

State Offices of Rural Health Key Informant Interviews

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Vision for the Rural Health Capital Resources Center and Council

*Federal Office of Rural
Health Policy*

Tom Morris

Bring together key people with a breadth of experience

Collaborative approaches

Learning from each other

Engaging federal agencies, economic development, Federal Reserve, philanthropy with State Offices of Rural Health

Build on the work of the Interagency Policy Committee

Themes Ideas Projects

Tailored collaborative efforts

Creating multi-sector approaches and learning how to talk to one another with shared language

Communicating among the sectors

Capital for infrastructure

Capital for drivers of health and community well-being

Challenges

Tailored Collaborative Efforts

- Real community needs, not factors that work better in urban areas
- Organizations that broker relationships
- Technical assistance to rural health organizations
- SORHs providing insight into rural health community needs

“The Maryland Rural Council is a great model. You can tailor the use of funds to the needs of the organizations and communities. There is an openness to all types of projects. It is hard for the reviewers but it is really important to the applicants who have very different needs”



Creating Multi- Sector Approaches

Learning to talk to one another with shared language

“In 1997, the SC SORH was trying to help a rural clinic start a residency track and they needed to expand space. SC SORH applied for and received a USDA Rural Business Development Grant of \$900,000 and used it to create a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). Later they received \$1 million from RWJF, and funds from other sources including the Appalachian Regional Commission ultimately growing to \$3 million.”

Communicating Among the Sectors

- SORHs effective in outreach to rural organizations
- Easy to use infographics, briefing papers, content from agencies and programs

“Communicating with facilities and rural organizations will be easy for the SORHs – they have listservs and know everyone. NOSORH could package information, working with the capital resource organizations. It would be good to use a local to present – someone who knows banking and financing in the state.” Michigan

Capital for Infrastructure

- Value in revolving loan funds
- Consolidation in rural health changing the landscape

“Texas Healthcare Capitol Improvement Fund was created with \$50 million in tobacco funds as an endowment. They use the interest from the endowment for capital improvement projects, requiring a 25% match. Texas Dept. of Agriculture has a finance authority that can guarantee bonds and loans – hospitals and clinics are eligible”.

Capital for Drivers of Health and Community Well- Being

- Housing, broadband, transportation, food security, early childhood

“Colorado SORH served on the Colorado eHealth Commission. The Commission created a roadmap, and the SORH provided input on the reality of rural health facilities. Long and short, they demonstrated that rural facilities need assistance in connecting to the HIE. As a result, \$6.5 million was dedicated to rural facilities.”

Challenges

- Lack of understanding by finance organizations of rural health business models, particularly nonprofit
- Down payments, upfront capital, high interest rates, short term loans
- Confusing requirements and process
- Small communities “not worth the effort”
- Tenacity
- Larger systems integrating small facilities, changes capital needs and unintended consequences

Strategic Planning Question

*What do you see as the key challenges
and successful approaches or models
for building capital resources
for rural health?*

Rural Health Capital Resources Council Strategic Planning Meeting

Delta Marriott Inner Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland

Monday, June 13, 2022

12 pm to 4:30 pm

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

8:30 am to 3:00 pm



Purpose

Review

Review successful state and national collaborations that increase access to capital for rural health

Identify

Identify factors that impact rural health access to capital for infrastructure, services, and drivers of healthy communities

Align

Align on short-and long-term strategies for rural health capital resources

Agenda Overview

- Lessons learned from state partnerships
- Perspective from Community Development and Capital Resource Organizations
- What looks like success from federal agencies and other funders?
- Strategic planning sessions
 - Who do we want to empower through increased access to capital?
 - What value would collaborative partnerships bring
 - How do we move forward

Can you help?

- Agenda committee
- Sharing your organizations' perspective
- Assisting with strategic planning facilitation
- Infographics, materials, briefs to share

