by critical access hospitals

Services:

Improve collection and dissemination of rural health-related information; coordinate rural health resources and activities; provide technical assistance; encourage recruitment and retention of health professionals in rural areas; participate in strengthening state, local and federal partnerships.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 1

Total Annual Budget: \$1,998,256

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 56% State - 44% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 6,423,113

% of Population Considered Rural: 60%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals 35

Rural Health Clinics 59

Local Public Health Units 92

Rural Hospitals

Rural FQHC/CHS Sites 19



Iowa Bureau of Oral & Health Delivery Systems (State Office of Rural Health)

Gloria Vermie, Director
321 East 12th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

Phone: (515) 281-7224 Fax: (515) 242-6384

Web: www.idph.state.ia.us/hpcdp/rural_health.asp

Email: gvermie@idph.state.ia.us

Mission:

The Iowa State Office of Rural Health (IORH) is a federal-state partnership to better ensure healthcare access in rural areas, help communities and organizations identify and resolve issues and build rural health infrastructure. The Office provides rural health advocacy and outreach, coordination of rural health resources and consultation to communities and healthcare providers in rural Iowa communities.

Services:

Coordinate bi-monthly ACCESS Update electronic newsletter (1012 readers and an average of 525 web downloads monthly); liaison with national organizations, state legislature and congressional offices and staff to respond to requests and relay Iowa rural health information and updates; coordinate processes for Rural Health Clinic location eligibility and the Governor's RHC Designation for IA counties; technical assistance to providers, stakeholder groups and the public through training sessions, communications, presentations and site visits; support state rural provider recruitment through activities and funding of state loan repayment program and 3RNet. Serves on several state and national boards and councils, delivers bimonthly training and education sessions for health providers.

2009 Impact Example:

Primary investigator and author for the 2009 Komen Community Profile Report that highlighted health care disparity and need for breast cancer prevention and detection services in underserved rural counties. The report was widely accepted by national and state leaders. As a result the Des Moines IA Komen Affiliate implemented a unique grant funding opportunity for women in 5 underserved rural counties.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 6
Total Annual Budget: \$720,000
Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 25% State - 75% Other - 0%
Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 3,007,856
% of Population Considered Rural: 43%
Number of:
Critical Access Hospitals 82 Rural Hospitals 10
Rural Health Clinics 139 Rural FQHC/CHS Sites 12
Local Public Health Units 101





Kansas Office of Rural Health

Sara Roberts, Director

1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 340

Topeka, KS 66612-1365

Phone: (785) 296-1200 Fax: (785) 296-1231

Web: www.kdheks.gov/olrh/rural.html

Email: olrh@kdhe.state.ks.us

Mission:

The Kansas Office of Rural Health links rural communities with state and federal resources to help them support sustainable healthcare delivery systems, and ensures access to services in rural Kansas.

Services:

Maintain the Kansas Rural Health Information Service for information dissemination; administer Small Hospital Improvement Program and FLEX program; support rural healthcare workforce recruitment and retention efforts, provide technical assistance, information and data; offer informational workshops and webinars; advocate for rural interests on multiple health policy groups and maintain rural health website.

2009 Impact Example:

The Kansas Office of Rural Health partnered with the Kansas Bureau of Health Promotion (a CDC-funded program) to expand a statewide diabetes quality of care project into more rural areas throughout the state. Rural funding was used to facilitate the participation of rural clinics in a project focused on improving care management of diabetic patients in the clinic setting and launching a web-based Diabetes Primary Prevention (DPP) pilot project.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 2.25

Total Annual Budget: \$1,740,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 100% State - 0% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 2,818,747

% of Population Considered Rural: 36%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	83	Rural Hospitals	95
Rural Health Clinics	177	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	9
Local Public Health Units	100		



Kentucky Office of Rural Health

Larry Allen, Director

750 Morton Boulevard

Hazard, KY 41701

Phone: (606) 439-3557

Fax: (606) 435-0038

Web: www.mc.uky.edu/ruralhealth/korh.asp

Email: lalle2@uky.edu

Mission:

To support the health and well-being of Kentuckians by promoting access to rural health services.

Services:

Administration and oversight of rural health grant programs; technical assistance; resource referral service; recruitment and retention

2009 Impact Example:

Kentucky had no formal trauma plan until 2009, when the Kentucky Office of Rural Health helped create partnerships that now enable small rural hospitals to receive Rural Trauma Team Development Training. A quote from a recently trained hospital: "Since our RTTD class we have had more traumas than usual. Our staff voiced that the class prepared them for these traumas, and they cannot imagine what it would have been like if we had not had the training. THANK YOU for making the class possible for us."

