



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

Community Spotlight

The Doorways



Based in Richmond, VA The Doorways is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides lodging and support for patients and their loved ones who need to be close to the hospital but not far from the feeling of "home." The Doorways guests must live at least 30 miles outside of the Richmond area, making it a great option for many rural Virginians.

As Richmond's premier provider of temporary lodging and non-medical services to patients and their families, guests will find a healing, emotionally supportive environment in a place where community generosity and compassionate care come together.

There are also:

- 117 private rooms with baths
- Dedicated floors for pediatric and transplant patients
- Fully stocked kitchens, pantry and family dining rooms
- TV lounges, a library, chapel, fitness room and 24-hour laundry room
- Free transportation to and from VCU Health

[For More Information](#)

If your organization 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
- [CDC Vaccination Communication Toolkit](#)
- Downloadable [VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Patient Education Materials](#)
- **NEW** PHCC Updated "Tough Q&A" with helpful messaging resources including information on the Johnson & Johnson FDA warning label and the delta variant
- [Rural Community Toolkit](#) to build vaccine confidence and promote preventive measures
- NRHA [COVID-19 Vaccine Talking Points for Rural Leaders](#)

- Customizable COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Toolkit for Rural Communities
- **NEW** PHCC webinar *COVID-19 and Return to In-Person Learning: Communicating with Constituents*, Wednesday, July 21, from 1 - 2 PM ET

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
- NRHA Rural-Relevant COVID-19 Resource Library
- CDC Statement on Vaccine Side Effects
- We Can Do This: COVID-19 Public Education Campaign launches a Spanish-language website
- **NEW** Invest in Trust: A Guide for Building COVID-19 Vaccine Trust and Increasing Vaccination Rates Among CNAs
- **NEW** Promoting Vaccine Confidence in Local Communities through Partnership with Regional Health Offices. Apply for funding by August 17, 2021

Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities



Pride of Rural Virginia- Martinsville/Henry County Community Chat

Saturday, July 31, 2021 from 1 - 3 PM ET

VRHA invites all LGBTQIA+ members, allies, & healthcare providers living or working in Danville/Pittsylvania County to join this interactive discussion on local healthcare needs & priorities. The Community Chat will be held at the New College Institute in Room 107.

Virtual participation will be available, please register to receive zoom link.

[For More Information and to Register](#)

Nominate a 2021 Community Star!

Nomination Deadline: Monday, August 2, 2021 by 6 PM ET

If you know of a person, coalition, or organization that is innovative, demonstrates leadership, grows rural programs, and is mission-driven, we invite you to honor them by nominating them to be Virginia's 2021 Community Star! Virginia's Community Star will be recognized by the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) on National Rural Health Day.



[For More Information](#)



2021 Health Wagon First in Nation to Deliver Monoclonal Antibodies Using Mobile Approach

The Health Wagon, the nation's oldest mobile clinic, expands access to COVID-19 treatment with the use of monoclonal antibodies. According to the FDA, they are lab made proteins that mimic the immune system's ability to fight off harmful viruses. Dr. Teresa Tyson states, "this is another first for the Health Wagon among many who is always seeking to provide health care in new ways and unconventional ways. We are the only ones to my knowledge that are giving these in an outpatient setting west of Wytheville and the only one in the nation given them using a mobile health delivery system." These proteins are designed to stop the virus from entering the human cells and can decrease the risk of dying from COVID-19.

[For More Information](#)

Mountain Empire Transit tests new on-demand ride service, METGo!

Mountain Empire Transit has launched a test run of the METGo! System, a modern ride-sharing app that allows Norton-Wise area residents to order a ride with only 15-20 minutes notice. Users will be able to schedule last minute rides to run errands, get to work, or



[For More Information](#)

Investment Connection Pitch Session Focuses on Rural Projects

Deadline to submit proposals: July 30, 2021

The Richmond Fed's Community Development team will host an Investment Connection Live! program this fall that focuses on projects serving rural communities and aligns with the 2021 Investing in Rural America Conference. During the Oct. 4 live, virtual pitch session, a select group of community organizations will present their CRA-eligible proposals to an audience of potential funders, including banks, foundations, CDFIs and other institutions.



