

RURAL RESOURCE REPORT

December 2021



Executive Summary

Rural health care is a complex and ever-changing environment. While there are still challenges that Missouri hospitals face each day, there is a robust support system that is interested in the sustainability of health care in rural communities. This support system includes dedicated entities and individuals that are collaborating to bring the most effective and efficient resources to rural health providers.

This Rural Resource Report is intended to serve as a high-level summary of several rural resources available to Missouri hospitals and their teams. Each page includes a business profile of the rural health resource; information such as a contact person, summary of the services or resource, and a link to their respective websites. The goal is to make the information easy to find and use as stakeholders continue to navigate the issues that face rural health care providers.

Please contact Dana Dahl at ddahl@mhanet.com with questions or if you would like to be added as a resource to the report.

AIDS Education & Training Center Program



Contact Information:

AETC Midwest
University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago
Department of Family Medicine
1919 West Taylor, 8th Floor (MC 779)
Chicago, IL 60612 Phone: (312) 996-1373
matec@uic.edu

Website URL:

<https://aidsetc.org/training>

Overview of Services:

Regional AIDS Education and Training Centers offer a wide range of training opportunities for health professionals, including lectures, preceptorships, webinars, and conferences.

APS (Associated Purchasing Services, Corp)



Contact Information:

Dennis L. George
CEO
7015 College Boulevard Suite 150 | Overland Park, KS 66211
(913) 327-8730 | (888) 941-2771
(913) 327-7210 (f)
dennis.george@apskc.org

Website URL:

www.apskc.org

Overview of Services:

APS, founded in 1970, is the group purchasing organization and services organizations owned by the Kansas Hospital Association (KHA) and the Missouri Hospital Association (MHA). APS provides innovative supply chain and margin enhancement solutions in the evolving healthcare environment. Organizations can begin saving money on products and services through more than 70 strategic contracts. This includes access to APS Staffing, which partners with Qualivis, and utilizes qualified staffing firms to help you develop workforce solutions.

APS is the Channel Partner with Vizient, the leading healthcare GPO and our national partner – you have access to the complete Vizient contract portfolio. Further improve your financial strength using Vizient to provide management solutions to control costs, improve margins and cash flow, and increase regulatory compliance for Kansas and Missouri organizations.

APS is your organization - providing financial support to the Associations to assist in providing services for advocacy, education, and annual meetings.

The APS team is here for you and we excel in customer service. We respond to your questions in less than 24 hours. APS is your Free FTE and we only do what is in your best interest.

Who is Eligible for Services:

All Health Care Organizations

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)



Contact Information:

Medicare Beneficiaries: 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)
Providers and Health Care Professionals: WPS 1-866-518-3285

CMS Kansas City Office:

Michelle Wineinger

Office: 816-426-6408

michelle.wineinger@cms.hhs.gov

Rachel Alexander

Office: 816-426-5789

Rachel.alexander@cms.hhs.gov

Website URL:

www.medicare.gov

<https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/equity-initiatives/rural-health>

Overview of Services:

The Kansas City Regional Office of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is the agency's state and local presence for Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri (Region 7). The Regional 7 staff work closely with beneficiaries, health care providers, state governments, CMS contractors, community groups and others to provide education and address questions.

Who is Eligible for Services:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) provides health coverage to more than 100 million people through Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and the Health Insurance Marketplace. CMS seeks to strengthen and modernize the Nation's health care system, to provide access to high quality care and improve health at lower costs.

Center for Optimizing Rural Health | Vulnerable Rural Hospitals Assistance Program



Contact Information:

1-855-234-0712

corh@tamu.edu

Website URL:

<https://optimizingruralhealth.org/>

Overview of Services:

The Vulnerable Rural Hospital Assistance Program provides targeted assistance to at risk rural hospitals struggling to maintain health care services.

VRHAP works with hospitals and their communities to:

- Understand community health needs and resources
- Ensure hospitals and communities can keep needed health care local
- Address economic challenges

Solutions may include:

- Assessing key health care services to provide
- Identifying cost efficiencies
- Exploring other mechanisms to meet community health care needs

VRHAP is a cooperative agreement with the HRSA Federal Office of Rural Health Policy and implemented by the Center for Optimizing Rural Health at Texas A&M University.

The Center strives to help rural medical organizations and clinics with technical support, training, consultation, and other support measures.

Health Care Coalition of Lafayette County dba Health Care Collaborative of Rural Missouri



Contact Information:

Toniann Richard, CEO

660-259-2440

toniann@hccnetwork.org

Website URL:

<https://hccnetwork.org>

Overview of Services:

The focus of the HCC is to develop and implement programs that are responsive to documented health needs of our communities, with specific health status indicators as benchmarks of progress.



Who is Eligible for Services:

Anyone is eligible for services at any of our clinic locations but we focus on serving those that are uninsured and underserved.

Health Information Technology, Evaluation, and Quality Center (HITEQ)



Contact Information:

844-305-7440

hiteqinfo@jsi.com

Website URL:

<https://hiteqcenter.org/>

Overview of Services:

The HITEQ Center collaborates with HRSA Partners including Health Center Controlled Networks (HCCNs), Primary Care Associations (PCAs) and other National Cooperative Agreements (NCAs) to support health centers in full optimization of their EHR/Health IT systems.

