



Greetings from the Virginia Primary Care Office & the State Office of Rural Health!

Community Spotlight

"Tri-Area Community Health Provides Community-Focused Integrated Care"

by Kathryn Rutz



Tri-Area Community Health (TACH) of Laurel Fork, VA was recently featured in an article by Kathryn Rutz in RHIhub's "The Rural Monitor." The article recognized Tri-Area Community Health for their dedication and innovative approach to meeting the diverse needs of the community they serve. Tri-Area Community Health provides integrated care that is designed specifically with their rural community in mind. To learn more read the full article linked below.

To Read the Full Article

If your organizations would like to be featured in our VA-SORH bi-weekly newsletter, Facebook page, and website please fill out the following [Google form](#).

Updated COVID-19 Resources

Virginia Department of Health (VDH) COVID-19 Vaccination Resources



- [Vaccinate Virginia](#)- to find a vaccine near you
- Sign up for [Vaccinate Virginia Partner Updates](#)
- Become a 2021 [VDH Community Ambassador](#)
- [VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Patient Education Materials](#)
- Find out which phase of the vaccination campaign you fall in
- Contact your Local Health District

COVID-19 Communications Materials

- "About the Three COVID-19 Vaccines" Graphic ([download here](#))
 - [The Language of Vaccine Acceptance](#) by de Beaumont
 - Public Health Communications Collaborative (PHCC)- [Misinformation Alerts](#)
 - Public Health Communications Collaborative (PHCC)- [Communications Resources](#)
 - [CDC Vaccination Communication Toolkit](#)
 - Downloadable [VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Patient Education Materials](#)
 - HHS Launches [COVID-19 Community Corps](#) - a nationwide network of trusted voices to encourage vaccination in next phase of COVID-19 public education campaign
 - PHCC [Updated "Tough Q&A"](#) with helpful messaging including on the new CDC mask guidance
 - [Rural Community Toolkit](#) to build vaccine confidence and promote preventive measures
 - Case Study: Successful COVID-19 Messaging in Rural Communities- [presentation slides](#)
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Additional COVID-19 Resources

- CDC National Forum on COVID-19 Vaccine
- COVID-19 Vaccination Reporting Data Systems
- COVID-19 FAQs and Funding for HRSA Programs
- HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund (CAF)
- GHPC's Collection of Rural Health Strategies for COVID-19
- **NEW** Vaccinating Rural America: Q&A with Dr. Amanda Cohn
- **NEW** USDA-NIFA, CDC and Cooperative Extension team up for vaccine education in rural America
- **NEW** HRSA Webinar Series "Vaccine Equity in Action: Public Health and Primary Care Connection" May 26, June 2 & 9 from 3 - 4 PM ET
- **NEW** White House Announces New Programs to Raise Rural Vaccination Rates
- **NEW** HRSA Rural Health Clinic Vaccine Confidence Program (RHCVC)
- **NEW** HRSA Rural Health Clinic COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation Program

Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities

NOSORH Rural Health Data Institute

Application Deadline: June 2, 2021

The NOSORH Rural Health Data Institute is designed for busy rural health professionals who want to learn more about incorporating data into their work. Participants in this course will gain basic data skills and the simple steps needed to inform program planning and decision-making in, and for, rural communities. The program consists of 8 webinars, supplemental reading, quizzes/brief exams, session surveys, and a final evaluation. Webinars will typically be every Monday from June 7, 2021 to July 26, 2021, from 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET.



[For More Information and to Register](#)

"Rebuilding with Care: Advancing Quality Childcare in Rural Places" webinar

Tomorrow, May 26, 2021 at 2:00 PM ET

The "Rebuilding with Care: Advancing Quality Childcare in Rural Places" webinar is part of the Rural Opportunity and Development Series presented by the Aspen Institute. Hear the learned experience, current approaches and practical lessons from rural childcare providers and organizations that support and advance their work to create a stronger and more viable rural childcare system.



The CEO of United Way of Southwest Virginia, Travis Staton, will be a featured panelist speaking about United Way's initiative-based cradle-to-career approach creating sustainable solutions to better prepare the next generation for the workforce of tomorrow.

