

# Rural Health

## Partnerships and Resources

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A Publication of the West Virginia Partnerships affiliates:  
Division of Rural Health, WVDHHR and West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

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### **About the Division of Rural Health**

*(Formerly the Office of Rural Health Policy)*

The Division of Rural Health (DRH) is a division within the *Office of Community and Rural Health Services, Bureau for Public Health*. DRH serves as the focal point for rural health issues in West Virginia and contributes to innovative approaches for addressing health care needs of our rural citizens. DRH collaboratively plans and develops policy and provides technical assistance and statewide coordination of rural health activities.

#### **Programs and Projects**

The Rural Hospital Flexibility Program, often referred to as the Critical Access Hospital (CAH) Program or the Flex Program, is a statewide program that encourages regionalized systems of care and enhances the availability of primary health care services through the designation of CAHs. The Program goal is to maintain essential health care services in rural communities.

The Flex Program resulted from a major national initiative to strengthen rural health care by:

- Allowing small hospitals the flexibility to reconfigure their operations, particularly for acute inpatient care, as CAHs.
- Offering greater Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements.
- Encouraging the development of rural health networks and maintenance of community relationships.
- Offering grants to hospitals to strengthen the rural health care infrastructure.

The Small Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP) provides funding for implementation of Prospective Payment Systems (PPS); Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliance; or reducing medical errors and addressing quality improvement.

The Minority Health Program assists organizations, including faith based organizations, health care providers, government agencies, minority communities, and the general public, by acting as a resource in efforts to decrease morbidity among minorities. The program also strives to identify and eliminate disparities in health status and assure access to quality medical care for the racial and ethnic minority populations in West Virginia.

Other activities performed within the Division of Rural Health include the coordination of the Annual WV Rural Health Conference, distribution of the clearinghouse information, and partnering with the community through initiatives such as the WV Community Voices Project, WV Rural Health Education Partnerships, the Rural Health Systems Program and the WV Rural Health Association.

For further information please call the West Virginia Division of Rural Health at (304)558-1327. You may also view our website at [www.wvruralhealthpolicy.org](http://www.wvruralhealthpolicy.org)

## **A New Director**

A new director for the Division of Rural Health has been hired. Her name is Drema Mace and she comes to the Office of Community and Rural Health Services from Tennessee where she was the Section Chief of the HIV/AIDS/STD Section with the TN Bureau of Public Health.

Prior to her seven years in TN, Ms. Mace was employed by the WV Bureau for Public Health, serving fourteen years in the Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health Services and four years in the Division of Surveillance and Disease Control.

Ms. Mace lives in Boone County and has worked in rural health related programs for over 20 years.

We welcome Ms. Mace to OCRHS!

## **Around the State**

### **Boone Memorial Hospital Joins West Virginia's Critical Access Hospital Program**

Boone Memorial Hospital (BMH) joins the growing list of Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) in West Virginia, bringing the total number to fourteen. BMH (located in southern West Virginia in Madison) serves its community as the only medical facility within 31 miles, in an extremely mountainous area.

On February 1, 2004 the hospital became a certified CAH through the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (JCAHO) certification process.

BMH is joining a group of hospitals dedicated to health care in a rural environment. Many WV CAHs have branched out, with the help of the Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Program, to offer a diversity of comprehensive and preventative health care services to their communities. CAHs undertake the task of moving beyond the confines of what might be expected of a small rural hospital, to become a "one stop shop" for health care needs.

As BMH begins the next leg of their journey as a CAH, they will have many role models in West Virginia and across the country to assist them. Join the WV Division of Rural Health in congratulating Boone Memorial Hospital and welcoming them to the West Virginia's Flex Program.

For more information on the Flex Program email Sharon M. Giles at [sharongiles@wvdhhr.org](mailto:sharongiles@wvdhhr.org) or information on the web at [www.wvruralhealthpolicy.org](http://www.wvruralhealthpolicy.org)

## **Recruitable Community Project**

The Recruitable Community Project (RCP) was initiated in WV in 1998 and focuses on increasing a rural community's recruiting potential. The original RCP strategies included:

(1) enhancement of recruitment abilities of rural communities through community development and increased knowledge of recruitment and retention issues and (2) placing primary care resident, nurse practitioner and physician assistant trainees in specific rural communities to make them more familiar with the rewards and challenges of practice in those communities.

The RCP has been successful in developing collaborative relationships among academic institutions, state and national experts, key volunteers and communities. During the five years the RCP has been in operation, best practices have been identified for continuation based on cost effectiveness and sustainability. Current data shows that while rural residency rotation does succeed in familiarizing students with the rewards and challenges of practice in rural communities, it has resulted in only two permanent physician placements. However, the \$3,000 invested per Community Development Design Team assessment yields \$15,000 worth of expertise being made available to a rural community.

To further stabilize West Virginia's rural healthcare infrastructure and improve access to quality healthcare services, the RCP has developed a collaborative relationship with the Division of Rural Health (DRH) within the Office of Community and Rural Health Services, Bureau for Public Health. The DRH serves as the focal point for rural health issues in West Virginia and contributes to innovative approaches for addressing rural health care needs of West Virginians. The Division collaboratively plans and develops policy, provides technical assistance and provides statewide coordination of rural health activities. The collaborative process between RCP and DRH involves eliminating duplication while effectively maintaining access to community development expertise for rural communities.

The result of the collaborative partnership is the transfer of the Recruitable Community Project from WVU Department of Family Medicine to the Bureau for Public Health as an established program within the DRH. The RCP brings to the table links to the community and the established Design Team Methodology that will now be partnered with the DRH structural and financial stability.

