Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Overview

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Department Of Health and Human Services
Health Resources and Services Administration
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy
Community Based Division
The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP)

Created
- In 1987
- To advise the Secretary of Health on rural health issues
- To coordinate activities related to rural health care within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Purpose
- Part of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
- FORHP has department-wide responsibility for analyzing the possible effects of policy on 62 million residents of rural communities.

Mission
- To improve access to quality health care in rural communities
Improve Rural Health Initiative

Key Elements

- Building a Programmatic Evidence Base
- Health Workforce and Recruitment
- Telehealth & HIT Coordination
- Cross Governmental Coordination
Hospital State Division

- Support State Offices of Rural Health
- Support Rural Hospitals
- Encourage Quality Outcomes
Policy and Research Division

- Regulation, Legislation, & Policy Review
- Policy-focused Health Research
- Translate for Rural Stakeholders
Office for the Advancement of Telehealth

- Fund Telehealth Resource Centers, Licensure Portability, & Telehealth Networks
- Advance Telehealth Technologies
- Building and Advancing Tele-Emergency Services Performance Measures
Community-Based Division

- Grant Programs
- Measure Outcomes (PIMS-Performance Improvement Measures)
- Develop Evidence Based Practices
FY 2017 Competitive Grant Programs

Rural Health Network Development Program

- 3 years, $300,000 per year
- ~ 30 awards
- To increase access to and quality of health care in rural areas
- Eligibility: Rural lead applicant, network made up of at least 3 separate health care entities that demonstrate successful history of 3+ years prior collaboration
- FOA Available: Fall 2016
- Start Date: May 2017
- Contact: Jayne Berube, jberube@hrsa.gov; 301-443-3999

Rural Health Network Development Planning Program

- 1 year, $100,000
- ~ 15 awards
- Help to promote the planning and development of healthcare networks
- Eligibility: rural, non-profit or public entity
- Proposed addition: some focus on hospital closure prevention
- FOA Available: Fall 2016
- Start Date: June 2017
- Contact: Meriam Mikre, mmikre@hrsa.gov, 301-945-3110
FY 2016 Competitive Grant Programs

Black Lung Clinics Program (BLCP) & Black Lung Centers of Excellence (BLCE)

- BLCP: supports projects that seek to reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with occupationally-related coal mine dust lung disease.
- BLCE: Cooperative agreement to state, public or private entities that have the clinical expertise in the screening, diagnosis, and treatment of and coal mine dust lung disease
- Eligibility: any State or public or private entity that meets the requirements of the particular program
- Contact: Allison Hutchings; ahutchings@hrsa.gov; 301-945-9819

Radiation Exposure Screening & Education Program (RESEP)

- Supports outreach and education programs as well as cancer screening for individuals exposed to nuclear fallout or nuclear materials resulting from U.S. nuclear weapons testing.
- Eligibility: Only the organizations located in the high-impact States cited in the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act
- Contact: Katy Lloyd; kloyd@hrsa.gov; 301-443-2933
Community Health Gateway (in RHIhub)

- Goal is to not reinvent the wheel
- Adding toolkits every given year on “hot” topics
- https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/community-health
How SORHs support FORHP

- Host grant writing workshops with FORHP representatives
- Can look over applications
- Can help provide assistance to grantee during project implementation
ANY QUESTIONS
For further questions or additional information, please contact:

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