[For More Information and to Register](#)

The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program is now available to help eligible American households connect to broadband



The Federal Communications Commission has launched a temporary program to help families and households struggling to afford Internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program provides a discount of up to \$50 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers.

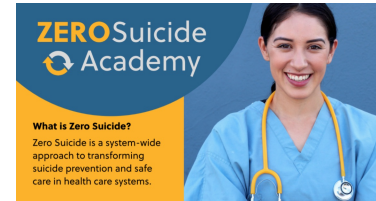
[For More Information](#)

[To Enroll](#)

Apply now for the Zero Suicide Academy presented by VDH

Application Deadline: June 25, 2021

Virginia Department of Health invites community health and behavioral health care systems to apply to the 2021 Zero Suicide Academy. The two-day online Academy will be held in July. The Zero Suicide Academy is your opportunity to learn from nationwide experts in Zero Suicide implementation. Over two days, teams will learn best practices, common challenges, and strategic guidance. Teams can network with each other to establish relationships for ongoing assistance. By the end of the Academy, your team will have created a 90-Day Plan for Zero Suicide implementation at your site.



[For More Information and to Apply](#)

Virginia Launches Nation's First Statewide Health Equity Dashboards

On May 18, 2021 Governor Ralph Northam unveiled the nation's first public statewide health equity dashboards, providing a snapshot of the Commonwealth's COVID-19 response and recovery efforts and making key data more accessible to Virginia residents. The two dashboards —[Equity in Action](#) and [Equity at a Glance](#)—were created by the Virginia Health Equity Leadership Taskforce (ELT) in partnership with several state agencies.

[For More Information](#)



United Way of
Southwest Virginia

Racial Equity Workshop Series- Online Professional Development Opportunity by United Way of Southwest Virginia

This will be a 4 part series that will take place on the first 4 Tuesday's in June 2021. June 1,8,15, and 22, 2021 from 6:30 PM -7:30 PM ET.

Workshop 1:

Title: Social and Emotional Learning. Bibliotherapy. Racial Equity. Safe classroom spaces. More than buzzwords in early childhood spaces will prepare participants for a wider understanding of trending and critical terms.

Bring: Construction paper and glue.

Main book: A House for Every Bird by Megan Maynor, illustrated by Kaylani Juanita

Workshop 2:

Title: Mirrors, Windows and Sliding Glass Doors & Curtains?: Storytelling and the use of diverse books and to understand and explore authentic racial and cultural differences.

Bring: Small Mirror.

Main Book: Eyes that Kiss in the Corners Joanna Ho, illustrated by Dung Ho

Workshop 3:

Title: Racial Equity and .COM for the causes of children: COMfort. COMpetency. COMplexity. This workshop champions causes of children as participants unpack biases, assumptions and experiences & explorations.

Main Book: Hair Love by Matthew A. Cherry, illustrated by Vashti Harrison

Workshop 4:

Title: We.(Can) Transform. Futures. Racial Equity as a Verb.

Using Diverse books to bridge connections from workshops to reflection and reflexivity.

Main Book: I am Every Good Thing by Derrick Barnes, Illustrated by Gordon C. James

The workshops are free for participating Virginia Quality, ITSN, Childcare Start-Up Assistance Project, Mixed Delivery, and PDG B-5 providers. Each workshop will be live on zoom.

To Register

Guidance to States on Enhanced Federal Funding for Medicaid HCBS



The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued guidance to state Medicaid programs on implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) Additional Support for Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) during the COVID-19 Emergency provision. It describes the temporary Federal funding increase for certain HCBS expenditures and describes opportunities for states to strengthen their HCBS systems in response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), including increasing access to HCBS, protecting the HCBS workforce, and accelerating long-term services and supports (LTSS) reform. Services eligible for temporary increased Federal funding, such as home health care and personal care services, are particularly important in rural areas where [older adults face unique challenges related to COVID-19](#).

