



Access to Health Care in the Rural United States

*Delta Regional Authority
Federal Health Funding Opportunities Workshop*

September 24, 2015

Sarah Young, MPH

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Health Resources and Services Administration
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy



Today's Presentation

- Why is there a Federal Office of Rural Health Policy?
- Rural health issues
- Dialogue with you

The View From the Window





The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

- Part of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
- Voice for Rural Health
- Policy and Research Role
- Review HHS Regulations
- Administer Grant Programs
- Provide Technical Assistance



Federal Office of Rural Health Policy 2015 Budget

Rural Health Policy Development	\$9.3 million
Rural Health Outreach Program	\$59 million
Rural & Community Access to Emergency Devices	\$4.5 million
Rural Hospital Flexibility Grants	\$40.5 million
State Offices of Rural Health	\$9.4 million
Radiation Exposure & Screening	\$1.8 million
Black Lung Clinics	\$6.7 million
Telehealth	\$13.9 million
Total	\$143.9 million



Driving Influences for FY 2016

The President's Improving Rural Health Care Initiative



DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH
and HUMAN
SERVICES

Fiscal Year
2016

Health Resources and
Services Administration

*Justification of
Estimates for
Appropriations Committees*

Expanding the Rural Evidence Base

Workforce Recruitment and Retention

Telehealth and Health IT Integration

Cross-Governmental Collaboration

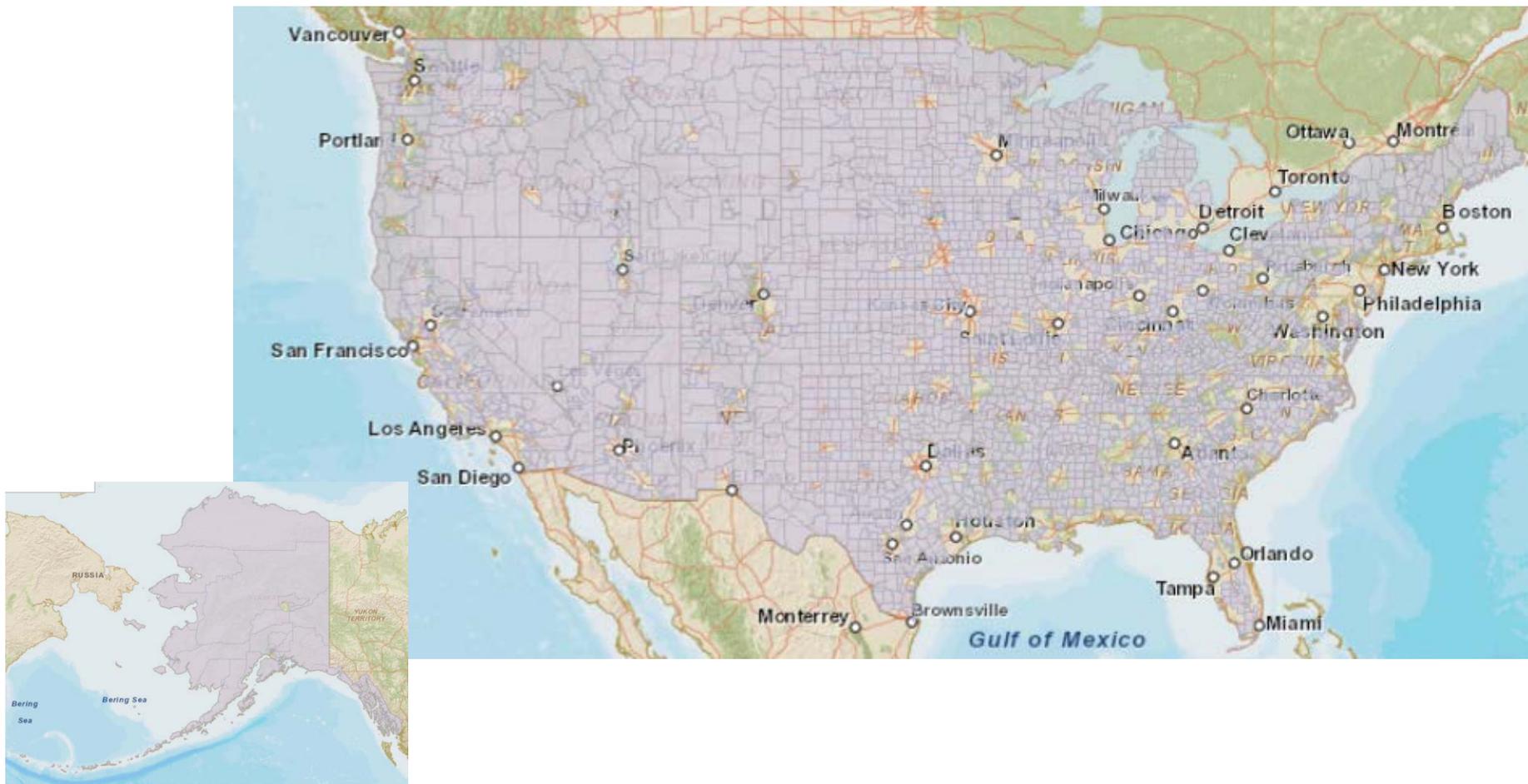
A Common Goal Across All FORHP
Grant Programs

