MISSION
Improve the health status of rural and underserved people through advocacy, education, and assistance to providers, communities, and policymakers.

SERVICES
- Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program
- Rural Health Clinic Services
- Primary Care Practice Transformation Support
- Rural Recruitment & Retention Services
- Rural Health Revolving Loan Fund Program

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Designed and launched the South Carolina Rural Health Action Plan (RHAP), an intensive, multi-stakeholder planning process to craft actionable recommendations to improve the health of rural communities.
- Secured a 3 year, $900,000 grant, SC Rural Access to Veterans Health Resources, from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy to serve 4,222 rural South Carolina Veterans with unmet behavioral health needs.
- Implemented the Blueprint for Health Program, a Blue Cross Blue Shield of SC Foundation effort to support rural counties in addressing root causes of poor health in their communities.
- Supported 26 Rural Health Clinics / rural primary care practices achieve Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) recognition through the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), most at Level 3.

IMPACT EXAMPLE
- The Rural Health Revolving Loan Fund has leveraged $136 million and created over 822 jobs in South Carolina since its inception.
- Nine Sustainability Plans were finalized for targeted small rural hospitals under the SC Hospital Transformation Fund to help hospital leaders make informed decisions regarding their hospital’s future.
- Worked with SC DHHS and SCHA to support the Hospital Transformation Fund directing up to $40 million to create linkages between large health systems and 15 targeted rural hospitals. Six total projects have been approved to date.
- Assisted the SC State Park Service in securing an AED for every SC State Park.
- Distributed sixty AEDs to thirty-one 911 first responder EMS agencies in 2016.

STATE AT A GLANCE:

STATE POPULATION: 4,832,000

RURAL COUNTIES:
31 out of 46 counties are considered rural. Out of the 31 rural counties, 23 counties are considered very rural; towns less than 10,000.

NUMBER OF:
- CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS: 5
- RURAL HOSPITALS: 23
- RURAL HEALTH CLINICS: 85
- RURAL FQHC/CHS SITES: 168
- FREE CLINICS: 42

NUMBER OF FTE EMPLOYEES: 43.5

TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET: $5,429,600

PRIMARY FUNDING SOURCES:
- FEDERAL: 52%
- STATE: 44%
- OTHER: 4%

TYPES OF FEDERAL GRANT SUPPORT RECEIVED:
- SORH
- FLEX
- SHIP
- OTHER

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