

Proven Experts on the Ground

SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH

Making Health Care Better for Our Rural Communities



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**

ASK AN EXPERT:

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