Rural
Population
Health
as an Aligning Focus

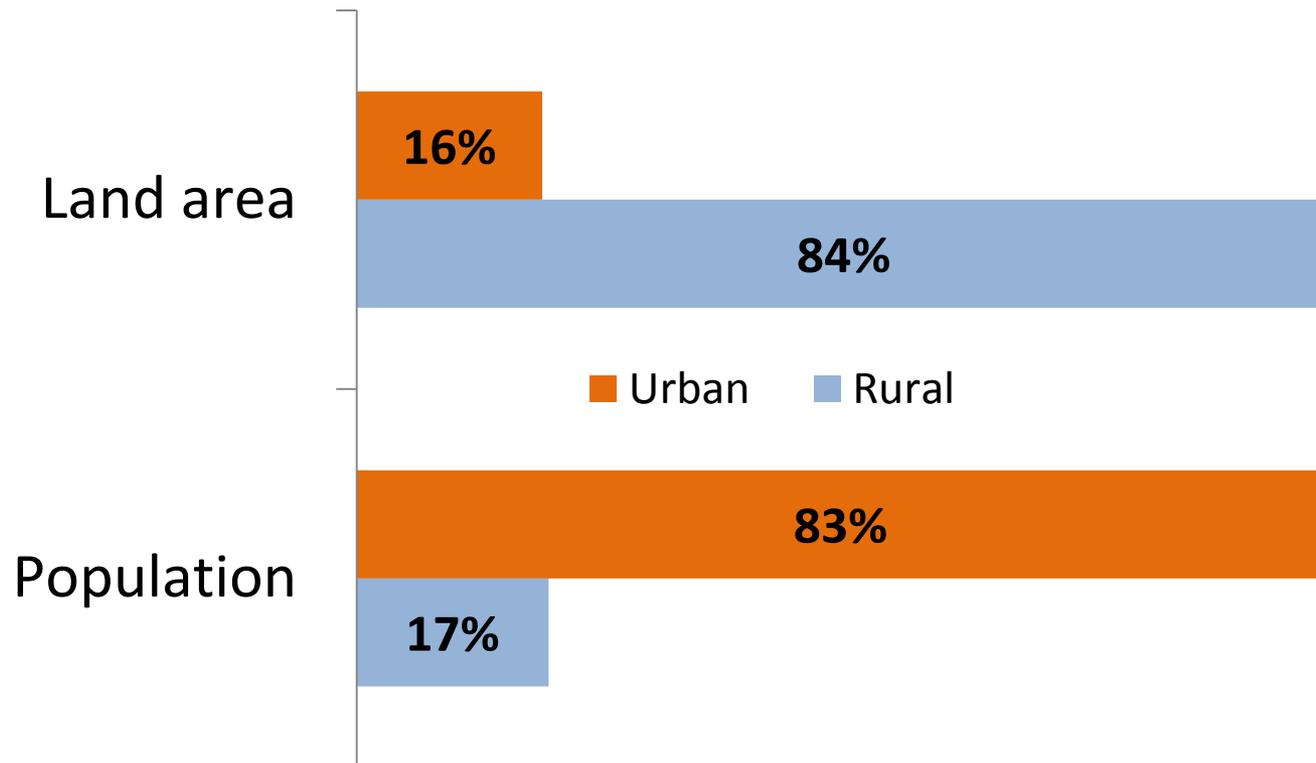
Can Help
Address
Long-
Standing
Disparities

Key Step in
Moving
Toward
Measuring
Outcomes

Where is the rural United States?



Land Area versus Population





Challenges Affecting Rural Health

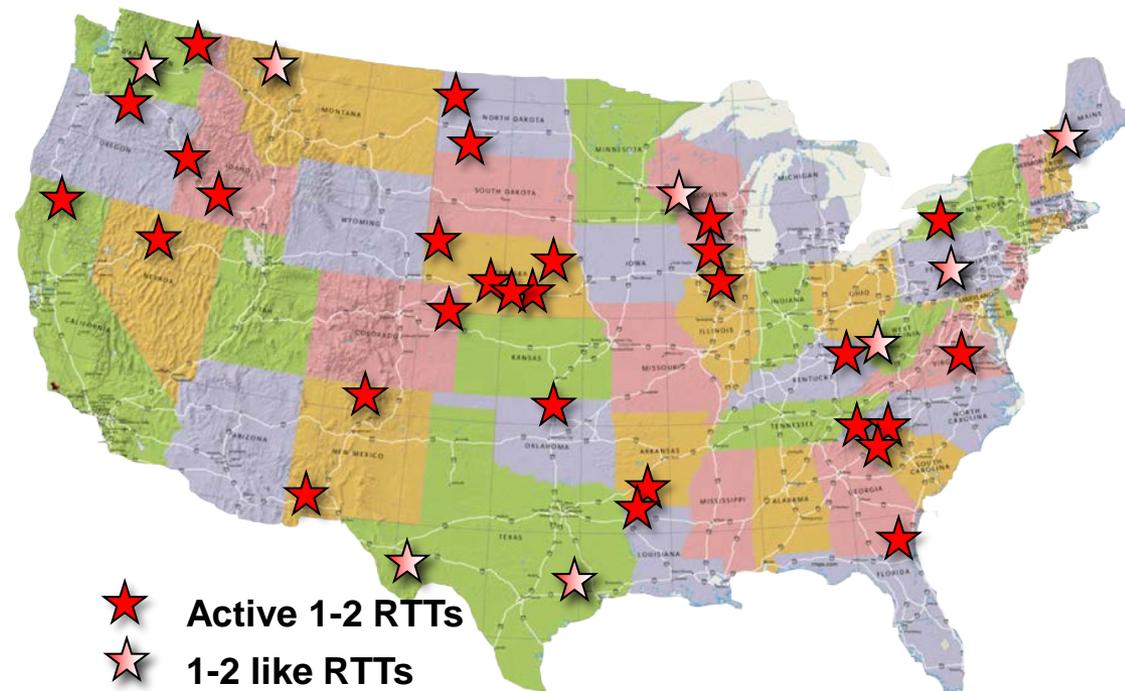
- Economy based on self-employment and small businesses
- Dependence on public health insurance plans
- Stressed health care delivery system
- Workforce shortages
- Aging rural population
- Sicker, more at-risk population
- Need for preventive care, health and wellness resources
- Lack of mental health services
- Increasing technology dependence
- Effective emergency medical services

