

52ND

Annual Arizona Rural Health Conference

JUNE 2-3, 2026

High Country Conference Center
201 West Butler Avenue
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Tuesday June 2, 2026

0730 Registration

0800 Welcome: Dr. Derksen

0830 Blessing: Dr. Gonzales

0845 Arizona Medicaid: AHCCCS

Marcus Johnson & Josue Macias

0940 Concurrent Sessions

Humphrey: Bryna Koch, DrPH; Phillip Summers, MD,
Community Responsive SUD Tx Model in CAHs

Doyle/Rees: Rural Perinatal Behavioral Health Panel
Drs. Matt Martin, Stephanie Babbitt, Nina Hanenson Russin

Abineau/Fremont: Leveraging AI in Rural Communities
Sameer Halai; Kacey Ernest PhD; Mona Arora, PhD





Arizona's Rural, Tribal & Border Health Crossroads: Transformation or Tragedy?

Daniel Derksen, MD
Director, Arizona Center for Rural Health



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Unprecedented Opportunity

Arizona Rural Health Transformation Program

\$47M OEO Health Workforce Education & Training

\$17M ADHS: Maternal Health, Chronic Disease

\$86M AHCCCS: SUD; Telehealth, Digital Transformation; Mobile Clinics; Technology; Equipment; Operations Improvement

\$17M Administrative/Indirect Costs (Cap: 10%)

\$167M per year X 5 years (CMS)

Catalina State Park

The wilderness and the dry land will be glad; the desert will rejoice and blossom like a rose. Isaiah 35:1

Watch this space for AZ RHTP RFPs & updates:

<https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/Initiatives/RHTP/index.html>

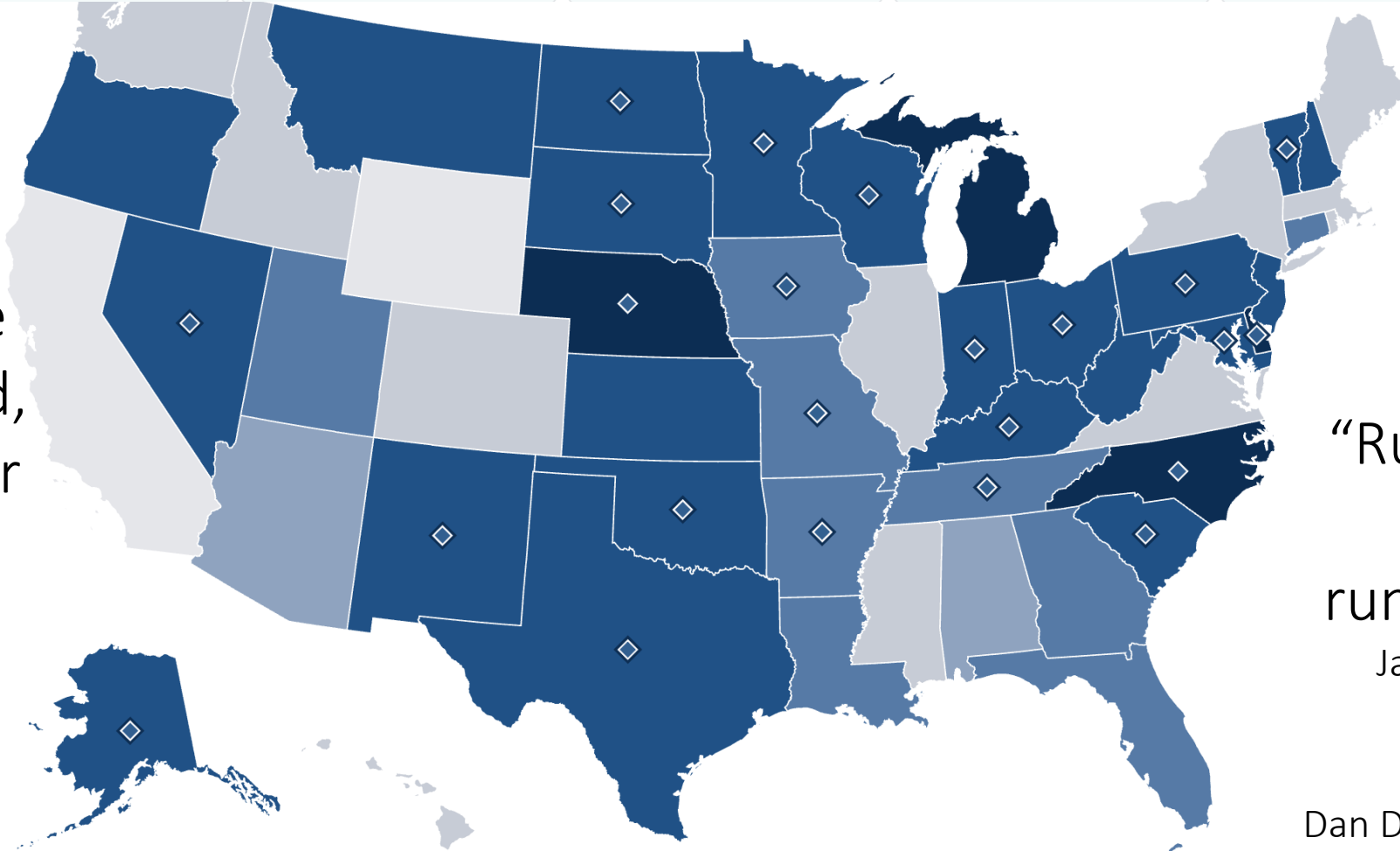
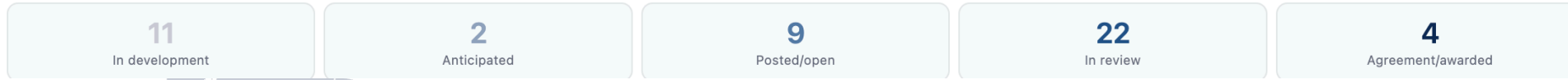
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RHTP RFP Status by State