Cornerstones of the project have been and will continue to be:

- Frequent interaction between participant communities and project personnel—most notably the program coordinator—who work with the communities providing technical assistance and maintaining focus as they work through the various RCP components;
- Visits to participant communities initially by a “first impression” team that illustrates, from a visitor's perspective, ways the community can enhance its image to recruits and others and, subsequently, from a “community design” team that makes assessments and recommendations for general community development and for enhancement of community recruiting potential;
- Recruitment workshops with a rural focus;
- Continued technical assistance to the community recruitment boards of the participant communities
- Publication of a “best practices” document, including tools and strategies that can be duplicated in other communities within the state or shared as a part of state-to-state technical assistance.

The RCP recognizes the indispensable link between a community's health care infrastructure and its overall development and has implemented successful interventions to develop and strengthen both within the same initiative.

## **11th Annual West Virginia Rural Health Conference**

Last year's West Virginia Rural Health Conference marks the eleventh year since the debut of the Rural Health Conference in Morgantown, West Virginia in 1992.

Over a decade of dedication to improving health was celebrated October 27 - 29, 2003 at Pipestem Resort State Park in Pipestem, West Virginia.

The theme for the conference was "Team Approaches to Improving Rural Health". Among the variety of topics covered were malpractice insurance, successful grant writing, and homeland security. As always, Continuing Education Units were offered.

You can find more information about the conference on our website <http://www.wvruralhealthpolicy.org/>. Be on the lookout for pictures from the 2003 conference, which will be posted on the website.

Information on the 2004 Rural Health Conference will be available in the next newsletter.

If you have any questions, please call us at (304) 558-1327.

## **Primary Care Develops West Virginia Health Disparities Collaborative Initiative**

The West Virginia Division of Primary Care is taking the lead in the development of a state Health Disparities Collaborative Initiative. At the national level, Collaboratives have been training community health center staff in a comprehensive approach to chronic disease management. Because of the problems in participating in a national Collaborative program, many Community Health Centers in West Virginia have suggested the possibility of a state Collaborative. Nell Phillips, R.N., Coordinator for Clinical Services, is heading up the project for the Division.

"The purpose of this project," says Ms. Phillips "is to achieve excellence in health care through improved health outcomes for West Virginians. The methods for improving the health outcomes include: generating the data to document improved health outcomes; incorporating models of care such as the Chronic Care Model, the model for improvement, and the adult learning model; develop infrastructure expertise to support and drive improved health status; and build strategic partnerships."

An initial planning meeting for the state Collaborative was held January 28, 2004 at the Diamond Building, Charleston. The diverse group attending was representative of West Virginia Primary Care Centers and agencies that have the potential to build a strategic partnership for the improvement of health outcomes throughout West Virginia. Those in attendance represented 12 Primary Care Centers that include 29 satellite centers and 13 School Based Health Centers.

Karen Carmody represented the Clinical Regional Advisory Network (CRAN). Jill Hutchinson and Brian Cunningham from the West Virginia Primary Care Association also participated. Others in attendance included representatives from Chronic Disease, Diabetes Control, Behavioral Health, and Medicaid. The Community Access Programs were represented, as well as the three Medical Schools that are developing patient disease registries for primary care centers. The Free Clinic Association and School Based Health Centers also sent representatives.

Because of the interest shown by the group for the development of a state Collaborative, the next step for the Division of Primary Care is to facilitate the development of a steering committee. For information on the state Collaborative please call Nell Phillips at 558-4007, or e-mail her at [nellphillips@wvdhhr.org](mailto:nellphillips@wvdhhr.org)

## **Federal News**

### **CMS Increases Payments and Expands Flexibility for Critical Access Hospitals in Rural Areas CMS Press Office,**

**January 22, 2004**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services today announced two new policies that will increase reimbursement to critical access hospitals for services to Medicare beneficiaries, and will allow these hospitals to use up to 25 beds for acute care services. These policies implement provisions in the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 intended to bolster health care services in rural areas. The law was signed by President Bush on December 8.

As a result of these changes, payments to the 863 critical access hospitals that play a crucial role in the delivery of rural health care are expected to increase by \$900 million over the next ten years. "I am pleased that Congress has worked with the Administration to bolster services to people with Medicare living in rural areas," said Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson. We believe the rural provisions in the new Medicare law will have a major positive impact on the delivery of health care to rural beneficiaries."

Critical access hospitals are limited-service hospitals located in rural areas that receive cost-based reimbursement. To be designated a critical access hospital; a facility must, among other requirements:

- (1) Be located in a county or equivalent unit of a local government in a rural area;
- (2) Be located more than a 35-mile drive from a hospital or another health care facility; or
- (3) Be certified by the State as being a necessary provider of health care services to residents in the area.

Under policies in effect prior to the new Medicare law, these hospitals could not have more than 15 beds for acute care. As a result of the new law, as implemented by the policies announced in this press release, a critical access hospital can have up to 25 beds designated as either acute care beds or swing beds that may at times be used for acute care, and at other times for post-acute care.

In addition to increasing the permissible number of beds, the new policies put into effect a provision of Medicare law that increases the payment for both inpatient and outpatient services rendered by critical access hospitals from 100 percent to 101 percent of reasonable costs.

**Hospitals may be eligible for the 340B Discount Drug Program**  
**The Information below is posted on HRSA's Federal Office of**  
**Rural Health Policy Website**

( <http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/news/340B.htm> )

All small and rural hospitals that meet the DSH percentage requirement (11.75%) may be eligible for the 340B Discount Drug Program. Thanks to a change in the cap on the Medicare Disproportionate Share (DSH) adjustment for rural hospitals, SHIP grantee hospitals may now be eligible for the 340B Discount Drug Program.

