



Investing in Rural Health: Appropriations for State Offices of Rural Health

What Congress Can Do:

In 2023, Congress reauthorized the **State Office of Rural Health (SORH) program**, and the bill was signed into law as Public Law No. 117-356, authorizing the program through fiscal year 2027. While this reauthorization ensures the program's continuity, additional funding is needed to support the vital work of the State Offices of Rural Health. **Through the annual appropriations process, we urge Congress to fund the SORH program at \$15 million in FY 2027.**

What does a State Office of Rural Health do?

- **Serve as a one-stop resource** for community leaders and healthcare providers in rural communities across the nation
- **Connect federal, state and local partners** to foster collaboration and strengthen rural health leadership and access to care
- **Build capacity and disseminate resources** that help rural communities improve health outcomes and sustain essential health services

SORH provide direct technical assistance most often to:



HOSPITALS



CLINICS



COMMUNITIES



EMS AGENCIES



NETWORKS



Wise Investment of Taxpayer Dollars

Every dollar awarded through the SORH program is matched with \$3 in non-federal funds, amplifying the impact of federal investment.

An increase in appropriations provides roughly \$50,000 to all 50 SORH.

With the 3-to-1 match, that translates into **\$200,000 in service value for rural communities in every state.**

Where Additional Funds Can Have an Impact

- ✓ **TELEHEALTH:** Expand the use of technology to ensure rural communities have access to care
- ✓ **HEALTH LEADERSHIP & ACCESS:** Strengthen leadership and collaboration to provide comprehensive, high-quality healthcare services for all
- ✓ **WORKFORCE:** Build a vital healthcare workforce and expand the capacity of primary care providers
- ✓ **TRANSFORMATION:** Support innovative model programs to grow vital systems of high-value care
- ✓ **INTEGRATION:** Integrate primary care, behavioral health, and oral health to meet the diverse needs of rural children, veterans, seniors, and other special populations

NOSORH
Advocacy Resources



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