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National Rural Health Association: Internship Opportunities

Rural Health Forum

Shepherd University

April 28, 2017

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National Rural Health Association

Texas to Washington, DC



- Practicum at the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
- National Rural Health Association





NRHA Mission

The National Rural Health Association is a national membership organization with more than 21,000 members whose mission is to *provide leadership on rural issues* through advocacy, communications, education and research.



Advocacy and Policy Development

- Legislative development, strategy & tracking
- Action Alerts
- Information Alerts
- Congressional testimony
- Appropriations tracking
- Comments on regulations
- Policy briefs and papers





Communications and Information Access:

- Weekly E-News: NRHA Today
- Quarterly publication: Rural Horizons
- Journal of Rural Health
- Other publications
- Policy experts
- Organization linkages
- NRHA Connect
- Facebook/Twitter



Website:

www.RuralHealthWeb.org



Educational Opportunities

- 22nd Health Equity Conference: May 9, 2017, San Diego, CA
- Rural Medical Education: May 9, 2017, San Diego, CA
- 40th Annual Conference: May 9-12, 2017, San Diego, CA
- Rural Hospital Innovation Summit: May 9-12, 2017, San Diego, CA
- SRHA Leadership Conference: July 11-12, 2017, Nashville, TN
- 13th Quality & Clinical Conference: July 12-14, 2017, Nashville, TN
- Rural Health Clinic Conference: Sept 26-27, 2017, Kansas City, MO
- Critical Access Hospital Conference: Sept 27-29, 2017, Kansas City, MO
- 29th Rural Health Policy Institute: February 6-8, 2018, Washington, DC



Networking Opportunities

- Sharing of information, best practices, experiences
- Innovative ideas
- Research
- Build contacts among peers

Organizational Structure





- Board of Trustees
- Rural Health Congress
- Government
 Affairs Committee
- ConstituencyGroups

Constituency Groups and Councils



- Clinical Services: Members interested in clinical issues, including proprietary and non-proprietary practices.
- Federally Qualified Health Center: Members affiliated with a primary care practice operated and governed by a community board of directors, such as a community health center.
- **Frontier**: Diverse membership (clinicians, researchers, statewide organizations) united because they work or live in sparsely populated areas.
- Hospitals & Health Systems: rural hospitals or hospitals with significant interest in rural areas.
- Research and Education: practitioners and scientists located at academic medical centers as well as persons involved in health professions education in rural communities.

Constituency Groups and Councils



- Rural Health Clinics: representatives of rural health clinics for both free standing and provider based clinics.
- Statewide Health Resources: Members interested in building or strengthening statewide rural health care systems.
- Public Health: Members interested in public health efforts.
- State Office Council: Members from State Offices of Rural Health.
- State Association Council: Members representing State Rural Health Associations.
- Health Equity Council: Members interested in the elimination of health disparities and the improvement of access to quality health care services for underserved populations.
- Student: Members who are full-time students.

Student Opportunities



- Practicum/Internship opportunities
- Scholarships for Conferences
- Rural Health Fellows Program
- Poster and Research Presentations
- Student track
- Leadership development

join-grassroots@lists.wisc.edu

NRHA Intern Experience



- In 4 years, over 20 students have interned with the NRHA from 16 different schools (undergraduate and graduate levels);
- Studies in public health, biostatistics, MPH/MD programs, health administration, political science, and sociology;
- Projects:
 - Policy briefs on rural HIV/AIDs; scan of best practices in opioid abuse treatments; integration of oral health as part of primary care, monitoring of Capitol Hill briefings; survey analysis, meeting coordination; infograph design; and nomination letters for national appointments.



NRHA Internship Requirements

- List of applicant's area(s) of interest;
- Applicant's CV or résumé;
- Requested timeframe for the non-paid internship;
- Link for more information: www.ruralhealthweb.org/programs/nrha-internships

Expectations/Opportunities



- Coordinate various program content for specified rural health meetings;
- Develop policy briefs for review by the Rural Health Congress;
- Evaluate various programs for effectiveness;
- Assist with duties related to non-profit management;
- Become versed in rural health related issues;
- Understand the grant writing and legislative processes.