Key Rural Health Issues

- Workforce
 - Availability and training
- Access
 - Low volumes and long distances

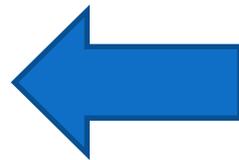
Workforce Assistance

- National Health Service Corps
- Rural Training Tracks
- Allied Health
- Health IT



How FORHP Programs Support Rural Hospitals

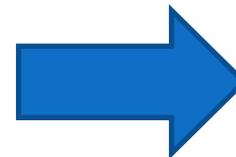
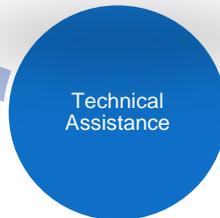
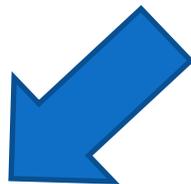
- Flex
- SHIP
- Small Health Care Provider QI



- Regulation Review
- Research and Analysis
- Flex Monitoring Team
- National Advisory Committee on Rural Health & Human Services



- ACA Outreach and Enrollment
- Outreach, Network and Quality Grants
- Telehealth Networks



- State Office of Rural Health
- Technical Assistance & Services Center
- Rural Assistance Center
- RHC TA Series
- Rural Health Value and Rural Hospital Transitions

Resources for Rural





Community Paramedicine Self-Assessment Tool

This tool can be used by communities to assess the current status of their paramedicine programs and identify common successes and challenges.

[Learn More](#)



Open Funding Opportunities

HRSA-15-136 Rural Recruitment and Retention Analysis Cooperative Agreement
[Apply at Grants.gov by March 09](#)

HRSA-15-072 Rural Health Value Program
[Apply at Grants.gov by March 23](#)

HRSA-15-037 State Offices of Rural Health Coordination and Development Program (SORHCDP)
[Apply at Grants.gov by March 27](#)

HRSA-15-063 Rapid Response Rural Data Analysis and Issue Specific Rural Research Studies
[Apply at Grants.gov by March 30](#)

HRSA-15-137 Rural Outreach Benefits Counseling Program

About ORHP

Policy and Research
[Policy & Research](#)

Programs
[Community-Based Programs](#)
[Hospital State Programs](#)
[Telehealth](#)

[All About >](#)

Calls & Webcasts

[Affordable Care Act and Rural Health Office Hours](#)
 Wednesdays, 3 to 4 pm ET

[Rural Health Clinic Technical Assistance Series](#)
 Practical information, 6 times a year

[Rural Health Philanthropy Series](#)

News

[New Awards to Support Rural Enrollment in Health Insurance Marketplaces](#) (10/10/2014)

[\\$22.1 Million to Improve Access to Health Care in Rural Areas](#) (09/26/2014)

[The Affordable Care Act-What it Means for Rural America](#)



National Health Service Corps

- www.NHSC.hrsa.gov
- [Facebook.com/NationalHealthServiceCorps](https://www.facebook.com/NationalHealthServiceCorps)
- [Twitter.com/NHSCorps](https://twitter.com/NHSCorps)



NURSE Corps

- www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/nursecorps/
- [Facebook.com/HRSANURSECorps](https://www.facebook.com/HRSANURSECorps)

Rural Assistance Center

[About RAC](#) | [Contact Us](#)  

[Online Library](#) - [Topics & States](#) - [Tools for Success](#) - [RAC Publications & Updates](#) -

*Resources and Strategies to Improve
Rural Health and Human Services*



Get Rural Updates



Stay current on rural health news, funding opportunities, research, and more with RAC's email updates.

[Sign Up](#)

Community Health Gateway



Find proven strategies for strong rural programs with toolkits like the recently updated [Rural Mental Health and Substance Abuse Toolkit](#) in the [Rural Community Health Gateway](#).

Funding Opportunities



Discover the latest funding and opportunities to support rural health and human services. [Browse all funding opportunities](#).

Key Rural Health Issues



Learn about issues that impact rural health in RAC's Topic Guides. Recently updated:

- [What is Rural?](#)
- [Browse all 50+ topics](#)



News Headlines

- [Time for Rural Leaders to Speak Up](#)
Hospitals & Health Networks
- [Rural and Independent Hospitals: Going It Alone or Teaming Up?](#)

The Rural Monitor



Fall 2014

[Volunteering A Win-Win for Seniors and Rural Communities](#)
Many rural nonprofit organizations benefit from senior volunteers, giving them a chance to share their expertise and

Web-Based Services, Electronic Updates: <http://www.raconline.org>

Rural Health Value

UNDERSTANDING AND FACILITATING RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION.

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [News](#) [Related Links](#) [Share Your Rural Innovation](#)

We build knowledge through research and collaboration to support rural communities and providers as they pursue high performance rural health systems. [Learn More >](#)

Tools & Resources

Innovations & Demonstrations

Presentations

Follow

[Contact us](#)

NEW!
[Value-Based Care Assessment Tool](#)

[Sign up for quarterly updates!](#)



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Rural Health Research Gateway



The screenshot shows the Rural Health Research Gateway website. The header features the site title, navigation links for 'About' and 'Contact Us', and social media icons for Twitter, RSS, and Facebook. A search bar is located on the right. A left sidebar contains a menu with categories: Topics, Centers, Researchers, Research Alerts, Webinars, and Other Resources. The main content area includes a large image of a family in a field, a 'Rural Health Research Centers' section with a video player, a 'Research in Progress' section, a 'Research Alerts' section with a 'Browse recent updates' link, a 'Subscribe' section with a 'Sign Up' button, and a 'Featured Resources' section with several article links.