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 5

Total Annual Budget: \$1,300,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 100% State - 0% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 4,314,113

% of Population Considered Rural: 44%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	29	Rural Hospitals	44
Rural Health Clinics	137	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	94
Local Public Health Units	120		



Louisiana Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health

Gerrelda Davis, Director

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Mission:

The Louisiana Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health (BPCRHR) is dedicated to improving the health status of Louisiana residents in rural and underserved areas. The Bureau works proactively to build the capacity of community health systems in order to provide integrated, efficient and effective healthcare services.

Services:

Practice management consulting; health systems development; resource development; public information services; chronic disease prevention and control/integration with primary care

2009 Impact Example:

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of HRSA, the Louisiana Hospital Association, the Rural Hospital Performance Improvement Program, the Louisiana Rural Health Information Exchange and the Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health, Bunkie General Hospital – a Critical Access Hospital with two provider-based Rural Health Clinics – has implemented several dynamic programs. These include leadership development and mid-level management training programs, community health profile and disease prevention programs, and HIT improvement and rural telemedicine programs.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 6

Total Annual Budget: \$180,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal – 100% State – 0% Other – 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 4,492,076

% of Population Considered Rural: 63%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	27	Rural Hospitals	51
Rural Health Clinics	108	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	72
Local Public Health Units	70		





Maine Office of Rural Health and Primary Care

Charles Dwyer, Director

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Email: charles.dwyer@maine.gov

Mission:

Supporting all Maine people in living healthy and productive lives

Services:

Administer Maine's SORH, Flex and SHIP grant activities; provide an information clearinghouse for rural stakeholders; convene the state Telemedicine Advisory Group; convene the statewide Health Workforce Forum; co-coordinate the Rural Medical Access Program

2009 Impact Example:

The Maine State Office of Rural Health and Primary Care partnered with the State Oral Health Program to develop a program that would 1) develop a collaborative marketing campaign to bring dental health professionals to Maine; 2) provide education and training to dental and medical professionals to increase access to oral health assessment and care; and, 3) increase the number of middle and high school students exposed to dental health careers and hands-on activities related to dental health.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 4

Total Annual Budget: \$1,335,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 70% State - 30% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 1,318,301

% of Population Considered Rural: 49%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	15	Rural Hospitals	19
Rural Health Clinics	40	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	119
Local Public Health Units	11		



Maryland Office of Primary Care & Rural Health

Elizabeth Vaidya, Director

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Mission:

To improve the health of rural Marylanders through collaboration, networking, outreach, education, research, advocacy and the development of special programs.

Services:

Technical assistance; funding alerts; coordination of state rural health resources and activities; recruitment and retention; collection and dissemination of information with local, state, and federal partners

2009 Impact Example:

The Office partnered with the Rural Maryland Council to host the Statewide Rural Roundtable – a one-day event that gave state rural leaders an opportunity to talk about important rural issues and how organizations can collaborate. Hot topics in rural health, rural economic development, and family asset building were discussed. A session entitled “Recruitment—Rural Healthcare Workforce Programs to Help Recruit and Retain Health Professionals”, featured two rural Maryland primary care physicians enrolled in Maryland Workforce programs. They discussed experiences with recruitment and retention and with the J1 Program and the Loan Assistance Repayment Program.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 1.67

Total Annual Budget: \$669,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal – 25% State – 75% Other – 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 5,699,478

% of Population Considered Rural: 29%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	0	Rural Hospitals	18
Rural Health Clinics	0	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	13
Local Public Health Units	18		



Massachusetts Office of Rural Health

Cathleen McElligott, Director

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Mission:

The Massachusetts Office of Rural Health (Massachusetts SORH) provides leadership for improving rural health by assessing needs, building partnerships, assisting with accessing resources, strengthening rural healthcare delivery systems and developing long-term solutions to rural health problems.

Services:

Needs assessment and planning analysis; technical assistance to rural healthcare organizations and community groups; rural health leadership at the state, regional and local level; provider of information and educational/networking opportunities; coordination of initiatives and projects that address rural healthcare needs

2009 Impact Example:

The Massachusetts SORH has been a key partner on the Massachusetts Hospital Stroke Advisory Committee. The SORH staff has coordinated the delivery of education and technical assistance to rural hospitals (especially to promote the Primary Stroke Services (PSS) Program) and assisted them with preparing for and obtaining PSS designation. In the first three years, 11 out of 12 rural hospitals successfully obtained PSS designation and are now important members of the PSS care network. The remaining rural hospital also upgraded its stroke services using the regulations and has contracted with a prominent tele-stroke service provider for neurology, radiology, and expert stroke service videoconference consultation.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 4

Total Annual Budget: \$673,706

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 84.5% State - 15.5% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 6,593,587

% of Population Considered Rural: 12%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals

3

Rural Hospitals

9

Rural Health Clinics

1

Rural FQHC/CHS Sites

285

Local Public Health Units

351



Michigan Center for Rural Health

John Barnas, Executive Director

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Mission:

To coordinate, plan and advocate for improved health for Michigan's rural residents and communities.

