



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

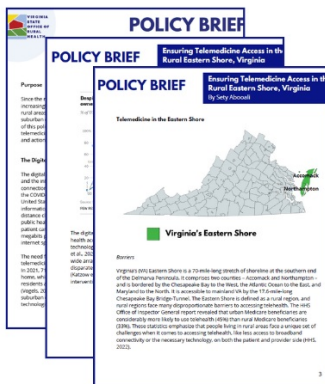
Community Photo Feature

Mary Chamberlin took this festive photo of some pumpkins on display at the King George Farmers' Market.

Mary submitted this photo to the 2021 VA-SORH Photo Contest. Thank you to everyone who submitted their beautiful photos to this year's 2022 VA-SORH Photo Contest.



VA-SORH Updates



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 Resources

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

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week is October 23rd - October 29th!

Health care providers play a critical role in childhood lead poisoning prevention, by screening children at risk for lead exposure, educating families and caregivers on lead poisoning prevention strategies, and ensuring children exposed to lead receive the proper follow-up care.



In Virginia, all children at **increased risk** for lead exposure must get a blood lead test at ages 1 & 2, or up to age 6 if they have not yet received a blood lead test. Please click the button below to review the Virginia Blood Lead Testing & Case Management Protocol.

[For More Information](#)



RHIhub Health Equity Toolkit

The Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub) and NORC Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis have released a NEW evidence-based toolkit on Rural Health Equity. This toolkit highlights the vital information needed for implementing programs to advance health equity among rural populations.

[For More Information](#)

Angel Flight East Newsletter

Check out the Angel Flight East newsletter to stay informed about trends that affect your patients' ability to access medical treatment far from home and how public benefit flights through an organization like **Angel Flight East** can be an important resource for your patients.



[For More Information](#)



UVA Health collaborates with community organizations to increase accessibility to medical care

"UVA Health has been utilizing telemedicine since 1996 and has recently expanded in conjunction with community health organizations in rural Virginia. U.Va Health is working to make its services more accessible to the underserved rural communities via increased telehealth services and partnering with local community health organizations to provide education and resources to facilitate at-home care services."

[For More Information](#)

State Offices of Rural Health help rural hospitals face challenge of extra funding

"It may sound like a good problem to have - lots of extra money for rural healthcare facilities during a medical crisis. But State Offices of Rural Health found that hospitals needed extra assistance to use the pandemic-related funds effectively."

[For More Information](#)

Integrating Employment Services with Substance Use Treatment and Recovery: The Experiences of Five Programs



Reports on the experiences of 5 treatment and recovery programs that integrated employment services into their program structure. Presents key findings that highlight program differences, organizational partnerships, and necessary accommodations for people in recovery from substance use disorder (SUD). **Includes case study of a community recovery program situated in rural Virginia.**

[For More Information](#)

Sustaining Rural Health Care as a Business: Outlook 2023

Deadline to Participate: Friday, October 28, 2022

You're invited to participate in a new national research study, "Sustaining Rural Health Care as a Business: Outlook 2023", conducted by Wipfli, LLP. Wipfli is working with national rural health organizations, including the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health, the National Rural Health Association and the National Association of Rural Health Clinics, to better understand the financial challenges healthcare organizations are facing.

Your responses are entirely confidential and will be reported in aggregate only. You will not be contacted for any solicitation of services. As a thank you for your time, the downloadable report will be sent to you with all the results, including current trends, growth projections and top business strategies in rural health care.

[For More Information](#)

A Community Conversation on Stigma and Opioid Use Disorder

Join us for a critical community conversation with Tedra L. Cobb. This interactive conversation explores how to support our loved ones experiencing substance use disorder as well as how to care for ourselves and the wider community. Together, we can end stigma in Appalachia.



These FREE events will include a train-the-trainer session, with lunch served.

- Smyth County, VA: October 31st from 9 - 11:30 AM
- Big Stone Gap, VA: November 3rd from 9 - 11:30 AM
- Lebanon, VA: November 3rd from 1 - 3:30 PM

- Southwest VA: November 4th from 9 - 11:30 AM

[For More Information](#)

Medication Assistance Program (MAP) to Assist Qualifying Community Members in Obtaining Eyeglasses

The Medication Assistance Program (MAP) is designed to help supply free medications for Southwest Virginia residents who are either without prescription coverage or who are currently in the Medicare Coverage Gap “donut hole.” These medications are provided by using The Pharmacy Connection, which has direct contact with pharmaceutical companies.

MAP can now help qualifying children and adults in receiving free eyeglasses. Eyeglasses are provided free of charge with no additional costs to the qualifying patient. Adults qualify for one pair of eyeglasses per year and children qualify for two pair per year.

