

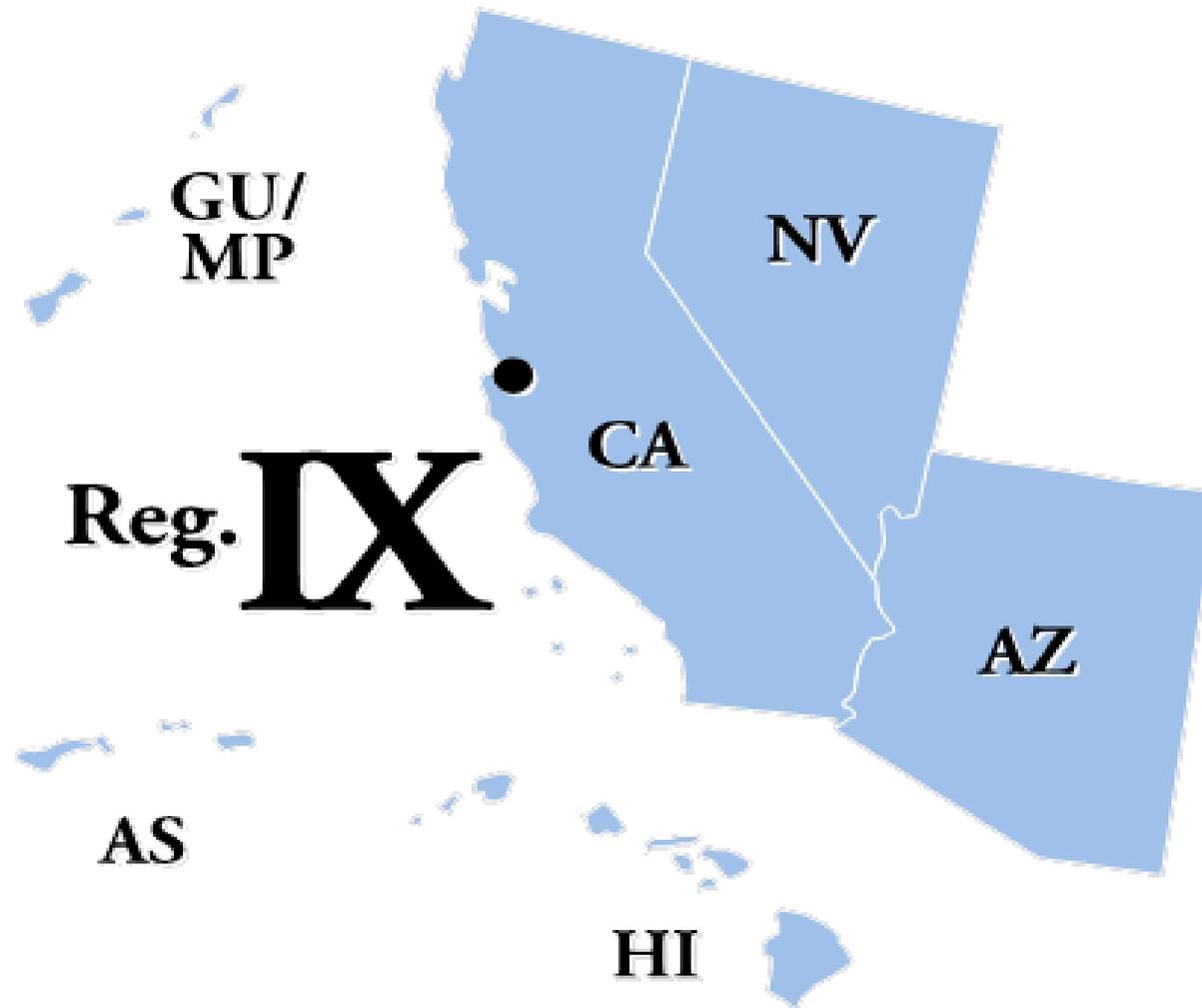
Updates from US Health & Human Services *for the Arizona Rural & Public Health Forum 2022* Bonnie Preston, Acting Director, HHS Region IX