Services:

Recruitment and retention services for hospitals, FQHCs and RHCs; distance education to rural providers and administrators; state and national healthcare advocacy; small hospital quality improvement activities

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 6

Total Annual Budget: \$1,300,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 87% State - 9% Other - 4%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 9,969,727

% of Population Considered Rural: 20%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	35	Rural Hospitals	60
Rural Health Clinics	127	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	10
Local Public Health Units	13		



Minnesota Office of Rural Health and Primary Care

Mark Schoenbaum, Director

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Mission:

The Minnesota Office of Rural Health and Primary Care (ORHPC) promotes access to quality health care for rural and underserved urban Minnesotans. From its unique position within state government, ORHPC works as a partner with communities, providers, policymakers and other organizations to develop innovative approaches, tools and resources to serve its diverse populations.

Services:

Rural health policy analysis; workforce development programs and workforce data analysis; grants and technical assistance; Minnesota State Trauma System; Minnesota State Primary Care Office

2009 Impact Example:

ORHPC invested \$13.5 million in state loan and grant funds to support the adoption and meaningful use of electronic health records by rural and other safety net health care providers. This state investment complements federal priorities and investments in the transition to health information technology. ORHPC also developed Minnesota's State Trauma System, through which 108 mostly rural hospitals have become designated trauma centers.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 21

Total Annual Budget: \$22,900,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 15% State - 85% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 5,266,214

% of Population Considered Rural: 30%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	79	Rural Hospitals	100
Rural Health Clinics	74	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	29
Local Public Health Units	50		



Mississippi Office of Rural Health

Rozelia Harris, Director

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Mission:

The Mississippi State Office of Rural Health (MORH) works to help rural communities build productive healthcare delivery systems.



Missouri Office of Primary Care and Rural Health

Barbara Brendel, Rural Health Coordinator

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Email: info@dhss.mo.gov

Mission:

To help communities provide access to all necessary healthcare services to all their residents

Services:

Recruitment and retention; assist in building community-based systems that work to make sure healthcare needs are met across the state; provide loan repayment funding to increase health professionals in rural communities; Webinars, newsletters and reports on health indicators.

2009 Impact Example:

The Missouri Office of Primary Care & Rural Health (OPCRH) collaborates with the Missouri Primary Care Association (MPCA) to increase healthcare access by assisting in recruitment and retention projects that place medical professionals in underserved and rural areas. OPCRH provides a link from 3RNet directly to the Missouri Practice Sites program; since January 2009, there have been 6,803 hits to that site (a 60% increase from the previous year). From these contacts, nine providers were placed into practices in Missouri.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 12

Total Annual Budget: \$2,419,351

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 74% State - 26% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 5,987,580

% of Population Considered Rural: 27%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	36	Rural Hospitals	46
Rural Health Clinics	356	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	142
Local Public Health Units	114		



Montana Office of Rural Health

Kristin Juliar, Director

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Mission:

The essential function of the Montana Office of Rural Health (MORH) is to ensure access to health care for citizens living in rural and frontier areas of the state.

Services:

Conduct research and report on workforce and other rural health-related topics; provide community health and wellness, continuing education and technical assistance programs; offer recruitment and retention programs; maintain Small Hospital Improvement Program; health information exchange.

2009 Impact Example:

HealthShare Montana (HSM), an organization of Montana healthcare leaders/stakeholders and chaired by the MOR director, is developing and implementing a statewide health information exchange infrastructure (HIE). The infrastructure will have the capacity to support health information delivery to the point-of-care; enable point-of-care support to assist with preventative care and management of chronic illness; will allow performance reporting; and will enable electronic prescribing with medication reconciliation. HSM has received major state and federal funding and has been named the state designated HIE entity by the governor.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 3.5

Total Annual Budget: \$720,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 25% State - 75% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 974,989

% of Population Considered Rural: 76%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	47	Rural Hospitals	4
Rural Health Clinics	45	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	24
Local Public Health Units	54		



Nebraska Office of Rural Health

Dennis Berens, Director

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Email: officeofruralhealth@hhss.ne.gov

Mission:

To define and promote the development of a healthcare system that assures the availability and accessibility of quality health care services to meet the needs of the residents of rural Nebraska

Services:

Incentive programs for up to eight professions; Primary Care Office; state and federal shortage area designation; community and professional technical assistance; rural health pilot program(s) initiator

2009 Impact Example:

The Nebraska SORH created and facilitates the Veteran's Partnership in Nebraska, a partnership of the VA, the National Guard, the State Veterans Affairs/LTC, and the Nebraska Department of Behavioral Health. The group has created a formal charter and is working on five goals. They also have jointly sponsored two wellness conferences for our National Guard units and two suicide prevention educational workshops.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 6

Total Annual Budget: \$2,500,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 62% State - 38% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 1,796,619

% of Population Considered Rural: 49%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	65	Rural Hospitals	66
Rural Health Clinics	132	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	7
Local Public Health Units	19		



Nevada Office of Rural Health

Caroline Ford, Director

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Mission:

The Nevada Office of Rural Health is dedicated to improving the health of rural Nevadans; serves as a focal point for a variety of rural health-related programs; and provides state and national leadership in addressing recruitment and retention issues, technology resources and the promotion of graduate medical education.

