



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

### Community Photo Feature

This photo was taken on Taylor Doktycz on top of her favorite spot- McAfee's Knob in Southwest VA.

Taylor submitted this photo to the 2022 VA-SORH Photo Contest.



### VA-SORH Updates

#### We're hiring!

The Virginia Department of Health, Office of Health Equity (VDH-OHE) is looking for someone to fulfill the role of Health Workforce Coordinator- Follow-up & Compliance. This position is a contract position. It provides an hourly wage of \$20/25, commensurate with experience, up to 40 hours per week.



[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:

- US Dept. of Veterans Affairs- [Long COVID: What You Should Know](#)

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

# Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities



## United Way of Southwest Virginia Awarded \$1.2 Million for New Childcare System in SWVA

Governor Glenn Youngkin recently announced that \$1.2 million in grant funding would go to support the Ready SWVA project for increased childcare options in Southwest Virginia. Ready SWVA is an economic development project specifically targeted toward workforce expansion.

[For More Information](#)

## CMS Issues an Informational Bulletin on the Provisions Included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 Related to the Medicaid Continuous Enrollment Condition



CMS issued an informational bulletin on the provisions included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (CAA, 2023) related to the Medicaid continuous enrollment condition. The CAA, 2023 updates various Medicaid and CHIP provisions, including significant changes to the continuous enrollment condition of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. Under the CAA, 2023, expiration of the continuous enrollment condition will no longer be linked to the public health emergency (PHE) and instead the condition will end on March 31, 2023. Following the end of the condition, states will have up to 12 months to initiate, and 14 months to complete, a renewal for all individuals enrolled in Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and the Basic Health Program. As of January 2023, the PHE is still in effect.

[For More Information](#)

## Guidance on REH Enrollment

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued instructions on how eligible hospitals can submit electronic and paper applications to convert to become a **Rural Emergency Hospital (REH)**. CMS also issued guidance to the Medicare Administrative Contractors on how to **process REH enrollment applications** and how to **update payment systems to process REH claims**.

[For More Information](#)



## UVA Health's rural neurology clinics receive a \$500,000 grant to fund research and patient care.

"UVA Health's epilepsy-specialized clinics in Southwest Virginia were recently awarded a \$500,000 grant from the **Genan Foundation** to fund research, development and expansion. The grant emphasizes training of the clinic fellows, encouraging them to lead research initiatives and get further involved within the clinic community."

[For More Information](#)

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## Registration is now open for Duke University's Department of Population Health Sciences Summer Institute



**June 15-30, 2023**

The DPHS Summer Institute offers **twelve workshops** that will support your research goals. You'll strengthen your foundational knowledge in population health sciences; approach your research from different perspectives; better understand your context; and be more innovative in your proposals, research designs, and data analyses.

All workshops are taught by expert Duke faculty and **most are offered virtually**.

[For More Information](#)

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## Free Flights for Rural People Seeking Healthcare

Angel Flight East is a network of volunteer pilots who fly rural patients to far-away hospital visits across 14 eastern states with a large focus on rural areas in a 6 state targeted footprint including West Virginia, Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Maryland. The effort fills some of the gaps of a broken rural healthcare system.



[For More Information](#)

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## Advancing Equity in Cancer Prevention in Primary Care and Rural Health Settings

Discusses equity and social determinants of health related to cancer prevention in rural primary care health settings. Presents projects and collaborations from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grantees and stakeholders to improve cancer prevention and screening.

[For More Information](#)

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## Lack of Person-Centered Research Impedes Rural Access to OUD Meds

Describes new research that suggests that although existing studies compare access to medications for opioid use disorder (OUD) by rurality, there is a lack of research on patient experiences in specific regions and localities. How personal and healthcare factors vary between rural communities is still poorly understood.

[For More Information](#)

# Upcoming Meetings & Webinars



## NRHA's 34th Rural Health Policy Institute

February 7-9

[To Register](#)



## 2023 MATRC Telehealth Summit

March 15-17

[To Register](#)



## 2023 Investing in Rural America Conference

April 11-12

[To Register](#)

## State & Regional Funding Opportunities



### Appalachian Entrepreneurship Academy

**Application Deadline: Friday, February 10, 2023**

ARC's Appalachian Entrepreneurship Academy (AEA) prepares the next generation of entrepreneurial leaders and thinkers. Chosen via a competitive application process, 26 high school students **from across the Appalachian Region** participate in experiential learning designed to cultivate creativity and develop essential entrepreneurial skills. Students develop and implement their own business ideas, refine and prototype those ideas, and deliver a shark-tank-style pitch to a panel of entrepreneurs. New this year, students will work with peer mentors who are AEA alumni.

[For More Information](#)

### Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program

**Application Deadline: Thursday, February 23, 2023**



Loan repayment assistance for registered nurses, nurse practitioners, advanced practice nurses, and nursing school faculty who agree to work at a Critical Shortage Facility or an eligible school of nursing.

[For More Information](#)



### USDA Rural Business Development Grants

**Application Deadline: Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides technical assistance, training, and

other activities leading to the development or expansion of rural small businesses that have fewer than 50 employees and less than \$1 million in gross revenues. Grants range from \$10,000 up to \$500,000 for uses that include project planning/feasibility study, business incubators, land acquisition, leadership and entrepreneur training, and rural business incubators.

[For More Information](#)

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### **CDC Advancing Health Equity for Priority Populations with or at Risk for Diabetes**



**Application Deadline: Tuesday, March 7, 2023**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will invest \$82 million for approximately 77 awards. Applications should specify one of three components of the program: A) statewide awards, B) targeted projects in high need counties, or C) partnership networks. Nonmetropolitan counties make up two-thirds of the high need counties disproportionately impacted by diabetes for this funding opportunity. Applicants for the high need counties (component B) must establish partnerships with community-based organizations in their selected counties and must propose a service area of at least 350,000 people, which can include multiple counties. Applicant eligibility is unrestricted and open to any organization that meets the NOFO requirements. Rural organizations could be lead applicants or partner with a lead applicant to improve diabetes management and prevention in their communities.

[For More Information](#)

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### **Grants to Expand Substance Use Disorder Treatment Capacity in Adult and Family Treatment Drug Courts**

**Application Deadline: Monday, March 6, 2023**

The purpose of this program is to expand substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and recovery support services in existing drug courts. The program recognizes the need for treatment instead of incarceration for individuals with SUDs. These awards provide a continuum of care, including prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services, for individuals with SUD involved with the courts.

[For More Information](#)

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### **Medication Assisted Treatment- Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction**



**Application Deadline: Tuesday, March 7, 2023**

The purpose of this program is to provide resources to help expand and enhance access to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD). It is expected that this program will help to 1) increase access to MOUD for individuals with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), including individuals from diverse racial, ethnic, sexual and gender minority communities; and 2) decrease illicit opioid use and prescription opioid misuse.

[For More Information](#)



## Virginia State Loan Repayment Program

**Application Deadline: Friday, March 31, 2023**

VA-SLRP is operated by the Virginia Department of Health-Office of Health Equity (VDH-OHE) providing a non-taxed incentive to qualified medical, dental, behavioral health and pharmaceutical (pharmacists) professionals in return for a minimum of two (2) years of service at an eligible practice site in one of the federally designated Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) in a qualified field of practice in Virginia.

[For More Information](#)

## Virginia Behavioral Health Student Loan Repayment Program (BH-LRP)

**Application Deadline: Saturday, April 15, 2023**

The Virginia Behavioral Health Student Loan Repayment Program (BH-LRP) helps 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](#)



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

