



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

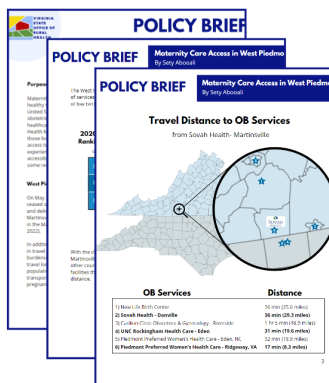
## Community Photo Feature

This picture was taken by Fred Martin as the sun set in Axton, Virginia over Labor Day weekend.

Fred submitted this photo to the 2021 VA-SORH Photo Contest.



## VA-SORH Updates



### Rural Health Policy Brief: Maternity Care Access in West Piedmont

The Virginia State Office of Rural Health publishes a **monthly series of rural health briefs**. Checkout the August 2022 edition, "Maternity Care Access in West Piedmont," which explores the decreased accessibility to maternity care in the West Piedmont region and its effects, as well as some recommendations to eliminate maternity care deserts.

[For More Information](#)



### Updated COVID-19 Resources

For a compiled list of Virginia Department of Health, Communication, and External COVID-19 Resources, please visit our website linked below.

New resources include:

- **Understanding Long COVID**
- **The Implications of long COVID for rural communities**
- **CMS- Creating a Roadmap for the End of the COVID-19 Public Health**

## COVID-19 Resources

## Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities



### AgriStress Helpline for Virginia

Hoping to offer an option that producers find approachable, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) has launched the AgriStress Helpline for Virginia. The 24/7 resources connect farmers directly to healthcare professionals via phone calls or text, the VDACS media release explained. Crisis specialists have access to a Virginia-specific database of agricultural and health resources, and interpretation services for 160 languages are available.

[For More Information](#)

### Register for the 2022 Catalyst Annual Summit

#### Registration Deadline: Friday, September 30, 2022

Registration is open for the 2022 Virginia Health Catalyst Annual Summit on October 7! This in-person event will offer practical takeaways from speakers near and far about working toward racial equity, engaging meaningfully with communities, and being a leader in any role. Attendees will also learn about the health policies and programs in Virginia, like addressing health care workforce issues, what's next for the Medicaid dental program, and making connections to overcome barriers to care.


[For More Information](#)

### Rural Urban Comparison Maps

The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond has created a series of interactive maps that showcase the differences in demographic and economic indicators across the rural-urban landscape of the Fifth District.

[For More Information](#)

### New Lethal Substances Identified in/around Virginia

Click on the links below to learn more.

- Protonitazene
- Wasp Spray Meth
- Rainbow Fentanyl

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**The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has awarded \$1.7 million to 27 community health centers across Virginia.**



During National Health Center Week, HHS, through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), awarded \$1,768,500 in American Rescue Plan funding to the 27 community health centers to advance health equity through better data collection and reporting.

[For More Information](#)



**Free Virtual Urgent Care Now Available Throughout the Commonwealth**

In 2020, as the COVID-19 outbreak started to grow, **Lackey Clinic**, a free and charitable healthcare center serving the uninsured, switched to offering virtual telehealth services. Now, a volunteer team of doctors serve at **Lackey Virtual Urgent Care**, providing free medical care to those in need anywhere in Virginia

[For More Information](#)



**Trans-Mission: Leveraging Telehealth for Care, Support, Advocacy and Education in Central Virginia for Trans and Non-Binary Individuals, Their Support System, Families and the Community During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Toolkit offering an overview of telehealth services for transgender and gender-diverse patients, focusing on Central Virginia and addressing barriers and lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic. Presents key considerations for providing gender-affirming care through telehealth and best practices, and highlights rural challenges related to broadband access.

[For More Information](#)

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**Fact Sheet: How the Inflation Reduction Act Helps Rural Communities**

Describes the anticipated impacts of the Inflation Reduction Act on rural communities and economies, including healthcare costs, climate and energy provisions, and support for farmers and ranchers.