“Working to Achieve Health Equity”

Region IX

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services



Region IX

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

- Administration for Children and Families
- Administration for Community Living
- Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
- Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Food and Drug Administration
- Health Resources Services Administration
- Indian Health Service
- Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
- Office of Civil Rights
- Office of the Inspector General
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Office of the HHS Regional Director

- **As Acting Director, I represent the HHS Secretary Becerra to accelerate department priorities in the region**
- **Elevates Regional Issues to Influence Operation of Federal Programs & Initiatives**
- **Identifies & Shares Best Practices Across Region**

US HHS Priorities

- ❖ Contain COVID-19
- ❖ Strengthen the Public Health and Health Care Infrastructure
- ❖ Address Critical Mental and Behavioral Health Needs
- ❖ Improve Maternal and Child Health
- ❖ Expand Access to Health Care

Contain COVID-19

- Keep People Current on Vaccines
 - Stop Misinformation
- Masks
- Distance and Sanitize
- Test
- Treat Immediately
- Support Health Care Workers

Encourage COVID-19 Boosters

UPDATED mRNA COVID-19 BOOSTER RECOMMENDATIONS

Age	How long after mRNA COVID-19 primary vaccination series?	Which shot to get?
12–17	5 months	Pfizer-BioNTech
18+	5 months	Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (Janssen may be considered in some circumstances)

FIND OUT MORE AT [CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)



Boosters for Kids and Teens

UPDATED mRNA COVID-19 VACCINE RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR KIDS & TEENS

Age	Which shot to get?	Primary Series?	Booster Dose?
5–11	Pfizer-BioNTech	2 doses spaced 21 days apart (additional primary dose spaced 28 days after 2nd dose if immunocompromised)	None recommended at this time
12–17	Pfizer-BioNTech	2 doses spaced 21 days apart (additional primary dose spaced 28 days after 2nd dose if immunocompromised)	5 months after completion of the primary series

At this time, Pfizer-BioNTech is the only COVID-19 vaccine authorized for use in those ages 5–17 years old.



FIND OUT MORE AT [CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

For Patients with Weakened Immunity

! NEW VACCINE UPDATE AGES 5–11 IMMUNOCOMPROMISED

CDC recommends that people ages 5 years and older who have a moderately to severely weakened immune system can get an additional dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days following their second dose.

THIS INCLUDES:

- › Recipients of organ or stem cell transplants
- › People receiving active cancer treatment
- › People with advanced or untreated HIV infection
- › People who are taking medications that weaken the immune system
- › And others

FIND OUT MORE AT [CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)



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Strengthen Public Health and Health Care Infrastructure

American Rescue Plan of 2021 provided \$7.6 Billion for the Health Workforce

- ✓ \$100 million Medical Reserve Corps
- ✓ \$800 million to the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) scholarship, loan repayment, and state loan repayment programs.
- ✓ 200 million Nurse Corps program.
- ✓ \$330 million to the teaching health center program and award teaching health center development grants.
- ✓ \$80 million to the HRSA to plan, develop, operate, or participate in evidence informed strategies to reduce suicide, burnout, mental health conditions and substance use disorders among health care professionals
- ✓ \$20 million to the CDC Director to carry out a national education and awareness campaign to encourage health care professionals, first responders, and their employers to (1) prevent mental health and substance use disorders and seek support and treatment, and (2) help identify risk factors in themselves and others and respond to such risks.
- ✓ \$40 million to the HRSA Administrator to award grants or contracts to health care entities to establish or expand evidence-informed protocols to promote mental health among their workforces.
- ✓ \$100 million to the HHS Secretary to carry out the behavioral health workforce education and training (BHWET) program.