Impact of Federal Government on Rural Health

- Legislation
- Regulations
- Funding/Appropriations





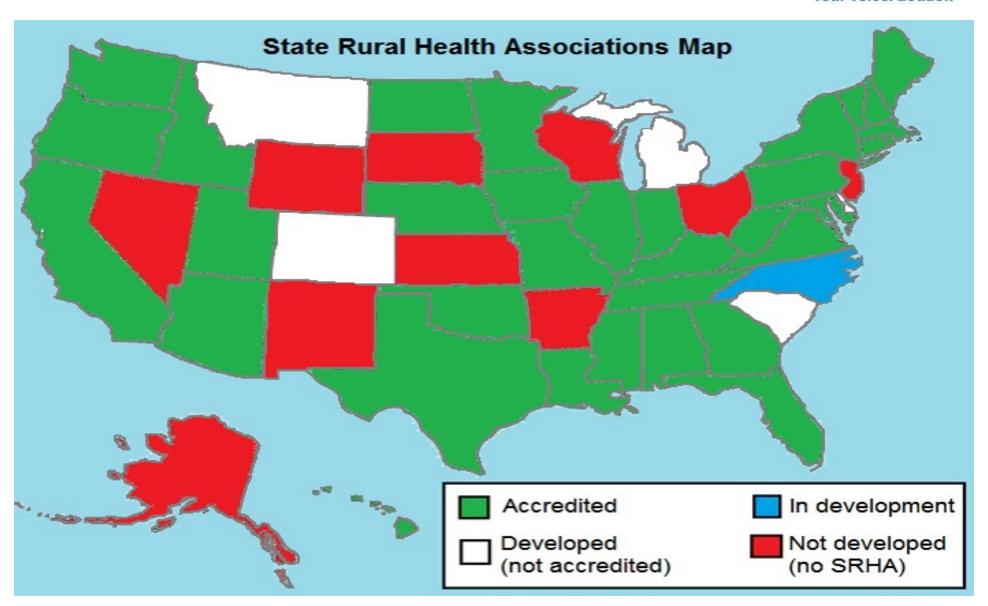


State Rural Health Associations

- 40 State Rural Health Associations
- Advocacy
- Annual Leadership Conference
- Technical Assistance Grants

2017 SRHA Map

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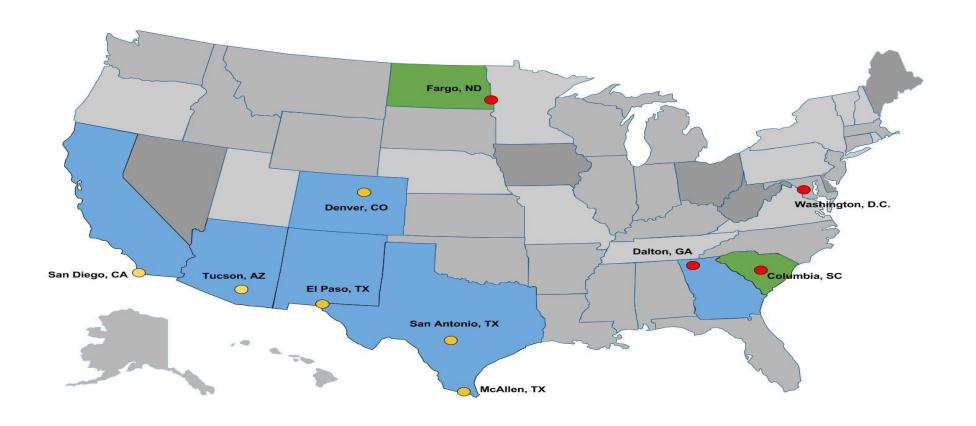


Rural Community Health Worker (CHWs) Training Network



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 Training CHWs in the areas of diabetes/technology, cancer prevention/intervention, public health and oral health as part of increasing access to care.



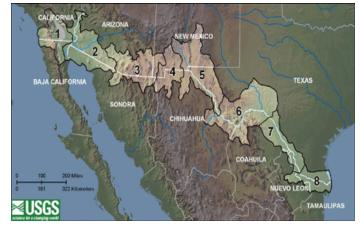
NRHA Border Health Initiative



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Began in 2008 to:

- Highlight best practices, policy, education and research
- Annual meetings (11 since inception)
- Official Border Health Policy brief developed
- Quarterly expert calls



 Collaboration with the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, US-Mexico Border Health Commission, State Offices of Border Health and Community Health Worker networks

Rural Oral Health Initiative



Purpose: provide leadership on rural oral health care with the intent to establish oral health care as part of primary care, thereby increasing health care access for all rural Americans.

Year-long initiative in collaboration with the DentaQuest Foundation with a focus on:

- **Policy:** Development of a Special Rural Oral Health Interest Group to provide policy recommendations/analysis that target legislative and regulatory barriers.
- Communications: Disseminate rural oral health information and a compendium of best practices via NRHA avenues.
- **Education:** integrate rural oral health related tracks within NRHA conferences, Rural Community Health Worker Training, and within strategies utilized by State Rural Health Associations.
- Research: Advance rural oral health related research and policy.

Rural Veterans Health Initiative



Purpose: provide leadership to address access to health care needs of rural veterans.

- •5 year initiative that began in 2014 with support from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy
- •Annual meetings to assess current issues impacting rural veterans' care.
- •Collaboration on placement of transitioning military personnel into health care positions.
- Dissemination of best practices
- Additional collaboration with the VA Office of Rural Health to highlight rural veterans' research and communication of models of care.

Rural Philanthropy



Purpose: provide forum to foster public-private partnerships to enhance continued investment and opportunities in rural health innovation.

- Collaboration with the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy and Grantmakers In Health
- Host annual meetings of foundations investing in rural health to focus on current issues and collaborations
- NRHA led foundations meeting during the Annual Conference
- Foundation representation in the Rural Health Fellows Program



Rural Health Fellows Program

- The Rural Health Fellows Program (RHF) is a year long, intensive program that will develop leaders who can articulate a clear and compelling vision for rural America.
- Fellows will gain valuable insights and build critical skills in three primary domains:
 - 1) Personal, Team, and Strategic leadership;
 - 2) Health policy analysis and advocacy;
 - 3) National Rural Health Association governance and structure.

Acquired Skills



- Networking, networking, networking;
- Staying connected;
- Conducting informational interviews;
- Staying involved as Alumni;
- Paying it forward.





Thank you.

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