



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

### Community Photo Feature

This picture was taken by Kimberly Sigmon during a foggy morning in Moneta, VA. Moneta is located between Bedford and Franklin counties.

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



### VA-SORH Updates

**The 2022 VA-SORH Photo Contest is now open!**

**Submission Deadline: Friday, October 14, 2022**

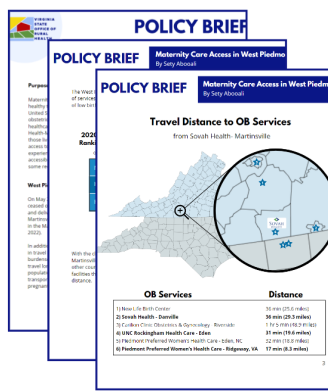
The 2022 Virginia State Office of Rural Health (VA-SORH) Photo Contest is designed to showcase the beauty of rural Virginia. Photographers of all experience levels are encouraged to participate. You may submit as many photos as you'd like.



[For More Information](#)

#### 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:

- Adoption of Telemedicine in a Rural US Cancer Center Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic: Qualitative Study
- FDA Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Authorizes Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccines for Use as a Booster Dose
- Extended Shelf Life for COVID At-Home Tests
- NIH Researching Social, Behavioral, and Economic Impact of COVID-19 in Underserved/Vulnerable Populations

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

## Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities



### "Telling the Stories of Rural Health in America"

**Tuesday, September 27 at 2:00 PM ET**

NOSORH is offering a webinar for those interested in communicating and reporting on rural health and all it entails.

The webinar will focus on positive rural health storytelling, followed by a facilitated discussion focused on your interests and challenges in communicating about rural health.

[For More Information](#)

## FREE Health Literacy Course- 6 CME/CE/CNE Credits

VCHA is offering this free, six-module CE course, that teaches tools and techniques to promote health literacy compliance and patient understanding in your practice. The content was derived and modified from the Network of the National Library of Medicine's

(NNLM) Clinical Conversations Training Program on Health Literacy by the Virginia Community Healthcare Association (VCHA) under a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant.

[For More Information](#)



### UVA Health & Rural Partners Expanding Remote Patient Monitoring

The University of Virginia Health System is working to make it easier for rural patients to access the care they need. The hospital is teaming up with six community health organizations to provide at-home monitoring. This project is being funded by more than \$700,000 in grants from the Federal Communications Commission and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Each of the community health organizations will get 40 reusable patient-monitoring kits, which include tablets with an Internet connection and medical equipment such as blood pressure cuffs and thermometers.

[For More Information](#)

### Greetings from APDA!

My name is Naomi McLeod, and I am the new Manager of Programs and Community Engagement for the Virginia Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association (APDA). I am here to develop educational programming geared toward Parkinson's patients, families, and the community needs of Virginia.



I am also here to be a resource, distribute APDA educational material, and connect those with Parkinson's, their families, and care partners to support groups, exercise programs, informational presentations, and educational programs.

Please feel free to reach out anytime! I am excited for this opportunity to connect with you and assist our community with the resources they may need. Thank you for welcoming me into the community!

Sincerely,  
Naomi  
Naomi McLeod, MPH  
Manager, Programs and Community Engagement  
Email: [nmcleod@apdaparkinson.org](mailto:nmcleod@apdaparkinson.org)

### Virginia organization helps residents through the "Blackberry Winters" of life

Teri Crawford-Brown, a nurse working at Clinch Valley Medical Center in Richlands, Virginia, started a nonprofit organization, Blackberry Winter, four years ago. The organization was started to help her neighbors meet their basic needs. Teri rented a storage building to hold gently-used, donated furniture and other household items that would be ready to give to someone when needs arose.



[For More Information](#)

## Consumer Finances in Rural Appalachia

Describes the financial needs and challenges of consumers in rural Appalachia. Features sections on consumer finance profiles, including a section on medical debt, and consumer distress and delinquencies. Appendix A includes state-level statistics for the 13 Appalachian states, including percent of rural people with medical debt in the state.

[For More Information](#)

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## Telehealth Brings Important Services to Rural Long-Term Care Facilities

A skilled nursing facility in New Hampshire and national experts, including a Virginia geriatrician, share the benefits telehealth services can bring to the residents and staff of rural long-term care facilities as well as the challenges some facilities face in providing these services.