HITEQ priority topic areas include:

- Health IT Enables QI
- EHR Selection & Implementation
- Health Information Exchange
- Achieving Meaningful Use
- Health IT and QI Workforce Development
- Value-Based Payment
- Privacy and Security
- Electronic Patient Engagement
- Population Health
- Telehealth

Hospital Industry Data Institute



Better Data. Better Decisions.

Contact Information:

Steve Warchol
Senior Director of Client Outreach
573-893-3700, ext. 1383
swarchol@mhanet.com

Website URL:

<https://www.hidionline.com/hidi/>

Overview of Services:

Since 1985, the Hospital Industry Data Institute HIDI has provided timely access to data and information services for hospitals to support their strategic planning, advocacy, and health policy initiatives.

HIDI staff demonstrate health information technology leadership through active engagement in the Regional Extension Center, Issues Monitoring, Policy and Advocacy, Member Engagement and Education Services.

Who is Eligible for Services:

As a not-for-profit organization founded by the Missouri Hospital Association, HIDI offers high quality data resources through its data collection, analysis, and dissemination to more than 800 hospitals nationwide.

Health Resources and Service Administration



Contact Information:

[HRSA Contact Center](#)

877-464-4772 (TTY: 877-897-9910)

Hours: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, weekdays (except federal holidays)

Website URL:

<https://data.hrsa.gov/>

Overview of Services:

The [data.HRSA.gov](#) website (previously known as the HRSA Data Warehouse) provides maps, data, reports, and dashboards to the public about HRSA's health care programs. The data integrates with external sources, such as the U.S. Census Bureau, providing information about HRSA's grants, loan and scholarship programs, health centers, and other public health programs and services.

On this website, you can:

- Analyze, sort, and filter data on interactive dashboards
- Locate HRSA's health centers and other HRSA-supported programs and services
- View HRSA's data on maps
- Query and explore data using query tools and reports
- See what HRSA is doing in your state, county, region, and congressional district
- View and compare data by geography, by topic, and by HRSA program area
- Download data for research and analysis
- Embed widgets on any website to provide access to HRSA data
- Connect to HRSA data from third party applications through map services and web services
- Create custom maps and reports

HRSA | Health Workforce Connector



Contact Information:

1-800-221-9393 (TTY: 1-877-897-9910)

Hours: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, weekdays (except federal holidays)

Website URL:

<https://connector.hrsa.gov/connector/>

Overview of Services:

HRSA's Health Workforce Connector allows NHSC-approved sites to post vacancies and gives scholars a one-stop job search tool to locate eligible, approved sites when transitioning to service.

Other Resources



Rural Community Toolbox: The toolbox serves as a guide to the resources that can help make a difference in rural communities. It offers tools to empower rural community leaders to assess the causes and impact of substance use disorder and find federal programs to help them build strong healthy drug-free rural communities

<https://www.ruralcommunitytoolbox.org/>



Center for Rural Health: It connects resources and knowledge to strengthen the health of people in rural and tribal communities. Our programs serve people within the state, region, and nation. They work in a variety of areas to bring together expertise and help share knowledge and tools with a broad range of rural and tribal stakeholders.

<https://ruralhealth.und.edu/>

HRSA | National Health Service Corps (NHSC)



Contact Information:

1-800-221-9393 (TTY: 1-877-897-9910)

Hours: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, weekdays (except federal holidays)

Website URL:

<https://nhsc.hrsa.gov>

Overview of Services:

The NHSC builds healthy communities by supporting qualified health care providers dedicated to working in areas of the United States with limited access to care. HRSA requires health care workers to serve in high-need areas. HRSA calls these [Health Professional Shortage Areas \(HPSAs\)](#). NHSC-approved sites provide outpatient, primary health services in HPSAs.

Healthcare entities can [apply to become an NHSC site](#). In some cases, HRSA [auto-approves sites](#). If HRSA approves your site, you gain access to primary care providers.

Who is Eligible for Services:

NHSC offers financial support to primary care providers in NHSC-eligible disciplines and students pursuing a career in primary care, in exchange for commitment to work in a medically underserved area for at least 2 years. They can apply for either [loan repayment](#) or the [scholarship program](#).

HRSA | Nurse Corps Scholarships and Loan Repayment Program



Contact Information:

1-800-221-9393 (TTY: 1-877-897-9910)

Hours: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, weekdays (except federal holidays)

Website URL:

<https://bhwhrsa.gov/funding/apply-scholarship>

<https://bhwhrsa.gov/funding/apply-loan-repayment#nclrp>

Overview of Services:

NURSE Corps awards scholarships and loan repayment to nurses, nursing students, and nurse faculty. By supporting these nurses, we build healthier communities across the country—especially in areas of greatest need.

If you apply and are accepted to the NURSE Corps, HRSA will provide you loan repayment or a scholarship in exchange for a minimum commitment of two years of service at a facility experiencing a critical shortage of nurses.

