

# DRCHSD Spotlight Video



[ruralcenter.org](http://ruralcenter.org)





# DRCHSD Summit

Delta Region Community Health  
Systems Development Program

2023



# Day 1 Welcome



# Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Welcome

*September 13, 2023*

**Jason Steele, MPH**

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

**Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People**



# Health Resources and Services Administration

Established in Section 711 of the Social Security Act



Supports more than 90 programs that provide health care to people who are geographically isolated, economically or medically challenged



HRSA does this through grants and cooperative agreements to more than 3,000 awardees, including community and faith-based organizations, colleges and universities, hospitals, state, local, and tribal governments, and private entities



Every year, HRSA programs serve tens of millions of people, including people with HIV/AIDS, pregnant women, mothers and their families, and those otherwise unable to access quality health care



Learn more [about HRSA!](#)





# The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Established in Section 711 of the Social Security Act

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) collaborates with rural communities and partners to support community programs and shape policy that will improve health in rural America.

## Cross Agency Collaboration

Works across HRSA, HHS, and several other federal partners to accomplish its goals

## Capacity Building

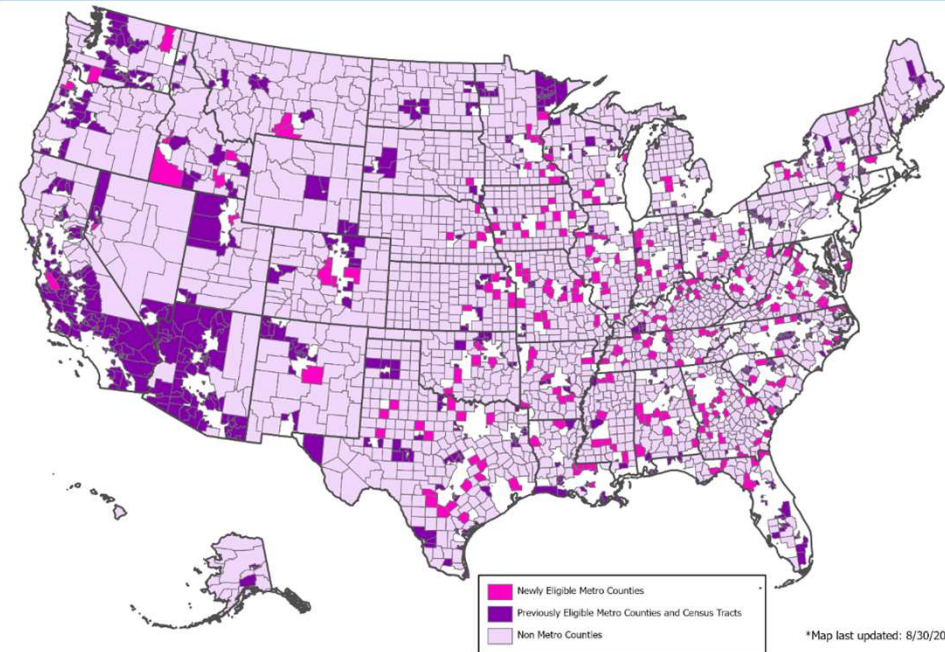
Increases access to health care for people in rural communities through grant programs and public partnerships

## Voice for Rural

Advises the HHS Secretary on policy and regulation that affect rural areas



Counties and Census Tracts Eligible for FORHP Funding



Learn more [about FORHP!](#)



# Supporting Rural Hospitals and Clinics

## Grants and Technical Assistance



### Ongoing Support

- Rural Hospital Flex Grants, Small Hospital Improvement Grants, Rural Health Clinic Technical Assistance
- Research Policy Analysis, Flex Monitoring Team

### Targeted Technical Assistance

- Delta Region Community Health Systems Program
- Rural Hospital Quality Improvement Technical Assistance