Upcoming Deadlines

- **HRSA Mobile Health Training Program for Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention – February 22**
35 awards, each receiving up to \$1 million per year for a four-year project. The program will establish nurse-led mobile health training sites to provide care in underserved communities while training and mentoring nurse students. Eligible applicants include accredited schools of nursing, health care facilities, and tribal organizations.
- **Medicare to add 1,000 slots residency slots in rural and underserved areas over 5 years beginning in 2023 Rural Residency Planning and Development Technical Assistance Center Webinar: Impact of CMS Rural Changes on Rural GME. Feb 8th 12-1pm EST, 9-10am PST**
- **SAMSHA Rural Emergency Medical Services Training Grant – February 14**
Recruit and train EMS personnel in rural areas with a particular focus on addressing mental and substance use disorders. SAMHSA recognizes the great need for emergency services in rural areas and the critical role EMS personnel serve across the country.
- **Economic Impact Initiative Grants**
Funding to assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural communities that have extreme unemployment and severe economic depression. To construct, enlarge or improve community facilities for health care, public safety and public service. Grants may be made in combination with other financial assistance such as a Community Facilities direct or guaranteed loan, applicant contribution or funding from other sources.
- **USDA Program for Women and Minorities in STEM Fields - Women and Minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Fields Grant Program (WAMS) – 3/31/22**
Grants will go to learning and recruitment activities aiming to increase the number of women and minorities from rural areas that pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM).

Address Mental and Behavioral Health Needs

Overdose Prevention Strategy

- Prevention
- Harm Reduction
- Evidence Based Treatment
- Recovery

Highlights of Open Opportunities

➤ [SAMHSA's Harm Reduction Grant Funding Program](#). Due **Monday, February 7, 2022**

25 awards up to \$400,000/yr for up to 3 years. Supports community-based overdose prevention programs, syringe services programs, and other harm reduction services.

➤ [HRSA Payment Program for RHC Buprenorphine-Trained Providers](#). \$1.5 million available Pays providers waived after 1/01/2019 to prescribe buprenorphine. Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) still have the opportunity to apply for a \$3,000 payment on behalf of providers.

Send questions to DATA2000WaiverPayments@hrsa.gov.

ongoing availability of a [free online course for waiver eligibility training](#) from the American Osteopathic Academy of Addiction Medicine and the Providers Clinical Support System.

Highlights of Open Opportunities

- Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Behavioral Health Care Support - \$13M - Deadline 4/19/22

Current Grantees:

[Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Implementation](#) (August 2021)

Sonoran Prevention Works	Phoenix, AZ	\$1,000,000
Westcare Arizona, Inc	Bullhead City, AZ	\$1,000,000

[Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Psychostimulant Support Program](#) (August 2021)

Amistades, Inc.	Tucson, AZ	\$500,000
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- Mobile crisis intervention services under Medicaid –American Rescue Plan (ARP) adds mobile crisis intervention services as an optional service

Maternal & Child Health

- Proud to partner with Arizona in support of the state Maternal Mortality Action Plan (HRSA Maternal Health Innovation Program)
- Federal Support of Maternal Mortality Reviews and Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System
- American Rescue Plan Funds Expand Home Visiting: ADHS received \$3.5 million in 2021
- **CMS Outreach Grant:** Due 3/28/2022 \$49.4 million between \$500,000 and \$1.5 million (for 3 years) state/local governments, tribal organizations, federal health safety net organizations, non-profits, schools, and others—will receive up to \$1.5 million each for a three-year period to reduce the number of uninsured children by advancing Medicaid/CHIP enrollment and retention; includes pregnant women as well.
- Early Childhood Development – Infrastructure funded, program funding to come

Expand Access to Health Care

Congratulations for Record increase in insured!

- 199,706 enrolled, 30%
- Increased Marketplace Subsidies
- Increased Flexibility for Enrollment
- Telehealth & Broadband – Arizona is on it!

Thank You!

❖ Reach out:

Bonnie Preston

HHS Office of the Regional Director

Bonnie.preston@hhs.gov

415.437.8500

Schuyler Hall

Schuyler.Hall@hhs.gov

415.437.8518

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