Who is Eligible for Services:

To be eligible for the scholarship, you must be accepted or enrolled in a nursing degree program at an accredited school of nursing located in the United States or U.S. territory:

- Diploma School of Nursing
- Associate Degree School of Nursing (ADN)
- Collegiate School of Nursing (BSN, graduate degree)
- Graduate-Level Nurse Practitioner
- Nursing Bridge Program (RN to BSN, RN to MSN-NP, Direct Entry MSN-NP)

To be eligible for loan repayment, all applicants must:

- Be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident;
- Have a current, full, permanent, unencumbered, unrestricted license;
- Have earned a diploma, associate, baccalaureate, graduate or doctorate degree in nursing and have outstanding nursing educational loans;
- Be employed as a full-time RN or APRN working at least 32 hours per week at an eligible CSF or an eligible school of nursing.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) | Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA)



Contact Information:

601 East 12th Street, Room 250
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: 816-426-5226
hrsaororegion7@hrsa.gov

Website URL:

<https://www.hrsa.gov/about/organization/bureaus/oro/region-7>

Overview of Services:

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is the primary federal agency responsible for improving health and achieving health equity through access to quality services, a skilled health workforce and innovative programs. HRSA supports more than 90 programs that provide health care to people who are geographically isolated, economically or medically challenged. It does this through grants and cooperative agreements to more than 3,000 awardees, including community and faith-based organizations, colleges and universities, hospitals, state, local, and tribal governments, and private entities

The HRSA Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs (HRSA IEA) provides on-the-ground outreach and technical assistance to increase the reach, impact, and awareness of HRSA programs.

HRSA Training and Technical Assistance Hub

Contact Information:

[Fill out our contact form](#) or

1-877-464-4772 (TTY: 877-897-9910)

Hours: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, weekdays (except federal holidays)

Website URL:

<https://www.hrsa.gov/library/index.html>

Overview of Services:

HRSA funds a variety of grantees and providers through its Bureaus and Offices. Each Bureau and Office funds training and technical assistance so grantees can maximize their impact. Non-grantees (organizations and providers) who serve similar populations may also find these helpful. The [Hub](#) centralizes and extends the reach of HRSA's training and technical assistance resources. It can also further the impact of our grantees and non-grantees. We organize resources by topic. We may list some under multiple topics.

Healthcare Services Group, including: Missouri Hospital Plan, Medical Liability Alliance, Providers Insurance Consultants and the HSG Charitable Foundation



Contact Information:

Becky Branson Hill, MBA, Ed.D.

Vice President - Marketing, Communications & Information Systems Executive Director, HSG Charitable Foundation Healthcare Services Group

Main: 573-893-5300

Direct: 573-644-1323 | Fax: 573-893-3748

Website URL:

<http://www.hsg-group.com>

Overview of Services:

The HSGCF carries out this vision to fund healthcare programs that advance the quality of patient care, patient safety, and community wellness by providing multiple programs to support Missouri Hospital Plan (MHP) member hospitals, including:

The HSGCF's Matching Scholarship Program provides \$4,000 in financial support of students pursuing healthcare related degrees or certificate programs. Since inception in 2013, the program has provided \$1.7M in scholarship funds and has supported over 2,400 students. The scholarship program facilitates the attraction and retention of healthcare professionals in Missouri.

The HSGCF Hospital Team Member Assistance Fund was founded in 2019 to provide a source of support for employees of Missouri Hospital Plan members during times of defined crisis.

The HSGCF developed its first Patient Safety Grant program for hospitals to receive up to \$25,000 in funds in 2022 for projects that improve quality, reduce patient harm and/or improve patient outcomes for Missouri Hospital Plan members. The ultimate goal is to support projects that reduce or eliminate risk of adverse events and improve patient care. Grant recipients agree to share their projects and results and the projects must be adaptable for use by other facilities or physician practices.

Who is Eligible for Services:

Missouri Hospital Plan (MHP) members and Medical Liability Alliance Insureds are eligible for HSGF Scholarship Funds and Team Member Assistance Funds. MHP members are eligible for the Patient Safety Grant.

Missouri Area Health Education Centers



Contact Information:

Hong Chartrand, DrPH

660-6260-2887

hongchartrand@atsu.edu;

missouriahec@atsu.edu

Website URL:

<https://mahec.org/>

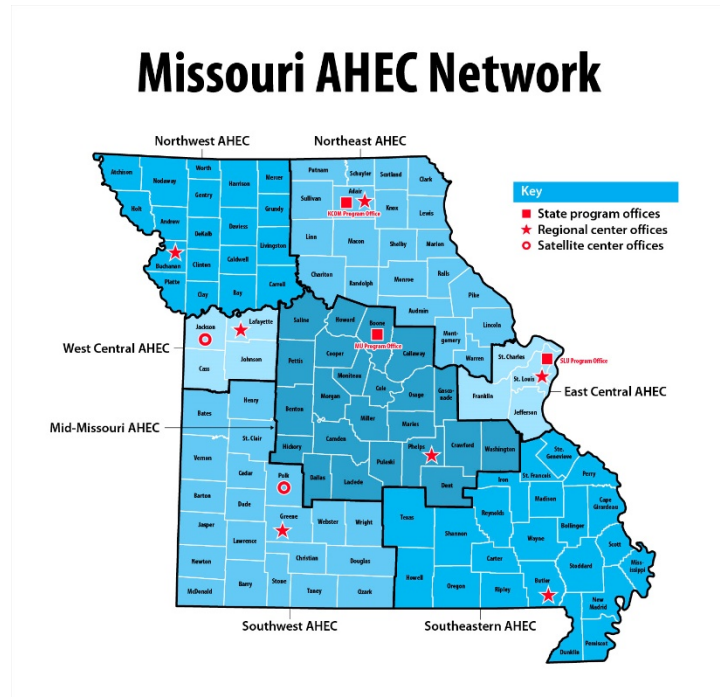
Overview of Services:

Since 1988, the Missouri Area Health Education Centers (MAHEC) Network (including three AHEC program offices and seven regional AHECs) along with numerous collaborators across the state have taken up the torch to improve the supply and distribution of multiple healthcare disciplines through health career programs for Missouri youth, community-based training, and provider

recruitment. The A. T. Still University (ATSU) AHEC Program Office takes the lead and works collaboratively with the MAHEC Network members to deliver services to support and grow the healthcare workforce across Missouri, particularly in the rural and underserved areas.

The MAHEC Network provides services throughout the state by creating partnerships, amplifying resources, and helping educate communities on the need to proactively recruit, train, place, and retain healthcare personnel in Missouri. Many partnerships with community action groups, social service agencies, and healthcare providers make the MAHEC Network a critical collaborator in improving the healthcare workforce. The MAHEC Network's efforts include:

- Creating academic-community partnerships
- Promoting health careers to Missouri youth
- Promoting high-quality training of health professions students
- Providing educational resources to increase the retention of practitioners
- Identifying and supporting potential health professionals
- Partnering with state agencies and other organizations to promote overall improvement in community health centers



Missouri Association of Rural Health Clinics



Contact Information:

PO Box 684, Jefferson City, MO 65102

Website URL:

www.marhc.org

Overview of Services:

The Missouri Association of Rural Health Clinics (MARHC) is a not-for-profit corporation founded in 2000 by health professionals committed to providing a forum to exchange information specific to federally-certified Rural Health Clinics.

The purpose of MARHC is:

- To study, discuss, and exchange professional knowledge, expertise, and ideas with regard to federally certified rural health clinics.
- To promote high standards for quality patient care.
- To stimulate interest in continuing education for rural health clinic health care providers.
- To improve access to quality health care through the establishment of federally certified rural health clinics and through cooperative efforts with other professional health care organizations and individuals.
- To promote and maintain communication and cooperative relations with other professional health care organizations.

Who is Eligible for Services:

Rural Health Clinics

**Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS),
Office of Rural Health and Primary Care (ORHPC)**

Contact Information:

Sara Davenport
Chief

Barbara Brendel
Rural Health Manager

573-751-6441 or orhpcinfo@health.mo.gov

Website URL:

Rural Health: <https://health.mo.gov/living/families/ruralhealth/index.php>

Rural Hospitals: <https://health.mo.gov/living/families/ruralhealth/rural-health-hospitals.php>

Overview of Services:

The DHSS, ORHPC assumes a leadership role in working and contracting with state and federal agencies, universities, private interest groups, communities, foundations, and local health centers to develop rural health initiatives and maximize the use of existing resources to assist Missouri rural hospitals and clinics be a success. The ORHPC administers the [Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program \(SHIP\)](#), [Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility \(Flex\) Program](#), and the [State Office of Rural Health \(SORH\)](#) grants.

The SHIP Grant assists eligible hospitals in meeting the costs of implementing data system requirements established under the Medicare Program, including assisting hospitals in participating in improvements in value and quality to health care such as:

- Value-Based Purchasing Programs
- Accountable Care Organizations
- Payment Bundling

Under the [Flex Program Grant](#), the Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project focuses on improving the quality of care provided in CAHs by voluntarily reporting measures not required by CMS. The Flex program coordinates technical assistance based on the needs of the Missouri hospitals. The Flex Program supports the CAHs to promote quality and performance improvement including:

- Stabilizing finances;
- Integrating emergency medical services into health care systems;
- Incorporating population health; and
- Fostering innovative models of health care.

Who is Eligible for Services:

SORH – All of Missouri’s entities and individuals within rural communities are eligible for services.

SHIP – Missouri’s Small Rural Hospitals with 49 available beds or less are eligible to participate in the SHIP. These small rural hospitals provide short-term, general acute care to their communities. They may be for-profit, not-for-profit, or tribal organizations. Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) are considered small rural hospitals and eligible for the SHIP.

Flex Program – CAHs are eligible to participate in the Flex Program. CAHs have a maximum of 25 acute care inpatient beds. For CAHs with swing bed agreements, any of their beds can be used for inpatient acute care or for swing bed services. Any hospital-type bed which is located in, or adjacent to, any location where the hospital bed could be used for inpatient care counts toward the 25-bed limit. Certain beds do not count toward the 25-bed limit, including examination or procedure beds, stretchers, operating room tables, and beds in Medicare certified rehabilitation or psychiatric distinct part units. For a complete list of beds that do not count toward the 25 bed limit, please see Section C-0211, §485.620(a) Standard: Number of Beds: Interpretive Guidelines of the [CMS State Operations Manual: Appendix W](#).

CAHs must be located in rural areas and must meet one of the following criteria:

- Be more than a 35-mile drive from another hospital, or
- Be more than a 15-mile drive from another hospital in an area with mountainous terrain or only secondary roads.

**Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS),
Office of Rural Health and Primary Care (ORHPC)**

Contact Information:

Sara Davenport
Chief

Barbara Brendel
Rural Health Manager

573-751-6441 or orhpcinfo@health.mo.gov

Website URL:

Rural Health Clinics: <https://health.mo.gov/living/families/ruralhealth/rural-health-clinics.php>

Overview of Services:

Health care resources in rural Missouri are limited, even for those who have health insurance, have no financial difficulty, and have access to transportation.

Rural Health Clinics (RHC) increase access to healthcare services for rural Missourians. Missouri's RHCs are an important part in providing health care to our Missouri rural and underserved areas.

Patients receive needed care and benefit from familiarity to physicians, nurses and staff are an important part in patient adherence to their health.

For information on RHC regulations or becoming a Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) certified Rural Health Clinic, contact the Department of Health and Senior Services, Bureau of Diagnostic Services Program (Missouri Radiation Control, CLIA, and Rural Health Clinics) at: 573-751-6318, or by email: CLIA@health.mo.gov.

Who is Eligible for Services:

All certified rural health clinics or clinics interested in becoming a certified rural health clinic.

**Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS),
Office of Rural Health and Primary Care (ORHPC)**

Contact Information:

Sara Davenport
Chief

Barbara Brendel
Rural Health Manager

573-751-6441 or orhpcinfo@health.mo.gov

Website URL:

Technical Assistance and Services Center: <https://www.ruralcenter.org/tasc>

Rural Health Research Gateway: <https://www.ruralhealthresearch.org/>

Flex Monitoring Team: <https://www.flexmonitoring.org/>

<https://www.ruralcenter.org/>

Overview of Services:

The Technical Assistance and Services Center ([TASC](#)), a program of The Center, provides information, tools and education to Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) and to individual state Flex Programs.

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 puts new findings and information in the hands of subscribers.

The Flex Monitoring Team (FMT) assesses the role of the Flex Program in facilitating the development of rural systems of care by focusing on the community benefit, assessment, and engagement activities of CAHs and the integration of rural Emergency Medical Services. FMT provides comprehensive information on the finance condition of CAHs, with the goal of improving hospital financial performance. FMT measures the quality performance of CAHs, with the goal of improving access to quality health care in rural communities.

**Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS),
Office of Rural Health and Primary Care (ORHPC)**

Contact Information:

Sara Davenport
Chief

Barbara Brendel
Rural Health Manager

573-751-6441 or orhpcinfo@health.mo.gov

Website URL:

Delta Region Community Health Systems Development Project:
<https://health.mo.gov/living/families/ruralhealth/pdf/delta-region.pdf>

Overview of Services:

The Delta Region Community Health Systems Development (Delta) Project improves healthcare delivery in the Delta Region through intensive, multi-year technical assistance to healthcare facilities in rural communities. The Delta project is a collaboration of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) and the Delta Regional Authority.

The project supports capacity building for health care facilities across the following areas:

- Quality improvement: Implementing improvement activities to promote development of an evidence-based culture to improve health outcomes.
- Telehealth: Addressing gaps in clinical service delivery and improving access to care.
- Care coordination: Working collaboratively with the community to increase accessibility to care.
- Population health: Strengthening the local healthcare system to improve population health.
- Integration of social services. Providing services to address broader socioeconomic challenges faced by patients (e.g., housing, child care, energy assistance, access to healthy food, elderly support services, job training).
- Emergency medical services: Ensuring access to, and availability of, emergency medical services.
- Workforce: Identifying workforce recruitment and retention resources targeted to rural communities. Financial and Operational Improvement. Improving financial position and increasing operational efficiencies.

Who is Eligible for Services:

Hospitals and communities in the rural Delta Region are eligible to apply through the Delta Regional Authority.

**Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS),
Office of Rural Health and Primary Care (ORHPC)**

Contact Information:

Sara Davenport
Chief

Aleesha Jones
Primary Care Manager

573-751-6441 or ORHPCInfo@health.mo.gov

Website URL:

Primary Care Office: <https://health.mo.gov/living/families/primarycare/index.php>

Overview of Services:

The Primary Care Office (PCO) aims to improve access to comprehensive primary care services for underserved and rural populations increasing healthcare workforce to meet the needs of the Missourians. The PCO is responsible for assessing the primary care unmet needs and disparities in Missouri, identifying any barriers to populations or geographic areas, and concerns with the healthcare workforce.

The PCO coordinates the Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSAs) and Medically Underserved Area/Population (MUA/P) designation processes in Missouri to ensure consistent and accurate assessment of underservice including data collection, verification, and analysis. The PCO also provides technical assistance and collaboration to expand access to primary care, including: coordination of the NHSC and NURSE Corps programs, and provider recruitment and retention.

The PCO also coordinates two waiver programs:

- [J-1 Visa/State 30 Waiver Program](#). This program allows a foreign medical graduate to attend an advanced training program in the United States and waives the requirement for graduates to return to their native country in exchange for an obligation to work 3 years in an underserved area of Missouri.
- [National Interest Waiver](#). This program allows foreign-trained doctors to work in underserved areas of Missouri for an obligation of 5 years in exchange for the waiver.

Who is Eligible for Services:

Anyone who needs assistance can contact our office. Those eligible for the waiver programs must be foreign medical graduates who meet the program eligibility requirements.

**Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS),
Office of Rural Health and Primary Care (ORHPC)**

Contact Information:

Sara Davenport
Chief

Aleesha Jones
Primary Care Manager

573-751-6441 or DHSS.LoanRepayment@health.mo.gov

Website URL:

Health Professional Loan and Loan Repayment Programs:
<https://health.mo.gov/living/families/primarycare/hpl-lr/index.php>

Overview of Services:

The Health Professional Loan and Loan Repayment programs administered by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) are designed to increase access to healthcare for Missourians in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). In parts of Missouri, a shortage of primary health care providers makes it difficult for low-income, uninsured, and geographically isolated Missourians to receive health care. By working with health care providers and communities, access to care can be improved for the underserved.

There are 4 Health Professional Loan and Loan Repayment programs administered through DHSS:

- [Nurse Student Loan Program](#) awards funding for eligible educational expenses to qualified students pursuing careers as licensed Practical Nurses or Professional Nurses in Missouri.
- [Nurse Loan Repayment Program](#) awards funding for the repayment of eligible educational loans for qualified Registered and Advanced Practice Nurses in Missouri.
- [Student Loan Repayment Program](#) awards funding for the repayment of eligible educational loans for qualified Health Professionals, Physicians, Dentists, and Psychiatrists in Missouri.
- [The Primary Care Resource Initiative for Missouri](#) awards funding for eligible educational expenses to qualified students pursuing careers as licensed primary care Physicians, Dentists, Dental Hygienists, and Psychiatrists in Missouri.

Who is Eligible for Services:

Healthcare professionals and students who meet the requirements of the loan and loan repayment programs.

Missouri Foundation for Health



Contact Information:

Sheldon Weisgrau
Vice President of Health Policy
(314) 345-5574
sweisgrau@mffh.org

Website URL:

<https://mffh.org/>

Overview of Services:

Missouri Foundation for Health is building a more equitable future through collaboration, convening, knowledge sharing, and strategic investment. Working in partnership with communities and nonprofits, MFH is transforming systems to eliminate inequities within all aspects of health and addressing the social and economic factors that shape health outcomes. The Foundation takes a multifaceted approach to health issues, understanding that strategic initiatives, policy, communications, and research all play a role in creating lasting impact.

Who is Eligible for Services:

MFH provides funding to organizations in 84 Missouri counties and the City of St. Louis. A map of the MFH service area can be found here: <https://mffh.org/the-foundation/where-we-work/>

Missouri Hospital Association



Contact Information:

Dana Dahl

Vice President of Membership Services and Rural Initiatives

573-893-3700, ext. 1314

ddahl@mhanet.com

Website URL:

<https://web.mhanet.com/>

Overview of Services:

MHA advocates for policies that improve health and health care in the state, and provides data, decision-support tools and operational resources to help hospitals and health systems deliver care. In addition to representation and advocacy on behalf of its members, the association seeks to educate its members, the public and the media, as well as legislative representatives, about health care issues.

MHA's mission is to create an environment that enables member hospitals and health care systems to improve the health of their patients and communities.

Who is Eligible for Services:

As a nonprofit membership association, MHA represents every acute care hospital in the state, as well as most of the federal, state, rehabilitation and psychiatric care facilities.

Missouri Rural Health Association



Contact Information:

Melissa VanDyne
Executive Director
Office: 573-616-2740
melissa@morha.org

Website URL:

<https://mrhassociation.org/>

Overview of Services:

MRHA's mission is to safeguard and improve the health of rural Missourians. MRHA accomplishes its mission by engaging in partnerships and providing leadership on rural issues through advocacy, communication, and education. We are vested in the success of organizations that we serve. Our goal is to connect people with partnerships, resources, technical assistance and other tools to help them address the community needs at the community level.

Who is Eligible for Services:

MRHA will provide minimal consultation and technical assistance to everyone. HealthTran and other more in-depth consultation and technical assistance are covered under the MRHA membership fee.

Missouri Primary Care Association



Contact Information:

Joseph Pierle
Chief Executive Officer
Office: 573-636-4222
jpierle@mo-pca.org

Rodney Hummer
Vice President of Strategy
Office: 573-415-2071
rhummer@mo-pca.org

Website URL:

<https://www.mo-pca.org/>

Overview of Services:

MPCA's mission is to be Missouri's leader in shaping policies and programs that improve access to high-quality, community-based, and affordable primary health services for all Missourians.

The Missouri Primary Care Association (MPCA) was founded in 1984 and recently celebrated twenty-five years of successful advocacy and support for its member Community Health Centers. What began as an experiment in community health care has evolved into a network of 28 Community, Migrant, and Homeless Health Centers across Missouri. In 2015, MPCA's member Health Centers served more than 500,000 patients at 200 different locations.

MPCA collaborates with state agencies such as the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Missouri Department of Social Services, and the Missouri Department of Mental Health to enhance the ability of its membership to provide and expand comprehensive primary care services. MPCA works closely with educational institutions such as the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry and education-focused groups such as Missouri's Area Health Education Centers to develop the health care workforce needed to care for Health Center patients. The Missouri Foundation for Health, Health Forward Foundation, and the REACH Foundation are among MPCA's philanthropic partners in the quest to assure access to health care.