Services:

Technical assistance; information dissemination; recruitment and retention assistance; loan Repayment and OB access service; telecommunication/telemedicine services; education

2009 Impact Example:

The Nevada Office of Rural Health is part of the Nevada Telehealth Network, a partnership with Nevada's rural hospitals and health centers that provides compressed video technology to support administrative uses of healthcare practitioners, facilities and organizations; broadcasts continuing education, continuing medical education and educational courses to 56 community sites; and provides telemedicine opportunities that enable rural/frontier patients to be seen by a practitioner in a comfortable environment, without having to travel long distances from home communities.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 4

Total Annual Budget: \$792,740

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 35% State - 15% Other - 50%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 2,643,085

% of Population Considered Rural: 11%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	11	Rural Hospitals	15
Rural Health Clinics	9	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	42
Local Public Health Units	3		



New Hampshire Rural Health and Primary Care

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Mission:

To improve the overall health of New Hampshire's rural and underserved citizens by providing equitable and effective access to primary healthcare services to all of our citizens.

Services:

Technical assistance to rural communities; support of CAH and SHIP hospitals; rural healthcare workforce development; support of rural safety-net providers; focal point in state government for rural health

2009 Impact Example:

New Hampshire's State Office of Rural Health worked with the state's Health Promotion Section on a project to gather data on third grade children's oral health status and body mass index (BMI). This effort expands a pilot done in 2008 where oral health and BMI assessments were done with 12 Headstart Programs located around the state. The survey, completed before the end of the 2008-2009 school year, was the first statewide combined oral health assessment and BMI survey focusing on third graders.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 2.33

Total Annual Budget: \$1,103,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 45% State - 55% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 1,324,575

% of Population Considered Rural: 37%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	13	Rural Hospitals	14
Rural Health Clinics	11	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	15
Local Public Health Units	3		



New Jersey State Office of Primary Care/Rural Health

Linda D. Anderson, Coordinator

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Mission:

To serve as a statewide resource for rural health concerns, to improve rural health and to foster access to health services for rural New Jerseyans

Services:

Build coalitions at the state and local level for program integration; identify duplication and gaps in services for a defined area; conduct community-based assessments using state and local data

2009 Impact Example:

Funds have been provided the past three years to support an ombudsman to work with the Latino population in one of our richest counties. This person obtained a list of appointments for patients and contacted each if he/she did not keep the appointment. Funds were also used to develop culturally appropriate literature and place articles in newspapers most read by the Latino population in the county. This population's compliance rate doubled; as a result, the Latino Access Council has been able to obtain additional funding and a federally qualified health center now serves the county. Lastly, there are discussions underway to construct a freestanding dental health center to be operated by the FQHC with limited support from county freeholders.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 1.6

Total Annual Budget: \$600,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 33.3% State - 66.7% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 8,707,739

% of Population Considered Rural: 15%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals

0

Rural Hospitals

0

Rural Health Clinics

0

Rural FQHC/CHS Sites

97

Local Public Health Units

108



New Mexico Office of Rural Health/Primary Care

Britt Catron, Director

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Mission:

Activities of the New Mexico State Office of Rural Health are integrated with rural health efforts of the New Mexico Department of Health to create a coordinated approach to meeting the needs of rural underserved populations in the state.

Services:

New Mexico is a predominantly rural state, with 26 of its 33 counties considered rural or frontier counties. All of the rural counties are designated, in whole or in part, as Health Professional Shortage Areas, as well as Physician Scarcity Areas by the Medicare Program.

2010 Impact Example:

New Mexico's Flex program continues its partnership with NMMRA, the state's only designated Medicare Quality Improvement Organization, to maintain and expand its statewide rural health care quality network. NMMRA will conduct quality and performance improvement activities (quarterly quality meetings, trainings, webinars, on-line tools, and on-site meetings and assessments) and serve as a consultant to the state on a special multi-grantee project focused on Medicare Beneficiary Health Status Improvement. The SORH continues to partner with the Emergency Medical Services Bureau to provide targeted regions with training, communications, personnel recruitment/retention of personnel and improving EMS medical direction. The SORH also seeks to partner with the Office of Health Promotion and Community Health Improvement to provide support that enables CAHs and communities to partner through county health councils on projects/initiatives that address unmet health and health service needs.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 5

Total Annual Budget: \$801,474

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 100% State - 0% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 2,009,671

% of Population Considered Rural: 36%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	6	Rural Hospitals	13
Rural Health Clinics	43	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	60
Local Public Health Units	11		



New York (Charles D. Cook) Office of Rural Health

Karen Madden, Director

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Web:

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Mission:

Maintain and increase access to quality health care services for residents of New York's rural communities.