The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-173) increased the DSH cap for small and rural hospitals to 12 percent. That change has opened the door to the 340B program for all small and rural hospitals with a Medicare DSH percentage of at least 11.75 percent. Qualifying hospitals will be eligible to take part in this program which can provide substantial savings on outpatient drug purchases.

For more information and to find out if your facility qualifies for this benefit read below or visit HRSA's Bureau of Primary Health Care's Pharmacy Affairs Branch Website <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/opa> .

**The Program**

Section 340B of the Public Health Service Act was enacted through passage of the 1992 Veterans Health Care Act. The 340B program sometimes referred to as PHS pricing or 602 pricing, enables certain Federal facilities to obtain dramatic discounts on outpatient drugs. In order to participate in the Medicaid program pharmaceutical manufacturers are required to participate in 340B. Consequently, drugs purchased through this program have extremely discounted prices.

On average, 340B drugs cost 20 to 40 percent of the Average Wholesale Price (AWP). Drugs purchased through the 340B program can only be used by the covered entities' patients, and covered entities cannot "double-bill" by including those drugs in the state Medicaid rebate program.

**Eligibility**

A variety of entities including Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), Urban Indian Health Centers, Family Planning Clinics and others are eligible to participate in 340B. In addition, publicly owned non-profit Disproportionate Share Hospitals (DSH) with a DSH adjustment percentage of greater than 11.75 can participate.

Private non-profit DSH hospitals may participate if they contract with a State or local government to provide uncompensated care. Prior to the 2003 Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act (MMA), most rural hospitals with less than 100 beds were ineligible for the program.

However, effective April 1, 2004, Section 402 of MMA will raise the DSH cap for most rural hospitals to 12 percent, making small rural and urban hospitals that provide a significant amount of charity care eligible to participate in 340B.

**Applying**

Applying to participate in the 340B program is relatively straightforward. If your hospital's DSH adjustment percentage exceeds 11.75 percent, visit the website of the Pharmacy Affairs Branch of HRSA's Bureau of Primary Health Care at <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/opa>

Follow the links to the 340B program introduction and another link will take you to the necessary forms for public and private non-profit DSH hospitals, or simply follow the Disproportionate Share Hospital link. Submit the appropriate form and a Pharmacy Affairs officer will verify if your hospital is on CMS's list of eligible DSH hospitals. After approval you will be able to purchase drugs at 340B prices. At the present time, there is a lag in the certification process, so you should be prepared for a one to two year wait before becoming officially eligible to participate.

Please direct questions about the 340B program to:  
 BPHC's Pharmacy Affairs Branch  
 Toll Free: 1-800-628-6297  
 Local: (301) 594-4353

**Federal Grants Totals**

**Final numbers for FY 04 federal appropriations:**

GRANT PROGRAMS	FY 03 APPROP	FY 04 PRESIDE NT	FY 04 HOUSE	FY 04 SENATE	FY 04 Final
<b>ORHP Programs</b>					
Outreach & Network Grants	38.01 + (20.1) = 58.1	37.8	58.13	39.8	<b>39.6</b>
State Hosp Flex (CAH) Grants	25.0	25.0	25.0	19.7	<b>24.8</b>
Hospital Improvement (SHIP) Grants	15.0	5.02	15.02	20.0	<b>14.7</b>
State Offices Grants (SORH)	8.5	4.0	4.0	8.5	<b>8.4</b>
Policy Development & Research	10.0 + (0.7) = 10.7	6.0	8.0	9.9	<b>8.9</b>
AEDs & Training	12.5	2.0	12.5	8.0	<b>11.4</b>
Denali Commission (AK)	(27.3)	0.0	0.0	(40.0)	<b>34.8</b>
<b>ORHP Programs - Total</b>	<b>109.0 + (48.1) = 157.1</b>	<b>79.8</b>	<b>122.6</b>	<b>145.9</b>	<b>142.6</b>
Telehealth Grants (OAT)	4.0 + (23.0) = 27.0	5.6	28.03	4.0	<b>4</b>
Trauma/EMS (Title XII)	3.5	0.0	3.5	3.5	<b>3.5</b>
Interdis Training (Q. Burdick)	7.0	0.0	6.2	5.0	<b>6.1</b>
AHECs & HETC	37.5	0.0	33.2	27.0	<b>33</b>
NHSC	171.1	212.8	171.1	171.1	<b>170</b>
Community Access Program	120.0	0.0	120.0	0.0	<b>118.5</b>
C/MH Centers	1465.1	1582.2	1582.2	1582.2	<b>1572.6</b>
( ) Additional Funds for Earmarked Projects					
1 Including \$6.8M for Delta Initiative					
2 Included in Flex					
3 Including earmarks					

*Source: Graham L. Adams, PhD, Executive Director, South Carolina Office of Rural Health, 220 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 402, Columbia, SC 29210, Phone (803) 771-2810, Fax (803) 771-4213 [adams@scorh.net](mailto:adams@scorh.net)*

## **Program Showcase**

### **Division of Rural Health's Minority Health Program**

In October, 1998 the West Virginia Minority Health Program was established to address the health needs of minority persons throughout the state. The program is currently funded by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Office of Community and Rural Health Services, Division of Rural Health.

The program is committed to increasing awareness of health issues and diseases that impact the minority community, identifying the disparities in acquiring/receiving services and care, and planning and implementing actions that will eliminate identified inequities.

In 2003, our program provided 14 mini-grants to projects in Cabell, McDowell, Mercer, Raleigh and Kanawha Counties. The funds were used for a multiplicity of activities including:

- Physical Education/Nutrition Program for pre-schoolers in day care.
- Community health information programs (on site in several communities).
- Formal health conferences at Bluefield State College.
- Training materials for a domestic violence counseling center.
- Pediatric Sickle Cell Awareness and Research Program.
- An exercise program for females at a rural church.
- Purchase of exercise machines and an aerobic instructor.
- Assisted with transportation costs for a drug and alcohol program for veterans.
- Supported a Walk -A-Thon with monies for prizes, advertisement, etc.
- Sponsored 5 Health Fairs in 5 different communities.