Who is Eligible for Services:

MPCA serves the training, technical and advocacy needs of the Federally Qualified Health Care Centers (and FQHC look-alikes) in Missouri.

National Clinician Consultation Center



Contact Information:

HIV/AIDS Care Consultation

[\(800\) 933-3413](tel:(800)933-3413)

Perinatal HIV Consultation

[\(888\) 448-8765](tel:(888)448-8765)

Hepatitis C Consultation

[\(844\) 437-4636](tel:(844)437-4636)

Substance Use Consultation

[\(855\) 300-3595](tel:(855)300-3595)

Pre-Exposure/PrEP Consultation

[\(855\) 448-7737](tel:(855)448-7737)

Post-Exposure/PEP Consultation

[\(888\) 448-4911](tel:(888)448-4911)

You may also [contact their clinicians online](#).

Administrative Offices | Ph: [\(628\) 206-8700](tel:(628)206-8700)

National Clinician Consultation Center

UCSF Box 1365

San Francisco, CA 94143

Website URL:

<https://nccc.ucsf.edu/>

Overview of Services:

The National Clinician Consultation Center provides clinicians of all experience levels prompt expert responses to questions about managing HIV/AIDS, perinatal HIV, pre-exposure prophylaxis, and bloodborne pathogen exposures. They also provide online and phone-based consultation in service areas including testing and prevention, treatment, and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).

All of their services are cost-free and confidential.

National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers



Contact Information:

NCTRC@CCHPCA.ORD

Website URL:

<https://telehealthresourcecenter.org/>

Overview of Services:

HRSA-funded Telehealth Resource Centers (TRCs) provide assistance, education, and information on telehealth to expand delivery of health care to rural and underserved populations.

There are 12 Regional TRCs and two National TRCs, one focusing on policy and the other on technology. Assistance is generally free of charge (up to 10 hours of free technical consultation). Types of assistance include:

- How To Get Started/Strategic Planning
- Program/Protocol Development
- Business Model Development/Reimbursement
- Program Evaluation/Quality Assessment
- Best Practices/Networking
- Guidance on selecting appropriate technology
- Guidance on legal, regulatory and other policy issues

Regional TRC:

Heartland Telehealth Resource Center

<http://heartlandtrc.org/>

Phone: 877-643-HTRC (4872)

htrc@kumc.edu

Missouri Telehealth Network

<https://medicine.missouri.edu/offices-programs/missouri-telehealth-network>

Phone: 573-884-7958

mtn@health.missouri.edu

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National Emergency Tele-Critical Care Network (NETCCN)



Contact Information:

James Beach

james.w.beach2.civ@mail.mil

usarmy.detrack.medcom-usamrmc.mesg.netccn-operations-officer@mail.mil

Website URL:

<https://www.tatrc.org/netccn/>

Overview of Services:

A joint program of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) and the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) is available **at no cost** to hospitals caring for COVID-19 patients and struggling with access to enough critical care physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists and other specialized clinical experts. Teams of critical care clinicians are available to deliver virtual care through lightweight telemedicine platforms, such as an app on a mobile device.

Hear from participating [clinicians](#) and email to [learn](#) more and sign up.

The Office of Health Outreach, Policy and Education (HOPE)



Office of Health Outreach, Policy & Education University of Missouri

Contact Information:

Kathleen Quinn, PhD
quinnk@health.missouri.edu
573 884-2024

Overview of Services:

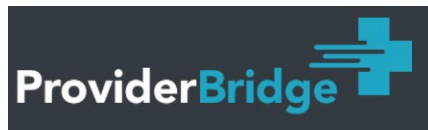
In January 2020, the University of Missouri School of Medicine and the MU Office of Extension and Engagement created a collaborative partnership that demonstrates MU's integrated approach to community health as well as its commitment as a land-grant institution to improve the health and well-being of all Missourians. This combined effort initiated the **Office of Health Outreach, Policy and Education (HOPE)** bringing together divisions from both the MU School of Medicine and MU Extension and Engagement. HOPE includes the Rural Track Pipeline Program, Missouri Telehealth Network, the Center for Health Policy, Continuing Education for Health Professions, and Community Health Engagement and Outreach.

HOPE will:

- work to translate MU SOM research and initiatives to practice
- increase connections and outcomes with internal and external partners
- develop health promotion resources
- conduct objective analysis
- provide support for Missouri policymakers
- share knowledge of the health care workforce landscape, the role of healthcare, population health, and social determinants of health to support policy decisions
- increase knowledge of the use and impact of telehealth
- provide curriculum design services, interprofessional education, professional development, and needs based curriculum development

HOPE brings together a range of expertise to create and evaluate solutions that improve the health and wellbeing of Missourians.

ProviderBridge.org



Website URL:

<https://www.providerbridge.org/>

Overview of services:

[ProviderBridge.org](https://www.providerbridge.org/) was created by the Federation of State Medical Boards and the FORHP-supported [Licensure Portability Program](#). The site assists in mobilizing volunteer health care professionals to treat patients during public health emergencies. It supports medical license portability to connect health care professionals with state agencies and health care entities to increase access to care for patients in rural and underserved communities. It also provides state-by-state telehealth information and resources to assist providers with telehealth licensure questions.