### Transition and Redesign

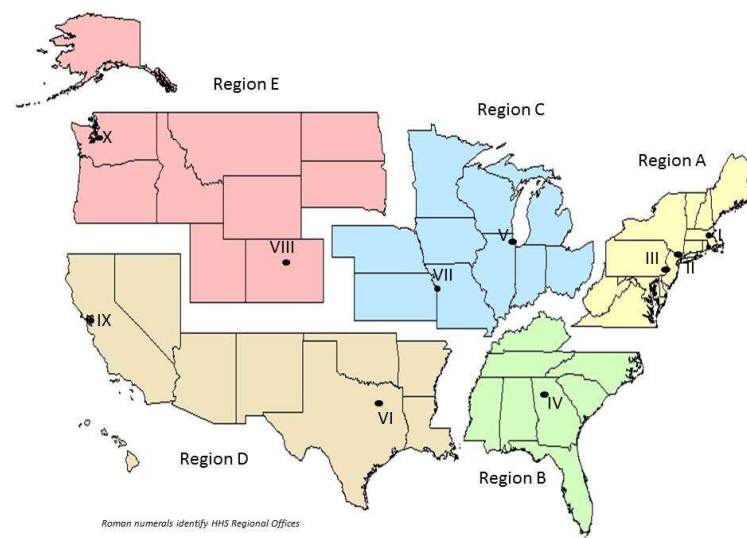
- HRSA
  - ✓ [Rural Health Value](#), Rural Health Providers Transition Project, Rural Emergency Hospital Technical Assistance
- CMS
  - ✓ Rural Emergency Hospital Designation, Innovation Center Models, Medicare Shared Savings



# State Offices of Rural Health

## A Key Resource

- Share information, resources and innovative projects with other rural health stakeholders
- Coordinate with other state partners on rural health issues
- Link rural health stakeholders to Federal and state resources
- Rural recruitment and retention



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# Rural Health Policy Issues

## Accessible and Through a Rural Lens

Health Resources & Services Administration

**HRSA**  
Health Resources & Services Administration

Rural Health | About Us | Grants & Programs | Resources | Opioid Response | Topics

**Questions about Policy Updates?**

Write to [ruralpolicy@hrsa.gov](mailto:ruralpolicy@hrsa.gov)

**Rural Health Research and Policy Programs**

We support the Rural Health Research Centers program. We also fund policy programs. These programs inform one another on current and future policies.

**What do the Research Centers do?**

The Centers publish research focused on rural areas. This includes health care and the health of groups of people. Each Center develops projects every year.

**Learn about our projects**

We publish the Centers' research in the [Rural Health Research Gateway](#).

- Summaries of research in progress
- Results of funded projects
- Email updates about new publications

**Review our policy programs**

**Rapid Response Rural Data Analysis and Issue Specific Rural Research Studies**

- Inform stakeholders and policy-makers on rural issues
- [Rapid Response to Requests for Data Analysis](#)

**Rural Health Clinic Technical Assistance**

- Identify key issues facing Rural Health Clinics and share tools and resources

**RHI Hub**  
Rural Health Information Hub

Online Library | Topics & Events | Rural Data Visualizations | Case Studies & Conversations | Tools for Success

Rural Health Clinics (RHCs)

**On This Page**

- Overview
- Resources
- Tools

**More in This Topic Guide**

- Events
- Diabetes and Innovation
- Funding & Opportunities
- About This Guide

The Rural Health Clinic (RHC) program is intended to increase access to primary care services for patients in rural communities. RHCs can be public, nonprofit, or for-profit healthcare facilities. To receive certification, they must be located in rural, underserved areas. They are required to use a team approach of physicians working with non-physician providers such as nurse practitioners (NP), physician assistants (PA), and certified nurse midwives (CNM) to provide services. The clinic must be staffed at least 50% of the time with an NP, PA, or CNM (requirement waived during COVID-19 public health emergency). RHCs are required to provide outpatient primary care services and basic laboratory services.

The main advantage of RHC status is enhanced reimbursement rates for providing Medicare and Medicaid services. The MLN Fact Sheet, [Rural Health Clinic](#), describes how RHCs are reimbursed "an all-inclusive rate (AIR) for medically necessary primary health services and qualified preventive health services furnished by an RHC practitioner." For Medicaid, a [2016 CMS letter to state health officials](#) details how Medicaid visits are reimbursed under a Prospective Payment System (PPS) or an alternative payment model. They are required to use a team approach of physicians working with non-physician providers such as nurse practitioners (NP), physician assistants (PA), and certified nurse midwives (CNM) to provide services. The clinic must be staffed at least 50% of the time with an NP, PA, or CNM (requirement waived during COVID-19 public health emergency). RHCs are required to provide outpatient primary care services and basic laboratory services.