Rural Health Research Gateway

- Topics
- Centers
- Researchers
- Research Alerts
- Webinars
- Other Resources



Rural Health Research Centers



[View transcript](#)

Welcome to the Rural Health Research Gateway. This site provides access to publications and projects funded through the [Federal Office of Rural Health Policy](#) (FORHP).

Research in Progress

[Projects currently underway](#) as part of the Rural Health Research Centers and Analysis Initiatives program.

Research Alerts

The Rural Health Research Alert Email provides periodic updates when new publications become available.

- [Browse recent updates](#)

Subscribe

Sign-up to receive periodic updates from the Rural Health Research Gateway.

[Sign Up](#)

Featured Resources

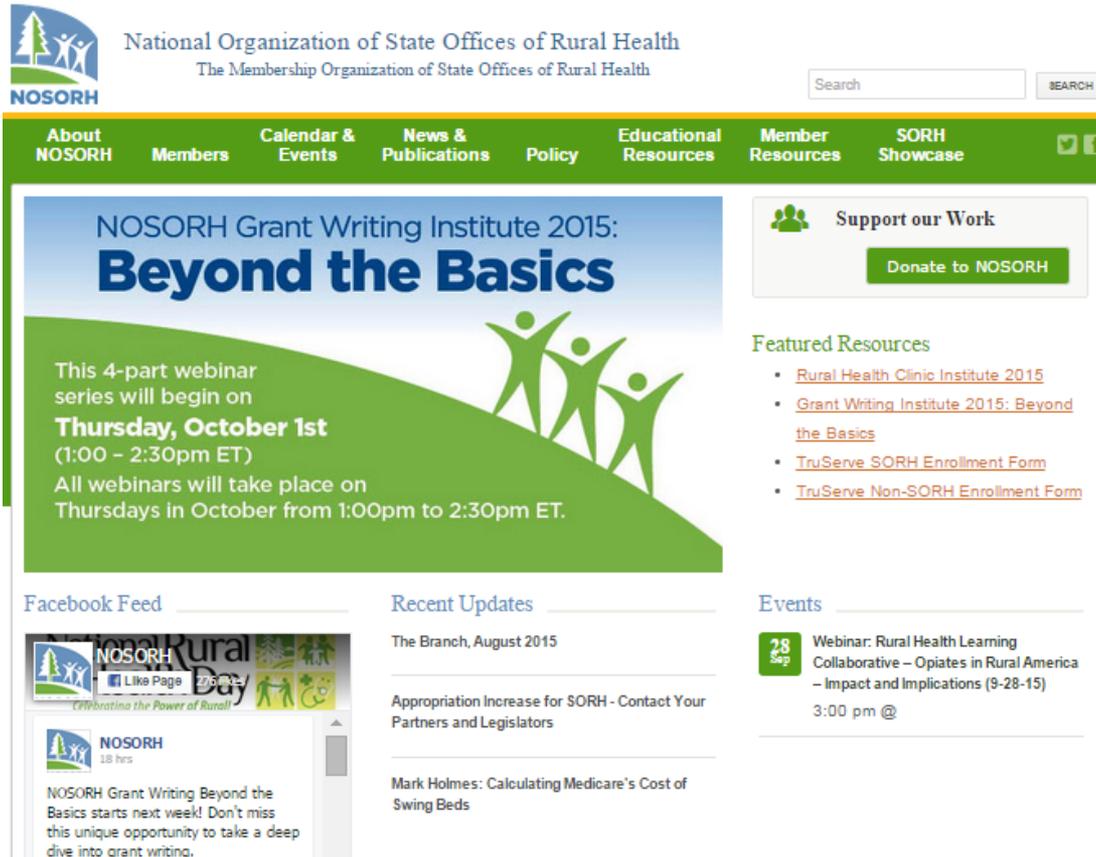
[Adoption and Use of Electronic Health Records by Rural Health Clinics: Results of a National Survey](#)

[Intersection of Residence and Area Deprivation: The Case of Hospitalizations from Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions Among Children](#)

[Area Deprivation is Higher Among Rural Counties—but Not All Rural Counties are Deprived](#)

<http://www.ruralhealthresearch.org>

National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health



The screenshot shows the NOSORH website homepage. At the top left is the NOSORH logo, which features a stylized tree and three human figures. To the right of the logo is the text "National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health" and "The Membership Organization of State Offices of Rural Health". A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the header is a green navigation bar with the following menu items: "About NOSORH", "Members", "Calendar & Events", "News & Publications", "Policy", "Educational Resources", "Member Resources", and "SORH Showcase". There are also social media icons for Facebook and Twitter. The main content area features a large banner for the "NOSORH Grant Writing Institute 2015: Beyond the Basics". The banner includes the text: "This 4-part webinar series will begin on **Thursday, October 1st** (1:00 - 2:30pm ET). All webinars will take place on Thursdays in October from 1:00pm to 2:30pm ET." To the right of the banner is a "Support our Work" section with a "Donate to NOSORH" button. Below the banner are three columns: "Facebook Feed" showing a post about the grant writing institute, "Recent Updates" listing "The Branch, August 2015", "Appropriation Increase for SORH - Contact Your Partners and Legislators", and "Mark Holmes: Calculating Medicare's Cost of Swing Beds", and "Events" listing a webinar on "Rural Health Learning Collaborative - Opiates in Rural America - Impact and Implications (9-28-15)" at 3:00 pm.

