



Health Resources and Services Administration Overview and Rural Health Resources

2026 Kansas MGMA Rural Health Workshop

April 22, 2026

Rae Hutchison, Regional Administrator (Acting)
Kansas City Regional Office
Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People



Today's Session

- I. HRSA Overview
- II. Rural Health Across HRSA and Resources
- III. HRSA Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA) Overview
- IV. When and How You Can Engage HRSA IEA



Who We Serve

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), supports health care for the nation's highest-need communities.



HRSA serves those most in need, including:

- **More than 32 million people** in rural and underserved communities
- **About 59 million pregnant women, infants, and children**
- **Nearly 602,000 people** with HIV
- **More than 522,000** people served through rural health programs
- **90% of patients** at or below 200% of the federal poverty level
- **1 in 15 adults** 65 and older



Data in this slide deck reflects HRSA's most recent publicly available information.



HRSA Program Areas



Health Centers



Health Workforce



Maternal & Child Health



Health Professionals – Loan Repayment and Scholarship Programs



Oral Health



Rural Health Policy



Organ Donation & Transplantation



340B Drug Pricing Program



Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program



Telehealth



<https://www.hrsa.gov/about/program-areas>

HRSA
Office of Intergovernmental
and External Affairs

Rural Health Across HRSA

Rural work intersects with multiple HRSA areas, including:

- **Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)** – Rural programs and policy
- **Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC)** – Health centers and primary care access
- **Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW)** – loan repayment, scholarships, training, and grants
- **Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)** – Maternal and child health initiatives
- **Office for the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT)** – Telehealth initiatives



HRSA Improves Access to Rural Health Care Services

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) collaborates with rural communities and partners to support community programs and shape policy that will improve health in rural America.

Cross Agency Collaboration

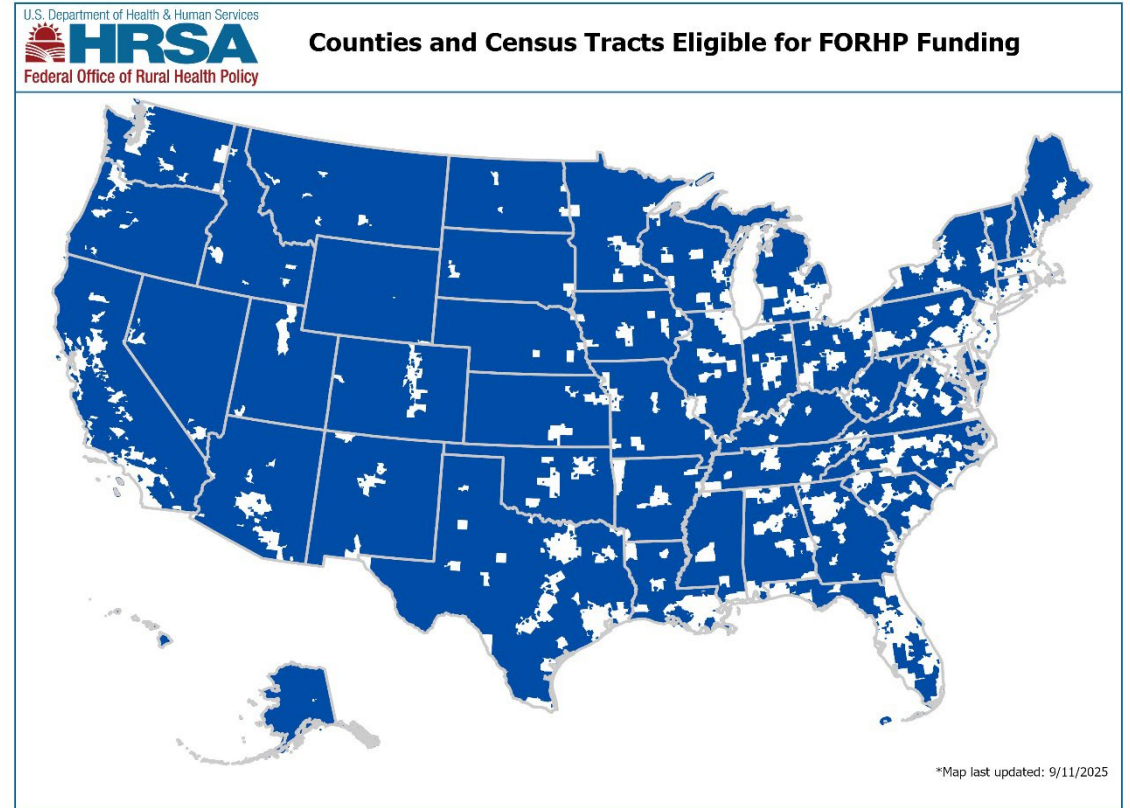
Works across HRSA, HHS, and several other federal partners to accomplish its goals

