

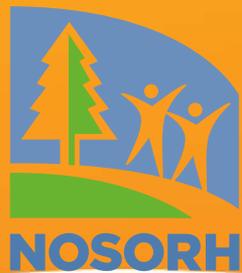
ASTHO & NOSORH: Working Together to Connect State Offices of Rural Health, Primary Care Office, & State and Territorial Health Officials

NOSORH Annual Meeting 2017

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National Organization of
State Offices of Rural Health



About ASTHO

ASTHO is the national nonprofit organization representing the state and territorial public health agencies of the United States, the U.S. territories and freely associated states, and the District of Columbia. ASTHO's members, the chief health officials of these jurisdictions, are dedicated to formulating and influencing sound public health policy and assuring excellence in public health practice.

Vision

Healthy people thriving in a nation free of preventable illness and injury.

Mission

To transform public health within states and territories to help members dramatically improve health and wellness.

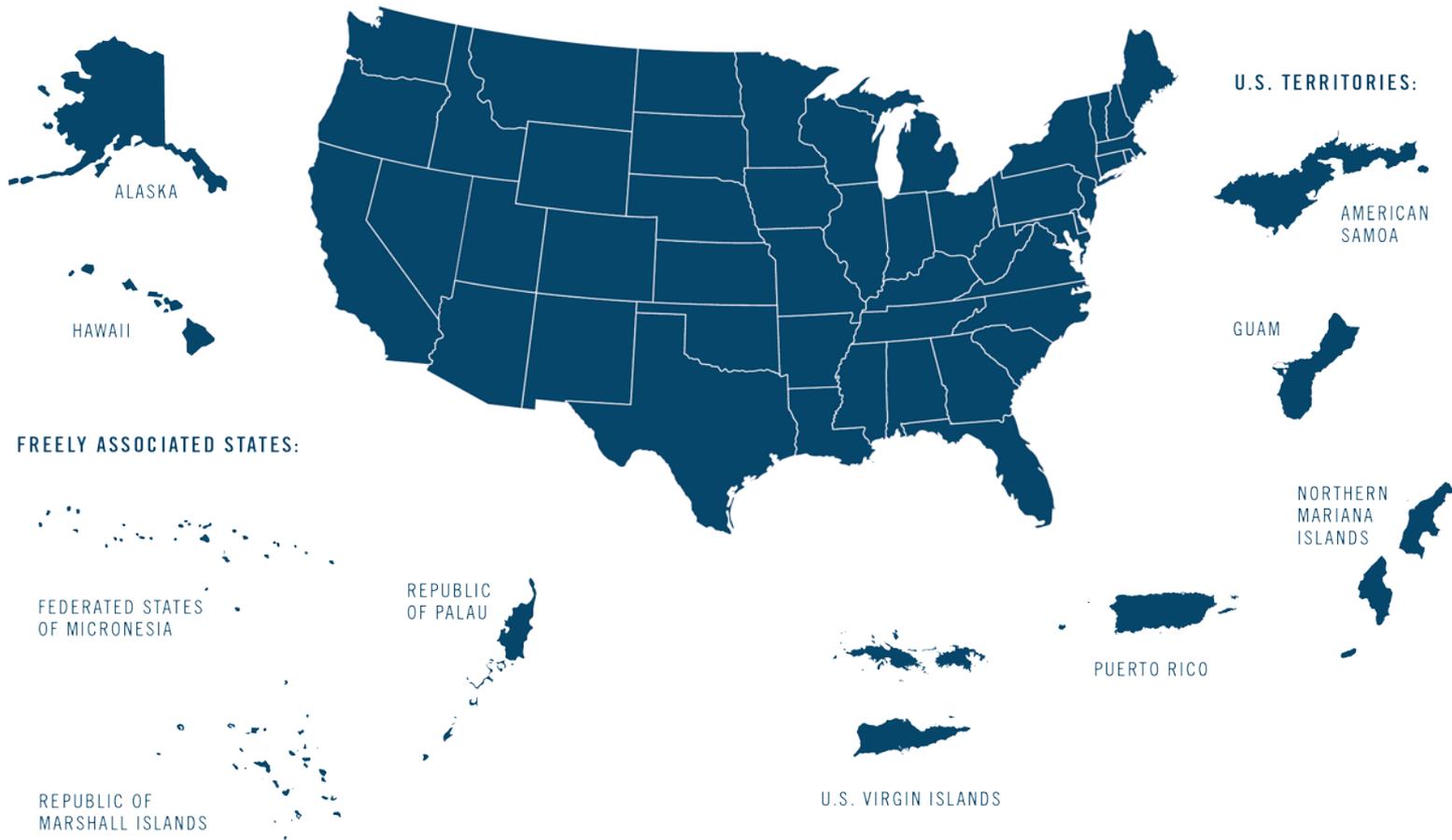


About ASTHO

- ASTHO is the only organization that represents the interests of the nations' 54 state and territorial health officials (S/THOs) and agencies.
- Founded in 1942, ASTHO has been providing technical assistance and advancing state and territorial public health for 75 years.
- ASTHO currently provides a range of technical assistance and capacity building products and opportunities for state and territorial public health agencies through public and private funding.