The National Cooperative of Health Networks

The screenshot shows the NCHN website homepage. At the top left is the NCHN logo, which consists of three interlocking diamond shapes in blue, orange, and pink, followed by the text "NCHN Serving Health Networks since 1995". To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with links for "Contact NCHN", "Careers", "Member Login", and a search bar. Below the navigation is a blue banner with the text "SUPPORTING AND STRENGTHENING HEALTH NETWORKS" and three portrait photos of individuals. A dark grey navigation bar contains links for "HOME", "ABOUT Us", "News", "NCHN RESOURCES", "MEMBERSHIP", "DISCUSSION BOARD", "NCHN BLOG", "EVENTS", and "CONTACT". The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column has an orange background and text describing the National Cooperative of Health Networks Association, Inc. as a national association of health networks and strategic partners, with a mission to support and strengthen health networks through collaboration, networking, leadership development, and education. The middle column features the words "connect" and "share" in blue, a globe graphic, and silhouettes of a group of people. The right column has a blue background and a "CALENDAR" section listing three events: "Executive Committee (EC)" on October 20, 2015 at 4:00 PM, "Board of Directors Call" on November 17, 2015 at 4:00 PM, and "Executive Committee (EC)" on December 15, 2015 at 4:00 PM, each with a "read more" link. A "View All Upcoming Events" link is also present.

NCHN
Serving Health Networks
since 1995

Contact NCHN | Careers | Member Login | Search

SUPPORTING AND STRENGTHENING HEALTH NETWORKS

HOME | ABOUT Us | News | NCHN RESOURCES | MEMBERSHIP | DISCUSSION BOARD | NCHN BLOG | EVENTS | CONTACT

National Cooperative of Health Networks Association, Inc., is a national association of health networks and strategic partners. Our mission is to support and strengthen health networks through collaboration, networking, leadership development and education.

connect share

CALENDAR

- Executive Committee (EC)
October 20, 2015 at 4:00 PM
[read more](#)
- Board of Directors Call
November 17, 2015 at 4:00 PM
[read more](#)
- Executive Committee (EC)
December 15, 2015 at 4:00 PM
[read more](#)

[View All Upcoming Events](#)

Follow Us:



Contact Information

Sarah Young, MPH

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Health Resources & Services Administration
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

syoung2@hrsa.gov

www.hrsa.gov/ruralhealth



Additional Rural Health Resources

How to be a Grant Reviewer

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
HRSA Health Resources and Services Administration

www.hrsa.gov

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Advanced Search

HRSA Home | Get Health Care | Grants | Loans & Scholarships | Data & Statistics | Public Health | About HRSA

How to Apply | Manage Your Grant | Funded Projects | **Grant Reviewers**

Grant Reviewers

HRSA uses health professions subject experts as peer reviewers to objectively evaluate a competitive group of grant applications against the published criteria in the HRSA Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). Reviewers are chosen based on their knowledge, education, experience and any criteria included in FOA that the applicants must respond to.

HRSA has specific interest in the following:

- Health professions training
- HIV/AIDS
- Maternal and child health
- Organ transplantation
- Primary care for underserved people
- Rural health

HRSA uses an on-line grant review process called ARM, available 24/7 during the evaluation cycle to accommodate reviewer flexibility.

Each eligible application is read by at least 3 reviewers who then discuss their evaluation and initial scores with other reviewers on their panel. This process is completed for each application using the internet and telephone, a process that most often takes 3 days or less.

Each non-Federal participant in the entire process receives an honorarium.

Apply Now to be a Grant Reviewer

If you have expertise in these areas and are interested in becoming a HRSA Grant Reviewer, register in the HRSA Reviewer Recruitment Module.

Need help with registration? EGU_TechAssistance@hrsa.gov
You will receive a response within 24 hours (or Monday morning if you send your message on a weekend). Be sure to include a phone number where you can usually be reached during normal business hours.

[HRSA Home](#) | [Events & Press](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Freedom of Information Act](#) | [No Fear Act](#) | [VISA](#) | [White House](#) | [Records Act](#) | [HRSA Website](#)

- ORHP has multiple grant program reviews each year

- We need reviewers with rural experience to be a part of our Objective Review Committee panels

- You must register to be a reviewer:

<http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/reviewers/>

- Indicate “rural health” as one of your specialties in the background information



White House Rural Council

- [Home](#) | [About the Council](#) | [Blog Posts](#) | [Executive Order](#) | [Council Members](#) | [Policy Initiatives](#) | [Rural Tour](#) | [Email Updates](#)

Strong rural communities are key to a stronger America...that's why I've established the White House Rural Council to make sure we're working across government to strengthen rural communities and promote economic growth.

