



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

### Community Photo Feature

The Virginia State Office of Rural Health (VA-SORH) hosted the 2022 **NOSORH** Annual Meeting on October 5-7th. The meeting invited State Offices of Rural Health from across the country and their stakeholders to gather in Harrisonburg, VA to collaborate and discuss a variety of rural health topics. Dr. Colin Greene, State Health Commissioner, and Heather Anderson, Director of the VA-SORH, gave opening remarks welcoming attendees to the beautiful Shenandoah Valley.



### VA-SORH Updates

**This is the last week to submit your photos to the VA-SORH Photo Contest!**

**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.



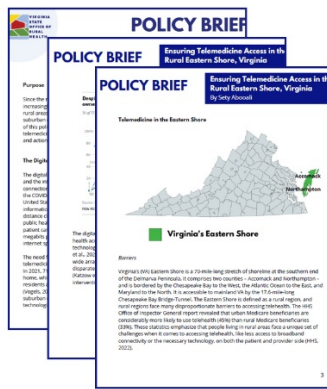
[For More Information](#)

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#### Rural Health Policy Brief: Ensuring Telemedicine Access in the Rural Eastern Shore, Virginia

The Virginia State Office of Rural Health publishes a **monthly series of rural health briefs**. Checkout the September 2022 edition, "Ensuring Telemedicine Access in the Rural Eastern Shore, Virginia," which explores the barriers and opportunities to implementing telemedicine in Virginia's rural Eastern Shore region, and to offer recommendations and actions that will support

telemedicine for rural Virginians.



[For More Information](#)



## Updated COVID-19/Monkeypox 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:

- **VDH further expands eligibility for those looking to get monkeypox vaccine**
- **ASPR- COVID-19 medications are now available through your doctor, local pharmacies, and health clinics.**

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

## Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities



**National Rural Health Day is next month!**

**Thursday, November 17, 2022**

Let us know if you are planning anything special to celebrate National Rural Health Day this year! Email [ellie.wilson@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:ellie.wilson@vdh.virginia.gov) so that we can highlight your organization's activities on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#). Visit [PowerofRural.org](https://PowerofRural.org) to find ideas, tools, and an event listing for this year's National celebration.

[For More Information](#)

## Mt. Rogers crisis center leads commonwealth in responding to mental health emergencies

"Mental health professionals, state and local leaders, and law enforcement from around the [Mount Rogers] region... gathered at Mount Rogers Community Services' crisis center in Marion, which after opening in 2019 is now transforming into a receiving center. As part of a pilot project, the Marion center on North Main Street is the first in the state to take this step.

K.J. Holbrook, Mount Rogers' chief clinical officer, said she hopes this transition will change the dynamic that now often sends people in a mental health crisis to the emergency room, frequently in police custody, and instead directs them to the center."

[For More Information](#)



## FORHP Introduces New Center to Assist Rural Emergency Hospitals

Announces the appointment of the Rural Health Redesign Center to provide technical assistance to hospitals interested in becoming an Rural Emergency Hospital (REH). Describes the new REH designation and the role of the REH Technical Assistance Center in supporting hospitals through the transition process.

A [webinar](#) is scheduled for **October 12 at 3:00 PM ET** to explain the REH and the Technical Assistance Center.

[For More Information](#)

## Virginia Cooperative Extension- AgriAbility Virginia

**October 19, 2022 from 2:00 - 3:00 PM ET**

Join Garland Mason, Coordinator of AgriAbility Virginia and Associate in the Center for Food Systems & Community Transformation, for an introduction to the AgriAbility Virginia program, which promotes safety, wellness, and accessibility on the farm through education, rehabilitative services, and assistive technology. AgriAbility Virginia offers services to farmers at no cost, supports a wide diversity of farmers and farmworkers across all farming communities, and addresses a wide variety of disabling conditions in agriculture.

[For More Information](#)

## The Appalachian Region: A Data Overview from the 2016-2020 American Community Survey



State- and county-level information on population, age, race and ethnicity, housing occupancy, education, labor force, employment, income, health insurance coverage, disability, and veteran status, for the 13 Appalachian states. Features statistics with breakdowns by 5 levels of population density. Includes data explorer options for Appalachian categories such as population and age, education, income and poverty, computer and broadband access, rural Appalachia versus rural America, and employment and commuting.

[For More Information](#)

## Does Training Physicians in Rural Places Lead to Rural Practice?

Researchers analyzed data on training and placement of 12,162 clinically active physicians who completed an accredited family medicine residency between 2008 and

2012. They found that more than 90 percent of residents had no rural training during that time and only 14 percent practiced in a rural location by 2018. But the data showed that rural exposure during family medicine residency training is associated with a 5- to 6-fold increase in subsequent rural practice.

