**Steal Sheet - December 2015**

NOSORH offers Steal Sheet articles for SORHs to distribute in emails, in your (or your partners’) newsletter, on web sites, Facebook pages, etc. The December Steal Sheet includes:

**New Resources:**

1) RAC Name Changing to Rural Health Information Hub

**Funding Roundup:**

1) FY16 Rural Health Network Development Planning Program

**New Resources:**

1) RAC Name Changed to Rural Health Information Hub

On December 1st, the Rural Assistance Center relaunched as the Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub). The website has also moved to **ruralhealthinfo.org.** All raconline.org pages will be forwarded to the new domain, but we encourage you to update your links and bookmarks to the site.

Rural stakeholders will continue to be able to take advantage of these free resources, which are funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. You can find resources to help share the news — such as new videos, a downloadable flyer, a PowerPoint slide, and articles — and request RHIhub promotional products in the [Spread the Word](https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/collaborate/) section.

If you have any questions or suggestions about publicizing the name change, contact Kristine Sande at [ksande@raconline.org](mailto:ksande@raconline.org) or 701.777.6466. Thank you for all you do to help spread the word about this free service!

Funding Roundup:

1) FY16 Rural Health Network Development Planning Program

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy is pleased to announce the release of the Rural Health Network Development Planning Program (Network Planning) funding opportunity. This is a one-year community-driven program targeted to assist in the planning and development of an integrated health care network. Health care networks can be an effective strategy to address a broad range of challenges unique to rural communities by bringing together rural health care providers and other community organizations. For grantees, this funding provides an opportunity to implement new and innovative approaches to adapting to a changing health care environment that may serve as a model to other rural communities to better align and coordinate local health care services. The increasing focus on showing value in health care delivery creates incentives to develop regional systems of care that preserve local autonomy for rural communities while also ensuring access to the appropriate continuum of care for the local service population. Previously funded projects supported efforts related to workforce retention and recruitment, behavioral health, telehealth, care coordination and health information technology.

Historically, grantees have mastered the art of leveraging finances by using FORHP grants to catapult their sustained efforts; they have been able to combine federal funds with local and foundation dollars to support the continuation and development of health care services in rural areas. The previous cohort of Network Planning grantees secured over $2.2M in additional funding to assist in sustaining their programs, demonstrating the importance of collaboration with other organizations in the community.

For the first time, applications that propose strategies to support continued access to viable health care services are encouraged. Recognizing that 57 rural hospitals have closed since 2010, communities that have emergency medical services that either have at least one rural hospital at financial risk of closing and/or converting or within communities that have experienced a recent hospital closure and/or conversion may submit an application. Network planning activities that model evidence-based frameworks or models that work are encouraged as well.

To learn more about applying for the FY16 Rural Health Network Development Planning Program (HRSA-16-017), please visit [http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279931](http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=279931" \t "_blank) (click the“package” tab) or contact Amber Berrian at [aberrian@hrsa.gov](mailto:aberrian@hrsa.gov" \t "_blank). The deadline to apply is **January 8th, 2016**.

**Technical Assistance Webinar**

FORHP will hold a technical assistance webinar on **Wednesday, December 2, 2015** at **2:00 PM – 3:00 PM (EST)**to assist applicants in preparing their applications.

The Adobe Connect webinar and call-in information is as follows:

Conference line (for audio): 800-593-0693, passcode: 2922383

URL (for web): [https://hrsa.connectsolutions.com/networkplanningtawebinar/](https://hrsa.connectsolutions.com/networkplanningtawebinar/" \t "_blank)

(Please enter as a “guest”)

Prior to joining, please test your web connection: [https://hrsa.connectsolutions.com/common/help/en/support/meeting\_test.htm](https://hrsa.connectsolutions.com/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm" \t "_blank)