The first statewide Minority Health Forum was convened in Charleston in August and was so successful that we plan to make it an annual event.

Most recently, over the past nine months, the Minority Health Program has been an active part of the West Virginia Legislature's Select Committee B on Minority Issues. The Committee Co-Chaired by Delegate Carrie Webster and Senator Larry Rowe launched a comprehensive research effort to determine the status of West Virginia's Minority population as it relates to all facets of Health, Education, Economics and Criminal Justice. Our office presented current information relative to the health problems of the minority population and progress made in addressing these problems of minorities in the state.

The Minority Health Program will continue its efforts to identify and eliminate disparities in health status and assure access to quality medical care for the minority population in West Virginia.

If you have questions about the Minority Health Program, call Barbara Lacy at (304) 558-1327.

## **Linkages**

The West Virginia Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Program's grant application is now available on the Division of Rural Health's website at <http://www.wvruralhealthpolicy.org/forms/index.htm>

The Center for Rural Health Development, Inc.	<a href="http://www.wvruralhealth.org/home.cfm">http://www.wvruralhealth.org/home.cfm</a>
West Virginia Community Voices	<a href="http://www.wvvoices.org/">http://www.wvvoices.org/</a>
WVU Office of Rural Health	<a href="http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/wvrhep/">http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/wvrhep/</a>
WV School of Osteopathic Medicine	<a href="http://www.wvsom.edu/">http://www.wvsom.edu/</a>
WV Hospital Association	<a href="http://www.wvha.com/">http://www.wvha.com/</a>
Charleston Area Medical Center (CAMC)	<a href="http://www.camc.org/_home2004/20040601.htm">http://www.camc.org/_home2004/20040601.htm</a>
The Rural Health Systems Program	<a href="http://www.hcawv.org/rhsp/rhspIntro.htm">http://www.hcawv.org/rhsp/rhspIntro.htm</a>
WV Primary Care Association	<a href="http://www.wvpca.org/">http://www.wvpca.org/</a>

## **Division of Rural Health Website**

The Division of Rural Health would like to invite you to visit our website at: <http://www.wvruralhealthpolicy.org/>

## **Rural Resources (Clearinghouse)**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is the largest grant-making agency in the Federal government. In Fiscal Year 2002, HHS awarded \$224 billion in Federal grants. Of those funds, approximately 85% were for mandatory grant programs, such as Medicaid. The remaining \$36 billion funded discretionary grants (grants in which the Department selected the grantees). These discretionary grant awards fund health and social science research and social and health services throughout the country.

In order to assist you to better understand the HHS grants process and to provide information contacts regarding HHS granting agencies, contact:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Regional Director

The Public Ledger Building Suite 436

150 S. Independence Mall West

Philadelphia, PA 19106-3499

Telephone (215) 861-4633

Fax (215) 861-4625

Please visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for more information.

## **Rural Health Grants**

The following list represents foundation, private, federal, and state grant opportunities related to rural health and other pertinent information. For each grant, the title, agency, description, grant amounts, who they are available to, deadline and contact is provided. If you are interested in obtaining a grant application kit, or would like more information, please contact the grant coordinator directly. Thank you.

## **Federal Grants**

As of Oct 1, 2003, a DUNS Number is required to apply for federal grants.

### Accessible Health Promotion and Fitness for Persons with Disabilities

Sponsor: SBIR/STTR, NICHD/NIH

Deadlines: Letter of Intent due March 17, 2004; Application due April 16, 2004

Application: Call (301) 496-5482; email; [kh246t@nih.gov](mailto:kh246t@nih.gov) ; internet;  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-03-013.html>

### Northwest Health Foundation Community Grants Program

Sponsor: Northwest Health Foundation

Deadline: April 9, 2004

Application: Call (503) 220-1955; internet; <http://www.nwhf.org/apply.htm#COMMUNITY>

### Consequences of Marijuana Use on the Developing Brain

Sponsor: NIDA  
Deadline: April 16, 2004  
Application: Call (301) 443-6710; email; [gf6s@nih.gov](mailto:gf6s@nih.gov) ; internet;  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-04-016.html>

### Transforming Healthcare through Information Technology

Sponsor: AHRQ  
Deadline: April 16, 2004  
Application: Call (301) 427-1857; email: [hholland@ahrq.gov](mailto:hholland@ahrq.gov) ; internet:  
<http://www.ahrq.gov/news/press/pr2003/hitprojpr.htm>

### Policy-Oriented Rural Health Services Research Grants

Sponsor: ORHP  
Deadline: May 03, 2004  
Application: Call (301) 443-2280; internet:  
<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-13916.htm>

### Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant Program

Sponsor: ORHP  
Deadline: September 8, 2004  
Application: Call (301) 443-0835; internet: <http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/funding/networkplanning.htm>

### Rural Health Outreach Grant Program

Sponsor: ORHP  
Deadline: September 13, 2004  
Application: Call (301) 443-0835; email: [eholloran@hrsa.gov](mailto:eholloran@hrsa.gov) ; internet:  
<http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/funding/outreach.htm>

### Rural Health Network Development Grant Program

Sponsor: ORHP  
Deadline: September 20, 2004  
Application: Call (301) 443-0835; email: [rhines@hrsa.gov](mailto:rhines@hrsa.gov) ; internet:  
<http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/funding/network.htm>

### Commonwealth Health Grants

Sponsor: Commonwealth Fund  
Deadline: None  
Application: Email: [GMO@cmwf.org](mailto:GMO@cmwf.org) ; internet: <http://www.cmwf.org/granseekers/index.asp?link=4>

### Rural Development/Cooperation Works Fund

Sponsor: Cooperative Development Foundation  
Deadline: None  
Application: Email: [equinn@cdf.coop](mailto:equinn@cdf.coop) ; internet: <http://www.coopdevelopment.org/funds.html> .