Capacity Building

Increases access to health care for people in rural communities through grant programs and public partnerships

Voice for Rural

Advises the HHS Secretary on policy and regulation that affect rural areas



HRSA Improves Access to Rural Health Care Services (cont.)

In 2025, HRSA invested nearly **\$365M** to support rural communities, expand maternal care, and strengthen the rural health workforce including:

- **\$145M** for substance use disorder prevention and treatment services through the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program.
- **\$14M+** to support pregnant women, new mothers, and babies in underserved, rural areas through the Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies Program and Delta Region Maternal Care Coordination Program.
- **\$16M+** to grow the rural physician workforce through the Rural Residency Planning and Development Program.



Providing Free Technical Assistance to Hospitals and Clinics

Rural Healthcare Provider Transition Project

- Helps organizations in strengthening their foundation in key elements of value-based care: quality, efficiency, patient experience and patient safety.
- Eligible entities include small rural hospitals and Rural Health Clinics.
- **Application Period:** rolling application – [apply now!](#)
- Learn more: <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/grants/rural-hospitals/rhptp>

Targeted Technical Assistance to Rural Hospitals Program

- Provides targeted assistance to hospitals working to maintain health care services.
- Helps hospitals and communities understand community health needs and how to keep needed health care local.
- Learn more: <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/grants/rural-hospitals/ttap>



Helping Rural Communities Assess New Models

The Rural Emergency Hospital (REH) Technical Assistance Initiative



Christina Campos (center right) speaks to staff in the emergency department at Guadalupe County Hospital in Santa Rosa, New Mexico. The hospital is one of the first to start the process of converting into a Rural Emergency Hospital as part of a new federal payment program. (ADRIA MALCOLM FOR KHN)

Struggling to Survive, the First Rural Hospitals Line Up for New Federal Lifeline

HRSA provides TA at no-cost to hospitals:

National Technical Assistance Center

- [Rural Health Redesign Center](#)
- Contact: REHSupport@rhrco.org

HRSA partners

- [National Conference of State Legislators: Tracking state activity on establishing laws on REH licensure](#)
- [National Academy for State Health Policy: Developing model licensing language](#)



Reducing OUD and SUD in Rural Communities

Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP)

The [Rural Communities Opioid Response Program](#) is a multi-year initiative that provides direct funding and technical assistance to rural communities to improve access to behavioral health care services, including substance use disorder and opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery.

- Since 2018, FORHP has made RCORP investments across 47 states and 2 territories, reaching more than 1,900 rural counties
- Each year, RCORP grant recipients provide direct services to nearly 2 million rural patients
- RCORP programs continue to expand to more diverse and emerging areas:



Resources for Rural Communities

Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub)

The screenshot shows the RHIhub website homepage. At the top left is the RHIhub logo with the text "Rural Health Information Hub". To the right are links for "Updates & Alerts", "About RHIhub", and "Contact Us". Below these is a search bar with a "Search" button. A navigation bar contains several menu items: "Online Library", "Topics & States", "Rural Data Visualizations", "Case Studies & Conversations", and "Tools for Success". A banner below the navigation bar reads "Your First Stop for Rural Health Information" next to a map of the United States. The main content area is divided into several sections: "Get Rural Updates & Alerts" with a keyboard icon and a "Subscribe" button; "Find Rural Data" with a map icon and a description of the "Rural Data Explorer" and "Chart Gallery"; "Disclaimer" with a paragraph of text and a "Disclaimer" link; "Exploring Rural Health Podcast" with a description of a podcast episode and a "Podcast" icon; "The Rural Monitor" with a description of an article and a "Monitor" icon; "Funding Opportunities" with a "Funding" icon; and "Am I Rural?" with a "HPSA UIC" icon.

Resource & Referral Service



Need help finding information? RHIhub can provide free assistance customized to your needs.

1-800-270-1898

info@ruralhealthinfo.org



Resources for Rural Communities (cont.)