[For More Information](#)



HHS Opens Provider Relief Fund Reporting Portal

Deadline to Submit Information: September 30, 2021

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Provider Relief Fund (PRF) [Reporting Portal](#) is now open for providers who need to report on the use of funds in Reporting Period 1. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has provided an [extensive reporting guide](#), example excel data entry sheets, and a new edition of the FAQs.

[To Submit Information](#)

RESCHEDULED: Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies (RMOMS) Program: Highlights and Lessons Learned from the Planning Year (2019 – 2020)

Tomorrow, Wednesday, July 21, 2021 from noon - 1 PM ET

This webinar on the Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies (RMOMS) Program will provide an overview of the RMOMS program and discuss the findings of its first evaluation report.

[For More Information and to Register](#)

Rural Healthy People 2030: Challenges and Opportunities for the New Decade

The Southwest Rural Health Research Center at Texas A&M University with funding support from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy is conducting a survey as part of Rural Healthy People 2030 – a project designed to understand the most important health priorities for rural Americans. This once in a decade survey allows individuals who care about rural health to voice their opinions on important topics for the health of rural individuals in the United States.

For this survey, they are asking rural health stakeholders to participate. Rural health stakeholders are individuals who live in rural communities or work with rural communities with a specific interest in the health of rural Americans. If you would consider yourself to be a rural health stakeholder, please participate in this research study by completing the survey at the link below. Please also share it with any other rural health stakeholders you know. The study should take no longer than 15 minutes.

[To Participate](#)

State & Regional Resources & Funding Opportunities

Appalachia Nonprofit Resource Center Technical Assistance Program

Application Deadline: August 6, 2021



No-cost technical assistance for nonprofit organizations in the Appalachian region designed to foster long-term growth and sustainability beyond the COVID-19 crisis.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)



Rural Healthcare Provider Transition Project (RHPTP)

Application Deadline: September 10, 2021

The National Rural Health Resource Center provides selected small rural hospitals and rural health clinics technical assistance through the Rural Healthcare Provider Transition Project (RHPTP). This project is designed to help strengthen their foundation in key elements of value-based care (VBC) including but not limited to efficiency, quality, patient experience, and safety of care.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

Apply now for the Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program

Application Deadline: July 22, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. ET



Health Resources & Services Administration

Every day you're using skills to help end substance use disorders (SUD) within your community. The Health Resources and Services Administration is here to help you with the new the STAR LRP (Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program). Pay off your school loans with up to \$250,000 from the STAR LRP in exchange for six years of full-time service at an approved facility. Behavioral health clinicians, paraprofessionals, clinical support staff and many others trained in substance use disorder treatment are encouraged to apply.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

HHS Boosts Funding for COVID-19 Response in Rural Areas

On Tuesday, July 13, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) announced \$398 Million for COVID-19 testing and mitigation. The funds will be distributed by State Offices of Rural Health to 1,540 rural hospitals through the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program.

\$5,167,520 in funding will go to 20 small rural hospitals in Virginia for COVID-19 testing and mitigation.

[For More Information](#)

HHS Promoting Vaccine Confidence in Local Communities



Application Deadline: August 17, 2021

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) will make up to eight awards with a total investment of \$750,000 for community-level partnerships in areas with low vaccination rates. These areas and populations include: African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Americans; residents in rural communities; medical assistants (when compared to other medical professions); some immigrant and refugee communities; young adults and teens. Eligible applicants are public and private nonprofit entities, including American Indian/Alaska Native organizations and faith-based organizations.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

Governor Northam Announces Virginia to Invest \$700 Million in American Rescue Plan Funding to Achieve Universal Broadband by 2024

Last Friday Governor Northam announced Virginia will invest \$700 Million in American Rescue Plan Funding to achieve universal broadband by 2024.

The Virginia Rural Health Association asks that Commonwealth Connect Coalition members contact General Assembly members and urge them to support the Governor's \$700 million broadband proposal before the August 2nd special session.

[For More Information](#)

[Talking Points](#)

"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