Services:

Administer state and federal rural programs; facilitate communication between rural providers, the Department of Health and other state agencies; provide technical assistance to rural providers and communities; coordinate statewide rural health policy; conduct rural health planning

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 5

Total Annual Budget: \$19,420,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 4% State - 96% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 19,541,453

% of Population Considered Rural: XX%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals 13

Rural Hospitals 46

Rural Health Clinics 8

Rural FQHC/CHS Sites 408

Local Public Health Units 58



North Carolina Office of Rural Health and Community Care

John Price, Director

311 Ashe Avenue

2009 Mail Service Center

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Email: john.price@dhhs.nc.gov

Mission:

The North Carolina Office of Rural Health and Community Care (ORHCC) assists underserved communities and populations develop innovative strategies for improving access, quality and cost-effectiveness of health care.

Services:

Rural Health Centers program; Community Care of NC & HealthNet service; Rural Hospital Assistance program; Prescription Assistance program (NCRx Service); Farmworker Health program

2009 Impact Example:

ORHCC has developed and sustained a long, collaborative relationship with the North Carolina Community Health Center Association (North Carolina's PCA). In addition to hosting an annual Primary Care Conference, this collaborative effort has led to the formation of regional "network collaborations" which, in turn, strengthen the safety net network.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 42

Total Annual Budget: \$28,909,354

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 18% State - 73% Other - 9%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 9,380,884

% of Population Considered Rural: 46%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals 23

Rural Health Clinics 86

Local Public Health Units 79

Rural Hospitals 42

Rural FQHC/CHS Sites 28



North Dakota Center for Rural Health

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The State Office of Rural Health program in the North Dakota Center for Rural Health is a federal-state partnership that helps rural communities build their healthcare services through public and private partnerships and initiatives in rural health development.

Mission:

Connecting resources and knowledge to strengthen the health of people in rural communities

Services:

Technical assistance to rural communities and others; information dissemination; program evaluation; meeting facilitation; strategic planning and needs assessments.

2009 Impact Example:

The Center for Rural Health has utilized ORHP Outreach, Network Development and Network Planning grants since their inception. For example, the Center has worked with the community of Langdon on an Outreach grant. The facilitated a community discussion on wellness and disease prevention; conducted a community needs assessment; assisted the three network partners in preparing writing a grant; and conducted a program evaluation after the grant was funded. This shows how a SORH can provide direct assistance to community groups by helping them build community capacity and assisting them in meeting local needs.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 63

Total Annual Budget: \$6,000,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 76% State - 14% Other - 10%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 646,844

% of Population Considered Rural: 47%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	38	Rural Hospitals	0
Rural Health Clinics	64	Rural FQHC/CHC Sites	4
Local Public Health Units	28		



Ohio State Office of Rural Health

Tina Turner-Myers, Rural Health Administrator/SORH Director

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Web: www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/chss/PCRH_Programs/rural_health/rhealth1.aspx

Email: bchssd@odh.ohio.gov

Mission:

To strengthen Ohio's rural healthcare delivery systems and to mitigate disparities in access to healthcare services created by rurality.

Services:

Serve as a clearinghouse for rural health-related information and resources; provide technical assistance and support to Ohio's rural health clinics and to rural communities interested in pursuing RHC certification; produce reports, research, etc., on rural health issues; collaborate with the Ohio Primary Care Office (PCO) on rural workforce development programs, including state and federal loan repayment and policy development.

2009 Impact Example:

The strength of Ohio's Flex Program is the result of the relationship that the Ohio State Office of Rural Health (SORH) has developed with the Ohio Hospital Association (OHA). In the beginning, the SORH put together a core planning group that included the OHA and rural hospitals to develop its State Rural Health Plan; the SORH also worked with the OHA to provide technical assistance and resources to rural hospitals as they made the decision to convert to CAH status. What was initially expected to be a very small program in Ohio has grown to 34 certified CAHs.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 7

Total Annual Budget: \$5,749,045

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 25% State - 75% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 11,542,645

% of Population Considered Rural: 24%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals

34

Rural Hospitals

Rural Health Clinics

11

Rural FQHC/CHS Sites 36

Local Public Health Units



Oklahoma Center for Rural Health

Val Schott, Director

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Email: val.schott@okstate.edu

Mission:

The Center for Rural Health seeks to support the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences and its College of Osteopathic Medicine by seeking to improve healthcare in rural Oklahoma through student education, residency training, research, program application, advocacy and alliances with others who share its goals.

