



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

VA-SORH Updates

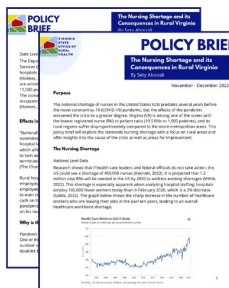
VA-SORH Digital Calendar Series

The Virginia State Office of Rural Health will be sharing a digital calendar page every month. Each page will feature a winning photograph from the **2022 VA-SORH Photo Contest** winning photo and a relevant rural health topic or resource.

Pro tip: download the calendar page to use as your computer's desktop background!



To Download



Rural Health Policy Brief: The Nursing Shortage and its Consequences in Rural Virginia

The Virginia State Office of Rural Health publishes a **monthly series of rural health briefs**. Checkout the November-December 2022 edition, "The Nursing Shortage and its Consequences in Rural Virginia," which explores the statewide nursing shortage with a focus on rural areas and offer insights into the cause of the crisis as well as areas for improvement.

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:

- **Free Home-Delivered COVID-19 Tests Available Once Again**

COVID-19 Resources

Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities

New Statewide Virtual Mental Health Services Launch Through Free Clinics



Since January 2022, the Virginia Dept. of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, VTN, the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics, and other stakeholders, providers, and individuals have worked together to develop and launch a new state initiative that aims to tackle mental health access challenges in the Commonwealth: the Virginia Telemental Health Initiative.

[For More Information](#)

Call for Speaker Proposals: National Rural EMS & Care Conference 2023

Submission Deadline: Friday, January 27, 2023



The National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH), the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO), and the Joint Committee on Rural Emergency Care (JCREC) invite you to submit a proposal(s) to present rural innovations, research findings, model programs, resources, and projects to help EMS stakeholder attendees address the needs of rural communities to prepare for the future.

[For More Information](#)



Finding Statistics and Data Related to Rural Health

This recently updated topic guide features information on locating and utilizing health statistics and data to make informed decisions and understand rural health needs.

[For More Information](#)

Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder Proposed Rule



Deadline to Submit Comments: Tuesday, February 14, 2023

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently published a proposed rule to modernize regulations regarding medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and to make MOUD more accessible to all patients.

NRHA is planning to submit a comment. If you have any questions or comments that you would like addressed in NRHA's response to the proposed rule, please contact Alexa McKinley (amckinley@ruralhealth.us).

[For More Information](#)

Specialty Physician Supply and Demand Tool

The National Center for Rural Health Works has developed a Specialty Physician Supply and Demand Tool. The tool allows users to generate a custom report based on locality and specialty (Family Medicine, General Internal Medicine, General Pediatrics, Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Surgery, General Cardiology, Dermatology, Otolaryngology, Urology, Neurology, Psychiatry, and Obstetrics & Gynecology).

[For More Information](#)

NIH Launches Harm Reduction Research Network to Prevent Overdose Fatalities



Announces a new research network established by the National Institutes of Health, that will test harm reduction strategies in different community settings. This research network will examine the efficacy of moving harm reduction services and tools into communities via mobile vans, peer support specialists, internet- and smartphone-based tools, and other types of outreach.

[For More Information](#)

Understanding Eligibility for Conversion to Rural Emergency Hospital

This brief presents updated data for Rural Emergency Hospital (REH)-eligible hospitals, compares several financial and operational measures of three rural hospitals that are on public record as having expressed interest in REH conversion to all the REH-eligible hospitals, and discusses what factors may ultimately determine the number of rural hospitals that convert to REH.

[For More Information](#)

Upcoming Meetings & Webinars



**NRHA's 34th Rural Health
Policy Institute**

February 7-9



**2023 MATRC Telehealth
Summit**

March 15-17



**2023 Investing in Rural
America Conference**

April 11-12

State & Regional Funding Opportunities



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 Partners in Prayer & Prevention Disparities Grant

Application Deadline: Tuesday, January 24, 2023

The Virginia Department of Health, Office of Health Equity is now accepting applications for the Virginia Partners in Prayer & Prevention Disparities Grant funded through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The purpose of the program is to advance health equity and address COVID-19 related health disparities by partnering with Faith-Based Institutions/Organizations to address social determinants of health as they relate to reducing health disparities as an impact of COVID-19.

[For More Information](#)

Service Area Competition Funding for Health Center Program

Application Deadline: Monday, February 13, 2023

Funding to provide comprehensive primary healthcare services to an underserved area or population. Areas with a September 1, 2023 project period start date are eligible to apply.

[For More Information](#)

HRSA Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part C Capacity Development Program

Application Deadline: Friday, February 17, 2023

HRSA will make 50 awards for **Part C of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program**. Eligible organizations – including those in rural areas – are: independent school districts; state,

local, and tribal governments; tribal organizations; non- and for-profit organizations; and special district governments. Over one year of performance, award recipients will complete one short-term activity that will help increase access to high-quality HIV primary health care services for low-income and underserved people with HIV.

[For More Information](#)

Funding Opportunity: Targeted Technical Assistance for Rural Hospitals Program



Application Deadline: Tuesday, March 7, 2023

HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy will be making a \$800,000 investment for one organization providing targeted, in-depth technical assistance to rural hospitals communities struggling to maintain health care services. The recipient will work with selected individual hospitals to find ways to keep needed care locally, whether it is with a more limited set of services provided by the hospital, or by exploring other mechanisms for meeting community health care needs. Eligible applicants include domestic public or private, for-profit or non-profit entities. Domestic faith based and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations are also eligible to apply. *This program was previously named the Vulnerable Rural Hospitals Assistance Program (HRSA-18-121).*

[For More Information](#)

David W. and Sandra L.R. Boyes Physician Education Scholarship



Application Deadline: Thursday, June 1, 2023

Scholarship for health professionals and specialists working on continuing education in the field of gerontology. Special consideration is given to applicants who currently practice or plan to practice in **rural Virginia** or southern Appalachian areas.

[For More Information](#)

We Are Appalachia: Mpox Response Initiative

Application Deadline: Ongoing

Mini-grants to combat the ongoing monkeypox epidemic in rural Appalachia through outreach to LGBTQIA+ communities.

[For More Information](#)



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Visit the VA-SORH Facebook Page

