Rural Hospital Participation in New Care Delivery and Payment Opportunities

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Jennifer P. Lundblad, PhD, MBA
Stratis Health
What is RHSATA?

• Rural Health System Analysis and Technical Assistance
  – Project funded by HRSA’s Office of Rural Health Policy to understand and facilitate rural health transformation toward value-driven healthcare
  – Vision is to build and distribute a knowledge base through research, practice, and collaboration that helps create high performance rural health systems
• Led by University of Iowa’s RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis, in partnership with Stratis Health and Washington University in St. Louis
• Project tag line: Building knowledge through research and collaboration to effect change toward a high performance rural health system.
Four Converging Forces in Rural Health Care

• Changes in payment policies and financing sources
• Continually evolving quality measures and expectations
• Alternative models of care to deliver services locally including from distant sources
• Regional health care affiliations
Why is RHSATA needed?

• To assist rural health leaders understand the converging forces underway in health care delivery and finance, which create new opportunities to design and strengthen local systems of care in rural America.
  – Understand how new health care delivery and financing systems affect rural communities and providers
  – Help rural providers transition to new approaches that support success in a rapidly changing environment and participate in opportunities afforded by demonstration and pilot projects
  – Contribute to transforming rural health care to a high-performance system
RHSATA Aims

• Assess rural implications and facilitate rural adaptability to changes in health care delivery, organization, and finance.

• Develop and test technical assistance tools and resources to enable rural providers and communities prepare for and take full advantage of public policy changes and private sector initiatives.

• Inform further developments in public policy and private action through dissemination of findings.
Aim 1: Assess Rural Implications

- Monitor and assess rural implications of public and private policy
- Identify demonstration or pilot projects for in-depth research
- Develop models that analyze impacts of specific health care changes on rural people, places, and providers
- Identify policies that develop, enhance, and sustain high performance rural health care
Aim 2: Develop and test tools and resources

• Develop tools and resources for rural providers and places to increase awareness, conduct assessments, and plan/implement changes

• Provide technical assistance to specific rural communities and health care providers, utilizing the tools and resources

• Create and disseminate a roadmap or toolkit that can be adapted for use in other rural places, incorporating feedback from the technical assistance experience
Aim 3: Inform and Disseminate

• Use dissemination strategies proven successful by the RUPRI Center and Stratis Health
• Provide specific consultation services as requested
• Develop new dissemination approaches that assure timely and actionable information is provided to public policy makers, health sector stakeholders, and communities
RHSATA Progress to Date

• Advisory Committee convened to offer insight and feedback
• Data analysis and taxonomy development underway to profile characteristics and demographics of rural places to model the impacts of specific health care changes on rural people, places, and providers
• Sharing insights in state and national meetings
• Basic project website launched, new design coming soon
Technical Assistance team has developed “roadmap to value” and will soon be releasing first series of tools and resources, including:

– Short video for rural leaders about the roadmap to value, with accompanying discussion guide
– Series of “Rural Innovation Profiles”
– Fact sheets on rural relevant federal demonstration projects (Frontier Extended Stay Clinics (FESC), Frontier Community Health Integration Program (F-CHIP), Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative, Shared Savings Programs/Accountable Care Organizations)
RHSATA Roadmap to Value

- **Inform**: create awareness of need for change
- **Assess**: strengths, needs, and capacity to build value
- **Prepare**: identify action based on organizational and community needs
- **Action**: change that creates value
Value = Quality + Experience
Cost

Collaboration that fosters health care value is the key
Strategies to Support Improved Value

RHSATA will provide tools and resources to:

• Measure and report performance
• Adopt and effectively use technology
• Redesign care processes
• Change organizational cultures
• Build community capacity
What can you do?

• Help us link to tools and resources you have found helpful in transforming your work and organization toward value
• Tell RHSATA about your rural health care delivery or financing innovation.
  – Go to http://cph.uiowa.edu/RHSATA and click on “Tell Us Your Innovation”
• Identify innovative practices or projects that may be appropriate for a “Rural Innovation Profile”
• Continue to be a leadership voice for rural health value, increasing awareness and action
For more information, contact:

Rural Health System Analysis and Technical Assistance
Department of Health Management and Policy
University of Iowa | College of Public Health
105 River St. CPHB N232A
Iowa City, IA 52242

E-mail: cph-rupri-inquiries@uiowa.edu
Phone: (319) 384-3831