News from the Az Center for Rural Health, Arizona’s State Office of Rural Health

Az CRH Highlights

National Rural Health Day - Thursday, November 18!

The National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) sets aside the third Thursday of every November to celebrate National Rural Health Day (NRHD). National Rural Health Day is an opportunity to “Celebrate the Power of Rural” by honoring the selfless, community-minded spirit that prevails in rural America. NRHD showcases the efforts of rural healthcare providers, State Offices of Rural Health and other rural stakeholders to address the unique healthcare challenges that rural citizens face today and into the future.
Special National Rural Health Day Webinars

» AzCRH Webinar: Arizona Primary Care Office: HPSAs & Loan Repayment Programs

Thursday, November 18, 2021
12-1:00 pm AZ Time
Presenters: Tracy Lenartz & Edith de Santo

Upon completion, participants will be able to:

1. Describe three different types of Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designations.
2. Identify the current HPSA status for their community and/or facility, using tools shared.
3. Understand requirements for Arizona State Loan Repayment Program and the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program.

Click for more information

» Telehealth webinar: 2021 Mid-Year Rural Health Policy Roundup

Please join us in marking National Rural Health Day on Nov. 15 at noon (AZ time) with Alan Morgan, Chief Executive Officer for the National Rural Health Association.

Click for more information

AzCRH's Dr. Mona Arora undertakes a new role to reduce statewide COVID-19 disparities
From **Health Sciences Connect** - Dr. Arora will co-lead the ADHS-CDC COVID Disparities Initiative funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s COVID-19 Disparities Initiative in collaboration with the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). The initiative aims to reduce COVID-19 disparities, provide vaccinations and promote vaccine confidence in high-risk, rural and underserved communities.

### Addressing Parent Concerns About COVID Vaccines for Children

A recent Kaiser Family Foundation survey revealed that only 3 in 10 parents say their children will get vaccinated once eligible. Healthcare practitioners and public health workers can help assuage fears about vaccines by following three steps:

- **Highlight Data Regarding Safety** - Providing parents with a knowledge base about the rigor of the clinical trial process, and the lack of serious adverse events in this age group will help to ease their anxieties.
- **Leverage Physician Trust** - According to a recent AP-NORC poll (add link here) 7 out of 10 Americans trust their physicians to do what is best for them and their families.
- **Encourage Social Networks** - Identifying and capitalizing on the relationships...
that influential people have within their communities can help to set examples for parents who are undecided over their children’s vaccine status.

» **Learn more at:**

- [CDC Toolkit For Pediatricians](#)
- [Vaccine Education Center-Children's Hospital of Philadelphia](#)
- [Arizona Partnership for Immunization-What Parents Should Know](#)
- [Scientific American's Best Evidence for How to Overcome Covid Vaccine Fears](#)
- [SORH- Addressing Vaccine Hesitancy with Parents and Families](#)
- [American Pediatric Academy- COVID-19 Vaccine and Kids](#)

[ADHS-CDC COVID Disparities Initiative](#)
Join Project FUTRE
Families Uplifted Through Recovery Education

Help support families impacted by opiate and substance use. Project FUTRE is an education & apprenticeship program to help you become a Behavioral Health Paraprofessional. Financial support is available.

Email: fcm-wdp@email.arizona.edu

Apply at the website by January 13, 2022: www.fcm.arizona.edu/Project-FUTRE

Az CRH NEWS

Nov 02, 2021  :  Indian Country ECHO Launches New Website
Oct 31, 2021  :  Changing Hospitals' Not-For-Profit Status "Important Decision for a Community"
Oct 24, 2021  :  It's been nearly a year. Why aren’t more Arizonans vaccinated?
Oct 24, 2021  :  Obamacare enrollment in Arizona rose by 40,000, with more gains
likely

Oct 22, 2021  :  Reframing Public Health Crisis Resilience: Dr. Mona Arora
Sep 09, 2021  :  Moonshot, Upshot, Hot Spot, Bullshot
Aug 18, 2021  :  Chat About MAT Podcast - AzMAT Mentors Program and Center For Rural Health
Aug 04, 2021  :  UA receives $4M grant to support health services in rural Arizona

UPCOMING RURAL EVENTS

Nov 8 2021  :  Arizona Telemedicine Program - Telemedicine Applications
Nov 15 2021  :  2021 Mid-Year Rural Health Policy Roundup
Nov 17 2021  :  Second Annual Tribal Opioid & Substance Use Conference
Nov 17 2021  :  Overdose Prevention, Recognition, & Response Training
Nov 18 2021  :  AzCRH Webinar: Arizona Primary Care Office: HPSAs & Loan Repayment Programs
Feb 6 2022  :  2022 Rural Health Care Leadership Conference
Feb 6 2022  :  35th Annual Rural Health Care Leadership Conference
Apr 1 2022  :  18th Annual American Indian Disability Summit
Apr 20 2022  :  2022 12th Annual Statewide Symposium in Support of Service Members, Veterans & Their Families

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NOW OPEN  :  2022 NHSC Loan Repayment Programs
Application closes on December 16, 2021 at 7:30 PM ET

Apply and pay off your school loans!
A historic $800 million in American Rescue Plan funding will allow us to award more applicants than ever before. Last year, every eligible applicant received an award. Compare our three NHSC loan repayment programs and choose the right one for you.

About the programs:
• The **NHSC Loan Repayment Program** awards up to $50,000 in exchange for a two-year commitment to provide primary medical, dental or mental/behavioral health care at approved sites in high-need, underserved areas.

• The **NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program** provides up to $75,000 in exchange for a three-year commitment to health care professionals who provide substance use disorder treatment services.

• Providers in rural communities may apply to the **NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program**, which awards up to $100,000 for three years of service.

---

**New Funding Available for the Rural Health Network Development Planning Program** applications due January 22. The Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA) Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) has announced a funding opportunity that supports the planning and development of integrated health care networks seeking to expand access and improve quality of care in rural communities. HRSA plans to award 20 grants to rural communities as part of this funding opportunity.

**Review the funding opportunity to learn more about eligibility & apply:**

• **Rural Health Network Development Planning Program**

FORHP will hold a technical assistance webinar via Zoom for applicants on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 from 3-4 p.m. ET. (Meeting ID: 161 864 4747 Participant Code: 81822150). A recording will be available for those who cannot attend.

---

**Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Implementation**

HRSA Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) is accepting applications for the **Rural Communities Opioid Response Program - Implementation**. FORHP plans to make awards of approximately 50 grants - of up to $1 million each - to enhance substance and opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery service delivery in rural communities.

**Application Due Date:** Thursday, January 13, 2022, 11:59 p.m. ET.
DATA 2000 Waiver Training Payments Still Available for Rural Health Clinics


The program gives RHCs the opportunity to apply for a $3,000 payment for each eligible employed provider who attained a DATA 2000 waiver on or after January 1, 2019. Approximately $1.5 million in program funding remains available for RHCs and will be paid on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted.

We are collaborating with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to process these applications. For more information, the program provides a video and FAQs.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

A nationwide shortage might affect your access to injectable naloxone, the opioid overdose reversal drug.

» Find resources and naloxone near you at aznaloxone.org.