Rural Research Gateway

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Rural Health Research Gateway. At the top left is the logo with the text "Rural Health Research Gateway". To the right are social media icons for Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube. Below the logo is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search for..." and a "Search" button. A navigation menu includes "Home", "About Us", "Browse Research", "Webinars", "Research Alerts", and "Other Resources". The main content area features a video player with a play button and the title "Rural Health Research Gateway Video". To the right of the video is a text block titled "Rural Health Research Gateway" with a description and two links: "Gateway flyer" and "Learn more". Below this are five featured sections, each with an icon and a title: "Rural Health Research Recaps" (with a bar chart icon), "Research Alerts" (with a computer monitor icon), "Research Publications" (with a laptop icon), "Research Centers" (with a group of people icon), and "Dissemination Toolkit" (with a notepad icon). Each section includes a brief description and a list of bullet points.

Rural Health Research Gateway

The Rural Health Research Gateway provides easy and timely access to research conducted by the Rural Health Research Centers, funded by the [Federal Office of Rural Health Policy](#). Gateway efficiently puts new findings and information in the hands of our subscribers, including policymakers, educators, public health employees, hospital staff, and more.

- [Gateway flyer](#)
- [Learn more](#)

Rural Health Research Recaps

- Access brief summaries

Research Alerts

- Email notifications when new research products

Research Publications

- Access policy briefs,

Research Centers

- Learn about the Rural Health Research Centers

Dissemination Toolkit

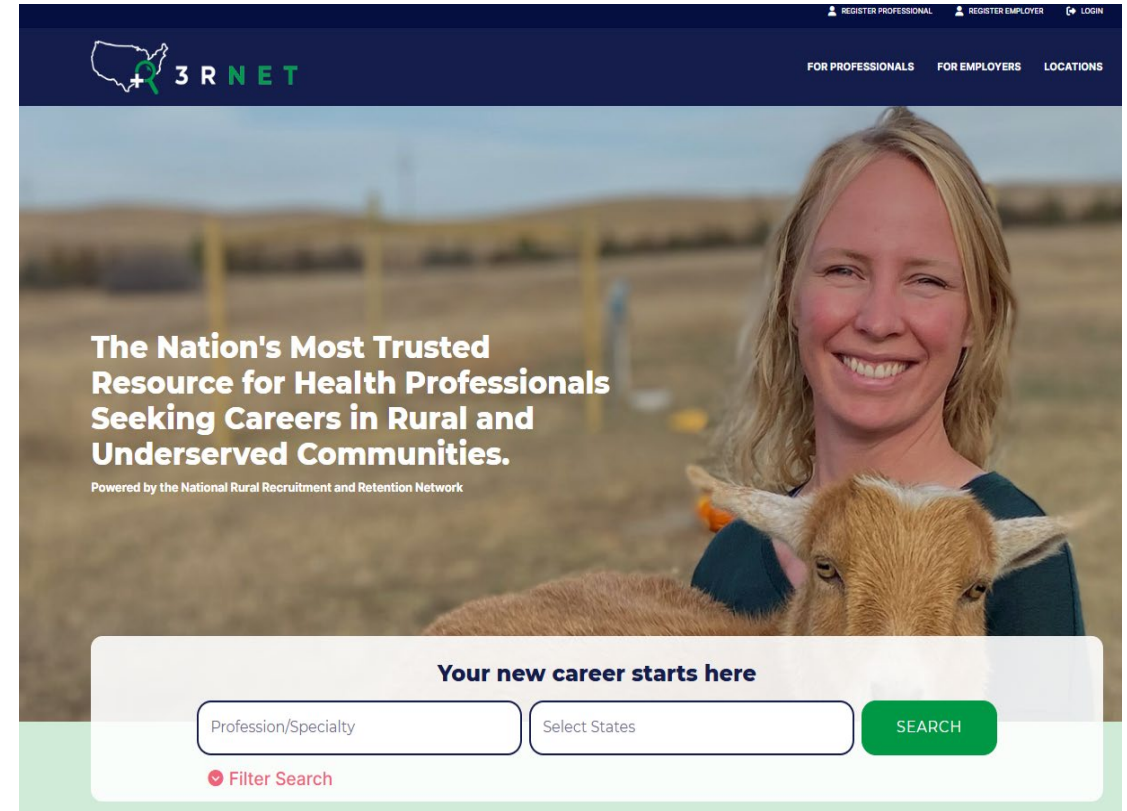
- Learn how to create



Resources for Rural Communities (cont.)

