Az CRH Highlights

46th Annual Rural Health Conference

Registration is NOW OPEN for the 46th Annual Rural Health Conference, August 1 & 2 at High Country Conference Center in Flagstaff, AZ. This year's theme is The Five Cs of Rural Health in Arizona: Care, Capacity, Connection, Culture & Collaboration.

» Conference items now available for download: Scholarship and Exhibitor applications, Call for Presentations, and information on room reservations.

Click for more information
Join us for our next AzCRH Webinar!

**Poison Centers and Their Services to Arizona**
**Thursday, April 18, Noon Arizona Time**

Learn about the many services and activities performed by Poison Centers in Arizona and gain an understanding of whether Poison Centers are HIPAA exempt from the perspective of collecting data.

**Presenter:** Farshad “Mazda” Shirazi, MS, MD, PhD, associate professor of medical toxicology, emergency medicine, pharmacology and pharmacy practice.

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**2019 Statewide Symposium in Support of Service Members, Veterans & Their Families**

The only statewide conference that brings together military, government and community organizations to focus on strengthening care, services, support and opportunities for Arizona's 600,000+ service members, veterans & their families! **April 17 & 18, 2019** at the Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix.

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**Border Health Information for Action**
Researchers, community organizations, health providers, and activists from the region all joining together to discuss and dialogue about their work. **May 16-17, 2019 at the Fiesta Inn, Nogales, Sonora.**

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**Az CRH NEWS**

**Apr 08, 2019** : Bike Ajo Program is Model for Rural Communities  
**Apr 01, 2019** : ‘Association’ health plans may provide more choice, but critics fear consumer harm  
**Mar 28, 2019** : U.S. District Judge Strikes Medicaid Work Requirements  
**Mar 27, 2019** : Arizona MD Creates mHealth App for Pregnant Women Dealing With Substance Use Disorder  
**Mar 21, 2019** : Pinal County ranks last in doctor ratios, work commutes  
**Mar 20, 2019** : More States Say Doctors Must Offer Overdose Reversal Drug Along With Opioids  
**Mar 20, 2019** : ‘Historical trauma’: Native communities grapple with missing and murdered women  
**Mar 19, 2019** : Study: Poverty, obesity, lack of services weigh down Pima County health

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**UPCOMING RURAL EVENTS**

**Apr 17 2019** : [2019 10th Annual Statewide Symposium in Support of Service Members, Veterans & Their Families](#)  
**Apr 17 2019** : [5th Annual National Rural EMS & Care Conference](#)  
**Apr 18 2019** : [Prehospital Trauma Life Support Training - Flagstaff](#)  
**Apr 18 2019** : [AzCRH Webinar: Poison Centers and Their Services to Arizona](#)  
**Apr 30 2019** : [AzPHA & Arizona Oral Health Coalition Summit](#)  
**May 2 2019** : [1st Annual Native American and Rural Emergency Medicine](#)
Conference
May 2 2019: 28th Annual Southwestern Conference on Medicine
May 13 2019: Developing a Telemedicine Program
May 16 2019: Prehospital Trauma Life Support Training - Sierra Vista
May 16 2019: Border Health Information for Action
May 22 2019: SEEDS Conference
Aug 1 2019: 46th Annual Arizona Rural Health Conference

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

New Funding Opportunity: Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies (RMOMS) Program

HRSA plans to fund three awards to formal or established networks serving rural communities as part of this funding opportunity.

Successful RMOMS award recipients will receive up to $9 million for a four-year period of performance to improve the access to and continuity of maternal obstetrics care in rural communities. Award recipients will work with the HRSA’s Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, Bureau of Primary Health Care, and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau to dedicate the first year to planning activities and the second through fourth years to implementing activities that address the program’s focus areas: rural hospital obstetric service aggregation, network approach to coordination a continuum of care, leveraging telehealth and specialty care, and financial sustainability approaches.

View the funding opportunity and apply on Grants.gov.
Read the news release.

Hillman Emergent Innovation: Serious Illness and End of Life Program

Grants for early stage or untested interventions that address health challenges faced by vulnerable populations including the economically disadvantaged, racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ people, people experiencing homelessness, rural populations, and other groups that encounter barriers to accessing services.

Geographic coverage: Nationwide
Letter of Intent (Required): Apr 29, 2019
Grants to Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions Program
Grants for the development and operation of nonprofit, nongovernmental tribal domestic violence and sexual assault coalitions.
Geographic coverage: Nationwide
Application Deadline: May 9, 2019
Sponsors: Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice

Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI)
Funding to help nonprofit housing and community development intermediary organizations support housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas. Priority will be given to applications that address USDA's goal to reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with Substance Use Disorder (including opioid misuse) in high-risk rural communities.
Geographic coverage: Nationwide
Application Deadline: Jun 5, 2019
Sponsors: U.S. Department of Agriculture, USDA Rural Development

PBS Film on Rural Healthcare Crisis Set to Air April 8, 2019
Mar 29, 2019 - The Independent Television Service (ITVS) announces the premiere of The Providers on April 8, 2019. The documentary will highlight the physician shortage in rural America and the opioid epidemic. The film underscores the power of the patient-provider relationship by following the journeys of three safety-net healthcare providers and their patients in rural New Mexico.
Source: Independent Television Service (ITVS)

Tracking Federal Funding to Combat the Opioid Crisis
Features a report tracking the federally funded programs aimed at addressing the opioid crisis for the fiscal years 2017-2018. Highlights examples in five states where it compares total money spent by department on opioid treatment and reduction, as well as the number of opioid related deaths.
2017 National and State Healthcare-Associated Infections Progress Report

Examines progress on reducing health-care associated infection rates for 6 types of infections in 4 types of hospitals using data from the National Healthcare Safety Network. Compares observed versus expected infection rates using 2015 baseline data with standardized infection ratios (SIR) and use of ventilators, urinary catheters, and central lines using standardized utilization ratios (SURs). Includes national and state data tables on SIR and SUR for Critical Access Hospitals.

April Brings Awareness to Autism Spectrum Disorder

April is National Autism Awareness Month, an observance that aims to raise awareness for autism and issues affecting children and adults on the autism spectrum. Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a range of developmental disabilities affecting an estimated 1 out of 59 children. ASD is characterized by impairments in social communication and interaction and repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, and activities. Once diagnosed, individuals face additional challenges accessing the array of health, education, and related support services recommended for them. HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau receives funding for grant programs through the Autism CARES Act to advance professional training, research, and services for children with ASD. MCHB’s autism programs address the needs of underserved populations and barriers to evidence-based interventions. Read how MCHB’s grants are making a difference in the Autism CARES Act Report (PDF - 3.8 MB).

For more information and resources, visit MCHB’s Autism page.

RURAL RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

HRSA-led Study Reveals Use of Sealants Remains Low Among Children
HRSA's National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) revealed that among children ages 6-17 years, only 1 in 5 had received sealants within the past year. Together with steps taken at home, in the dental office, or on a community-wide basis (e.g., water fluoridation), use of sealants among children helps prevent dental cavities.

As reported by parents/caregivers, 82% of children ages 2-17 years had a preventive dental visit in the past year, but lower rates of specific preventive services: 75% cleanings, 46% fluoride treatments, and 44% tooth brushing/oral health care instructions. Regarding oral health status, 6% of children were reported by their parent/caregiver to have teeth in fair or poor condition, and 12% had problems with cavities or decayed teeth in the past year.

Research from this study shows preventive oral health services are lagging among young children and children from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. Further studies are needed to identify interventions that encourage the use of preventive services.

Read the abstract.