HRSA
Health Resources & Services Administration

Region E Regional Annual Meeting

Updates from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

July 13, 2022

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Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Key Program Activity Areas

Community-Based Efforts

Rural Health Outreach Authority:

- Supports Capacity Building Efforts and Pilots (RMOMs, Healthy Rural Hometowns)
- Public Health Programs
  - Black Lung, Radiation Screening

Hospital Efforts

The Rural Hospital Flexibility and Small Hospital Improvement Programs

Done in partnership with States

Targeted Hospital Assistance

- Delta Systems Initiative
- Transition to Value
- Small Vulnerable Rural Hospital Program

Policy & Research Efforts

Rural Health Research Centers to inform Office's Policy role

- Collaboration with AHRQ, CDC/NCHS
- Administer the Rural Residency Planning Grants
- Staff the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services
- Rural Health Information Hub

Rural Community Opioids Response

Targeted community-based grants to target the opioid epidemic in rural areas

- Rural Opioid Epidemic Centers for Excellence
- Collaboration with HRSA partners, SAMHSA, CDC and NIDA

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Direct Technical Assistance to Hospitals and Clinics

Free Services Available

Rural Healthcare Provider Transition Project

- Helps organizations in strengthening their foundation in key elements of value-based care: quality, efficiency, patient experience and patient safety.
- Eligible entities include small rural hospitals and Rural Health Clinics.
- **Application Period:** rolling application – apply now!

Vulnerable Rural Hospital Assistance Program

- Provides targeted assistance to hospitals working to maintain health care services.
- Helps hospitals and communities understand community health needs and how to keep needed health care local.
- **Application Period:** June 1-July 31, 2022

Delta Region Community Health Systems Development Program

- Provides intensive technical assistance to healthcare facilities in rural communities in the Mississippi Delta region.
- Helps Strengthen the local health care delivery system to position for population health.
- **Application Period:** rolling application – apply now!

Future FORHP Funding

Through 2025

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Rural Health Care Services Outreach*			NOFO Available Fall of 2024
Rural Health Network Development*	NOFO Available Fall of 2022		
Rural Health Network Development Planning	NOFO Available Fall of 2022	NOFO Available Fall of 2023	NOFO Available Fall of 2024
Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement*			
Delta States Rural Development Network*	NOFO Available Fall of 2022		
Rural Obstetric Management Strategies	NOFO Available Fall of 2022		NOFO Available Fall of 2024
RCORP-Medication Assisted Treatment	NOFO Available Fall of 2022		
RCORP-Tribal Behavioral Health	NOFO Available Fall of 2022		
Rural Residency Planning and Development	NOFO Available Fall of 2022	NOFO Available Fall of 2023	NOFO Available Fall of 2024

*As a result of the 2020 CARES Act reauthorization legislation, beginning in fiscal year 2021 this program will be competed every four years.

Current FORHP Workforce Initiatives

- Rural Residency Planning and Development (RRPD) Program – Up to $750,000 (per grant) to support start-up costs to establish new rural residency programs covering accreditation costs, faculty development, and resident recruitment.
  - Program start date of August 1st
  - Forecasted NOFO available
- Rural Public Health Workforce Training Network Program – Program to expand public health capacity by supporting health care job development, training and placement in rural communities through four tracks: *Community Health Support, Health Information Technology and/or Telehealth Technical Support, Community Para-Medicine, Case Management and/or Respiratory Therapists*
  - Program start date of August 1st

Discussion – How can we help you?

- How can project officers be most supportive to you?
- Is there anything we could be doing more of or less of to better support you?
- How do you feel most supported by HSD and FORHP?

Discussion – Partnership Development - RHCs

- How have you developed partnerships with RHCs as you connected with them for all the recent RHC funding? How have you sustained those connections with your RHCs network?
- What challenges or barriers did you experience in developing those partnerships?
- Post pandemic, what do you see as being helpful moving forward in supporting RHCs in the future?

Discussion – Partnership Development - EMS

- How do you communicate with the EMS agencies in your state?
- How have you partnered with EMS agencies? What has that partnership looked like?
- Are you aware of which EMS agencies are facing workforce shortages? Do you play a role in assisting with recruitment efforts or sharing recruitment strategies?

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