The National Rural Recruitment and Retention Network (3RNet)

- **Workforce and Capacity Building at No-cost to Health Care Professionals and Employers**
- State-Level resource for job seekers and employers
 - Kansas 3RNET Network Coordinator – Joyce Grayson at krrc@kumc.edu
 - <https://www.3rnet.org/Locations/Kansas>
- Tools for enhancing retention
- Information on Loan Repayment Programs, J-1 Visa Requirements, etc.



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Rural Funding, Policy and Regulatory Updates, Research Findings, and More

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
HRSA
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Announcements from the
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

[Read this in your browser](#)

April 2, 2026

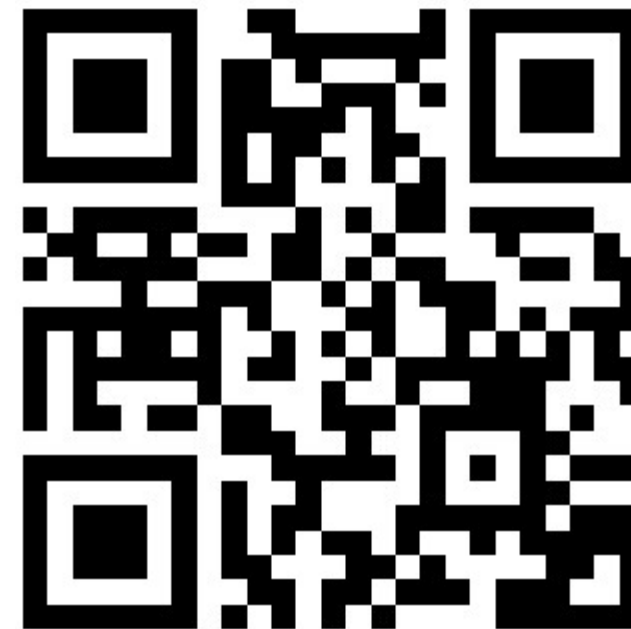
What's New

[Rural Residency Planning and Development \(RRPD\) Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\) Coming Soon.](#) Under this program, we provide start-up funding to grant recipients to create accredited rural residency programs in a qualifying medical specialty. These residency programs are then sustained long-term through viable and stable funding mechanisms, such as Medicare and in states where there is a viable path of support, through Medicaid or other consistent state funding.

The current forecast estimates this funding opportunity will post on April 14, 2026. Historically, we have competed [FORHP's RRPD program](#) annually. Three resources to help you prepare for this year's competition before it posts:

- Review application requirements in [last year's NOFO \(HRSA-25-007\)](#) on Grants.gov
- Visit the program's [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on HRSA.gov
- Use the [planning tools](#) created by our FORHP-funded technical assistance partners at RuralGME.org. Their portal is free but requires registration.

[Request for Information: HRSA 340B Rebate Model Pilot Program – Deadline extended to April 20.](#) The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is providing additional time to submit comments for evaluation of potential impacts of access to drugs for patients under a new



[Click to Subscribe](#)



HRSA and Rural Needs Your Help!

Consider Being a HRSA Grant Reviewer

The screenshot shows the HRSA website header with the logo and navigation menu. The main content area is titled 'How to Become a Grant Reviewer' and includes a sidebar with links like 'Apply for a Grant', 'Manage your Grant', and 'Grants Help'. The main text explains the role of a grant reviewer and lists expectations for the position.

Health Resources & Services Administration

Call, Text, or Chat the Maternal Mental Health Hotline

HRSA
Health Resources & Services Administration

Bureaus and Offices | Newsroom | Contact HRSA

Home Services ▾ Grants ▾ Loans & Scholarships ▾ Data Warehouse ▾ About HRSA ▾ HRSA en español ▾

Home » Grants » How to Become a Grant Reviewer

Apply for a Grant +

Manage your Grant +

Grants Help +

Become a Grant Reviewer

How to Become a Grant Reviewer

Are you an expert in certain subjects related to health care? If so, you may be able to help us review grant applications.

What's a grant application reviewer?

Professionals who use their health care knowledge and experience to evaluate grant applications.

Their feedback is part of our process in deciding who receives grant awards.

What would you expect of me?

