**Steal Sheet - January 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 January Steal Sheet includes:

* RAC Resources
* Rural Research Gateway
* Online Accredited Teamwork and Communication Course
* Easy-to-Understand Medicine Instructions in 6 Languages

**1. Rural Assistance Center Update**

New Guide on Rural Human Services

Human services play an important role in addressing the social determinants of health and controlling healthcare costs. The new Rural Assistance Center topic guide, [Human Services to Support Rural Health](http://www.raconline.org/topics/rural-human-services), gives an overview of the issues, provides key sources of information related to rural human services, and shares ideas of how rural healthcare and human services providers can work collaboratively to ensure that patients have access to the social supports necessary to meet their basic needs.

This guide was developed by RAC Information Specialist Holly Gabriel, with assistance from Jocelyn Richgels, Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI); Larry Goolsby, American Public Human Services Association; and Kathleen Belanger, School of Social Work, Stephen F. Austin State University.

New Guide on Community Health Workers

RAC recently launched a new topic guide, [Community Health Workers in Rural Settings](http://www.raconline.org/topics/community-health-workers). The guide outlines the roles that community health workers can play in rural settings, identifies sources of data and information about community health workers, and covers issues related to training and training programs.

The guide was developed by RAC Information Specialist Kathleen Spencer, with assistance from Diana Abeyta, Office of Community Health Workers, New Mexico Department of Health; and Susan Mayfield-Johnson and Carol West, [American Public Health Association – Community Health Workers Section](http://apha.org/apha-communities/member-sections/community-health-workers).

**New in the Rural Health Models and Innovations Hub**

**Successful rural programs added recently include:**

* [Rural Health Initiative](http://www.raconline.org/success/project-examples/778/?utm_source=racupdate&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=update121014" \t "_blank) (Wisconsin) - Free health screenings, health coaching, and community referrals provided in-home or on-site for farmers and agribusinesses.
* [Smiles for Life](http://www.raconline.org/success/project-examples/779/?utm_source=racupdate&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=update121014" \t "_blank) (Ohio) - A partnership between a public health department and area dental providers offers dental treatment to low-income adults.
* [Targeted Rural Underserved Track (TRUST) Program](http://www.raconline.org/success/project-examples/780/?utm_source=racupdate&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=update121014" \t "_blank)(WWAMI states) - Places medical students in a rural medical setting prior to beginning schooling and allows them to return regularly to learn and work within the same community.

**2. Rural Health Research Gateway**

The [Rural Health Research Gateway](http://www.ruralhealthresearch.org) (Gateway) provides free electronic access to publications and projects funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP). The primary purpose of Gateway is to provide access to rural health services research and publications with the intent of informing and influencing health policy.

As part of the SORH role in information dissemination, this website and the optional alert emails that provide periodic updates when new publications become available may be of interest to rural communities in your state. Please consider adding this link as a resource on your state’s webpage. If you have specific questions regarding the Rural Health Research Gateway or to get a description (shorter or longer) that would better match the layout of your websites resources page, you can contact Shawnda Schroeder at Shawnda.schroeder@med.und.edu.

EXAMPLES:

1. Rural Assistance Center: <http://www.raconline.org/publications/topics/key-rural-publications>

Rural Health Research Gateway

Provides access to all of the research and findings of the Office of Rural Health Policy's (ORHP) Rural Health Research and Policy Analysis Centers. Covers current and completed research projects and publications resulting from those projects. Includes information about the research centers and individual researchers.

*Resource type: Website*

*Sponsoring organization: Office of Rural Health Policy*

2. South Carolina Rural Health Research Center: <http://rhr.sph.sc.edu/link.html>

Rural Health Research Gateway

<http://www.ruralhealthresearch.org/>

The Centers study critical issues facing rural communities in their quest to secure adequate, affordable, high quality health services for their residents. This site provides summaries of current and completed research projects and related publications.

**3. Register Now for January Online TeamSTEPPS® Master Trainer Course**

AHRQ is offering TeamSTEPPS Master Training online as an accredited course for health care professionals interested in improving patient safety and health care quality. TeamSTEPPS is an evidence-based teamwork approach to improve communication and teamwork skills among health care professionals. The next groups of learners will begin in January, so create an account and begin your pre-course preparation now to ensure you are able to begin with your preferred group. To register and enroll, select: <http://ce.ahrq.gov/teamstepps/>.

**4. Easy-to-Understand Medicine Instructions in 6 Languages Now Available**

AHRQ Grantee Simplifies Medicine Instructions

Explicit, standardized instructions that improve patients’ understanding, and possibly reduce errors while improving adherence, are now available from the [AHRQ Pharmacy Health Literacy Center](http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/quality-patient-safety/pharmhealthlit/index.html). These tested instructions for pills follow the Universal Medication Schedule (UMS), which simplifies complex medicine regimens by using standard time periods for administration (morning, noon, evening, and bedtime). The instructions have also been translated into Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

To access the instructions in all six languages, go to: <http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/quality-patient-safety/pharmhealthlit/prescriptionmed-instr.html>.

To learn about other tools and resources available from the AHRQ’s Pharmacy Health Literacy Center, go to: <http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/quality-patient-safety/pharmhealthlit/index.html>.