ASTHO Membership



About ASTHO's Rural Health & Primary Care Work

- ASTHO has supported rural health initiatives in states, as well as provided technical assistance and support to state primary care offices (PCOs) for over eight years, thanks to a cooperative agreement with HRSA.
- The primary goal of this work is to improve public health programs at the national, state, and local levels by partnering with state and local government entities and programs that contribute to population health and health policy development.

About ASTHO's Rural Health Work

- **NOSORH-Supported Work**
 - State Offices of Rural Health Factsheet
 - Connecting PCOs and SORHs during ASTHO's PCO Training Academy site visits (2016 & 2017)
 - S/THO and PCO participation at NOSORH's 2016 Annual Meeting:
 - Presentations by Lillian Shirley (SHO-OR), Mike Fraser (ASTHO), and Deb Fournier (NH Medicaid).
 - Supported PCO mentor/mentee attendance at NOSORH's 2016 Annual Meeting

About ASTHO's Rural Health Work

- **NOSORH-Supported Work**

- Webinar with New Hampshire S/THO and SORH on Rural Clinics' Role in Hypertension and Diabetes Management (November 2016)
- Community-Based Health Needs Assessment Activities: Opportunities for Collaboration Between Public Health Departments and Rural Hospitals (2017)
- Quick Reference Guide to Social Determinants of Health for SORH and S/THOs (2017)

- **Other ASTHO Rural Health Work**

- Rural Health Issue Brief: Making an Impact in Five Years

About ASTHO's Primary Care Work

- ASTHO's work focuses on PCOs as units of state/territorial health agencies, and how PCOs can work effectively within those structures.
 - For example, how PCOs can work with S/THOs.
 - We provide resources to help build PCO partnerships with state health equity offices, state Medicaid offices, and other internal stakeholders.
 - Also focus on PCO relationships with external stakeholders, such as primary care associations (PCAs).

About ASTHO's Primary Care Work

- **PCO Training Academy and Mentorship Program**
 - Offered this during each of the past three years of our cooperative agreement with HRSA (since 2014). Program involves in-state site visits between mentors and mentees, and as of 2017 an in-person meeting with all participants.
 - Year 1 – reached 18 PCO staff; Year 2 - reached 17 PCO staff; Year 3 – reached 13 PCO staff.
- **PCO communications via a Google Group**
 - ASTHO maintains a Google Group “list serve” for PCOs. Allows PCOs to message one another as a group- for example, to ask if any other PCO has a solution to a problem. Goal is to have at least one PCO director/staff from each state.
- **Support the PCO National Committee**
 - Provides technical support to the PCO National Committee, hosting four quarterly calls with the full committee and monthly check-in calls with Chair and Vice-Chair.

About ASTHO's Primary Care Work

- **Develop and share resources**
 - PCO Manual (updated version May 2017)
 - Outlines PCO purpose, roles & responsibilities, processes, and deadlines & due dates.
 - Contains links to relevant federal and non-federal informational resources.
 - PCO/PCA Collaboration Issue Brief
 - Focused on highlighting how primary care offices and primary care associations can collaborate. Focuses on concrete recommendations and steps that PCOs and PCAs can take to improve their joint work and coordination with state examples and success stories.
 - Webinars
 - Patient-Centered Medical Homes (August 2016)
 - Behavioral Health Integration (August 2016)
 - Provider Retention and Recruitment (June 2016)

Challenges & Lessons Learned in Increasing S/THO, PCO, and SORH Collaborations

- The chain-of-command may not lend itself to collaboration between SORH and S/THO.
- Time and bandwidth limitations - PCOs are mostly funded through HRSA to do specific work under cooperative agreement, so if this is work outside that scope, can be challenging.
- ASTHO's work typically more focused around population health initiatives – and that hasn't traditionally been a focus for SORH.
- Lack of universal terminology and guidance related to addressing Social Determinants of Health in resource-limited rural areas.

Opportunities for Increasing S/THO, PCO, and SORH Collaborations

- ASTHO/NOSORH could focus more in the future on “best practices for joining PCO and SORH work” – examples on how that could work in an issue brief?
- Other suggestions and ideas for work ASTHO and NOSORH could do in the future to support S/THO, PCO, and SORH collaboration?

ASTHO Resources

- **ASTHO Primary Care Resources**

(www.astho.org/Programs/Access/Primary-Care/)

- ASTHO's main page for information about the intersection of primary care and public health.

- **Primary Care Office Resources**

(<http://www.astho.org/Programs/Access/Primary-Care/Primary-Care-Office-Resources/>)

- ASTHO's primary care work includes information specifically aimed at primary care office directors. This page includes technical assistance tools, presentations, webinars, and reports.

- **State Offices of Rural Health Factsheet**

(<http://www.astho.org/Health-Systems-Transformation/State-Offices-of-Rural-Health-Fact-Sheet/>)

ASTHO Resources Continued

- **Rural Health Issue Brief**

- (<http://www.astho.org/Programs/Health-Systems-Transformation/Medicaid-and-Public-Health-Partnerships/Documents/Improving-Rural-Health--Making-an-Impact-in-Five-Years/>)

- **Integration Forum**

- (<http://www.astho.org/Primary-Care-and-Public-Health-Integration/>)
- ASTHO's Integration Forum explores linkages between public health and primary care. The Integration Forum page includes links to its annual report, state stories, call notes, and past newsletters.