



Advancing Health Equity: HRSA Initiatives, Programs, and Opportunities

Eliminating Health Disparities Conference

October 17, 2024

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Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People



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Who We Serve

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), supports equitable health care for the nation's highest-need communities.



HRSA serves those most in need, including:

- More than 31 million people in rural and underserved communities
- More than 58 million pregnant women, infants, and children
- More than 560,000 people with HIV
- More than 1,900 rural counties and municipalities across the country
- Nearly 22,000 health care providers through loan repayment and scholarship programs



Data in this slide deck reflects HRSA's most recent publicly available information (2023).



HRSA Priorities

HRSA's vital work expands access to health care services in the communities that need them most by:

- Increasing equitable access to health care services
- Strengthening the well-being of children and families
- Integrating behavioral health into primary care
- Growing the health care workforce

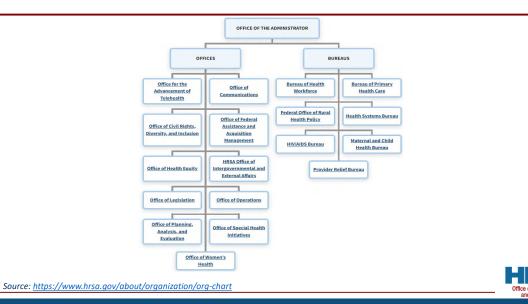




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HRSA Organizational Chart





HRSA IEA serves as the principal Agency lead on intergovernmental and external affairs, regional operations, and tribal partnerships







Our Partners and Stakeholders

- HRSA Grantees
- State and Local Leadership
- State and Local Health Departments
- Tribal Organizations
- Community and Faith-Based Organizations
- Colleges and Universities
- Minority-Serving Institutions (HBCUs, HSIs, and AAPISIs)
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) **Operating Divisions**
- Other Federal Departments and Agencies







HRSA Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA) Regional Highlights



Webinars



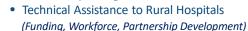
Assistance and Support

- Addressing Health Equity Among Hispanic/Latino Populations: Spanish Webinar Series
- HHS Region 7 Virtual Office Hours



Grants 201 Webinar









Workshops and Summits



- Supporting Rural Kansas' Health Workforce Forum, Colby KS, Region 7
- Virtual Birth Worker Forum
- Grants 101 Workshops





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When Should You Contact HRSA IEA?



- When you want to know more about HRSA programs or initiatives
- When you need contextual information about the state, local, tribal, and regional landscape that may impact your stakeholders
- When you are looking for technical assistance, resources, funding opportunities, or new partners
- When you want to share new promising or best practices with us







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Increasing Equitable Access to Health Care Services Health Center Program

- In 2023, nearly 1,400 health centers and more than 100
 Health Center Program look-alike (LAL) organizations
 operate more than 15,500 service delivery sites
- More than 31 million patients
- Health centers provide patient-centered, comprehensive, integrated care by offering a range of services:
 - Primary medical, oral, and mental health services
 - Substance use disorder and Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)
 - Enabling services such as outreach, case management, health education, interpretation services, and transportation

Health Center Service Delivery Sites and Grantees

Dise with NULSES

Diseased Service Delivery Sites and Grantees



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Source: Uniform Data System, 2023

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Health Center Program Fundamentals



Serve High Need Areas

 Must serve a high need community or population (e.g., HPSA, MUA/P)



Comprehensive

 Provide comprehensive primary care and enabling services (e.g., education, outreach, and transportation services)



Patient Directed

 Private non-profit or public agency that is governed by a patient-majority community board



No One is Turned Away

Services are available to all, with fees adjusted based upon ability to pay



Collaborative

 Collaborate with other community providers to maximize resources and efficiencies in service delivery



Accountable

 Meet performance and accountability requirements regarding administrative, clinical, and financial operations



The Health Center Program is authorized under Section 330 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act.



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Increasing Equitable Access to Health Care Services

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program



- The HIV/AIDS Bureau administers the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP), which provides a comprehensive system of HIV primary medical care, medications, and essential support services for low-income people with HIV
- Funds grants to states, cities, counties, and local community-based organizations to improve health outcomes and reduce HIV transmission

Recipients determine service delivery and funding priorities based on local needs and planning process

- More than 560,000 people with diagnosed HIV receive services through the program in 2022
- In 2022, 89.6% of RWHAP clients receiving HIV medical care were virally suppressed (meaning the virus cannot be transmitted and clients can live longer, healthier lives), exceeding the national average of 69.5% since 2010



Viral suppression is based on data for people with HIV who had at least one outpatient ambulatory health services visit and at least one viral load test during the measurement year and whose most cent viral load test result was less than 200 copies/mL.
Cilients self-identified as 25.88 white and less than 2% each American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and persons of multiple races. Hispanics/Latinos can be of any race