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**Frequently Asked Questions:**

- Who do I contact if I have questions regarding the development and ongoing management of RHCs?
- How do I get certified as an RHC?
- Are there any other considerations before becoming an RHC?

**Rural Health Research Gateway**

Search for...

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**WEBINAR**

**Rural-Urban Differences in Adverse and Positive Childhood Experiences**

March 15, 2022  
9:00 AMMPT | 10:00 AMMT  
11:00 AMCT | 12:00 PMET

**RURAL & MINORITY**  
HEALTH RESEARCH CENTER

**Rural Health Research Gateway**

Learn More About Upcoming Webinar

**Rural Health Research Gateway**

The Rural Health Research Gateway provides easy and timely access to research conducted by the Rural Health Research Centers, funded by the [Federal Office of Rural Health Policy](#). Gateway efficiently puts new findings and information in the hands of our subscribers, including policymakers, educators, public health employees, hospital staff, and more.

- [Gateway flyer](#)
- [Popular rural health products and topics, 2020-2021](#)
- [Learn more](#)



# Lifting Up Rural Community Health

## Community-based programs helps test new ideas

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) has supported:



The goal of rural community programs is to improve health service delivery by strengthening health networks and encourage collaboration among rural health care providers.

health care providers  
networks and encourage collaboration among rural  
health service delivery by strengthening health  
The goal of rural community programs is to improve



### Direct Services

- Rural Health Care Services Outreach
- Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement
- Delta States Network Program



### Capacity-Building

- Rural Health Network Development
- Rural Health Network Development Planning
- Rural Maternal Obstetrics Management Strategies Program

Learn more about [FORHP Programs!](#)



# Delta Region Rural Health Workforce Training Program

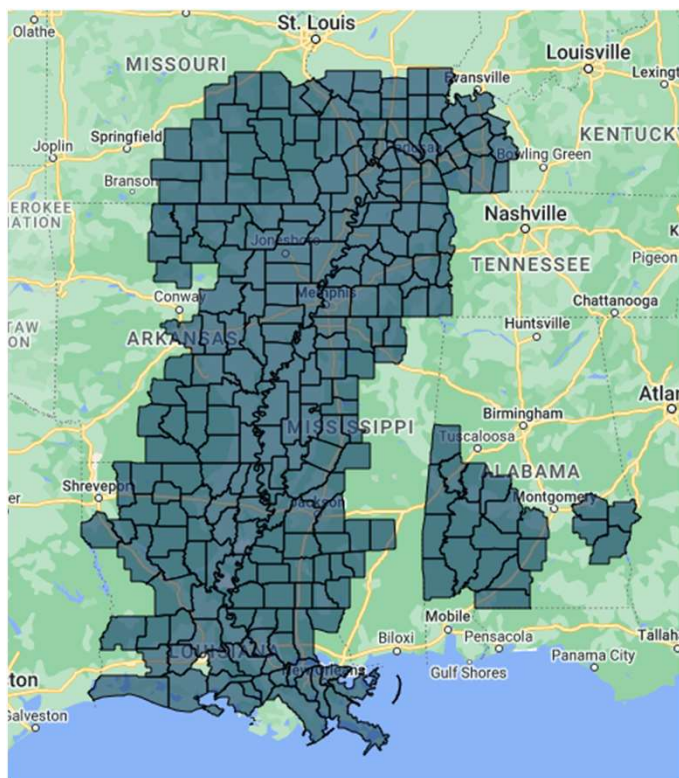
The purpose of this program is to **improve health care delivery** in rural areas by **training health professionals** for **high-quality, good-paying jobs** in rural counties and parishes of the Mississippi River Delta Region and Alabama Black Belt in **critical administrative support professions**.

- **Alabama**
  - Southern Alabama AHEC
- **Arkansas**
  - Arkansas Rural Health Partner
- **Louisiana**
  - Louisiana Technical University
  - Louisiana Primary Care Association
- **Tennessee**
  - Jackson State Community College

[Connect with us](#) to learn more!



# Delta Health Systems Implementation Program



The purpose of the Delta Health Systems Implementation Program is to **improve health care delivery** in rural areas by **implementing projects** that will **improve the financial sustainability** of hospitals and allow for **increased access to care** in rural communities.