Medicare Incentive Payments in Health Professional Shortage Areas

Sponsor: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Deadlines: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis  
Application: Contact your area's Medicare carrier for more information.

USDA Community Facilities Direct and Guaranteed Loan Program

Web site: [http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/cf/non\\_profit\\_cf.htm](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/cf/non_profit_cf.htm)  
Sponsor: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Deadlines: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis  
Application: Applications are handled by USDA Rural Development field offices, see [http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/recd\\_map.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/recd_map.html)

For more information contact: Deputy Administrator, Community Programs, Rural Housing Service, Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250- 03222. Telephone: (202) 720-1490.

Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program (SHIP)

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 93.301

Web site: <http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/ship.htm>  
Sponsor: Office of Rural Health Policy  
Deadlines: Apr 28, 2004 - Deadline is tentative based on information from the HRSA Preview.  
Application: Applications are available on the program web page or by contacting your State Office of Rural Health.

For more information contact: Jerry Coopey, Office of Rural Health Policy; Phone (301) 443-0835, E-mail [jcoopey@hrsa.gov](mailto:jcoopey@hrsa.gov)

Policy-Oriented Rural Health Services Research Grants

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 93.155

Web site: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-13916.htm>

Sponsor: Office of Rural Health Policy  
Deadlines: May 3, 2004 - Deadline is tentative based on information from the HRSA Preview. 2004 Application Guidance not yet available.  
Application: Applicants are requested to notify the ORHP in writing of their intent to apply. Completed applications must be sent to HRSA Grants Application Center (GAC), 901 Russell Avenue, Suite 450, Gaithersburg, MD 20879.

For more information contact: business, budget, or financial issues should be directed to the Division of Grants Management Operations, Health Resources and Services Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 7-89, Rockville, Maryland 20857, 301-443-2280. Specific contacts are: Janice M. Gordon, Grants Management Officer, Division of Grants Management Operations, and Telephone: 301-443-2385, E-mail: [jgordon@hrsa.gov](mailto:jgordon@hrsa.gov) .Darren S. Buckner, Grants Management Specialist, Division of Grants Management Operations, Telephone: 301-443-1913, E-mail: [dbuckner@hrsa.gov](mailto:dbuckner@hrsa.gov) .

### Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant Program

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 93.912

Web site: <http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/funding/networkplanning.htm>

Sponsor: Office of Rural Health Policy

Deadlines: Sep 8, 2004 - Deadline is tentative based on information from the HRSA Preview.

Application: To receive a complete application kit, applicants may telephone the HRSA Grants Application Center at 1-877-477-2123 and present the announcement number HRSA-04-003. All applications should be mailed or delivered to: Grants Management Officer, HRSA Grants Application Center, 901 Russell Avenue, Suite 450, Gaithersburg, MD 20879, telephone: 1-877-477-2123, e-mail: [hrsagac@hrsa.gov](mailto:hrsagac@hrsa.gov) .

For more information contact: Michele Pray-Gibson, 301-443-0835 (for questions specific to project activities of the program and program objectives); and Stephanie Young, 301-594-1246 (for grants policy, budgetary, and business questions).

### Rural Health Outreach Grant Program

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 93.912

Web site: <http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/funding/outreach.htm>

Sponsor: Office of Rural Health Policy

Deadlines: Sep 13, 2004 - Deadline is tentative based on information from the HRSA Preview.

Application: Request the full application package from the HRSA Grants Application Center, 1-877-477-2123. You are required to notify your State Office of Rural Health early in the application process to advise them of your intent to apply.

For more information contact: Eileen Holloran; [eholloran@hrsa.gov](mailto:eholloran@hrsa.gov) ; 301-443-0835

### Rural Health Network Development Grant Program

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 93.912

Web site: <http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/funding/network.htm>

Sponsor: Office of Rural Health Policy

Deadlines: Sep 20, 2004 - Deadline is tentative based on information from the HRSA Preview.

Application: Request the full application package from the HRSA Grants Application Center, 1-877-477-2123 and ask for HRSA Program Announcement # 04-078. You are required to notify your State Office of Rural Health early in the application process to advise them of your intent to apply.

For more information contact: Rebecca Hines; 301-443-0835; [rhines@hrsa.gov](mailto:rhines@hrsa.gov)

## **Private and Foundation Grants**

### Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation Grant

Available to: Non-profits organizations located within West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Deadline: No set deadline for preliminary proposals, they may be sent to the Foundation year-round.

Contact: William P. Getty, President, 1400 Benedum-Trees Building, 223 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Proposals sent via fax or e-mail will not be accepted.