- Get trained on how to evaluate applications and use our online portal—the Application Review Module (ARM)
- Review applications using published evaluation criteria
- Provide scores and comments in the ARM
- Discuss scores and evaluation with other reviewers on your panel





What is a Health Center?

- **Private, non-profit, or public community-based organization** that provides comprehensive primary care and patient support services
- **Patient-directed** (governed by a patient-majority board)
- Serves **medically underserved areas and populations**
- **Fees adjusted** based on ability to pay and family size
- **Thousands of locations** across the country – [Find a Health Center](#)
- **Collaborates** with community partners to maximize resources, including during emergencies



Increasing Access to Health Care Services

Health Center Program

Health centers provided affordable, accessible, high quality preventive and primary health care to **32.4 million** patients across the country, an increase of **1.1 million** patients since 2023, including:



90%
of patients
at or below
200% of the
federal poverty
level



1 in 5
people living
in rural
communities



3.6M
Medicare
patients



5.9M
uninsured
patients



1 in 15
patients 65 or
older



408K
veterans



1 in 8
children



15.6M
Medicaid
patients



Source: Uniform Data System, 2023 – Table 3A, Table 3B, Table 4

Find a Health Center Tool

Find a Health Center

We fund about 1,400 health centers, which run more than 16,200 service sites. They are in all U.S. states, territories, and the District of Columbia. You can find them in cities, rural areas, and everywhere in between.

Search by City, State, or Zip

Radius

Resources

- [About this tool](#)
- [Note to HRSA Health Centers](#)
- [About the Health Center program](#)

Search results for Wichita, KS, USA

Search another address

Filter by Center Name

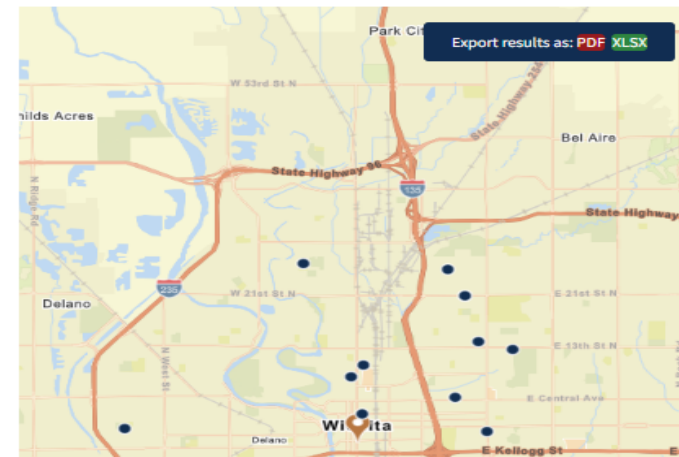
- 0.28 MILES

Hunter Health at Open Door
Operated by HUNTER HEALTH
CLINIC INC
402 E 2nd St N
Wichita, 67202-2504

[Website](#) [Call](#) [Directions](#)
- 0.97 MILES

Hunter Health Clinic at Inter-Faith Ministries
Operated by HUNTER HEALTH
CLINIC INC
935 N. Market St
Wichita, 67214-3521

[Website](#) [Call](#) [Directions](#)



Bolstering the Health Workforce

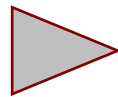
MISSION

Improves the health of underserved populations by

- ▶ strengthening the health workforce
- ▶ connecting skilled professionals to communities in need



EDUCATION



TRAINING



SERVICE

HRSA Workforce Program Aims



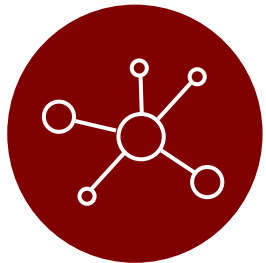
ACCESS

Make it easier for people to access health care



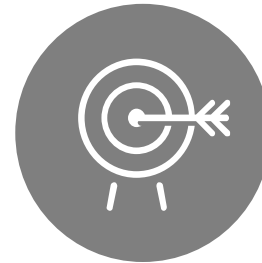
SUPPLY

Balance the supply of health workers with the demand for care



DISTRIBUTION

Improve distribution of the health workforce



QUALITY

Improve the quality of the health workforce and the care they provide

Rural Health Workforce Highlights



National Health Service Corps
and Nurse Corps

>7,700 serve in rural communities



Advanced Nursing Education—
Nurse Practitioner Residency Programs

32% of training sites in rural areas



Rural Residency Planning and
Development Program

>50% of residency time at rural sites



Teaching Health Center Graduate
Medical Education Program

**96% train in medically underserved
or rural communities**



Behavioral Health Workforce
Development Programs

**57% gain experience in treating
substance use disorders**

Strengthening the Well-Being of Children and Families

Maternal and Child Health Programs

HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau programs and initiatives focus on these maternal and child populations across the life course:

- Women of childbearing age
- Pregnant women
- Infants
- Children and adolescents, including children with special health needs



Maternal and Child Health Programs



Title V: Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant

Addresses unique needs of maternal and child health populations in all 59 states/jurisdictions; driven by state needs and priorities

Requires state match and maintenance of effort

More than **59 million people** reached, including 98% of infants, 95% of pregnant women, and 61% of children



Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting

Provides voluntary, evidence-based home visiting services to expectant and new parents, delivering services tailored to families' needs, including postpartum support and caregiver and child screenings

Served over **158,000 parents and children** and provided over **1,000,000 home visits**



Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health

Implements evidence-based and best practices to make birth safer and improve maternal health

Over **2,000 birthing facilities** implement practices to improve quality and safety, and over **75% of birthing facilities** in participating states are implementing AIM patient safety bundles

Maternal and Child Health Programs (cont.)



National Maternal Mental Health Hotline

24/7 hotline accessible by phone and text that provides support and referrals to pregnant and postpartum women facing mental health challenges, and their loved ones

Professional counselors have helped **50,000+ pregnant and postpartum women and their loved ones**



Family-to-Family Health Information Centers

Offers families of children with special health care needs peer support and information on accessing care and coverage for their children's complex needs

Services provided to **166,000+ families**; training provided to **69,000+ health care professionals**



Pediatric Mental Health Care Access

Integrates behavioral health screening, referral, and treatment into pediatric primary care and other settings using telehealth

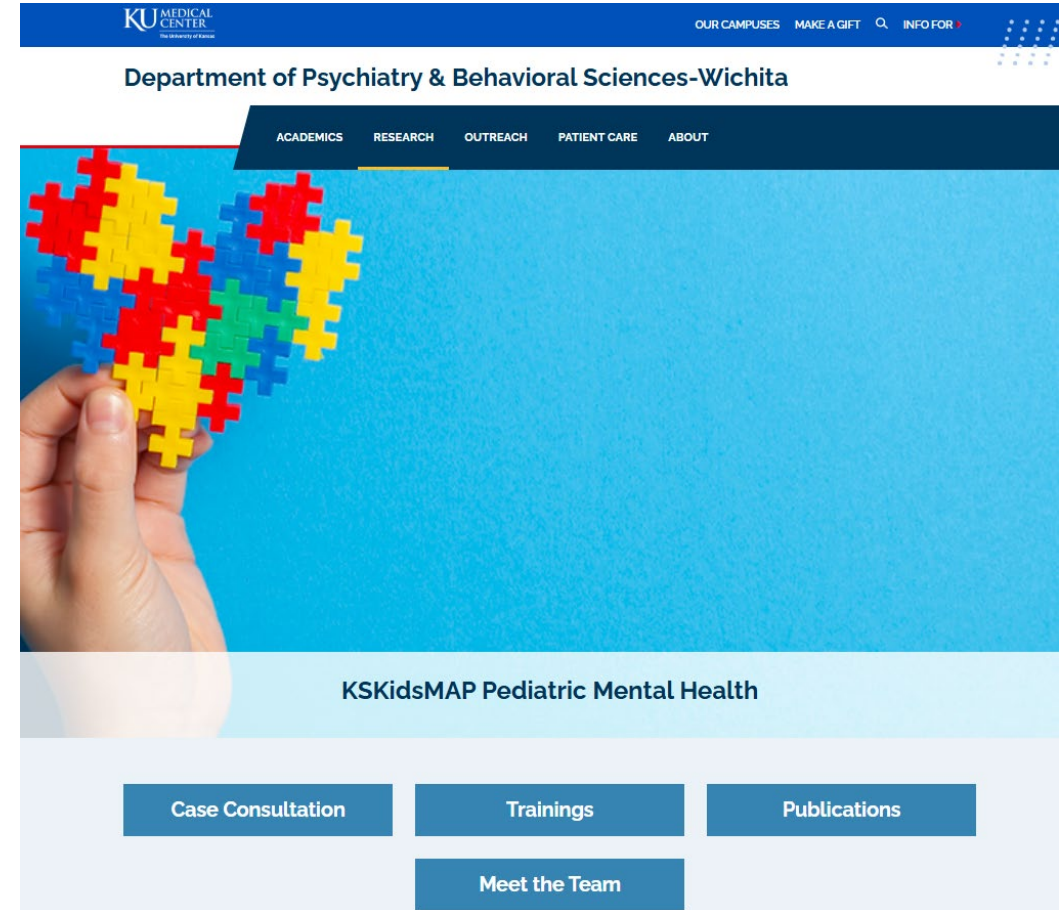
Increases pediatrician confidence and satisfaction