**Congratulations to our 2023 DSIP grantees!**



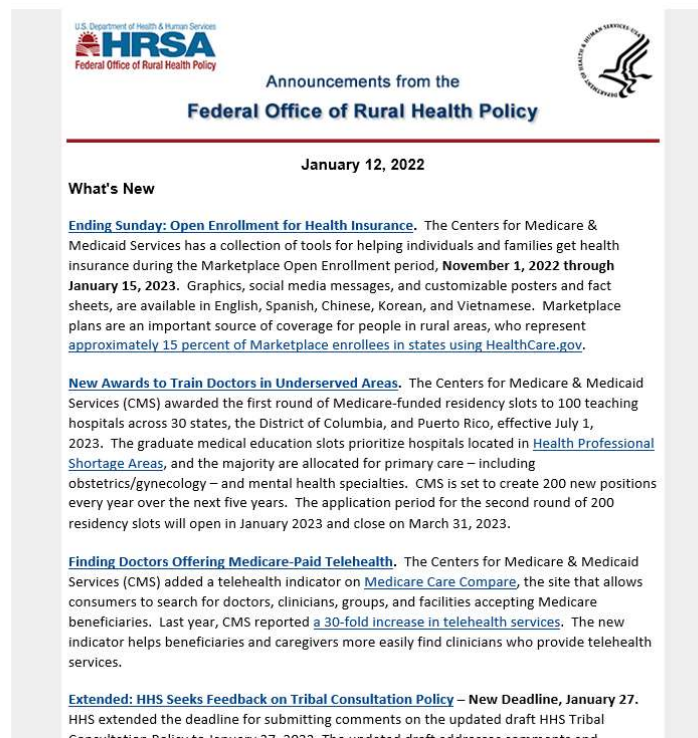
# FORHP Weekly Announcements

## Focus on ...

- ✓ Rural-focused Funding opportunities
- ✓ Policy and Regulatory Developments Affecting Rural Providers and Communities
- ✓ Rural Research findings
- ✓ Policy updates from a Rural Perspective

To sign up:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USHHS/HRSA/subscriber/new?qsp=HRSA-subscribe>



The screenshot shows the HRSA website header with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services logo and the HRSA Federal Office of Rural Health Policy logo. The page title is "Announcements from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy" and the date is "January 12, 2022". The section is titled "What's New" and contains three main announcements:

- Ending Sunday: Open Enrollment for Health Insurance.** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has a collection of tools for helping individuals and families get health insurance during the Marketplace Open Enrollment period, **November 1, 2022 through January 15, 2023**. Graphics, social media messages, and customizable posters and fact sheets, are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese. Marketplace plans are an important source of coverage for people in rural areas, who represent **approximately 15 percent of Marketplace enrollees in states using HealthCare.gov**.
- New Awards to Train Doctors in Underserved Areas.** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) awarded the first round of Medicare-funded residency slots to 100 teaching hospitals across 30 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, effective July 1, 2023. The graduate medical education slots prioritize hospitals located in **Health Professional Shortage Areas**, and the majority are allocated for primary care – including obstetrics/gynecology – and mental health specialties. CMS is set to create 200 new positions every year over the next five years. The application period for the second round of 200 residency slots will open in January 2023 and close on March 31, 2023.
- Finding Doctors Offering Medicare-Paid Telehealth.** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) added a telehealth indicator on **Medicare Care Compare**, the site that allows consumers to search for doctors, clinicians, groups, and facilities accepting Medicare beneficiaries. Last year, CMS reported **a 30-fold increase in telehealth services**. The new indicator helps beneficiaries and caregivers more easily find clinicians who provide telehealth services.

**Extended: HHS Seeks Feedback on Tribal Consultation Policy – New Deadline, January 27.** HHS extended the deadline for submitting comments on the updated draft HHS Tribal Consultation Policy to January 27, 2023. The updated draft addresses comments and





# Contact Information

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**Jason Steele, MPH**

*He/Him*

Public Health Analyst

[Hospital State Division](#)

[Federal Office of Rural Health Policy](#)

Phone: (301) 443-2203



# Connect with HRSA

Learn more about our agency at:  
[www.HRSA.gov](http://www.HRSA.gov)

Rural Health Questions? Email us at [RuralPolicy@HRSA.gov](mailto:RuralPolicy@HRSA.gov)



[Sign up for the HRSA eNews](#)

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# Delta Regional Authority



September 2023

[www.dra.gov](http://www.dra.gov)



# Creating Jobs. Building Communities. Improving Lives.

DRA envisions the region as a place where people and businesses have access to economic opportunities in vibrant, sustainable, and resilient communities. DRA's mission is to realize that vision through the practical application of innovative ideas and strategies that will foster inclusive communities, strengthen regional collaboration and productive capacity, achieve sustained, long-term economic development, and produce meaningful opportunities for all people in the DRA region.