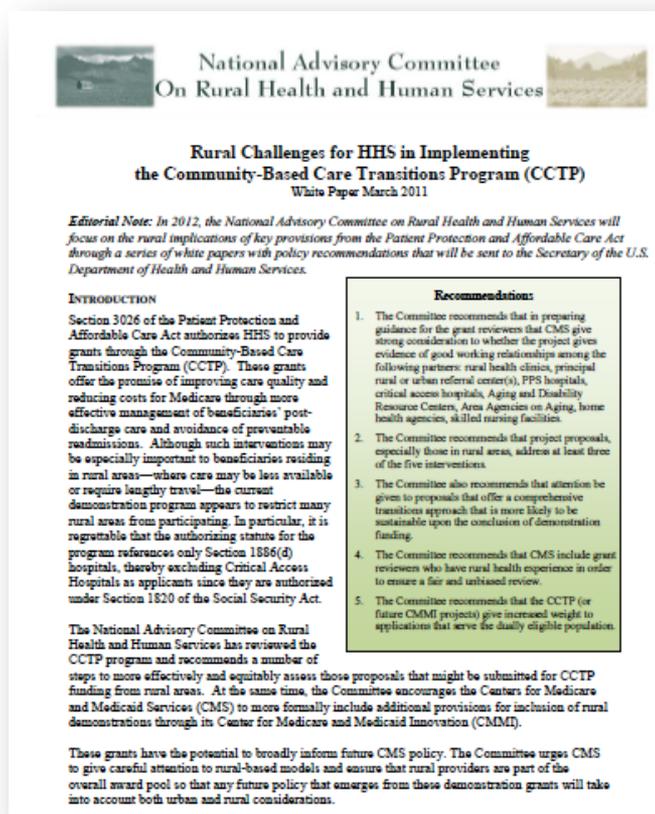
- President Barack Obama



Policy Resources

The National Advisory Committee on Rural Health & Human Services

- Policy Briefs and Recommendations Available online



Flex Monitoring Team

Studies and Data
on Critical
Access Hospital
Issues and State
Flex Programs



The screenshot shows the Flex Monitoring Team website. At the top right, there are links for HOME, CONTACT, and a search box. Below these is the text "A Performance Monitoring Resource for Critical Access Hospitals". The main navigation menu includes ABOUT US, PROJECTS, and PUBLICATIONS. The Flex Monitoring Team logo is on the left, with affiliations to the University of Minnesota, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and University of Southern Maine. A central image shows a woman holding a wooden handle. To the right of the image are two menu items: CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL LOCATIONS and STATE-LEVEL QUALITY, FINANCIAL, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DATA. Below the image is a breadcrumb trail: Home > Data > State-level Quality, Financial, and Community Engagement Data. A SHARE button is on the right. A large blue banner contains the text "STATE-LEVEL QUALITY, FINANCIAL, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DATA". Below this banner, there is a search filter instruction: "Use the dropdown menus and search filter to locate and access state-level reports:". At the bottom left, there is a SEARCH input field.

<http://www.flexmonitoring.org/data/state-level-data/>



Rural Health Clinic Technical Assistance Series

- ORHP funded through the National Association of Rural Health Clinics
- Listserv
 - Exchange info, ask questions
 - Sign up at <http://narhc.org/resources/listserve-ta-calls/>
- Conference Calls
 - 6 per year on range of topics
 - Sign up and review previous calls at <http://www.hrsa.gov/ruralhealth/policy/confcall/index.html>

NQF Rural Health Project

To provide multistakeholder information and guidance on performance measurement issues for rural providers, including:

- Critical Access Hospitals Rural Health Clinics Community Health Centers (CHCs)
- Small rural hospitals
- Small rural clinician practices
- Final report: http://www.qualityforum.org/Rural_Health.aspx



NATIONAL
QUALITY FORUM

Rural Recruitment & Retention Network

3RNet Healthcare Jobs Across the Nation

Username

[Search Opportunities](#) [Locations](#) [Resources](#) [Sponsors](#) [About](#) [Contact](#) [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#)



a national nonprofit network of members *working for you* matching *health professionals* with rural & underserved jobs

Search Job Opportunities

Profession:

Adventures in Medicine



3RNet proudly presents the 2013-2014 "Adventures in Medicine Guidebook," a 188-page career and life planning guide for medical residents. This valuable guide offers advice, assessments, and exercises for choosing wisely and

Featured State

New Jersey

New Jersey is the place to go! When you aren't working, NJ has many sights close by: amusement parks, historical attractions, beaches, rivers, biking, birding, boating, fishing, wildlife, farms, orchards, gardens, golfing, state and national parks, tours and sightseeing, lighthouses, parks and forests, shopping centers, major metropolitan hubs and villages. [Learn More.](#)



3RNet Blog

Nebraska: Countless Ways to Work in Rural & Underserved Areas

Nebraska has many options if you're considering working in a rural or underserved area. We've compiled information on several pertinent recruitment and retention topics from the [Nebraska Office of Rural Health's website](#) including information on:

National Center for Frontier Communities



national center for frontier communities

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Our Work](#) [Defining Frontier](#) [Newsletter](#) [Frontier Spotlight](#) [Frontier Maps](#) [Resource Library](#) [Contact Us](#)

Search Site

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Internships Available

Do you have skills or research interests you think can make a contribution to improving the lives of people living in frontier communities? **Contact us!**

national center for frontier communities **National Center fo**
Like Page 261 likes

Frontier communities are the most sparsely populated, geographically isolated communities in the United States. The **National Center for Frontier Communities (NCFC)** is the national advocacy voice for frontier communities across the country. We know that **targeted, frontier-specific solutions** need to be created and implemented to strengthen our regions. Our mission is to **assure that frontier needs and voices are not only heard, but that they are a key part of the solutions.**

We serve as a **central point of contact for referrals, information exchange, and networking** among geographically separated communities.

Frontier communities differ in many ways, but all of them are sparsely populated and far from larger population centers. NCFC gives a voice to people and programs in frontier communities and raises awareness of frontier issues to policy makers, agencies, and the public.

<http://www.frontierus.org>

National Rural Health Resource Center & Technical Assistance and Services Center



NATIONAL
RURAL HEALTH
RESOURCE CENTER

[Job Postings](#) [Feedback](#) [Login](#)

[Facebook](#) | [On Center Blog](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

[ABOUT](#) [PROGRAMS](#) [SERVICES](#) [RESOURCE LIBRARY](#) [RHI >](#)

The National Rural Health Resource Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to sustaining and improving health care in rural communities.