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HRSA Find Health Services Locator Tools



findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov



findhivcare.hrsa.gov





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Strengthening the Well-Being of Children and Families

HRSA Increases Access to High-Quality Health Services and Expands the Maternal and Child Health Workforce



- Implemented the first year of bipartisan renewal of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, which doubles funding for the program over five years
- Supported newborn screenings for 97% of babies born in the United States through our maternal and child health programs, which provide screenings for genetic and metabolic conditions
- Reached a milestone of more than 1,900 birthing facilities participating in the HRSAsupported Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health, a program under which hospitals and other facilities adopt proven strategies to increase safe births and reduce negative birth outcomes





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Strengthening the Well-Being of Children and Families Maternal and Child Health Programs

- Healthy Start
- Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting
- National Maternal Mental Health Hotline
- Title V MCH Block Grant
- Women's Preventive Services Initiative
- Bright Futures

Promotes *access* to health care services



- Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM)
- AIM Capacity Program
- Integrated Maternal Health Services
- State Maternal Health Innovation Program
- Newborn Screening

Improves *quality* of care



- Healthy Start: Community-Based Doulas
- Minority Serving Institutions Research Collaborative
- Screening and Treatment for Maternal Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders

Strengthens the workforce





Data in this slide deck reflects HRSA's most recent publicly available information

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Enhancing Maternal Health Initiative

- HRSA launched the Enhancing Maternal Health Initiative in January 2024 to:
 - Maximize the impact of HRSA grants and programs
 - Foster new partnerships across the country to address maternal mortality crisis and reduce maternal health disparities
- Yearlong effort to expand access to maternal care, grow the maternal care workforce, support maternal mental health, and address social supports for safe pregnancies
- The initiative focuses on 12 states and jurisdictions where HRSA has significant investments, there are significant opportunities for new partnerships and collaborations, and there is high need: Arizona, Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, Oregon, and the District of Columbia





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National Maternal Mental Health Hotline



For support, understanding, and resources, CALL OR TEXT 1-833-852-6262 (1-833-TLC-MAMA)



Free Promotional Materials Available



Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

Learn more at https://mchb.hrsa.gov/national-maternal-mental-health-hotline Questions? https://mchb.hrsa.gov/national-maternal-mental-health-hotline Questions?

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Growing the Health Care Workforce Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW)

HRSA Leads Efforts to Grow, Sustain, and Diversify the Health Workforce

- Awarded scholarships and provided loan repayment to more than 22,000 clinicians in return for practicing in underserved communities through HRSA's National Health Service Corps and workforce programs
- Provided loan repayment to over 2,800 advanced nursing students who agreed to serve as nurse faculty after completing their programs, combating the national shortage of qualified nurse educators
- Supported 16 new Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education programs, which train primary care physicians and dentists in community-based outpatient settings and help to increase access to care in underserved areas







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National Health Service Corps and Nurse Corps Programs

National Health Service Corps (NHSC)

- Provides scholarships and loan repayment to primary care medical, dental, and behavioral health providers in NHSC-eligible disciplines.
- NHSC providers, in turn, commit to serving at an NHSC-approved site located in a Health Professional Shortage Area.
- Learn more: https://www.nhsc.hrsa.gov/





Nurse Corps

- Loan repayment and scholarship program
- Helps build healthier communities in urban, rural, and frontier areas by supporting nurses and nursing students committed to working in communities with inadequate access to care.



• Learn more: https://bhw.hrsa.gov/nursing-programs





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Eligible Clinicians

Depending on the program!

- Physicians (DO/MD)
- Nurse Practitioners (NP)
- Physician Assistants (PA)
- Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM)
- Health Service Psychologists (HSP)
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW)
- Psychiatric Nurse Specialists (PNS)
- Marriage and Family Therapists (MFT)
- Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC)

- Dentists (DDS/DMD)
- Dental Hygienists (RDH)
- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Counselors
- Pharmacists (PHARM)
- Registered Nurses (RN)
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA)
- And more!





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HRSA's Impact on Rural Community Health

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) has supported:

at least 750,000 people each year since 2011

year grantees in 2023 historically 80% continue services after program ends

- Rural Health Outreach Services
- Rural Network Planning
- Rural Health Network Development
- Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement
- Rural Maternal Obstetric Management Strategies
- Delta States and Norther Border Initiatives



Watch video profiles of innovative FORHP grantees: www.ruralhealthinfo.org/project-examples



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FY25 FORHP Community-Based Program Opportunities