# Our Programs

DRA supports and promotes economic development within the lower Mississippi River Delta and Alabama Black Belt regions through its programming opportunities. Designed to make strategic investments in critical and human infrastructure, DRA's programming aims to impact economic growth and opportunity in economically distressed communities."

Critical Infrastructure	Human Infrastructure	Capacity-Building
States Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP)	Health	LLD Community Support Pilot Program
Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF)	Leadership	Strategic Planning Program
Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (PWEAA)	Workforce	



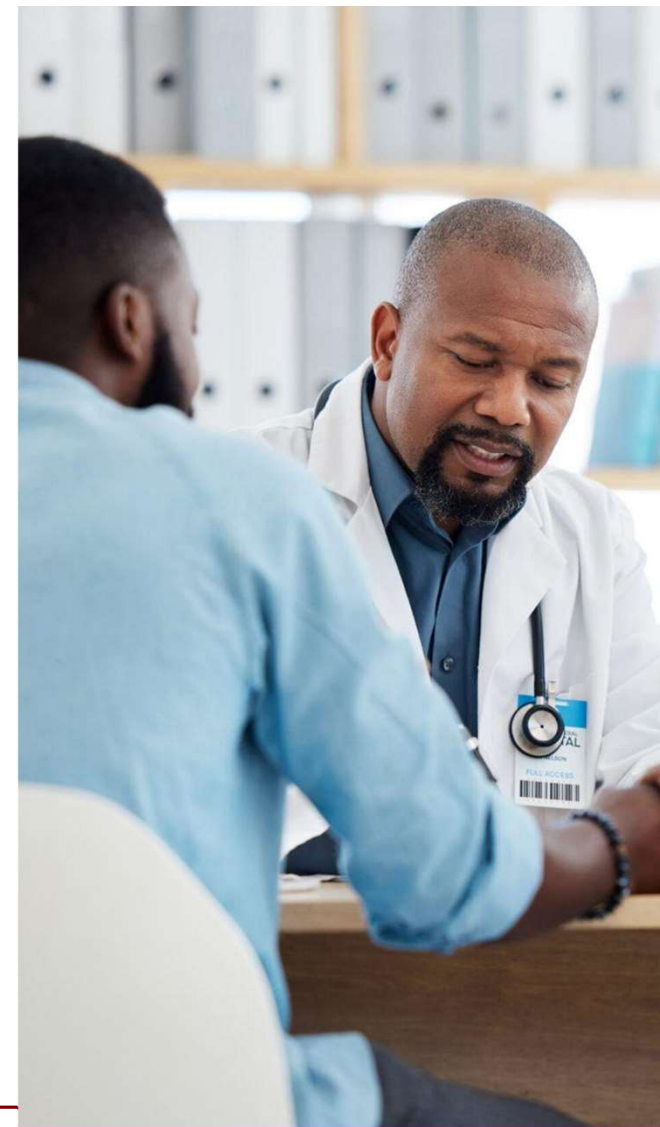


## Human Infrastructure

# Health

Our belief is that health is an economic engine and will drive future economic growth. The growing incidence of chronic disease in Delta communities poses a threat to the lives, livelihoods, productivity, and economic vitality of the Delta region, and DRA is committed to improving these health outcomes through a number of programs and partnerships.

- **Delta Doctors** boosts healthcare access in Delta communities by assisting non-domestic physicians trained in this country to work in underserved areas.
- **Innovative Readiness Training** collaborates with the U.S. Department of Defense to provide no-cost medical, dental, and optical care to Delta residents through the Innovative Readiness Training program.
- **Delta Region Community Health Systems Development Program** works with health care leaders and providers to identify their community's health care needs and strengthen health care delivery.
- **Delta Region Rural Health Workforce Training Program** develops strategic networks to address the need for trained administrative support professionals in rural healthcare facilities, providing training, certifications, and pathways to employment for current and new workers.



# Ice Breaker – BINGO!

8:45 – 9:15 am



**DRCHSD Summit**

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Systems Development Program

2023