Map color = most advanced RFP stage in each state. ♦ = multiple stages present. Click any state or marker for full opportunity details. Last updated: June 1, 2026.



♦ Diamond = multiple RFP stages — click to expand



35 states
(70%) have
RFPs posted,
in review, or
awarded

“Running into the
sun but I’m
running behind...”
Jackson Browne 1977

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“Freedom in a commons brings ruin to all.” Garrett Hardin 1968 Essay

Tragedy of the Commons

Individuals acting only in their own self-interest will inevitably deplete and destroy shared resources – even when it’s not in anyone’s long-term best interest.



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H.R. 1 One Big Beautiful Bill Act OBBBA (P.L. 119-21)

CBO H.R. 1 Tax Cuts and Cuts to Medicaid, ACA, SNAP

US: \$3.7 Trillion **tax cuts** 2025-34

US: \$1 Trillion in **tax cuts** for the top 1% of income earners

US: \$1 Trillion cuts to Medicaid, ACA Marketplace, SNAP

CBO = Congressional Budget Office

Sources:

CBO report accessed 5/27/26: <https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2025-06/hr0001-dynamic-estimate.pdf>

KFF accessed 5/27/26: <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/allocating-cbos-estimates-of-federal-medicaid-spending-reductions-across-the-states-enacted-reconciliation-package/>

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Health Insurance Coverage: H.R. 1 Cuts

As of 5/1/2026 AHCCCS (AZ Medicaid) Enrollment = 1,788,818

H.R. 1 cuts AHCCCS by \$34B over 10 yrs, could result in

250,000 to 410,000 losing coverage by 2034

Medicaid + ACA H.R. 1 cuts will increase AZ's 750,000 uninsured to:

> 1,000,000 Arizona uninsured by 2034

Terms: ACA = Affordable Care Act; AHCCCS = Arizona's Health Care Cost Containment System, aka Arizona's Medicaid Program; OBBBA One Big Beautiful Bill Act
Sources Accessed 5/27/2026:

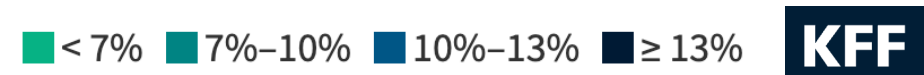
AHCCCS Population Highlights as of 5/1/2026: <https://www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/Downloads/PopulationStatistics/PopulationHighlights05052026.pdf>