<http://fdncenter.org/grantmaker/benedum/>

### Ben & Jerry's Foundation Grant

Available to: Not-for-profit, grassroots organizations throughout the United States  
Deadline: Letter of intent for small grants is on an ongoing basis, letters of intent for full/large grant proposals by March 1st, July 1st, and November 1st  
Contact: Ben & Jerry's Foundation, 30 Community Drive, So. Burlington, VT 05403-6828, Phone: (802) 846-1500, <http://www.benjerry.com/foundation/index.html>

### Delta Airlines Foundation Grant

Available to: Nonprofit organizations in the communities served by Delta Airlines  
Deadline: None, accepted year round  
Contact: Delta Airlines, Community Affairs Department, Department 979, PO Box 20706, Atlanta, Georgia 30320-6001, [http://www.delta.com/inside/community/foundation\\_guide/index.jsp](http://www.delta.com/inside/community/foundation_guide/index.jsp)

### MetLife Foundation Grant

Available to: Organizations that have been granted tax exemption.  
Deadline: None, available year round  
Contact: MetLife Foundation, One Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010-3690, <http://www.metlife.com/Applications/Corporate/WPS/CDA/PageGenerator/0,1674,P284,00.html>

### UPS Foundation Grant

Available to: Organizations recognized as tax-exempt.  
Deadline: None, accepts proposals all year  
Contact: The UPS Foundation, Attn: President, 55 Glenlake Parkway, NE, Atlanta, GA 30328, <http://www.ups.com/community/resources/foundation/grantguide.html>

### Kellogg Foundation Health Grant

Deadline: No set grant deadline  
Contact: Mrs. Deborah A. Rey, Supervisor of Proposal Processing, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, One Michigan Avenue East, Battle Creek, Michigan 49017-4058, <http://www.wkkf.org/Grants/Default.aspx>

## **State Grant Funding Opportunities**

### Lighting Grant Program

Agency: West Virginia Development Office  
Available to: State and local government facilities and schools, nonprofit hospitals, and public libraries  
Deadline: No deadline, ongoing.  
Contact: Bill Willis at (800) 982-3386 or (304) 558-0350 to request a lighting audit.

### Recruitment and Retention Community Project

Agency: West Virginia Division of Recruitment  
Available to: Community sponsor must be located in a medically underserved community, or other area approved by the Bureau for Public Health.  
Deadline: No deadline, ongoing.  
Contact: Martha Endres, Division of Recruitment, Bureau for Public Health, 350 Capitol Street, Room 515, Charleston, WV 25301, (304) 558-4382; 1-888-442-3456 (toll free), FAX: (304) 558-1437, or e-mail: [marthaendres@wvdhhr.org](mailto:marthaendres@wvdhhr.org)

### Minority Health Mini-Grant Program

Agency: West Virginia Office of Rural Health Policy, Minority Health Program  
Available to: Communities, faith-based organizations, health care providers, minority organizations, colleges and universities.  
Deadline: Summer 2004  
Contact: Barbara Lacy, Division of Rural Health, Bureau for Public Health, 350 Capitol Street, Room 515, Charleston, WV 25301, (304) 558-1327; FAX: (304) 558-1437, or E-mail: [barbaralacy@wvdhhr.org](mailto:barbaralacy@wvdhhr.org)

## **Conferences Related to Rural Health**

### **March**

Mar 1 - 3, 2004: The Alaska Rural Health Conference, Alaska Center for Rural Health, Anchorage Downtown Marriot, Anchorage, AK. For more information: phone (907) 786-6579, email [acrh@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:acrh@uaa.alaska.edu) .

Mar 4 - 5, 2004: "Innovation and Evaluation" An International Telehealth Conference, Alaska Center for Rural Health, Anchorage Downtown Marriott, Anchorage, AK. For more information: phone (907) 786-6579, email [acrh@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:acrh@uaa.alaska.edu) .

Mar 5 - 6, 2004: National Association of Rural Health Clinics Spring Institute, Holiday Inn Riverwalk, San Antonio, TX. For more information: phone (515) 280-1944, email [meetings@narhc.org](mailto:meetings@narhc.org) .

Mar 6, 2004: American Indian and Alaska Natives Health Care Provider Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Phoenix AZ (CE's available). For more information: (623) 875-6524, email [Minnie.Jim@sunhealth.org](mailto:Minnie.Jim@sunhealth.org) .

Mar 9 - 11, 2004: Spirituality, Culture & Health, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA (CE's available). For more information: (909) 558-4595 or 1 (800) 854-5661, internet <http://www.llu/llu/sph/cpe/events> .

Mar 10 - 12, 2004: Skill Building in Psychosocial Oncology and Palliative Care, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute, Tampa, FL (CE's available). For more information: phone (813) 732-1741; internet <http://www.moffitt.usf.edu> .

Mar 11 - 12, 2004: 6th Annual Health Ministry Symposium, Omni Hotel, San Antonio, TX  
For more information: 1 (800) 489-8863; email: [mperez@mhm.org](mailto:mperez@mhm.org) , [djacobson@mhm.org](mailto:djacobson@mhm.org) , or [lsedeno@mhm.org](mailto:lsedeno@mhm.org) .

Mar 15 - 17, 2004: Telehealth Leadership Conference, University of Missouri Health Care, Center for Telemedicine Law, Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington, VA. For more information: Mary Rhoads at (573) 884-7958, email [RhoadsM@health.missouri.edu](mailto:RhoadsM@health.missouri.edu)

Mar 18 - 21, 2004: National Health Service Corps National Advisory Council, open to the public. Bureau of Health Professions, Embassy Suites Hotel Raleigh/Crabtree, Raleigh, NC. For more information: Tira Robinson at (301) 594-4140

Mar 21 - 26, 2004: The Community Development Academy, University of Missouri Community Development Extension Program, Mercy Center, St. Louis, MO. For more information: Lorie Bousquet at (573) 882-8320, email [muconf3@missouri.edu](mailto:muconf3@missouri.edu) .

Mar 22 - 24, 2004: Sharing Our Gifts: Celebrating Our Diversity: The 2004 National Rural Development Conference, Rural Community Assistance Corporation, Hilton Portland & Executive Tower Hotel, Portland, OR. For more information: Mark Wiseman at (916) 447-9832 ext 279, email [rcaemail@rcac.org](mailto:rcaemail@rcac.org) .

Mar 23 - 26, 2004: E2 Energizing Entrepreneurship in Rural America, The Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, Heartland Center for Leadership Development, Nebraska, Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE. For more information: phone 1 (800) 927-1125, email [info@heartlandcenter.info](mailto:info@heartlandcenter.info) .