Rural Health Information Hub (RHIfhub)



Contact Information:

1-800-270-1898

info@ruralhealthinfo.org

Website URL:

<https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/>

Overview of Services:

The Rural Health Information Hub or RHIfhub is a national clearinghouse on rural health information and provides resources to support healthcare and population health in rural communities.

Featuring an online library, rural health data, state and topic guides, toolkits, rural program models, custom alerts, and more, the RHIfhub is your first stop for rural health information.

HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy funds the RHIfhub and all resources and services are free of charge.

- Discover the latest [funding opportunities](#) to support rural health.
- Find rural project examples in [Rural Health Models and Innovations](#) and proven strategies for strong rural programs with [Evidence-Based Toolkits](#) like the [Community Health Workers Toolkit](#).

Rural Health Innovations | Small Rural Hospital Transition (SRHT) Project



Contact Information:

Phone: (800) 997-6685 | (218) 727-9390 ext. 0
info@ruralcenter.org

Website URL:

<https://www.ruralcenter.org/rhi>

Overview of Services:

HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy funds the SRHT project and Rural Health Innovations implements it.

The Small Rural Hospital Transition (SRHT) Project assists small rural hospitals and their communities in successfully navigating the changing health care environment.

The project provides on-site technical assistance to small rural hospitals residing in federally-designated persistent poverty counties. The aim is to better prepare and assist hospitals in moving from a fee-for-service and volume-based payment system to one that is driven by value and quality.

Technical assistance includes educational trainings and comprehensive onsite consultations.

The SRHT Project assists hospitals to:

- Improve financial and quality performance
- Prepare for new payment and care delivery models
- Prepare hospitals for population health management

Rural Health Research Gateway



Contact Information:

University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health
School of Medicine & Health Sciences, Suite E231
1301 North Columbia Road, Stop 9037
Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037
info@ruralhealthresearch.org

Website URL:

<https://www.ruralhealthresearch.org/>

Overview of Services:

The Rural Health Research Gateway provides easy and timely access to research conducted by the [Rural Health Research Centers](#). The Centers study critical issues facing rural communities in an effort to secure adequate, affordable, high-quality health services for rural residents.

This online resource of research connects you to:

- Research and Policy Centers
- Reports & Journal Publications
- Fact Sheets
- Policy Briefs
- Research Projects
- Email Alerts
- Experts
- Dissemination Toolkit

The Rural Health Research Gateway web site is hosted at the [University of North Dakota Center for Rural Health](#) with funding from [HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy](#).

RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis



Contact Information:

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Bernard Becker Professor
Brown School, Washington University
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<https://publichealth.wustl.edu/centers/health-economics/>
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Website URL:

<https://rupri.public-health.uiowa.edu/>

The mission of the RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis is to provide timely analysis to federal and state health policy makers, based on the best available research. The RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis is based at the [University of Iowa](#), in the [Department of Health Management and Policy](#) at the [College of Public Health](#).

Health Panel

RUPRI has developed a unique role in providing policy-relevant analysis of rural health services delivery to audiences including policymakers and community decision-makers. Since 1993, the **RUPRI Health Panel** has built a particular expertise linking policy suggestions to broader conceptual frameworks.

RUPRI envisions rural healthcare that is affordable and accessible for rural residents through a sustainable health system that delivers high-quality, high-value services. We believe that a [high-performance rural healthcare system](#), informed by the needs of each unique rural community, will lead to greater community health and well-being.

Telehealth.HHS.gov



Website URL:

<https://telehealth.hhs.gov/>

Overview of Services:

The Telehealth.HHS.gov website was built by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). It is the trusted, timely, and one-stop resource for both patients and providers for everything they need to know about telehealth.

Washington University Center for Health Economics and Policy



Center for Health
Economics and Policy

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Contact Information:

Chep.iph@wustl.edu

Website URL:

<https://publichealth.wustl.edu/centers/chep/>

Overview of Services:

The Center for Health Economics and Policy (CHEP) advances evidence-based research to improve health and works with policy makers and public health leaders to drive more equitable health policy.

CHEP regularly produces [policy publications](#) and [data visualizations](#) that explain the impacts of Missouri Medicaid policy to policy makers and the public. Most recently CHEP has produced a number of briefs that examine the potential impacts of Medicaid expansion in Missouri. The Center will also be tracking Medicaid enrollment through an interactive data visualization dashboard.

Data contained in this dashboard includes:

- Missouri Medicaid Caseload Counter Enrollment Data
- Missouri Medicaid Enrollment by Region over Time
- Missouri Medicaid Regional Enrollment Map over Time
- Missouri Medicaid Managed Care Organization Enrollment by Plan and Region
- Missouri Medicaid Application Processing Analysis

In addition, CHEP regularly hosts meetings as installments of the [Transforming Healthcare in Missouri series](#). These meetings feature facilitated conversations that elicit constructive feedback from stakeholders and foster the development of ideas and innovations to improve healthcare access and quality of services. The topics of these meetings have included maternal health, payment reform, prioritizing the social determinants of health in payment, and responding to the recommendations of the report authored for the State of Missouri by McKinsey & Company in 2018.

CHEP hosts seminars that are open to the public and cover a broad range of topics in the areas of health policy, health services research, health economics and health equity.

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