KFF Est. Fed funding Cut: <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/allocating-cbos-estimates-of-federal-medicaid-spending-reductions-across-the-states-enacted-reconciliation-package/>

KFF Est: <https://www.kff.org/affordable-care-act/issue-brief/how-will-the-2025-reconciliation-bill-affect-the-uninsured-rate-in-each-state-allocating-cbos-estimates-of-coverage-loss/>

Federal Medicaid Cuts in the Enacted Reconciliation Package, By State

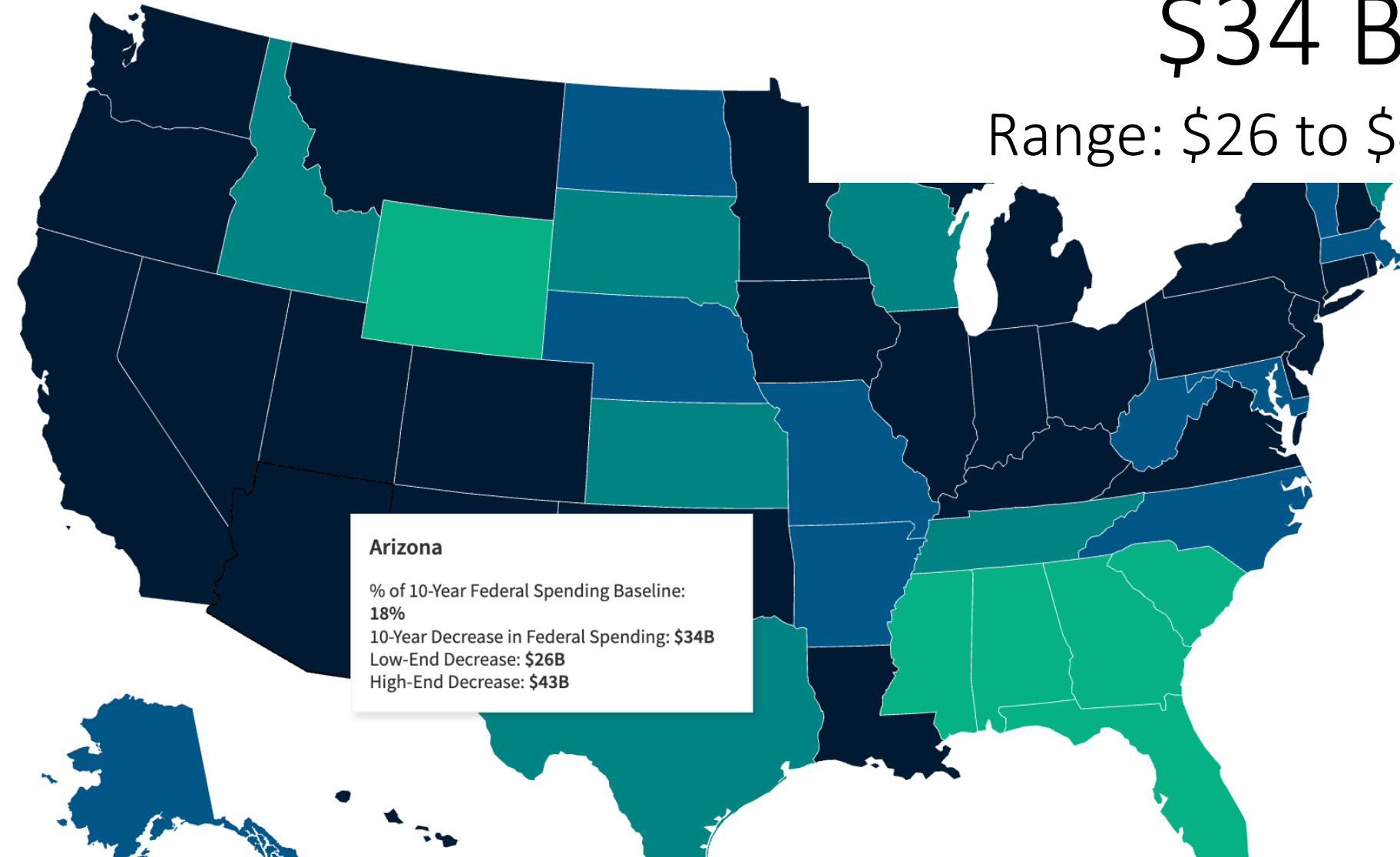
As a % of 10-year baseline federal spending (2025-2034)



Est. 10-Yr Decrease in AZ Federal Support

\$34 Billion

Range: \$26 to \$43 Billion (KFF)

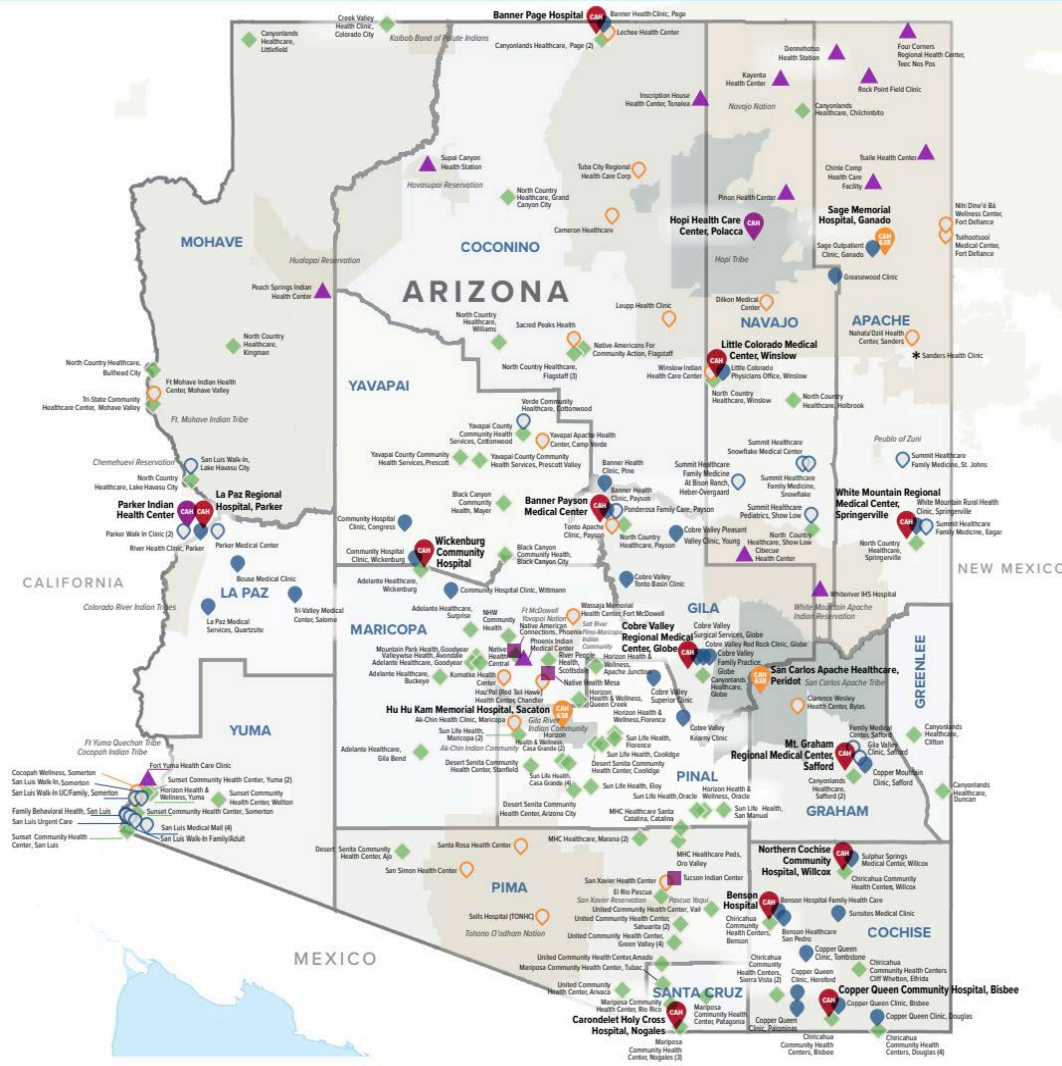


Arizona
% of 10-Year Federal Spending Baseline: **18%**
10-Year Decrease in Federal Spending: **\$34B**
Low-End Decrease: **\$26B**
High-End Decrease: **\$43B**