[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



ARC J-1 Visa Waivers

ARC is committed to helping residents of Appalachia have access to quality, affordable health care. Accordingly, under certain conditions, ARC will consider recommending a waiver of the foreign residence requirement on behalf of physicians holding J-1 Visas in Health Professional Shortage Areas to address the Region's healthcare needs. The physicians receiving these waivers must practice full-time at a site in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) within the legislatively defined

Appalachian Region for a minimum of three years.

[For More Information](#)

Limited Time Discounts on Telehealth Education Modules for Healthcare Professionals

Discount Deadline: Monday, October 31, 2022

Telehealth Cardiac Rehabilitation is one of the newest training modules available through Telehealth Village. Developed through a CDC Cooperative Agreement (NU58DP006620-InnoVAtE) in partnership with the Virginia Department of Health, this module is being made available to for \$39.50 (*normally* \$79) until October 31st. Upon completion of this module, you will receive a discount code that will allow you to take any of the other available modules for only \$25.

[For More Information](#)

Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Grant Program

Application Deadline: Tuesday, November 1, 2022



The AGD Foundation Grant Program fulfills the Foundation's mission by offering financial support for programs that promote oral and oropharyngeal cancer awareness, education, and/or screening that is independent of standard dental practice.

[For More Information](#)

Million Hearts Health Equity Implementation Project

Application Deadline: Tuesday, November 1, 2022

The resources provided through this opportunity are intended to support work in reducing health disparities. Applicants must select at least one priority population and strategy outlined in Million Hearts® 2027 Focusing on Health Equity, such as "expanded cardiac rehabilitation access or offerings in rural areas." Competitive applicants will be anchored in the populations and strategies central to Million Hearts® 2027 focus on health equity.

[For More Information](#)

Primary Care Training and Enhancement- Residency Training in Mental and Behavioral Health (PCTE-RTMB)

Application Deadline: Tuesday, November 15, 2022

Training for primary care residents in the prevention, identification, diagnosis, treatment, and referral of services for mental and behavioral health conditions for those who at-risk or have experienced abuse, trauma, or mental health and/or substance use disorders. Funding must be used to support both didactic training and at least a one-month clinical rotation primarily focused on mental and behavioral health conditions.

[For More Information](#)

Opportunity Appalachia Targeted Technical Assistance



Application Deadline: Friday, November 18, 2022

The Opportunity Appalachia program provides targeted technical assistance for downtown and rural development projects in Appalachian Counties of Tennessee and Virginia to build entrepreneurial communities where local business can thrive, creating quality jobs for residents, helping to address the Covid downturn and revitalize local economies.

[For More Information](#)



Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program

Application Deadline: Thursday, December 8, 2022

Grants to develop and expand existing farm to school initiatives and other food and learning initiatives with the overall goal of increasing knowledge of agriculture and improving the nutritional health of children.

[For More Information](#)

ARC Launches New Funding Opportunity to Support Local Development Districts Serving Distressed Areas and Marginalized Groups

Application Deadline: Saturday, December 31, 2022



Appalachia's 74 **Local Development Districts** play a critical role in community and economic growth, often serving as the primary development organizations rural areas. With unprecedented amounts of federal funding available, LDDs need support to help their communities identify, access, and best utilize these financial opportunities. Through READY LDDs, ARC is **making a total of \$2 million available** to help LDDs increase staffing and capacity to support local governments and nonprofits in the management of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), and other sources.

[For More Information](#)



Virginia AHEC Scholars Program

Application Deadline: ongoing

The Virginia AHEC Scholars Program recruits, trains, and supports a diverse group of students from across the state, creating a multidisciplinary team of health professionals committed to both community service and the transformation of health care in Virginia.

Selected applicants participate in a two-year educational program and may be eligible to receive a stipend. Each AHEC Scholar will receive a Virginia AHEC Scholars Certificate, setting them apart from other students in an increasingly competitive environment. Selected scholars will also have the chance to meet leaders in health care and make connections with other participants, creating an invaluable network for their future careers in health care.

[For More Information](#)

Virginia Health Access Grants

Letter of Intent Deadline (required): Tuesday, January 17, 2023
Application Deadline: Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Most Virginia Health Care Foundation (VHCF) grants work to increase access to healthcare for uninsured Virginians and those who live in areas with limited access to care. Barriers to healthcare access take many forms and can be caused by a variety of factors.

Grant applicants are encouraged to develop initiatives in the following areas based on their local needs:

- Developing or Expanding Capacity
- Establishing a Broader Scope of Services
- Accelerating Licensure of Behavioral Health Professionals
- Creating Local Coordinated Systems of Care
- Conquering the Consequences of COVID-19

[For More Information](#)



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