[For More Information](#)

# Upcoming Meetings & Webinars



## 3RNET Recruiting for Retention Academy

October 3

[To Register](#)



## 2022 NOSORH Annual Meeting

October 5-6  
**register by 8/26/22**

[To Register](#)



## 2022 Catalyst Annual Summit

October 7

[To Register](#)



## State Health Commissioner's Advisory Council on Health Disparity and Health Equity

October 11

[More Info Soon](#)

## State & Regional Funding Opportunities

### JMU offering free training to behavioral health providers statewide

Free continuing education for behavioral health providers across Virginia is now being offered by James Madison University. Topics covered by the online training include integrative behavioral health, interprofessional team-based trauma informed care, and rural health

The training was prepared with funding from a \$1.6 million grant from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration.



[For More Information](#)



### Launching Soon: Teaching Health Center Funding Opportunities

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), through the American Rescue Plan, will invest in two new funding opportunities that will launch soon.

The **Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education (THCGME)** program will support the training of residents in primary care residency programs in community-based ambulatory patient care centers. Program recipients will prepare physician and dental residents to provide high quality care, particularly in rural and underserved communities, and develop competencies to serve these diverse populations.

The **Teaching Health Center Planning and Development (THCPD)** program will fund community-based health centers to create new accredited primary care residency programs to increase the physician and dental healthcare workforce in rural and underserved communities.

*Eligible community-based primary care/ fellowship programs for both funding opportunities*

*include: family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine-pediatrics, psychiatry, obstetrics and gynecology, general dentistry, pediatric dentistry, or geriatrics.*

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## 2023 NRHA Rural Health Fellows



**Application Deadline: Thursday, September 15, 2022**

Each year, NRHA selects 10 to 15 highly motivated individuals who have proven their dedication to improving the health of rural Americans through their educational or professional experience.

The goal of the yearlong fellows program is to educate and develop a network of diverse rural leaders that will step forward to serve in key positions in the association, affiliated advocacy groups, and local and state legislative bodies with health equity as a main focus.

[For More Information](#)

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## Wietzman ECHO MAT

**Tuesday, September 27, 2022**

In collaboration with the Weitzman Institute, the Bay Rivers Telehealth Alliance is excited to announce that provider partners are now invited to register for Weitzman ECHO Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), a national learning community of primary care medical and behavioral health providers and experts that meets monthly to discuss the treatment of opioid use disorder through a harm reduction lens.

During each session, a multi-disciplinary expert faculty presents a didactic covering the best practices of OUD treatment and delivers recommendations on complex cases, mentoring both experienced medical and behavioral health clinicians and the next generation of providers. BRTA has 15 slots available for our members so please sign up quickly!

To register, email the following information to [Darlene Randall-McCoy](#).

- Provider Name
- Credentials (e.g., MD, DO, NP, etc.)
- Email address
- Organization and, if applicable, practice site name
- Practice site address

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## Rural Healthcare Provider Transition Project

**Application Deadline: September 30**

Applications are being accepted to receive one year of technical assistance through this ongoing program administered by the FORHP-supported National Rural Health Resource Center. Beginning in January 2023, experts will help small rural hospitals and certified Rural Health Clinics strengthen their foundation in key elements of value-based care including, but not limited to, efficiency, quality, patient experience, and safety of care.

[For More Information](#)

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## AAPD Foundation Access to Care Grants

**Application Deadline: Monday, October 3, 2022**

Grants to support community-based initiatives that provide dental homes to children who are underserved and/or have limited access to oral healthcare.



[For More Information](#)

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## **Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program**

**Application Deadline: Friday, October 7, 2022**

Grants to plan or implement food projects designed to meet the needs of low-income individuals and increase community self-reliance concerning food and nutrition.

[For More Information](#)



## **Rural Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing Grants**

**Application Deadline: Tuesday, October 11, 2022**

Grants to fund national organizations that can provide technical assistance to local communities. Assistance will be targeted to help communities create thriving community development and affordable housing strategies that will result in healthier homes and communities.

[For More Information](#)

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## **Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP)**

**Application Deadline: Tuesday, November 3, 2022**

Provides funding to small rural hospitals, through their State Office of Rural Health, to help them do any or all of the following: purchase equipment or training to attain value-based payment and care goals; join Medicare Shared Savings Program or become an accountable care organization; and purchase health information technology, equipment, or training.

**Informational Webinar** on **Wednesday, August 31, 2022** from 3:00 - 4:00 pm ET.8

[For More Information](#)

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