



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

Community Photo Feature

Jamie Pritchett took this photo while camping in the Natural Bridge area. They came upon these deer having a drink early in the day on a morning walk by the James River.

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



VA-SORH Updates



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

New mobile healthcare clinic coming to Southampton and Franklin, VA

"The City of Franklin and Southampton County have partnered with Old Dominion University to launch a mobile healthcare clinic that will serve people who, otherwise, would have to travel great lengths to see a doctor."

[For More Information](#)

How RHCs will be Impacted by the ending of the PHE Declaration

The Biden Administration announced the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Declaration is anticipated to end on May 11, 2023. This will significantly impact CMS Certified Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).

- To learn more about how the end of the PHE Declaration will affect other provider types, [click here](#).
- The National Association of Rural Health Clinics (NARHC) ["The Approaching End of COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and Its Implications for RHCs"](#)

[For More Information](#)



Children's Oral Health in Rural Virginia- Survey

This research study is provided by a partnership with the VCU Oral Health Core and the Virginia Dental Association. The survey seeks to obtain a better understanding of the opinions and needs of health professionals who provide health care in rural areas. There is currently a lot of interest in oral health and the impact of oral health on overall health. Optimal oral health is associated with opportunities in education and future employment. Specifically, dental health care for children.

[For More Information](#)

Free Suicide Prevention Workshop for Service Providers in Rural Communities



March 21, May 23, and July 25 from 12:00 to 3:30 PM ET

This comprehensive training for service providers in rural communities includes special focus on youth, substance use, and Indigenous communities. The interactive workshop features video demonstrations, active discussion groups, and access to the latest research on best practices. Attendees will get free, ongoing support – including online discussion forums and monthly Q&A video calls – for one year after the workshop.

[For More Information](#)

USDA Launches Rural Data Gateway to Strengthen Partnerships and Expand Access to Resources in Rural

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development unveiled the Rural Data Gateway, a new resource to make the Department's data for rural projects easier to access for its partners and people living in rural communities. The Rural Data Gateway will help USDA better target resources to those who most need them in rural places. It also will help the Department be a stronger partner to rural people, entrepreneurs, government officials and other stakeholders.

[For More Information](#)



HRSA Needs Rural Reviewers for Grant Applications

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) relies on grant reviewers to select the best programs from a competitive group of applicants. Over the coming months, the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy will be competing a number of programs, including among other things: substance use disorders and opioid use disorder, rural workforce, and rural hospitals. Having reviewers with expertise in rural health greatly benefits the review process and is also an opportunity to learn about the review process itself. Reviews are typically held remotely over a period of a few days and reviewers who participate and complete their assigned duties receive an honorarium. Registration is easy and does not commit you to serving as a reviewer. Please consider lending your expertise to these important initiatives.

[For More Information](#)



National Rural Health Association

The Faces of Rural

The National Rural Health Association has announced their Faces of Rural Campaign to better showcase the diversity and power of rural communities. This campaign can be used as an educational tool to create a more accurate picture of rural communities and the dialogue used to discuss and celebrate them. The intent of this effort is to frame our discussions with members, partners, Congress, and federal agencies with an accurate portrayal of the members within our communities and encourage rural leaders and stakeholders to champion the full scope of identities and occupations of rural folks.

[For More Information](#)

USDA's Rural Development Annual Progress Summary in Virginia

Take a look at what USDA Rural Development accomplished in 2022. This annual report focuses on two of many success stories and offers a quick snapshot of funds obligated through their extensive portfolio of programs.



[For More Information](#)

Upcoming Meetings & Webinars



2023 MATRC Telehealth



2023 Investing in Rural



National Rural EMS & Care

March 15-17

April 11-12

April 18-20

[To Register](#)[To Register](#)[To Register](#)

State & Regional Funding Opportunities

Office of Health Equity



Health Workforce Incentive Programs

Virginia Department of Health Workforce Incentive Programs

The Commonwealth of Virginia offers several incentive programs to attract health professionals to Virginia's underserved areas. These programs not only assist with paying down outstanding medical education debt but also afford individuals an opportunity to become part of a community and provide care to deserving populations.