For More Information

State & Regional Resources & Funding Opportunities

VDH OHE Nursing Scholarship application cycle is open NOW

Application Deadline: June 30, 2021



Virginia offers several scholarship opportunities to help pay for nursing education in exchange for service in Virginia after graduation. Scholarships are available for students enrolled in an approved nurse education program in Virginia. The program must prepare them for examination for licensure as a: Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses, and Certified Nursing Aides. Scholarships are for students enrolled at an accredited program in the state of Virginia.

For More Information and to Apply

To View Program Flyer



The application deadline for 3 2021 NHSC LRP programs has been EXTENDED

Extended Application Deadline: Thursday, May 27, 2021

The Health Resources and Services Administration's National Health Service Corps (NHSC) opened its application for three loan repayment programs: the [NHSC Loan Repayment Program](#), the [NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan](#)

For More Information and to Apply

New HHS funding for Rural Health Clinics to strengthen COVID-19 testing and mitigation and increase vaccine confidence



Rural Health Clinic Vaccine Confidence (RHCVC) Program

Interested RHCs should watch for the upcoming funding opportunity and start the process to register to apply for a HRSA grant. HRSA will fund all eligible RHCs that have a complete and acceptable application. RHCs may use this funding to increase vaccine confidence, improve health care in rural areas, and reinforce key messages about prevention and treatment of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

For More Information and to Apply

Rural Health Clinic COVID-19 Testing and Mitigation (RHCCTM) Program

RHCs that have met the requirements for the RHC COVID-19 Testing Program will receive a one-time allocation of up to \$100,000 per clinic site automatically deposited in the bank account of the corresponding TIN organization in June 2021. RHCs will not have to apply for payments for this program. Ineligible RHCs that are not current with reporting of testing data on rhccovid19reporting.com will have the opportunity to catch up for future program consideration, dependent on the availability of funds. Please join the RHC COVID-19 Testing Program mailing list for additional program announcements and updates by clicking here. For additional questions: RHCCOVID-19Testing@hrsa.gov.

For More Information and to Apply

Farmers Market Promotion Program



Application Deadline: June 21, 2021 at 11:59 PM ET

The Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) funds projects that develop, coordinate and expand direct producer-to-consumer markets to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products by developing, coordinating, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agritourism activities, online sales or other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities. A 10 % or a 25% match is required.

For More Information and to Apply



DOJ Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-Based Program

Application Deadline: June 7, 2021

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) will make 110 awards with total funding of \$163 million to support state, local, tribal, and territorial response to use of illicit substances. A subcategory of

the program will award up to \$600,000 each for projects in rural areas, small counties, and tribal areas with a population of fewer than 100,000 for a federally recognized tribe.

For More Information and to Apply

Family Drug Court Program

Application Deadline: July 6, 2021

Grant to state, local, or tribal jurisdictions to establish new family drug courts, enhance existing family drug courts, or expand family drug court systems and practices at the state or county level. The objective is to provide treatment and accountability to parents with substance use disorders by offering access to treatment and recovery services that will ultimately protect children; reunite families, when safe to do so; and expedite permanency. Programs must include the provision of treatment and recovery services to specifically address opioid, stimulant, and substance abuse reduction.

For More Information and to Apply

Health Center Facility Loan Guarantee Program

Applications are accepted year-round



The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Health Center Facility Loan Guarantee Program (LGP) supports loans to eligible Health Center Program awardees for the construction/expansion, alteration/renovation and modernization of health center medical facilities. Eligible health centers must be active Health Center Program awardees, as defined under section 330 of the [Public Health Services Act](#).

Interested health centers should contact the HRSA Loan Guarantee Program at LGPprogram@hrsa.gov and provide the following information:

- Health center name and H80 Award Number;
- Anticipated Project Scope;
- Type of construction activity (i.e., new construction, renovation, new site, replacement facility);
- Total project cost;
- Financing needs and potential lender(s); and
- Timeline and status of project planning and financing.

For More Information

"Like" us on Facebook to receive live updates on Virginia rural health issues and important messages from our community partners on your Facebook News Feed.



Visit the VA-SORH Facebook Page



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DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH

