Az CRH Highlights

AzCRH Annual Report 2019-20 now online!

The AzCRH Annual Report summarizes activities from 07/01/19 to 06/30/20 related to its mission to improve the health & wellness of Arizona’s rural & vulnerable populations.

The Center houses a record $4.5 million/year in federal and state funded rural programs, and provides subawards, services, webinars, conferences, continuing education, technical assistance, data, analyses, evaluations, and reports to inform and support Arizonans, providers and policymakers on rural best practices, legislation and regulation.
Join us for our next AzCRH Webinar on August 20!

211: What is it and how can it be useful to you?

Presenter, TJ Reed has worked in the poverty/homeless sector for over 5 years in both micro and macro focused positions. He started as an advocate and case manager for victims of domestic violence. He then spent a year as a graduate research assistant for a firm that focused on public health research.

Arizona receives three HHS Awards to Combat Opioid Crisis

HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy awarded $89 million to 89 rural organizations across 38 states as part of the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Implementation (RCORP-Implementation). Each RCORP-Implementation grant recipient will use the funding to enhance and expand service delivery for SUD and OUD in rural communities. Awardees will work with rural communities to implement a set of core SUD and OUD prevention, treatment and recovery activities grounded in evidence-based or promising practice models which can be tailored to communities' unique needs.

Arizona received 1 award totaling $1,000,000 in funding:

- Community Awareness Resource Entity of Arizona, Saint Johns

In addition to the RCORP-Implementation investments, HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce awarded nearly $12.5 million to 28 organizations to expand access to behavioral health services for families affected by opioids and other substance use...
disorders. The **Opioid-Impacted Family Support Program (OIFSP)** aims to increase the number of training opportunities for behavioral health paraprofessionals working with families, and provides tuition assistance for trainees. Today's awardees will recruit and train paraprofessionals to work with youth, including in high-need rural areas across the United States. **Arizona received 2 awards totaling $729,995 in funding:**

- University of Arizona, CPAC (Comprehensive Pain and Addition Center): $489,935
- Family Involvement Center, Inc, Phoenix: $240,060

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**Az CRH NEWS**

Aug 18, 2020  :  [Rural areas could face challenges during fall and winter](https://mailchi.mp/98d8ec744d14/news-resources-from-the-arizona-center-for-rural-health?e=8b317590a7)
Aug 14, 2020  :  [On Native American Land, Contact Tracing is Saving Lives](https://mailchi.mp/98d8ec744d14/news-resources-from-the-arizona-center-for-rural-health?e=8b317590a7)
Aug 03, 2020  :  [‘Hit us at our core’: Vulnerable Navajo Nation fears a second COVID-19 wave](https://mailchi.mp/98d8ec744d14/news-resources-from-the-arizona-center-for-rural-health?e=8b317590a7)
Jul 01, 2020  :  [How rural hospitals are managing the COVID-19 pandemic](https://mailchi.mp/98d8ec744d14/news-resources-from-the-arizona-center-for-rural-health?e=8b317590a7)
Jun 26, 2020  :  [Arizona Senate candidate makes health care pledge that contradicts past votes, policy positions](https://mailchi.mp/98d8ec744d14/news-resources-from-the-arizona-center-for-rural-health?e=8b317590a7)
Jun 22, 2020  :  [Dr. Derksen Weighs in on Rural Issues at Weekly Briefing on Campus Reentry](https://mailchi.mp/98d8ec744d14/news-resources-from-the-arizona-center-for-rural-health?e=8b317590a7)
Jun 18, 2020  :  [Arizona counties, cities and towns empowered to adopt policies requiring face masks in public with new executive order](https://mailchi.mp/98d8ec744d14/news-resources-from-the-arizona-center-for-rural-health?e=8b317590a7)

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**UPCOMING RURAL EVENTS**

Aug 20 2020 :  [AzCRH Webinar - 211: What is it and how can it be useful to you?](https://mailchi.mp/98d8ec744d14/news-resources-from-the-arizona-center-for-rural-health?e=8b317590a7)
Oct 26 2020 :  [2020 NARHC Fall Institute](https://mailchi.mp/98d8ec744d14/news-resources-from-the-arizona-center-for-rural-health?e=8b317590a7)
NIHB/CDC Strengthening Tribal Public Health Systems – September 4. With support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) will provide funding and technical assistance to build capacity for public health in Tribes. Eligible participants include official health entities of federally-recognized Tribal governments, Tribal organizations, and inter-Tribal consortia.

USDA Rural Placement Innovation Challenge – September 10. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will make five awards from a total investment of $1 million to assist with community planning efforts that support local economies and quality of life. Possible uses for funds include increasing broadband access, preserving cultural and historical structures, and supporting the development of transportation, housing, and recreational spaces. Eligible applicants are public and private entities that can provide technical assistance to cities or towns with up to 50,000 residents.

ACF Early Head Start - Child Care Partnership Grants – September 21. The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) will make 60 awards with total funding of approximately $103 million to provide comprehensive, high-quality services to low-income infants and toddlers. Eligible applicants include current Head Start Centers and other organizations capable of providing child and family services.

CMS: Community Health Access and Rural Transformation Model. Called CHART for short, this new model from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) aims to change the way the federal government pays for health care in rural areas through two separate tracks: 1) For the Community Transformation Track, CMS will select 15 Lead Organizations to create Transformation Plans that
coordinate care across communities defined as rural by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. CMS anticipates the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Community Transformation Track will be available in September 2020. 2) For the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Transformation Track, CMS will select up to 20 rural-focused ACOs to receive financial incentives for value-based payment (based on patient outcomes) rather than fee-for-service (based on type and quantity of treatment). CMS expects to release a Request for Applicants for the ACO Transformation Track in spring of 2021.

**Rural Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019.** The Rural Health Information Hub posted a guide to help you learn about activities underway to address COVID-19. Now including Rural Healthcare Surge Readiness a tool with resources for healthcare systems preparing for and responding to a COVID-19 surge in patients.

**AAFP Health Equity Fellowship – October 1.** The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) offers one year fellowships that feature curriculum, faculty, and events tailored to address a topic of significant relevance to family medicine. Tracks include rural health, academic medicine, and traditional family medicine. Applicants practicing in rural areas and/or from populations under-represented in medicine will receive preference.

**Ethical Challenges of COVID-19 in Rural Areas – Tuesday, August 18 at 11:00 am ET.** For their series, Pandemic Policies and Practices, the University of Pittsburgh will discuss ethical concerns and challenges for small towns and rural areas.

**RCORP: Latinx Cultural Competence to Reduce Disparities – Tuesday, August 18 at 2:00 pm ET.** In an hour-long session, the technical assistance component of the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) will discuss cultural barriers to substance use disorder treatment.
You are receiving this e-mail because you are a valued partner of the Az Center for Rural Health by attending the AZ Rural Health Conference or other event.

Please send your comments and suggestions regarding this newsletter to Jennifer Peters, Arizona State Office of Rural Health Program Manager (petersjs@email.arizona.edu).

Thank you.

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