Forecast

Program	Purpose	Annual Award Amount	Project Length (years)	Number of Awards
Rural Health Care Services Outreach	Expands and improves health care services in underserved rural communities by supporting evidence-informed approaches to address the needs of the community.	Up to \$200,000 or \$250,000	4	45
Rural Health Network Development Planning	Supports the development of an integrated health care networks for network participants without a history of formal collaborative efforts.	Up to \$100,000	1	44
Rural Residency Planning and Development	Develop new, accredited, and sustainable rural residency programs in family medicine, internal medicine, psychiatry, general surgery, preventive medicine, and obstetrics and gynecology.	Up to \$750,000	3	15
Rural Communities Opioid Response Program - Overdose Response	Supports immediate responses to the overdose crisis in rural areas through improving access to, capacity for, and sustainability of prevention, treatment, and recovery services for substance use disorder.	Up to \$300,000	3	20
Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies	Improves access to and delivery of maternity and obstetrics care in rural areas.	Up to \$1,000,000	4	2





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Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub)

- RHIhub Nation's rural health information source
 - library of resources
 - coverage of rural issues
 - state guides
 - toolkits
 - program models
 - much more!
- Provides customized assistance
 - By phone: **1.800.270.1898**
 - By email: info@ruralhealthinfo.org

Health Equity Toolkit



Explore evidence-based frameworks and promising strategies to advance health equity in rural communities.

Health Literacy Toolkit



Discover resources and model programs for improving personal and organizational health literacy in rural

communities.

Social Determinants of Health Toolkit



Discover evidence-based models and resources to address social determinants of health in rural communities.

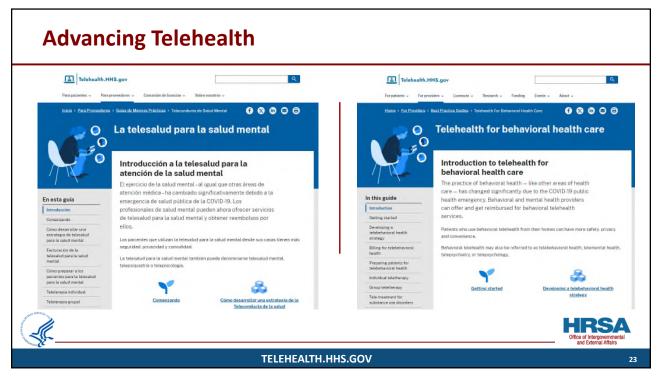
Community Health Workers Toolkit



Learn about roles community health workers (CHWs) fill, as well as CHW training approaches.



http://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/



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HRSA's Office of Health Equity

Mission and Functions

Established in 1981 and championed through multiple subsequent legislative authorities, HRSA's Office of Health Equity (OHE) works to reduce health inequities so that communities and individuals can achieve their highest level of health

Legislative Authority

Offices of Minority Health were statutorily established under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148), Section 1707A

Essential Functions

- Principal advisor regarding health disparities, health equity, and minority and priority population health
- Provide technical assistance to HRSA bureaus and offices, and external stakeholders on matters impacting health equity
- Increase the visibility of data and policies that may impact health equity
- Develop partnerships with other government agencies and external stakeholders to increase the visibility of health disparities and health equity issues



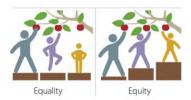
https://www.hrsa.gov/about/organization/bureaus/ohe

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Office of Health Equity's Mission and Projects

OHE's mission is to reduce disparities and improve health equity, especially in vulnerable and disadvantaged populations.

- HRSA Health Equity Reports
- Roots of Health Inequity course for internal and external stakeholders to raise awareness of the social determinants of health and its impact on health disparities
- Technical assistance in partnership with the Bureau of Health Workforce on organizational capacity development with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)







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HRSA's Office of Health Equity

 Health Equity Report 2019-2020: Special Feature on Housing and Health Inequalities

hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/about/organization/bureaus/ohe/hrsa-health-equity-report-printer.pdf

Health Equity Report 2017
 https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/about/organization/bureaus/ohe/2017-hrsa-health-equity-report.pdf







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HRSA En Español

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https://www.hrsa.gov/

Advancing Health Equity Among Hispanic/Latino Populations Learning Series



Broadcast in Spanish with live interpretation to English

Goals

- Identify new strategies and current approaches to improve access to care and reduce health disparities in Hispanic/Latino communities.
- Build new partnerships and increase awareness of HRSA programs, funding, and resources.

Sessions

- Session #1: Leveraging HRSA Programs to Build the Latino/Hispanic Health Workforce
 - Programs highlighted: HRSA Scholarship and Loan Repayment Programs, Health Careers Opportunities Program (HCOP), Rural Public Health Workforce Training Network (RPHWTN)
- Session #2: Improving Maternal Health in Hispanic/Latino Communities
 - Programs highlighted: Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies (RMOMS) Program, Maternal and Child Health Block Program, Healthy Start
- Session #3: Strengthening Behavioral Health Services for Hispanic/Latino Populations
 - Programs highlighted: Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP), Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program



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Where to Find HRSA Funding Opportunities

• Grants.gov

https://www.grants.gov

HRSA Funding

https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/find-funding





Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs



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