Federal Office of Rural Health Policy
Overview

Rachel Moscato
Public Health Analyst, Hospital State Division
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Overview

• HRSA supports **more than 90 programs** through grants and cooperative agreements to **more than 3,000 awardees**

• HRSA provides access to health care for people who are:
  • Geographically isolated
  • Economically or medically challenged

• HRSA programs serve **tens of millions of people** every year, including:
  • Pregnant women, mothers and their families
  • People living with HIV/AIDS
  • People living in rural communities
  • Those otherwise unable to access quality health care
Mission
FORHP collaborates with rural communities and partners to support programs and shape policy that will improve health in rural America.

Values
Accountable
Collaborative
Innovative
Knowledgeable
Respectful
Responsive
Focus Areas for FORHP

- Opioids
- Soaring drug prices
- Affordability
- Shift to value
FORHP Organizational Set Up

Community-Based Division
- Pilot Programs for Rural Communities
  - Expanding the Community Health Gateway
- Public Health Programs
  - Black Lung and Radiation Exposure

Policy Research Division
- Policy and Regulatory Analysis
- Research

Hospital-State Division
- Grants Focusing on Performance and Quality Improvement for Small Rural Hospitals
- State Offices of Rural Health

Office for the Advancement of Telehealth
- Telehealth Network Grants
- Telehealth Resource Centers
- Licensure and Portability
Hospital State Programs

Programs

• State Offices of Rural Health
  • Resource for all rural HRSA grantees: www.nosorh.org

• Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant (Flex)
  • Supporting critical access hospitals to ensure access to high quality care in rural communities

• Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP)
  • Hardware/software and training related to implementing value-based care

2018 Focus

• Quality Improvement
• Refining outcome measures for diverse scope of activities
• Strengthening rural hospitals
• Flex EMS Projects

Figure 1: CAH Participation in HCAHPS®, 2014 - 2016

1. Percentage of CAHs in each state or group of states reporting HCAHPS data.
2. Group includes states with 10-19 CAHs.
3. Pennsylvania CAHs.
4. Other states with 10-19 CAHs.
5. Washington CAHs.
6. Other states in HRSA Region A.
7. HRSA Region 4.
8. Other states.
State Offices of Rural Health

• 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

Connect with your SORH: https://nosorh.org/nosorh-members/
The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy
Regulation Review & Research

• Review and comment on the major Medicare and Medicaid Regulations

• Getting the rural voice in to the policy process

• Monitor access, workforce and quality issues

• Staff the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services

Questions about policy updates? Email ruralpolicy@hrsa.gov
Rural Health Value
Tools and Resources to Help in the Value Transition

Critical Access Hospital Financial Pro Forma for Shared Savings

Critical Access Hospital Financial Pro Forma

Demonstrating Critical Access Hospital Value: A Guide to Potential Partnerships

Care Coordination: A Self-Assessment for Rural Health Providers and Organizations

Catalog of Value-Based Initiatives for Rural Providers

https://cph.uiowa.edu/ruralhealthvalue/
CMS Rural Health Strategy

CMS is taking measurable steps toward improving access to health care for rural populations, including forming a council of experts tasked with addressing rural health issues, engaging stakeholders in rural communities, and partnering with health organizations to raise awareness.

Objectives

- Apply a rural lens to CMS programs and policies
- Improve access to care through provider engagement and support
- Advance telehealth and telemedicine
- Empower patients in rural communities to make decisions about their health care
- Leverage partnerships to achieve the goals of the CMS Rural Health Strategy
Workforce

Projects on this Topic
The Centers have 9 research projects currently underway to explore this issue. In the past, 59 research projects have been completed on this topic.

Research Findings
View publications, including policy briefs, working papers, and final reports, on this topic:
- Research Products - (07)
- Journal Articles - (19)

Literature Review
- Informing Rural Primary Care Workforce Policy: What Does the Evidence

Resources
Rural Health Research Gateway

https://www.ruralhealthresearch.org
Evidence-Based Toolkits

https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/community-health/toolkits
Sign up for FORHP Weekly Announcements

• Rural-focused Funding opportunities
• Rural Research findings
• Policy updates from a Rural Perspective

To sign up, email Michelle Daniels at: mdaniels@hrsa.gov
Contact Information

Rachel Moscato, MPH
Public Health Analyst, Hospital State Division
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Email: rmoscato@hrsa.gov
Phone: 301-443-2724
Web: www.hrsa.gov/ruralhealth/
Connect with HRSA

To learn more about our agency, visit

www.HRSA.gov

Sign up for the HRSA eNews

FOLLOW US:  

Facebook  
Twitter  
LinkedIn  
YouTube