Services:

Development & delivery of quality improvement programs for rural providers; development & delivery of community engagement programs for rural communities; participation in the development & operation of rural educational programs for providers; development & delivery of educational programs for rural hospitals and providers; advocacy for policy and programs that benefit rural providers, rural communities and rural residents

2009 Impact Example:

The Oklahoma Center for Rural Health conducts an annual rural hospital conference that focuses on improvements in the quality of healthcare services and advancements in technology to further that goal. The conference has grown to the point that the Center we now routinely expect 250 participants representing about 90% of Oklahoma's rural hospitals.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 4

Total Annual Budget: \$1,920,916

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 68% State - 32% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 3,687,050

% of Population Considered Rural: 47%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	33	Rural Hospitals	95
Rural Health Clinics	39	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	13
Local Public Health Units	68		



Oregon Office of Rural Health

Scott Ekblad, Director

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Oregon Health & Science University

Portland, OR 97239-3098

Phone: (503) 494-4450 Fax: (503) 494-4798

Web: <http://www.ohsu.edu/ohsuedu/outreach/oregonruralhealth/>

Email: ekblads@ohsu.edu

Mission:

To improve the quality, availability and accessibility of health care for rural Oregonians.

Services:

Technical assistance; recruitment and retention services; rural health-related information clearinghouse; annual rural health conference; policy development/advocacy

2009 Impact Example:

ORH's relationship with HRSA has allowed us to create the Oregon Partnership State Loan Repayment Program, which enables healthcare providers to receive loan repayment in a 1:1 match with their new employer. Through its partnership with the Oregon EMS Office, ORH also offers free monthly educational webinars that allow rural EMTs and First Responders to earn CE credits without leaving their communities. ORH has also continued emergency simulations that allow rural providers the opportunity to work together, improve their skills and test their emergency systems.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 11

Total Annual Budget: \$1,601,235

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 60% State - 35% Other - 5%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 3,844,195

% of Population Considered Rural: 38%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	25	Rural Hospitals	35
Rural Health Clinics	59	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	29



Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health

Lisa A. Davis, Director

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University Park, PA 16802

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Email: porh@psu.edu

Mission:

To enhance the health status of rural Pennsylvanians through education, outreach, advocacy, applied research and special programs and projects.

Services:

Continuing education; information dissemination; rural representation on health and other pertinent committees/organizations; quality improvement support to critical access hospitals; applied research in areas relevant to rural health on the state and national level.

2009 Impact Example:

In 2009, PORH coordinated two one-day grants technical assistance workshops that provided basic grant-writing tips and techniques to attendees and introduced them to grant opportunities available through the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. Fourteen applications were submitted to ORHP as a result of the workshops, four of which received funding.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 7

Total Annual Budget: \$1,137,596

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 63% State - 31% Other - 5%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 12,604,767

% of Population Considered Rural: 23%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals

13

Rural Hospitals

60

Rural Health Clinics

55

Rural FQHC/CHS Sites

229

Local Public Health Units

64



Rhode Island Office of Primary Care and Rural Health

Mia Patriarca-O'Flaherty, Acting Chief

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Web: www.health.ri.gov/disease/primarycare/rural-OPC.php

Email: Mia.Patriarca@health.ri.gov

Mission:

The mission of the Rhode Island SORH is to promote continued improvement in the health status of residents in rural Rhode Island.



South Carolina Office of Rural Health

Graham Adams, Chief Executive Officer

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Lexington, SC 29072

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Fax: (803) 454-3860

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Mission:

The South Carolina Office of Rural Health (SCORH) is dedicated to improving access to quality care in rural communities.

Services:

Provide comprehensive RHC Services (third party billing and coding, cost reports, 855s, survey walk-throughs, etc.); recruitment and retention of primary care providers; provide low-interest loans to rural providers and facilities; support and educate rural EMS providers; encourage network development.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 33

Total Annual Budget: \$6,000,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 70% State - 10% Other - 20%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 4,561,242

% of Population Considered Rural: 25%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	5	Rural Hospitals	28
Rural Health Clinics	114	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	150
Local Public Health Units	46		



South Dakota Office of Rural Health

Sandra Durick, Director

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Pierre, SD 57501

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Email: sandra.durick@state.sd.us

Mission:

To improve the delivery of health services to rural and medically underserved communities, emphasizing access

Services:

Provide support/assistance to sustain rural healthcare facilities; provide support/assistance to recruit and retain rural healthcare professionals; provide support/assistance for statewide trauma system development; educate through workshops and conferences to improve access to quality healthcare throughout the state.

2009 Impact Example:

The South Dakota Office of Rural Health and Department of Public Safety and the South Dakota EMT Association have joined forces to develop the Partnership for Emergency Patient Care (PEPC), an effort to implement statewide outreach training for pre-hospital and hospital personnel. Grant funding provided by The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust will fund three fully-equipped mobile training units and two smaller outreach models. The units will include adult male, pregnant female, infant, and pediatric human patient simulators.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 7

Total Annual Budget: \$1,790,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 88% State - 12% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 812,383

% of Population Considered Rural: 69%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	38	Rural Hospitals	46
Rural Health Clinics	60	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	39
Local Public Health Units	82		



Tennessee Office of Rural Health

Patrick Lipford, Director

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Nashville, TN 37247-5210

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Fax: (615) 253-2100

Web: <http://health.state.tn.us/rural/index.html>

Email: patrick.lipford@state.tn.us

Mission:

To improve and enhance the accessibility, availability and affordability of quality health care in Tennessee by creating a central focus and coordination of rural healthcare resources

Services:

Small rural hospital programs; recruitment and retention activities; technical assistance

2009 Impact Example:

The Tennessee Office of Rural Health acts as a fiscal intermediary for federal programs that assist eligible small rural hospitals through grant programs such as the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program, the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program and the Delta Rural Hospital Improvement Program.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 1

Total Annual Budget: \$600,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 25% State - 75% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 6,296,254

% of Population Considered Rural: 58%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals 17

Rural Health Clinics 40

Local Public Health Units 95

Rural Hospitals

Rural FQHC/CHS Sites 100



Texas Department of Rural Affairs

Linda Jones, State Office of Rural Health Director

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Mission:

To enhance the quality of life for rural Texans

Services:

Recruitment and retention assistance for communities; infrastructure funding for rural hospitals; support of Critical Access Hospitals

2009 Impact Example:

TDRA was able to successfully improve the quality of life and healthcare delivery in two rural communities by implementing Health Information Technology/telemedicine services as a state demonstration model through funding from the Office of Rural Health Policy.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 6

Total Annual Budget: \$5,500,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 40% State - 60% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 24,782,302

% of Population Considered Rural: 15%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	76	Rural Hospitals	150
Rural Health Clinics	316	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	57
Local Public Health Units	63		



Utah Office of Primary Care and Rural Health

Vance B. Eggers, Program Manager

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Email: vbegggers@utah.gov

Mission:

The Office of Primary Care and Rural Health is a health resource for Utah's rural, multicultural and underserved communities. The Office coordinates federal, state and local efforts aimed at improving the health of Utah's rural, medically underserved and multicultural residents.



Vermont Office of Rural Health and Primary Care

John Olson, Chief

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Fax: (802) 951-1275

Web: http://healthvermont.gov/local/rural/rural_health.aspx

Email: jolson@ahs.state.vt.us

Mission:

The mission of the Vermont Office of Rural Health and Primary Care is to improve the health status of Vermonters by improving and sustaining their access to appropriate medical, oral and behavioral health services of high quality.

Services:

Planning, technical assistance and resources to improve access to health services throughout Vermont; strategic activities are being implemented to increase the healthcare workforce, improve quality of clinical care, enhance the use of health information technologies, strengthen the rural health and primary care infrastructure, reduce health disparities and evaluate and report progress.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 2.85

Total Annual Budget: \$2,043,880

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 34% State - 66% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 625,741

% of Population Considered Rural: 66%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	8	Rural Hospitals	1
Rural Health Clinics	15	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	43
Local Public Health Unit	12		



Virginia Division of Primary Care and Rural Health

Kathy Wibberly, Director

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Email: Kathy.Wibberly@vdh.virginia.gov

Mission:

The Division of Primary Care and Rural Health promotes health equity throughout the Commonwealth by improving access to quality care, supporting the development of models of care and addressing barriers related to rurality. The rural health mission is to address health inequities and its root causes in rural areas.

Services:

Ensure that appropriate information concerning rural health issues is provided to rural healthcare providers, administrators, policymakers and other key stakeholders efficiently and effectively; facilitate the exchange of information and resources between public, nonprofit and private sector partners in efforts to expand access to quality health services in rural settings; administer/ support Office of Rural Health Policy grants and programs; provide programs and services to build and maintain an effective health workforce in rural Virginia; strengthen and grow strategic alliances to continuously improve rural health care.

2009 Impact Example:

The Division's partnerships with the Virginia Rural Health Association, Virginia Rural Health Resource Center, the Center for Rural Virginia and the Virginia Community Healthcare Association has allowed it to advance recommendations from the State Rural Health Plan in giant steps. One major accomplishment was the development and launching of our Rural Health Data Portal found at: <http://vrhrc.org/data-portal>.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 8

Total Annual Budget: \$1,536,374

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 25% State - 75% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 7,882,590

% of Population Considered Rural: 38%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals 7 Rural Hospitals 48

Rural Health Clinics 53 Rural FQHC/CHS Sites 75

Local Public Health Units 192



Washington State Office of Rural Health

Kristina Sparks, Director

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Olympia, WA 98504-7834

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Fax: (360) 664-9273

Web: www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/ocrh/

Email: kris.sparks@doh.wa.gov

Mission:

Connecting rural communities to resources

Services:

Technical assistance; recruitment; system development; grant support

2009 Impact Example:

The Office's Rural Outreach Nursing Education project provides nursing education to areas of Washington with limited access, thereby helping address a critical skill shortage through classes delivered online and with hands on experience in the rural hospital. By recruiting within their communities and providing on-site training, rural communities can now "grow their own" nursing staffs. Rural hospitals, clinics and other outpatient facilities provide hands-on clinical experience as part of this two-year associate degree registered nurse program.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 7

Total Annual Budget: \$3,715,651

Primary Funding Sources: Federal -36% State - 61% Other - 3%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 6,664,195

% of Population Considered Rural: approximately 25%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	38	Rural Hospitals	43
Rural Health Clinics	133	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	140
Local Public Health Units	34		



West Virginia Division of Rural Health and Recruitment

Melissa Wheeler, Director

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Charleston, WV 25301-3716

Phone: (304) 558-4382 Fax: (304) 558-1437

Web: www.wvochs.org/orhp/default.aspx

Email: melissa.s.wheeler@wv.gov

Mission:

To serve as the focal point for rural health issues in West Virginia and contribute to innovative approaches for addressing the rural healthcare needs of our citizens.

Services:

Rural grant funding; health professional loan repayment; health shortage designations for the state; bring rural healthcare issues to the forefront at the state and national levels; provide rural health-related technical assistance for hospitals, clinics, health professionals and rural communities

2009 Impact Example:

Working with West Virginia's regional representative from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and its federal representative for the Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) program, WVDRHR secured a fully defined use of the mountainous terrain qualification for CAH conversion. This newly expanded definition enabled each state to work with its Department of Transportation to define areas for designation as mountainous terrain. The new definition is dependent not only on the elevation, but also the conditions of the roads being traveled. This affects hospitals if they are located in mountainous terrain and less than 35 miles away from another healthcare facility.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 9

Total Annual Budget: \$1,454,047

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 62.6% State - 37.4% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 1,819,777

% of Population Considered Rural: 100%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	18	Rural Hospitals	25
Rural Health Clinics	56	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	127
Local Public Health Units	49		



Wisconsin Office of Rural Health

John Eich, Director

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Madison, WI 53705

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Fax: (608) 261-1893

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Email: eich@wisc.edu

Mission:

Champion the highest quality of health care for rural and underserved populations by providing collaborative leadership and a wealth of resources to healthcare and community organizations

Services:

Discovery, creation and distribution of resources for rural healthcare providers; recruitment of physicians and dentists; discovery, research/creation and distribution of rural health information for the state; provision of technical assistance to rural healthcare providers; convener of coalitions to create programming and/or policy around rural health

2009 Impact Example:

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 8.5

Total Annual Budget: \$2,745,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 60% State - 27% Other - 13%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 5,654,774

% of Population Considered Rural: 27%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	59	Rural Hospitals	75
Rural Health Clinics	50	Rural FQHC/CHS Sites	17
Local Public Health Units	73		



Wyoming Office of Rural Health

Sharla Allen, Director

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Email: sharla.allen@wyo.gov

Mission:

The Wyoming Office of Rural Health (ORH) seeks to enhance access to healthcare services, support the development of adequate healthcare workforce and promote collaboration in expanding comprehensive, community-based healthcare in rural Wyoming.

Services:

Administer SORH, Flex, SHIP, and PCO federal grants; administer state-funded grant programs (Wyoming Healthcare Professional Loan Repayment Program, Wyoming Physician Recruitment Grant Program, Magnet Designation, Small Hospital Improvement, Community Assessment); contract with Wyoming Health Resources Network, Inc. (3RNet member) for physician, nurse practitioner, and physician assistant recruitment and retention.

2011 Impact Example:

The ORH performed a census of state mental health professionals by census tract to examine capacity and distribution of the mental health workforce in Wyoming. Each mental health office was asked a series of questions to complete federal Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designation applications. ORH then correlated addresses to census tract data to allow ORH to determine if federal shortage designations at the census tract level were in Wyoming's best interest. The census resulted in realignment of mental health HPSA designations with Wyoming Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division regions, and the entire state remained a Mental Health HPSA.

Additional Information:

Number of FTE Employees: 3 part-time, 1 contracted

Total Annual Budget: \$1,475,000

Primary Funding Sources: Federal - 35% State - 65% Other - 0%

Types of Federal Grant Support Received: SORH FLEX PCO SHIP Other

State at a Glance:

State Population: 563,626

% of Population Considered Rural: 71%

Number of:

Critical Access Hospitals	16	Rural Hospitals	24
Rural Health Clinics	16	Rural FQHC/CHC Sites	4
Local Public Health Units	32		