Impact of screening and practice changes reach as many as **3.5 million children**

KSKidsMAP Pediatric Mental Health

Pediatric Mental Health Care Access

- [KS Kids Mental Health Access Program](#)
 - Telehealth network supporting primary care physicians and clinicians' mental health treatment of children and adolescents
 - Questions: 1-800-332-6262 or KSKidsMap@kumc.edu
 - Hours: Non-holiday weekdays; 8:00 am - 5:00 pm CT



National Maternal Mental Health Hotline

New mom or
about to be?

CALL OR TEXT

1-833-TLC-MAMA



Free Promotional Material Available



<https://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs-impact/national-maternal-mental-health-hotline>

Office for the Advancement of Telehealth

- **Serves across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** as a focal point for telehealth, licensure, and broadband and coordinates with key federal partners to leverage telehealth to improve access, enhance outcomes, and support clinicians and patients.
- **Promotes the use of telehealth technologies** for health care delivery, education, and health information services.
- **Provides telehealth funding** for direct services, research, and technical assistance.

The Office for the Advancement of Telehealth **improves access to quality health care through telehealth services.**



Technical Assistance: Telehealth Resource Centers

The **Telehealth Resource Center Programs** support delivery of telehealth technical assistance.

- The **Regional** program includes twelve regional centers to provide expert and customized telehealth technical assistance across the country.
 - **Kansas** is served by the Pulse Telehealth Resource Center: <https://pulsetrc.org/>.
 - Phone: 573-332-7992
 - Email: info@pulsetrc.org
- The **National** program provides telehealth technical assistance with a focus on policy and technology.

Serving Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma- Free, unbiased telehealth assistance

Talk to a real person: 573-332-7992 x110

PULSE
TELEHEALTH RESOURCE CENTER

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Providing Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma with telehealth resources.

PULSE (Providing Unified Lifesaving Solutions Every day) is a HRSA-funded telehealth resource center for research-based best practices.

