Az CRH Highlights

November 19, 2020

#powerofrural

National Rural Health Day

Celebrating the Power of Rural

It’s not just a day, it’s a movement.

FOCUSING
ON THE POWER 
OF RURAL

November 19, 2020

SAVE THE DATE
National Rural Health Day - Thursday, November 19!
The National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health sets aside the third Thursday of every November to celebrate National Rural Health Day. National Rural Health Day is an opportunity to “Celebrate the Power of Rural” by honoring the selfless, community-minded, “can do” spirit that prevails in rural America, gives us a chance to bring to light the unique healthcare challenges that rural citizens face, and showcase the efforts of rural healthcare providers, State Offices of Rural Health and other rural stakeholders to address those challenges.

Learn More

Special National Rural Health Day Webinar
Please join us in marking this year’s National Rural Health Day with a special Telehealth Webinar on Nov. 19:
2020 Mid-Year Rural Health Policy Roundup with Alan Morgan, Chief Executive Officer for the National Rural Health Association.

Click for more information

Join our next AzCRH Webinar on November 10
Best Practices in Clinical Skills Assessment with presenter, Colette Scott, M.Ed., presented in collaboration with the Arizona Telemedicine Program and Arizona AHEC.

This webinar will provide an overview of the state of simulation science in the assessment of clinical skills in health professions education and what the future may hold. Also discussed is the importance of rater training and instrument selection for evaluation.

Click for more information
Celebrating 20 Years - the Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

The Arizona Center for Rural Health is featured in the College of Public Health’s 20-Year Celebration.
» Read more - and check out all 20 stories for MEZCOPH’s 20-year celebration!

The Arizona Surge Line has transferred over 3000 patients with COVID-19 to higher levels of care since April 16, 2020. As we approach a potential secondary surge of COVID-19 patients, we want to ensure our communities have the resources needed to meet our patient’s needs.

The Arizona Surge Line will remain in function for COVID-19 transfers, with all four components functioning at total capacity (Higher Level of Care, Lower Level of Care, Transport Backup, Clinical Consultation) until at least spring of 2021.

We are excited to announce that as of today, the Arizona Surge Line is open for transfers of patients with influenza. This pilot expansion is being done in preparation for a twindemic this fall/winter season and in response to significant requests from hospital systems. Please see attached Flu protocol and refer to the AZ Surge Line web site at: http://www.azdhs.gov/surgeline.
November is Native American Heritage Month
The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the rich ancestry and traditions of Native Americans. Visit: https://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/

» Join the CDC OEOO and CDC American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Coalition for a variety of activities this month.

Free help for homelessness in Gila, Graham, Greenlee & Santa Cruz Counties

FREE HELP FOR HOMELESSNESS

Call 2-1-1 for the Housing Crisis Hotline

Are you in a housing crisis or homeless? We can help. To use the hotline, dial 2-1-1 and follow the prompts to indicate in which county shelter is sought.

For the counties of Gila, Graham, Greenlee and Santa Cruz.

Live answer service is available 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.
Medicare Open Enrollment Has Begun

Medicare beneficiaries can review health and drug plans for 2021 and make changes between now and December 7. The online system helps beneficiaries compare pricing and benefits between Original Medicare (Parts A and B), Medicare prescription drug plans (Part D), Medicare Advantage plans (Part C), and individually-purchased Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) policies. Free, personalized counseling on Medicare options is available through the nonprofit State Health Insurance Assistance Program, or calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). Free materials are also available to support rural providers, among others, with outreach activities.

Az CRH NEWS

Nov 04, 2020: UArizona Health Sciences to Lead Statewide Outreach to Reduce Disparities in COVID-19 Research, Clinical Studies
Oct 30, 2020: COVID in Arizona, 10-22-20: a summary by Daniel Derksen, MD
Oct 26, 2020: Mt. Graham moving closer to critical access hospital designation
Oct 22, 2020: Biden vs. Trump: ObamaCare, access to health care in rural US impacts voters' decisions
Oct 13, 2020: COVID-19 cases in Arizona fall below 1,000 for 25th straight day
Oct 13, 2020: Census: Number of Arizonans without health insurance rose again in 2019
Oct 13, 2020: State passes 5,000 COVID-19 deaths, but overall numbers trending down

UPCOMING RURAL EVENTS

Nov 5 2020: CDC Webinars - American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month
Nov 10 2020: AzCRH Webinar: Best Practices in Clinical Skills Assessment
Nov 17 2020: Oral Health Integration Interprofessional Education Event
Nov 18 2020: 2020 Tribal Opioid-Substance Use Webinar Series
**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

**HRSA Rural Policy Analysis Program** – December 14. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will make one award of $225,000 to support research and analysis of key policy issues affecting health and human services in rural communities on a national scope. Eligible applicants include domestic public, private, and nonprofit organizations, including tribes and tribal organizations, faith-based and community-based organizations, institutions of higher education, state and local governments, and hospitals.

**Indian Health Service (IHS) Community Opioid Intervention Pilot Project** – December 15. The IHS at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services will make 33 awards with total funding of $16.5 million. The program funds three-year projects increasing public awareness of culturally-appropriate activities for prevention, treatment, and recovery at the community level. Eligible applicants include federally-recognized tribes, tribal organizations, and Alaska Native villages.

**USDA Farm to School Grant Program** – January 8. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) expects to make 150 awards of up to $100,000 each to improve access to local foods in schools. Grants will be made under three tracks: 1) implementation grants to help schools develop existing efforts; 2) turnkey grants for schools or districts just getting started; and 3) state agency grants to develop farm-to-school efforts in their states.

**HRSA Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program** – December 1
**EPA Research to Reduce Wildland Fire Smoke Exposures** – December 15

**USDA Community Connect Grants** – December 23

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**RECOMMENDED RESOURCES**

**Learn More About Federal Funding and Resources for Rural Health.** This is a recording of an 80-minute presentation (via Adobe Connect) by the Health Resources and Services Administration on rural-focused federal programs and resources. Presenters represent USDA's Rural Development and Rural Utilities Service, telecommunications programming at the Universal Service Administrative Company, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and two FORHP-funded rural hospital programs.

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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.

Cover photo: Mark Napier

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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