[For More Information](#)

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## 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers

Report details and defines a national support strategy for family caregivers of all ages. Highlights strategies for caring for children, elderly adults, people with disabilities, people with chronic conditions, and post-acute conditions, among others. Also, discusses recommendations for caregivers residing in rural and underserved areas.

[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](#)

## Upcoming Meetings & Webinars



**2022 Rural Summit**

**October 27-28**

[To Register](#)



**2022 Virginia EMS Symposium**

**November 9-13**

[To Register](#)



**VAFCC's Annual Conference**

**November 13-15 & virtually 16-18**

[To Register](#)



**2022 Rural Health Voice Conference**

**November 16-17**

[To Register](#)

# State & Regional Funding Opportunities



## Virginia Dental Loan Repayment Program

**Application Deadline: Saturday, October 15, 2022**

Despite significant dental workforce shortages, oral health remains an essential need in many Virginia communities. The Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation is committed to addressing these shortfalls with a one-year student loan repayment program designed to help Virginia dentists and dental hygienists in exchange for 12 months of service with a safety-net clinic.

[For More Information](#)

## Virginia Behavioral Health Student Loan Repayment Program (BH-SLRP) NOW open!

**Application Cycle: Saturday, October 1, 2022 - Saturday, April 15, 2023**



The 2021 General Assembly established a \$1.6 million Virginia Behavioral Health Student Loan Repayment Program (BH-LRP) to help recruit and retain behavioral health (BH) professionals to practice in underserved areas of the Commonwealth and/or provide counseling and treatment to underserved populations. This program will repay a portion of an eligible BH professional's student loan debt. In return, recipients commit to practicing in Virginia for a minimum of two years at an eligible site.

[For More Information](#)

## Comer Family Foundation: Syringe Service Program

**Application Deadline: Tuesday, November 1, 2022**

Funding will support comprehensive **harm reduction** programs that improve the health and wellness of people who use drugs. These programs provide free sterile syringes, education, and community wraparound services to reduce opioid overdose and the transmission of HIV and viral hepatitis.

[For More Information](#)



## School Based Mental Health Services Grant Program

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

Grants to increase the number of qualified mental health service professionals providing school based mental health services to students in local educational agencies with a demonstrated need.

[For More Information](#)

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### **SeedMoney: Grants for Garden Projects**

**Application Deadline: Saturday, November 12, 2022**

Each year, SeedMoney offers challenge grants to diverse food garden projects through a 30-day crowdfunding challenge running from November 15th to December 15th. Grants are open to all types of public food garden projects (youth gardens, community gardens, food bank gardens, etc.) regardless of their location.

The grants offered are on a sliding scale. The size of a grant a project can receive depends on how much it is able to raise over the 30-day period compared to other projects participating in the challenge. This year, a total of 370 grants ranging from \$100 to \$1000 will be offered.

[For More Information](#)

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### **Community Mobility Ready-to-Launch Grants**

**Application Deadline: Wednesday, November 23, 2022**

Grants and technical assistance to support communities that are ready to take concrete steps toward implementing transportation solutions to help underserved residents become more fully engaged in economic opportunities, improve their health and well-being, and/or become more integrated into their community.

[For More Information](#)



### **National Health Service Corps Students to Service Loan Repayment Program**

**Application Deadline: Thursday, December 1, 2022**

Loan repayment assistance for medical, nursing, physician assistant, and dental students who agree to provide services in eligible Health Professional Shortage Areas of greatest need.

[For More Information](#)

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### **Federal Funding for Transportation Programs Serving Older Adults and People with Disabilities**

Discusses the role of federal funding as a primary source of funding to support transportation programs that meet the needs of older adults and people with disabilities. Describes funding programs from the Department of Transportation, the Department of Health and Human Services, AmeriCorps, and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Highlights programs for rural and tribal communities.

[For More Information](#)



## Rural Residency Planning & Development (RRPD) Program

**Application Deadline: Friday, January 27, 2023**

The RRPD program is a multi-year HRSA initiative to develop new, accredited and sustainable rural residency programs or **rural track programs** (RTP) in family medicine, internal medicine, psychiatry, general surgery, preventive medicine, or obstetrics and gynecology, to support the expansion of the physician workforce and increase opportunities for residents to train in rural communities. There are two pathways for this program: General Primary Care and High Need Specialty Pathway and Maternal Health and Obstetrics Pathway.

HRSA will hold a **NOFO TA webinar** on **Thursday, November 3, 2022 from 1:00 - 2:30 PM ET** and will make a recording available for those who cannot attend. Attendees without computer access or computer audio can use the dial-in information: Dial-in Toll-Free #: 1-833-568-8864 Participant Code: 40608316.

[For More Information](#)

## USDA Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan Program

**Application Deadline: ongoing**



Loans from eligible private lenders, guaranteed by USDA, to help build essential community facilities in rural areas.

[For More Information](#)



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