As the nation's leading technical assistance and knowledge center in rural health, The Center focuses on five core areas:

- Performance Improvement
- Health Information Technology
- Recruitment and Retention
- Community Health Assessments
- Networking

[Learn more about The Center >](#)

Programs

Services

Resource Library

<http://www.ruralcenter.org>



Georgia Health Policy Center

- Technical Assistance contractor for the Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program, Delta State Rural Development Network Grant Program, and Rural Health Network Development Program grantees
- Technical Assistance supports grantees with strategic planning, evaluation, consortium and network development, program implementation, and sustainability
- Focus on peer-to-peer connections and learning
- Technical assistance delivered through monthly contacts, site visits, e-learning, and webinars
- Tools, resources, and e-learning modules available at www.ruralhealthlink.org



| Strategy. | Capacity. | Sustainability.

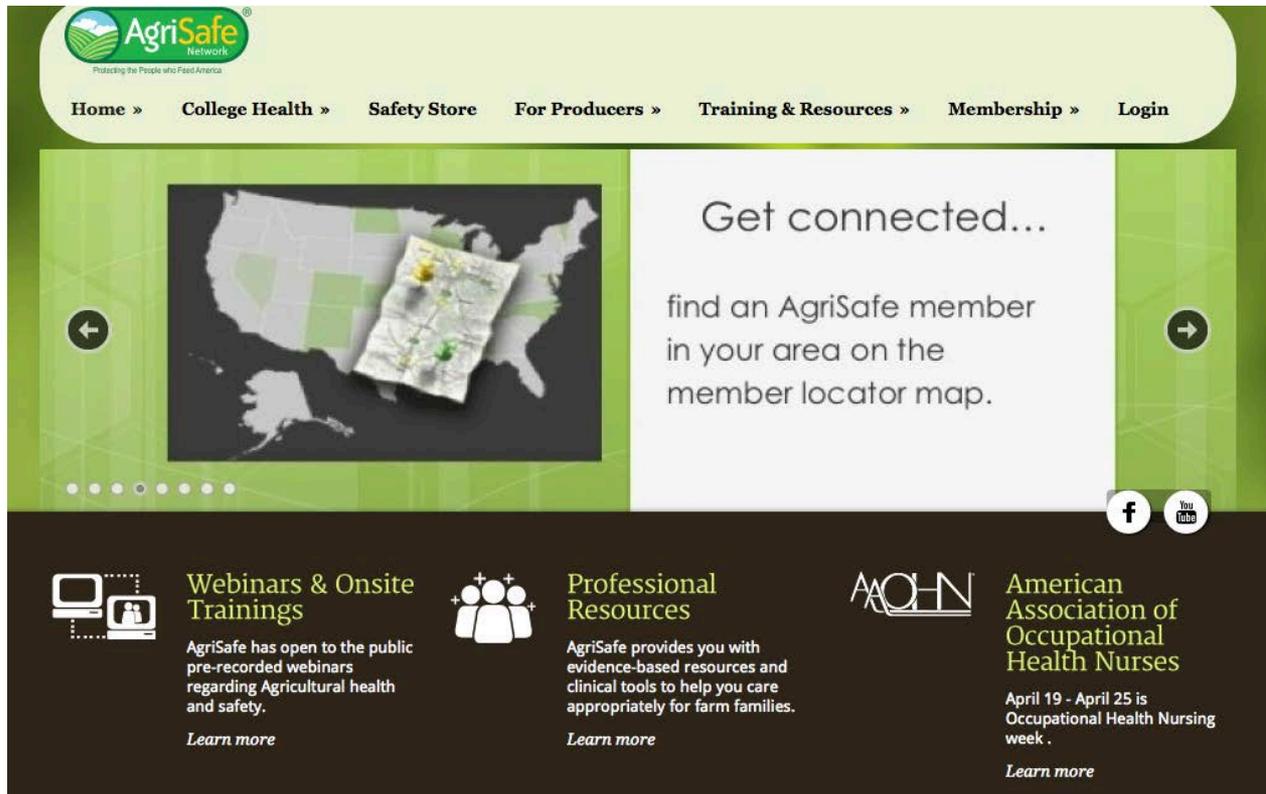
Home About News Connections Links Resources ACA

Welcome

The **Community Health Systems Development (CHSD) Team** of the **Georgia Health Policy Center** is located within the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA. Our Team provides technical assistance to support a broad range of health initiatives, predominately those striving to improve health and access in rural communities throughout the United States. We hope you will find the information on this site to be of interest and the resources to be of value. In addition, we want to help you make connections with other organizations who are undertaking similar programs. Submit your questions or suggestions to chssteam@gsu.edu.



Agrisafe



The screenshot shows the AgriSafe Network website homepage. At the top left is the AgriSafe Network logo with the tagline "Protecting the People who Feed America". A navigation menu includes: Home » College Health » Safety Store For Producers » Training & Resources » Membership » Login. The main content area features a map of the United States with a smaller inset map showing a detailed view of a region. To the right of the map, the text reads "Get connected... find an AgriSafe member in your area on the member locator map." Below the map are navigation arrows and a series of dots. In the bottom right corner of the main area are social media icons for Facebook and YouTube. The footer is dark and contains three sections: 1. "Webinars & Onsite Trainings" with an icon of a computer and people, stating "AgriSafe has open to the public pre-recorded webinars regarding Agricultural health and safety." and a "Learn more" link. 2. "Professional Resources" with an icon of three people, stating "AgriSafe provides you with evidence-based resources and clinical tools to help you care appropriately for farm families." and a "Learn more" link. 3. "American Association of Occupational Health Nurses" with the AAOHN logo, stating "April 19 - April 25 is Occupational Health Nursing week ." and a "Learn more" link.