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Design: Ann Garn (Updated 8/22/25)



Who Loses in H.R. 1 Medicaid Cuts in 2027? Arizona's Rural Health Safety Net: 17 Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)

54 Rural Health Clinics (RHCs), 31 CAH-affiliated
26 Health Centers operating 175 FQHC Sites
16 Indian Health Service IHS hospitals, clinics
28 Tribal-operated (P.L. 638) hospitals, clinics

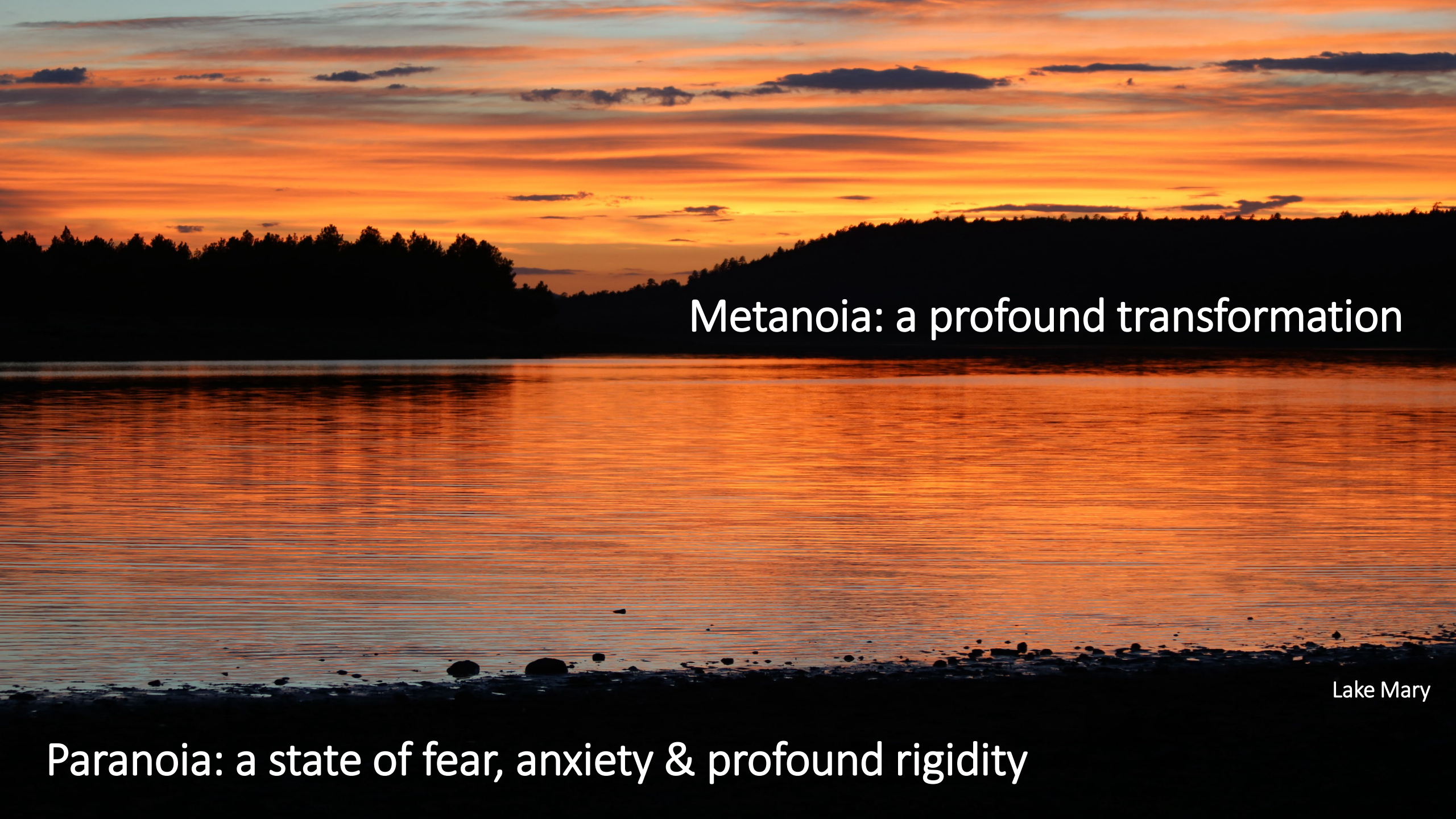
AZ Rural & Safety Net Facilities Map:

<https://crh.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/2025-08/250822SN2025Map.pdf>

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About This Map
This map intends to inform the efforts of the AZCRH and rural healthcare partners statewide. Only selected rural and safety net facilities are included. Many of these facilities are served by federal and state-funded projects at the AZCRH. These facilities have definitions and criteria established by federal health policy to meet the needs of rural and underserved populations. They also may have geographic, population service, and clinical services requirements. This list is not exhaustive of health facilities in Arizona. More information about this map can be found on our website.



A serene sunset scene over a large body of water, likely a lake. The sky is filled with horizontal bands of orange, yellow, and light blue, with scattered clouds. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow. The water in the foreground is calm, reflecting the colors of the sky. In the background, a dark silhouette of a forested shoreline stretches across the horizon. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Metanoia: a profound transformation

Lake Mary

Paranoia: a state of fear, anxiety & profound rigidity

Daniel Derksen, MD, is the University of Arizona Health Sciences Associate Vice President for Rural Health Workforce Development Initiatives.

He is a Professor in the Zuckerman College of Public Health with joint appointments in the Colleges of Medicine and Nursing. He directs the Arizona Center for Rural Health (AzCRH) and is principal investigator of the state and federally designated and funded State Office of Rural Health.

His current activities include informing legislative, regulatory and program policy to improve access to health care and health insurance coverage; developing, implementing and evaluating community based experiential health professions training sites; and working to assure a well-trained and distributed health workforce to meet the health needs of all Arizonans.

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Additional AzCRH Health Workforce Data Resources: <https://crh.arizona.edu/> under the publications tab.



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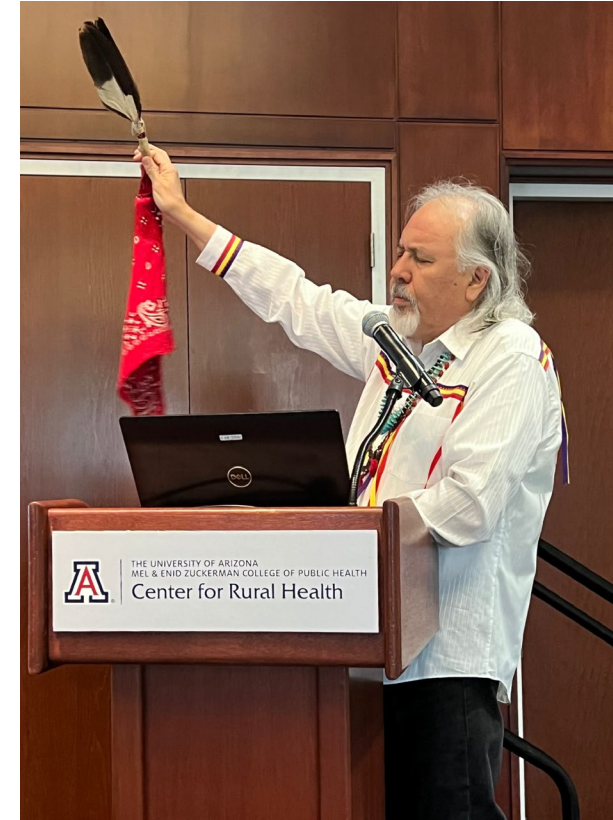
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Blessing



Carlos Gonzales, MD
Assistant VP of Indigenous Affairs