[For More Information](#)

SAMHSA National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative-Community Treatment/Service Centers



Application Deadline: Monday, March 27, 2023

The purpose of this program is to increase access to effective trauma- and grief-focused treatment and service systems for children, adolescents, and their families, who experience traumatic events. With this program, SAMHSA aims to raise the standard of care and improve access to evidence-based services for children experiencing trauma across the nation.

[For More Information](#)

Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) Program

Application Deadline: Friday, April 7, 2023

The purpose of the Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) Program is to increase the number of primary care nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and certified nurse midwives trained and prepared to provide primary care services, mental health and substance use disorder care, and/or maternal health care. Grants will support the training and graduation of advanced practice registered nursing (APRN) students/trainees in these disciplines. Funding preference will be given to eligible entities that train APRNs students to practice in underserved and rural communities or state and local health departments.

[For More Information](#)



Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program Training and Technical Assistance

Application Deadline: Tuesday, April 18, 2023

Through this opportunity, the Bureau of Justice Assistance seeks applications for training and technical assistance (TTA) to develop comprehensive strategies to respond to the overdose crisis and the impacts of opioid, stimulant, and other substance use and misuse on individuals and families. This program provides resources to support state, local, tribal, and territorial efforts to respond to illicit substance use and misuse; reduce overdose deaths; promote public safety; and support access to prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services in the community and justice system.

[For More Information](#)

Supporting Vulnerable and At-Risk Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care

Application Deadline: Wednesday, April 19, 2023

Funding for pilot demonstration projects to develop, implement, and build replicable treatment models for residential-based innovative care, treatment, and services for adolescents and youth transitioning out of foster care who have experienced a history of foster care involvement, child poverty, child abuse or neglect, human trafficking, juvenile justice involvement, substance use or misuse, or gang involvement. The program has an interest in providing services for youth in rural areas.

[For More Information](#)



NHSC Loan Repayment

Application Deadline: Tuesday, April 25, 2023

HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce announced the next opportunity for three loan repayment programs from the National Health Service Corps (NHSC). Of more than 20,000 NHSC members serving across the country, about one in three works in a rural area. In exchange for commitment to serve at an NHSC- approved facility, practicing clinicians providing primary medical, dental, or behavioral health care services may qualify for loan repayment.

- [NHSC Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program](#)

Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention – Pathway to Registered Nurse Program



Application Deadline: Thursday, April 27, 2023

HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW) will invest \$8.9 million in this program to fund up to eight cooperative agreements with health care facilities, nurse-managed health

clinics, and/or accredited schools that train associate degree nurses. Over a period of four years, grantees will develop or enhance bridge programs that move students from Licensed Practical Nurse/Licensed Vocational Nurse to Registered Nurse or nurse faculty. Strong partnerships are encouraged between clinical training sites and academic institutions, including technical/vocational schools and community colleges. Recent research points to both a need for advanced degree nurses in rural areas and barriers to pursuing further education – primarily, the cost for training versus uncertainty about salaries in underserved areas.

[For More Information](#)

USDA Local Food Promotion Program

Application Deadline: Tuesday, May 2, 2023

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides grants to intermediary organizations to help increase access to locally and regionally produced agricultural products. This funding supports four types of projects: 1) planning grants, 2) implementation grants, 3) farm-to-institution grants, and 4) turnkey marketing and promotion grants. According to the USDA, more than 10 percent of rural households were food insecure in 2021. Plenty of other research show a direct correlation between food security and life-long chronic disease.

[For More Information](#)



USDA Strategic Economic and Community Development (SECD)

Application Deadline: Rolling

The USDA is seeking applications for funding to support projects that will help rural people and economies prepare for the future. SECD supports projects that promote and implement strategic community investment plans. These plans use the unique strengths of rural communities to advance prosperity.

[For More Information](#)



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