



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

Community Spotlight

Mount Rogers Health District teams up with Bristol State Liners Baseball to bring vaccines to the community

On Wednesday, June 23, 2021, Mount Rogers Health District staff attended the Bristol State Liners baseball game to host a "Vaccine Night." The Bristol State Liners baseball team provided free tickets, popcorn, and soft drinks to those who got their vaccine at the event. While most of the attendees had already been vaccinated, two people received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at the event. What a great community effort to "knock COVID-19 out of the park"!



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](#)
- PHCC Updated "Tough Q&A" with helpful messaging resources
- [Rural Community Toolkit](#) to build vaccine confidence and promote preventive measures
- Case Study: Successful COVID-19 Messaging in Rural Communities- [presentation slides](#)
- [NRHA COVID-19 Vaccine Talking Points for Rural Leaders](#)
- [Customizable COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Toolkit for Rural Communities](#)
- **NEW** Download Presentation Slides from the "Large-Scale Vaccinations in a Rural Community – Hear How it Happened" Webinar
- **NEW** PHCC Messaging Based on Local Vaccination Rates

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
- **NEW** CDC Statement on Vaccine Side Effects
- **NEW** We Can Do This: COVID-19 Public Education Campaign launches a [Spanish-language website](#)

Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities



Pride of Rural Virginia- Danville/Pittsylvania County Community Chat

Saturday, July 10, 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 [Averett University Student Center](#) in the Multipurpose Room.

Virtual participation will be available, please [register](#) to receive zoom link.

[Danville/Pittsylvania Flyer](#)

[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](#)



Mount Rogers Health District is hiring a Peer Recovery Specialist

MRHD is currently hiring for an additional Peer Recovery Specialist (PRS) position for their harm reduction efforts. The PRD is a team member with lived experience of addiction and who is in long-term recovery. The PRS provides highly individualized services in the community and promotes the self-determination and shared decision-making abilities of individuals.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

Lee County Community Hospital reopens after closing in 2013

Ballad Health officially reopened Lee County Community Hospital on July 1, 2021. The hospital is a

"10-bed modern medical facility serving rural Pennington Gap and its surrounding communities in Southwest Virginia and Southeast Kentucky."

[To Read the Full Article](#)



Raise your Rural Voice on USDA Program Access and Use

Deadline to provide input: Thursday, July 15, 2021

USDA is requesting input from rural communities on what is and is not working to access, qualify for and participate in USDA programs. USDA just published a Federal Register notice inviting public input on its efforts to advance equity, racial justice and support for underserved rural communities.

This is one step in USDA's mandate to address barriers to full and equal participation in programs and procurement opportunities. Submitting your organization's comments or ideas is a vital opportunity to shape the design and implementation of USDA programs to be more responsive and accessible to underserved rural communities and to people of color.

[For More Information](#)

Register now for the NRHA's Rural Health Clinic and Critical Access Hospital Conferences!

September 21 - 24, 2021 in Kansas City, MO



Join NRHA in Kansas City for the 2021 Rural Health Clinic and Critical Access Hospital Conferences. They're NRHA's fastest-growing events for a reason. Take advantage of the educational and networking opportunities designed for clinic and hospital professionals and board members serving rural America.

Be sure to register for both events to save \$100 on your total registration cost. NRHA members save \$100 more on each event, while those who have never been an NRHA member will receive a complimentary one-year NRHA membership.

[To Register](#)

Telehealth Yields Similar Outcomes as In-Person HIV Treatment

A new study finds that treating HIV with telehealth produces similar health outcomes as face-to-face treatment, presenting a potential solution for individuals in rural areas who have difficulty accessing care.

[To Read the Full Article](#)



Exploring Health Center Capacity in Rural Maternity Care Deserts

There is growing evidence of maternal care disparities across the U.S., particularly for populations in rural areas. The majority of counties that lack obstetrician-

gynecologists (OB/GYN), certified nurse midwife (CNM) providers, and hospitals providing obstetric care—which are known as maternity care deserts (MCDs)²—are located in rural areas. This research explores current and potential health center capacity to provide maternal care and fill care gaps in rural maternity care deserts.

[To Read the Full Report](#)

Indicators of Broadband Need Map

The Indicators of Broadband Need map was created by the United States Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The map uses several different data sources to show information on broadband availability within the United States. There is a focus on locations of higher education institutions eligible as Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) and areas designated as American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Areas by the U.S. Census in 2020.



[To Access the Map](#)

State & Regional Resources & Funding Opportunities

Capital Planning & Funding Options for Rural Health Centers

Access the presentation slides from a June 2021 webinar session specifically designed for rural health centers looking to learn more about the various avenues of financing available for capital projects, including USDA, New Markets Tax Credits, and the HRSA Loan Guarantee Program.



[To Access Presentation Slides](#)

USDA Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) Program

Electronic Pre-Application Deadline: Monday, July 19, 2021 by 5:00 PM ET

The HPG Program provides grant funds to assist low- and very low-income homeowners in repairing and rehabilitating their homes in rural areas. In addition, the HPG program assists cooperative housing complexes and rental property owners in rural areas in repairing and rehabilitating their units if they agree to make such units available to very low- and low-income persons.

[For More Information](#)

MultiPlan Rural Health Grant

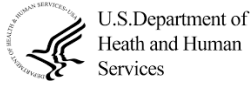
Application Deadline: August 27, 2021



Since 1995, MultiPlan's Rural Health Grant has been providing financial resources to help healthcare providers in rural areas. Recipients have utilized their award

to introduce or expand services, education, screenings and other programs aimed at improving the health of the people in their communities. The grant is available to eligible hospitals, rural health clinics and federally qualified health centers participating in a MultiPlan provider network.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)



U.S. Department of
Health and Human
Services

Personal Responsibility Education Program Innovative Strategies (PREIS)

Application Deadline: July 26, 2021

The purpose of the PREIS program is to fund projects to implement and conduct a rigorous evaluation of innovative adolescent pregnancy prevention strategies. The services are targeted to high-risk, vulnerable, and culturally under-represented youth populations.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program for Teen Pregnancy Prevention

Application Deadline: July 26, 2021

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF), Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) announces the availability of funding in the form of discretionary, competitive grants to Indian Tribes and tribal organizations to develop and implement projects that educate American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth on abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, and HIV/AIDS. Projects are also required to implement at least three of six adulthood preparation subjects.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)



USDA Rural Innovative Stronger Economy (RISE) Grants

Application Deadline: Monday, August 2, 2021

USDA RISE offers grant assistance to create and augment high-wage jobs, accelerate the formation of new businesses, support industry clusters and maximize the use of local productive assets in eligible low-income rural areas.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

National Community Care Corps Local Models Program

Proposal Deadline: July 9, 2021

Community Care Corps has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for innovative local models in which volunteers assist family caregivers or directly assist older adults or adults with disabilities with non-medical care to maintain their independence. The program intends to fund local models that represent a diverse cross section of the United States in terms of geography; urban, rural, frontier, and tribal communities;



underserved and limited English-speaking populations; and communities with limited support programs.

The RFP, budget summary, budget narrative and work plan templates are now available for download.

[For More Information](#)

USDA Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households (SEARCH) for Water/Waste Projects

Application Deadline: Ongoing

This program helps very small, financially distressed rural communities (population of 2,500 or less) with predevelopment feasibility studies, design and technical assistance on proposed water and waste disposal projects.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

"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.



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