<http://www.agrisafe.org>

National Center for Rural Health Works

National Center for Rural Health Works

Improving the health of rural communities



Home About "The Products" Workshops Technical Assistance Resources

Welcome to The National Center for Rural Health Works

The National Center for Rural Health Works provides tools and templates by which community residents can evaluate their health systems. This is typically accomplished by training state teams to assist rural communities. The National Center (or RHW) provides training, tools, templates, and technical assistance in the following areas:

- [Economic Impact](#)
- [Community Health Needs Assessment](#)
- [Rural Health Needs Assessment](#)
- [Rural Health Service Profitability](#)



The tools and templates for each of these focus areas are referred to as "The Products". To share the tools and templates, the National Center provides [workshops](#) to train potential users. [Technical assistance](#) is available to assist users with development of the tools and templates for their organizations.

Ultimately, the success of the National Center for Rural Health Works must be measured through the outcomes at the local, regional, and/or state level. The tools are

Select a state below to view infor-

Search

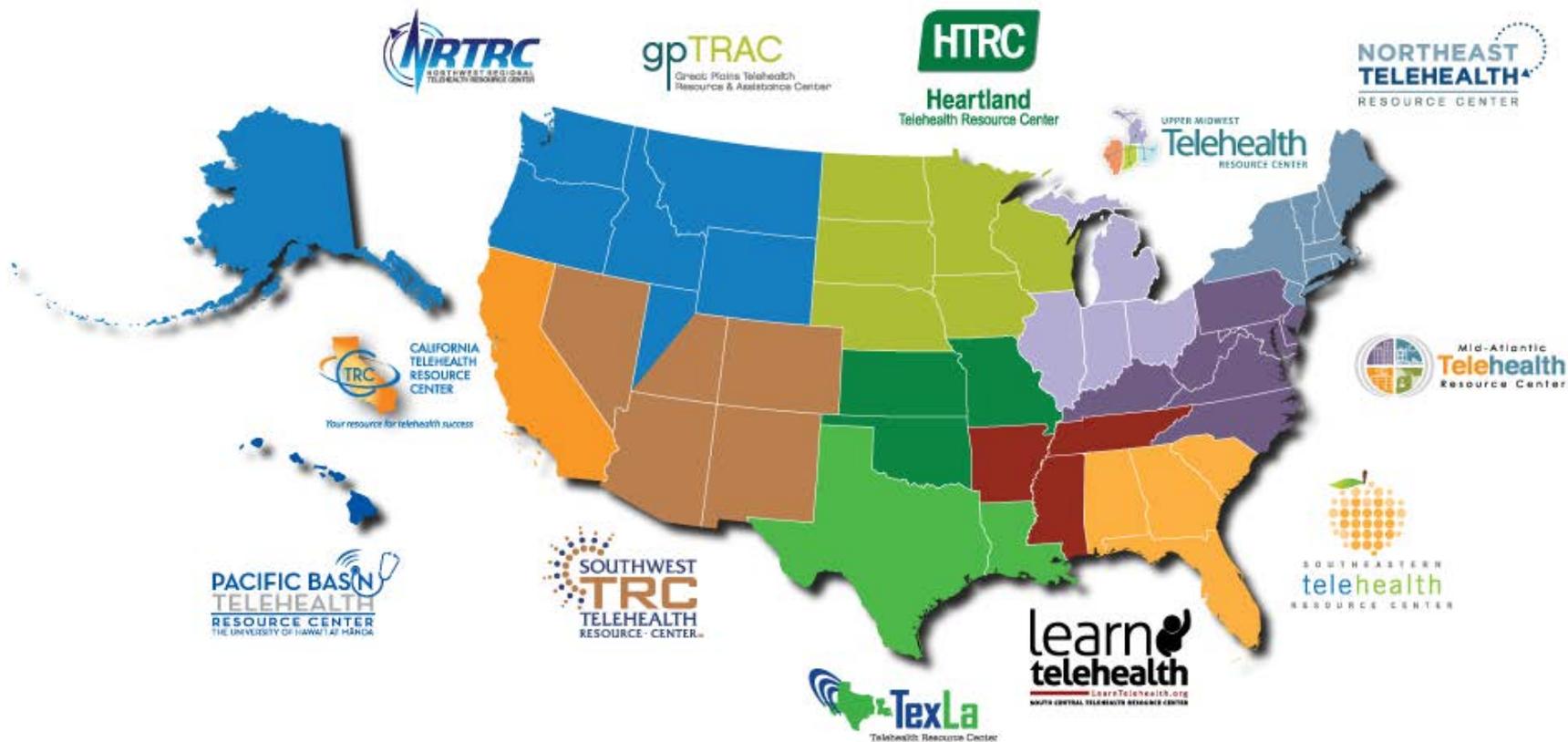
"The Latest" from RHW

- [Regional RHW Workshop, August 6, 2014, in Austin, Texas. Hosted by the Texas Department of Agriculture, State Office of Rural Health.](#)
- [Regional RHW Workshop, October 22, 2014, in Terre Haute, Indiana. Hosted by Rural Health Innovation Collaborative.](#)

State Resources



TelehealthResourceCenters.org



2 National Resource Centers

NRTRC	gpTRAC	NETRC
CTRC	HTRC	UMTRC
SWTRC	SCTRC	MATRC
PBTRC	TexLa	SETRC

12 Regional Resource Centers



USDA's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program

- Funds Telehealth Equipment



Committed to the future of rural communities.

<http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/distance-learning-telemedicine-grants>

Telehealth, Health Information Exchange & Broadband



Two Key Federal Programs

- FCC's Healthcare Connect
 - Revised program
 - <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/rural-health-care>
- USDA Broadband
 - Annual program
 - <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/RUSTelecomPrograms.html>



Both Provide Support for Improving Access to Affordable Broadband Services