Click here to join the Virtual Health Access Map

View policies for your state → Sign up for our newsletter →

FAQ ROADMAP TO YOUR RESOURCES

Free Unbiased Assistance

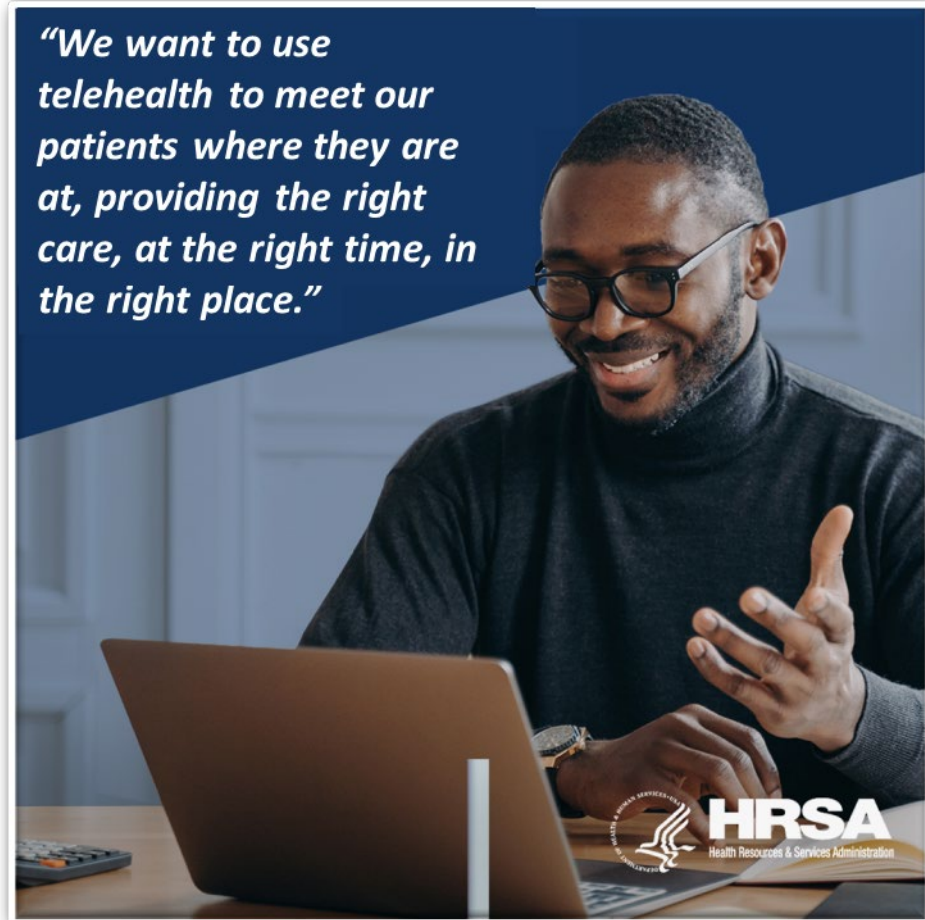
START HERE

Telehealth.HHS.gov

Telehealth.HHS.gov is a trusted, timely, and one-stop resource for patients and providers for everything they need to know about telehealth including:

- Best practice guides
- Tip sheets
- Licensure
- Policies
- Research

Find information on remote patient monitoring, telehealth for chronic disease prevention and management, and telenutrition.



Quote credit: HRSA Tele-Emergency Grantee at East Carolina University



HRSA Funding Opportunities

Health Resources & Services Administration

Call, Text, or Chat the Maternal Mental Health Hotline

HRSA

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Home » Grants » Find Grant Funding

Apply for a Grant

- Find Grant Funding
- Who Can Apply
- Prepare Your Application
- Follow the Application Process
- Track Your Application

Manage your Grant

+

Grants Help

+

Become a Grant Reviewer





HRSA's Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

We work to strengthen partnerships and promote alignment across states, Tribes, territories, and communities



Regional Offices – Extending HRSA’s Reach

- Maintain a Consistent HRSA Presence in the Field and Extend Reach
- Conduct Outreach to Expand Knowledge of HRSA Programs
- Respond to Invitational Speaking and Technical Assistance Requests
- Lead Collaborative Efforts with State and Local Health Leaders
- Present Surveillance and Analysis of Health Care Trends
- Manage HRSA's Regional Offices



HRSA IEA Leadership and Regional Structure

Headquarters and Five Regional Offices Working as One HRSA

Headquarters



Karen Comfort, Acting Associate Administrator



CAPT Chandak Ghosh, Deputy Associate Administrator



Richard Overcast, Acting Director, Division of Administrative Operations



Dr. Alicia Lawson, Director, Division of Strategic External Affairs

Regional Offices



Philadelphia Regional Office

Regional Administrator: Leah Suter

States: CT, DC, DE, ME, MD, NH, NJ, NY, PA, PR, RI, USVI, VA, VT, WV



Atlanta Regional Office

Regional Administrator: Colleen McCarty

States: AL, GA, FL, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN



Dallas Regional Office

Acting Regional Administrator: Dr. T'Ronda Flagg

States: AR, AZ, CA, HI, LA, NM, NV, OK, TX, USAPI



Kansas City Regional Office

Acting Regional Administrator: Carri (Rae) Hutchison

States: IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, OH, WI



Denver Regional Office

Acting Regional Administrator: Darci Granda

States: AK, CO, ID, MT, ND, OR, SD, UT, WA, WY



How Can IEA Support Rural?

- Serve as a resource when questions arise
- Support coordination during complex or sensitive situations
- Help elevate rural health priorities within HRSA
- Connect you with the right contacts across the agency



How to Engage – Let's Connect!

Rae Hutchison, MSW

Regional Administrator (Acting), Kansas City Regional Office

Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

Health Resources and Services Administration

Phone: 816.216.2628

Email: CHutchison@hrsa.gov

Website: <https://www.hrsa.gov/about/organization/bureaus/hrsa-ia>



Questions

where who
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