

# State Offices of Rural Health

25+ Years of Improving Health Care for Nearly 61 Million People in America

## What we need Congress to do:

In December 2022, Congress reauthorized the State Office of Rural Health (SORH) program and the President signed the bill into law as Public Law No: 117-356. This law authorizes the SORH program through fiscal year 2027. However, additional funding is needed for the State Offices. Through the annual appropriations process, we ask Congress to fund SORH's at \$15 million in FY 2026.

### Wise Investment of Taxpayer Dollars

Every SORH Grant dollar is matched with \$3 in non-federal funds. The effect of the increased appropriation provides approximately \$50,000 to each of the 50 SORH. With the 3 to 1 match, that provides \$200,000 in service value to rural communities in each state!

## What does a SORH do?

- SORH are a one-stop shop for information for community leaders and healthcare providers in the nation's rural communities.
- SORH connect federal, state and local partners to grow collaborative approaches to health access and leadership.
- SORH provide support to build capacity and resources to improve rural health.

## Who do they work with?

**SORH provide direct technical assistance most often to:**



**Hospitals**



**Clinics**



**Communities**



**EMS agencies**



**Networks**

## Where can the additional funds have an impact?

- **Telehealth** — to expand the use of technology to ensure access to care
- **Workforce** — to build a vital workforce and expand the capacity of primary care providers
- **Transformation** — to support model programs to grow vital systems of high value care
- **Integration** — to integrate primary care, behavioral and oral health for the diverse needs of rural children, veterans, seniors and special populations
- **Health Leadership and Access** — grow leadership and collaboration to achieve access to comprehensive quality healthcare services for all



## Ask an Expert

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