[For More Information](#)



## Rural Telementoring UnConference: A free virtual event

**Wednesday, October 26, 2022, from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM ET**

The Rural Telementoring Training Center is hosting a FREE virtual event will feature brief presentations on topics relevant to rural health care delivery, followed by group discussion, idea generation, and collaboration. Unlike traditional conferences, where the agenda is predetermined, and there is limited opportunity for interaction and conversation, an UnConference provides a structure that facilitates sharing experiences, idea generation, and partnership building in pursuit of shared goals.

[For More Information](#)

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## Addressing Burnout in the Behavioral Health Workforce Through Organizational Strategies

Offers organization-level interventions to prevent and reduce burnout among behavioral health workers and provides examples of strategies used by other organizations to address burnout. Mentions challenges that contribute to burnout in rural areas, including low occupational prestige and workforce shortages.

[For More Information](#)

**Upcoming Meetings & Webinars**



### 3RNET Recruiting for Retention Academy

October 3

[To Register](#)

### 2022 NOSORH Annual Meeting

October 5-6  
register by 9/19/22

[To Register](#)

### 2022 Catalyst Annual Summit

October 7

[To Register](#)

### 2022 Virginia EMS Symposium

November 9-13

[To Register](#)

## State & Regional Funding Opportunities

### 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](#)

### Community Based Organizations: Health Access Fund

**Application Deadline: Friday, September 16, 2022**

The National Health Team is pleased to release our RFP for the Health Access Fund grant program, funded by Uber, PayPal and Walgreens. Grants under the Health Access Fund will be awarded to community-based partners to support access to services under the following three categories:

1. Access to health care services via rides with Uber
2. Access to services and activities that address social determinants of health via rides with Uber
3. Access to health care in regions with limited rideshare options

[For More Information](#)

### Connecting the Community for Maternal Health Challenge

**Application Deadline: Thursday, September 29, 2022**

This challenge is designed to help community-based or community-oriented 501(c)3 (non-profit) organizations develop the infrastructure and capabilities needed to pursue maternal

health research in areas that specifically impact their communities. These advocacy, local community, faith-based, and other similar groups will receive training and mentoring in writing research proposals and assistance in building the infrastructure required for research activities. There is a total prize purse of \$3.038M, and winning organizations will also receive non-monetary incentives such as training and mentoring.

[For More Information](#)



#### Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program (REDL and REDG)

**Application Deadline: Friday, September 30, 2022**

Loans and grants to assist in the economic development of rural areas, including funds for healthcare facilities and equipment, telecommunications networks, and job creation projects.

[For More Information](#)

#### Virginia Healthy Communities Action Teams to Prevent Childhood Obesity Grants

**Application Deadline: Monday, October 17, 2022**

Grants for organizations, coalitions, and teams in Virginia to develop Healthy Community Action Teams to promote policy, systems, and environmental changes that will help children and adolescents reach and maintain healthy weights. Applications from rural communities are encouraged.

[For More Information](#)



#### HUD's Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness

**Application Deadline: Thursday, October 20, 2022 by 8:00 PM ET**

In June 2022 HUD announced **\$322 million in competitive funding available to communities to address unsheltered and rural homelessness**. This funding opportunity includes a \$54.5 million set aside for communities in rural areas. Funding is available for permanent housing, street outreach efforts and other supportive services, and Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).

There will be a webinar **TOMORROW, Wednesday, September 14, 2022 from 2:00 - 3:00 PM ET** to discuss this funding opportunity as well as other ways to work with CoCs to address homelessness in your communities. No registration required. Please click on this [link](#) at that time.

[For More Information](#)

#### Community-Driven Responses to Opioid Use Disorder and Overdose Mortality

**Application Deadline: Friday, October 21, 2022**

Funding to address organizational capacity, skills development, and partnerships in community-based organizations working in the areas of opioid use disorder and overdose mortality.

[For More Information](#)

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### **MultiPlan Rural Health Grant**

**Application Deadline: Friday, October 28, 2022**

Grants to help healthcare providers in rural areas introduce or expand services, education, screenings and other programs aimed at improving the health of people in their communities.

[For More Information](#)



### **Technology Improvement Project Award**

**Application Deadline: Friday, November 4, 2022 by 4:00 PM ET**

Funding for projects in Network of the National Library of Medicine Region 1 (which includes Virginia) to purchase technology and provide online resource training that will improve health, and digital equity to underserved communities impacted by the digital divide.

[For More Information](#)



### **Project TRANSAM**

**Application Deadline: ongoing**

A cooperative action program between the Indian Health Service and the Department of Defense that allows for redistribution of surplus medical equipment and supplies for federally recognized tribes.

[For More Information](#)



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[Visit the VA-SORH Facebook Page](#)



Office of Health Equity