Mar 22 – 26, 2004: Health Ministry: A Preparation Course for the Registered Nurse in a Faith Community, Saint Joseph’s Center for Health Ministries, Atlanta, GA (CE’s available). For more information: (404) 459-6968.

Mar 24, 2004: Regional CAH Workshop, Red Lion Hotel at the Park, Spokane, WA. For more information: email [Beverly.court@doh.wa.gov](mailto:Beverly.court@doh.wa.gov) .

Mar 24 - 26, 2004: 2004 Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health, University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health, Holiday Inn, Fargo, ND. For more information: Lynette Dickson at (701) 777-6049, email [ldickson@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:ldickson@medicine.nodak.edu) .

Mar 24 - 28, 2004: 9th Biennial Symposium on Minorities, the Medically Underserved & Cancer, Intercultural Cancer Council, OMNI Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC. For more information: Phone (877) 243-6642, email [symposium@iccnetwork.org](mailto:symposium@iccnetwork.org) .

Mar 25 - 26, 2004: Building Healthy Communities through Faith-Health Partnerships: 3rd Annual Montana Faith-Health Summit, Montana Office of Rural Health, Mansfield Health Education Center, Billings, MT. For more information: Elizabeth Cogliati at (406) 994-5553, email [ecogliati@montana.edu](mailto:ecogliati@montana.edu) .

Mar 25 - 26, 2004: NW Regional Rural Health Conference, Washington Statewide Office of Rural Health, Washington Rural Health Association, Red Lion Hotel at the Park, Spokane, WA  
For more information: Cathi Lamoreux at (509) 358-7640, email [lamoreux@wsu.edu](mailto:lamoreux@wsu.edu) .

## April

Apr 4 - 7, 2004: 22nd Annual Protecting Our Children Conference, National American Indian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, National Indian Child Welfare Association, Marriott Tech Center Hotel, Denver, CO. For more information: Marlene Norcross at (503) 222-4044, email [marlene@nicwa.org](mailto:marlene@nicwa.org) .

Apr 5 - 9, 2004: IHS Intentional Injuries/Violence Prevention Course, Albuquerque, NM (CE's available). For more information: (505) 248-4603, email [bergerlaw@msn.com](mailto:bergerlaw@msn.com) , internet <http://www.opheng.ihs.gov> .

Apr 14 - 15, 2004: Economic Development in Hard Times: Keeping Communities Strong, Kansas Center for Community Economic Development, Great Bend Holiday Inn, Great Bend, KS. For more information: Carol Gould at (785)537-5569

Apr 14 - 16, 2004: 2004 Priestler Extension National Health Conference: Impacting Health and Wellness: People and Communities Changing Risk Behaviors, Healthy People, Healthy Communities, Adams Mark Hotel, St. Louis, MO. For more information: Kathleen Tajeu at [ktajeu@acesag.auburn.edu](mailto:ktajeu@acesag.auburn.edu)

Apr 15 - 16, 2004: 2004 Michigan Rural Health Conference, Michigan Center for Rural Health, Holiday Inn, Mt. Pleasant, MI. For more information: Sarah Moe Winterstein at (517) 355-7979, email [winter23@msu.edu](mailto:winter23@msu.edu) .

Apr 25 - 28, 2004: 18th International Conference on Business Incubation, National Business Incubation Association, Sheraton Atlanta Hotel, Atlanta, GA. For more information: Sara Hughes at (740) 593-4331, email [education@nbia.org](mailto:education@nbia.org) .

Apr 29 - 30, 2004: The Gift of Your Body's Wisdom: Listening to What is Most Real, Saint Joseph's Center for Health Ministries, Atlanta, GA (CE's available). For more information: phone (404) 459-6968, email [chm@sjha.org](mailto:chm@sjha.org) .

Apr 30 - May 5, 2004: National Oral Health Conference, Los Angeles, CA. For more information: (217) 391-0218, internet <http://aaphd.org/> .

Apr 29 - 30, 2004: Steps to a Healthier US, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel, Baltimore, MD. For more information: Nancy Stanistic at (202) 260-3601, email [nstanistic@osophs.dhhs.gov](mailto:nstanistic@osophs.dhhs.gov) .

## May

May 9 - 15, 2004: National Women's Check-Up Day, on May 10, 2004. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will celebrate National Women's Health Week with this signature event. For more information: internet <http://www.4woman.gov/whw>

May 17 - 18, 2004: New Governance for a New Rural Economy: Reinventing Public and Private Institutions, Center for the Study of Rural America, Kansas City, MO. For more information: Susan Spaulding at 1 (800) 333-1010 ext 6864, email [spaulding@kc.frb.org](mailto:spaulding@kc.frb.org) , or Joyce Rhymes at 1 (800) 333-1010 ext 2756, email [joyce.a.rhymes@kc.frb.org](mailto:joyce.a.rhymes@kc.frb.org) .

May 19 - 21, 2004: Southern Community Development Educators Conference: New Horizons--New Beginnings, Southern Rural Development Center, Wyndham West shore Hotel, Tampa, FL. For more information: Bonnie Teater at (662) 325-8915, email [bonniet@srdc.msstate.edu](mailto:bonniet@srdc.msstate.edu) .

May 19 - 22, 2004: Stories from the Beach: Community-Based Primary Care in Underserved Populations, East Tennessee State University, College of Nursing, Hilton Oceanfront Resort, Hilton Head Island, SC. For more information: Linda Hipple at (423) 439-4056, email [hipple@mail.etsu.edu](mailto:hipple@mail.etsu.edu) .

May 20 - 22, 2004: Cancer, Culture and Literacy: Innovative Approaches for Advancing Effective Cancer Communications and Research, 4th Biennial Conference, Sheraton Sand Key Resort, Clearwater Beach, FL. For more information: phone (813) 632-1775, email [pospolch@moffitt.usf.edu](mailto:pospolch@moffitt.usf.edu) , internet <http://www.moffitt.usf.edu> or <http://www.moffitt.usf.edu/Promotions/ccl> .

May 26, 2004: 10th Annual Rural Minority and Multicultural Health Conference, National Rural Health Association, Sheraton Harbor Island Hotel, San Diego, CA. For more information: Rosemary McKenzie at (816) 756-3140, email [rmckenzie@NRHArural.org](mailto:rmckenzie@NRHArural.org) .

May 27 - 29, 2004: 27th Annual Rural Health Conference, National Rural Health Association, Sheraton Harbor Island Hotel, San Diego, CA. For more information: Kathy Siress at (816) 756-3140, email [siress@NRHArural.org](mailto:siress@NRHArural.org) .

## **June**

Jun 5 – 9, 2004: International Death, Grief and Bereavement Conference: The Family, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse, LaCrosse, WI. For more information: phone (608) 785-6504, internet <http://www.uwlax.edu/conted> .

Jun 6 - 8, 2004: 2004 Academy Health Annual Research Meeting, San Diego, CA. For more information: phone (202) 292-6700, internet [www.academyhealth.org/arm/](http://www.academyhealth.org/arm/) .

Jun 9 - 10, 2004: Pennsylvania Rural Health Conference, Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health, Penn State Conference Center Hotel, State College, PA. For more information: Terri King at (814) 863-8214, email [tjc136@psu.edu](mailto:tjc136@psu.edu) .

Jun 9 - 11, 2004: Indiana Rural Health Conference, Indiana Rural Health Association, French Lick Springs Resort, French Lick, IN. For more information: Tina Elliott at (812) 238-4936, email [telliott@uhhg.org](mailto:telliott@uhhg.org) .

Jun 13 - 15, 2004: Southern Growth Policies Board's 2004 Annual Conference, Southern Growth Policies Board, Renaissance Oklahoma City Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK. For more information: phone (919) 941-5145, email [info@southern.org](mailto:info@southern.org) .

Jun 13 - 18, 2004: Transportation EXPO 2004, Community Transportation Association of America, Seattle, WA. For more information: Charles Dickson at [dickson@ctaa.org](mailto:dickson@ctaa.org) .

Jun 14 - 16, 2004: Change in Rural America: Social and Management Challenges: Reports from the Frontline, North Central Farm Management Extension Committee, Four Point Sheraton Hotel, Lexington, KY. For more information: Steve Isaacs at (859) 257-7271, email [sisaacs@uky.edu](mailto:sisaacs@uky.edu) .

Jun 24 - 27, 2004: National Association for Rural Mental Health 2004 Conference: The Changing Faces of Rural Mental Health, National Association for Rural Mental Health, Boulder, CO. For more information: LuAnn Rice at (320) 202-1820, email [narmh@facts.ksu.edu](mailto:narmh@facts.ksu.edu) .

## **July**

July 8 – 11, 2004: Smart Marriages/Happy Families 8th Annual Conference, Dallas, TX (CE's available). For more information: phone (202) 362-3332, internet <http://www.smartmarriages.com> .

July 12 – 14, 2004: Translating Research into Practice: Advancing Excellence from Discovery to Delivery, Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC. For more information: email [pam@blseamon.com](mailto:pam@blseamon.com);internet , internet <http://www.blsm meetings.net/TRIP2004> .

July 15 – 17, 2004: Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) & Medical Home National Conference, Chicago, IL. For more information: (847) 434-7085, email [catch@aap.org](mailto:catch@aap.org) .

July 29 – 31, 2004: 15th Annual Nurses Educators Conference in the Rockies, Beaver Run Resort, Breckenridge, CO. For more information: (970) 330-360, email [dstille@cahec.org](mailto:dstille@cahec.org) , internet <http://www.cahec.org> .

July 31 – Aug 4, 2004: NAO Workshop: Staying the Course in a Sea of Change, Baltimore Marriot Waterfront Hotel, Baltimore, MD. For more information: (503) 244-4294, email [tom@eweme.com](mailto:tom@eweme.com) , internet <http://www.NAOconference.com> .

## **August**

Aug 2 – 6, 2004: Summer Seminar on Clinical Ethics, University of Washington, Seattle WA. For more information: (206) 616-1864, email [mbarnard@U.washington.edu](mailto:mbarnard@U.washington.edu) .

## **October**

Oct 22 – 23, 2004: 2004 National Conference on Health Care and Domestic Violence: Health Consequences over the Lifespan, Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, MA (CE's available). For more information: (415) 252-8900 ext. 20, internet <http://www.endabuse.org/health/conference> .

October 25 – 27, 2004: 12<sup>th</sup> Annual West Virginia Rural Health Conference, Stonewall Jackson Resort Park, Roanoke, WV. (CME/CEU's available). For more information: Shawn Balleydier or Regina Young at (304) 558-1327, email [shawnballeydier@wvdhhr.org](mailto:shawnballeydier@wvdhhr.org) or [reginayoung@wvdhhr.org](mailto:reginayoung@wvdhhr.org), internet [www.wvruralhealthpolicy.org](http://www.wvruralhealthpolicy.org)

Oct 28 – 30, 2004: National Rural Women's Health Conference: Improving the Health of Women: Meeting the Challenges of the Rural Setting, Hershey Lodge & Convention Center, Hershey, PA. For more information: (717) 531-6483, internet <http://www.hmc.psu.edu/ce/RWH2004.htm>

### **Credits**

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