



RURAL HEALTH CONNECT

Improving the Health of Rural Communities

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What's New

NORC Opioid Overdose Map

NORC at the University of Chicago and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's USDA Rural Development have created this [tool](#) to allow users to map overdose hotspots and overlay them with data that provide additional context to opioid addiction and death - including the strength and diversity of local economies, ethnicity, educational attainment, and disability status of residents

Good News from Washington: Congress and CMS Embrace Telehealth

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), in addition to

implementing the above directives from Congress, [took its own initiative to expand telehealth services](#), recognizing their value to patient-centered care, cost-effectiveness, and practicality. Click [here](#) for more information.

Don't Panic, Listen!

Have you or someone you love been impacted by opioid use? Do you want to speak out about your experience to help educate others on potential risk from opioid misuse? Click [here](#) for more information.

[Utah State University Extension Program](#)



Upcoming Events

Healthier Rural West Summit 2019 March 19-21

- The Healthier Rural West Summit is an inaugural event for health and healthcare stakeholders who want to impact the future of rural health. The 2019 Summit is being held March 19-21 in Salt Lake City, Utah and features both mainstage panels and two breakout tracks featuring more than 60 industry leading speakers and over 30 sessions
- The Summit will draw 400 rural healthcare providers, public leaders in local and state government, education, community advocacy organizations and business and technology leaders.
- In a highly participative format, the event will debate, discuss, and formulate success strategies for creating well-being in the West through inspiring talks, interactive sessions, panel discussions, and networking.

Learn [more](#) and secure your registration [HERE](#)



2019 Utah Public Health Conference

April 24-26, 2019
Ogden Eccles Conference Center -
Ogden, UT

[For Additional Information](#)

HEALTH SYSTEMS SUPPORT

The OPCRH has submitted the Rural Veterans Health Access Program Grant.

If you are a rural hospital Quality Manager, CNO, or CEO, please remember to register for the FLEX Summit, [here](#).

Sponsorships available for CAH employees to attend the West Region Flex Conference. Sponsorships will be given on a first come first serve basis. If interested, please fill out brief form ASAP:
<https://goo.gl/forms/LitsUWpePQuK1Gvw2>

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

If you haven't yet seen the Primary Care Needs Assessment, you can access it [here](#).

Funding is still available for the Rural Physician Loan Repayment Program.

Awards for the Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program will be announced in March.

Primary Care Grant applications will be available on our website in March/April.

OPCRH is Hiring a *Rural Health System Support Specialist*

Are you interested in working in rural health and supporting rural hospitals and clinics?

Watch for the job announcement on statejobs.utah.gov in the coming weeks to learn more and apply.



Statewide Announcements

[Utah Legislature passes Prop. 3 replacement, bill heads to Gov. Herbert for signature or veto](#)

Webinars

Auto-HPSA webinar hosted by OPCRH Senior Research Analysis, Holli Childs. For facilities impacted by the National Shortage Designation Update for auto-HPSAs on Wednesday March 6, 2019 at 12:30 pm. If you are interested, please register for "Auto- HPSA Technical Assistance for Utah Sites"

[Register here](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Thanks and hope to see you there!

Introducing the [Rural Philanthropy Toolkit](#), the Rural Health Information Hub and the NORC Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis present the Rural Philanthropy Toolkit, which is designed to help rural communities to build relationships with philanthropies. Developed by NORC on behalf of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP), the toolkit compiles emerging practices and resources to support rural communities seeking to build relationships with philanthropies.

Funding Opportunities

- The Health Resources and Services Administration's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for a new Rural Communities [Opioid Response Program](#) (RCORP) initiative called RCORP-Implementation ([HRSA-19-082](#)). HRSA plans to award approximately 75 grants to rural communities as part of this funding opportunity.
- The Health Resource and Service Administration's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for a Special Announcement for the [Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Grant Program](#) to support up to 32 public or private nonprofit health care providers located in rural areas to improve patient care in their communities. HRSA expects to invest approximately \$6.4 million for this program that aims to improve the quality of rural health care.

National Organizations

[Health Care Access in Rural Communities](#)



[Overdose Data to Action \(RFA-CE19-1904\)](#)



[HRSA US Fact Sheet by State](#)

[Rural Health Care Professional Job Posting](#)



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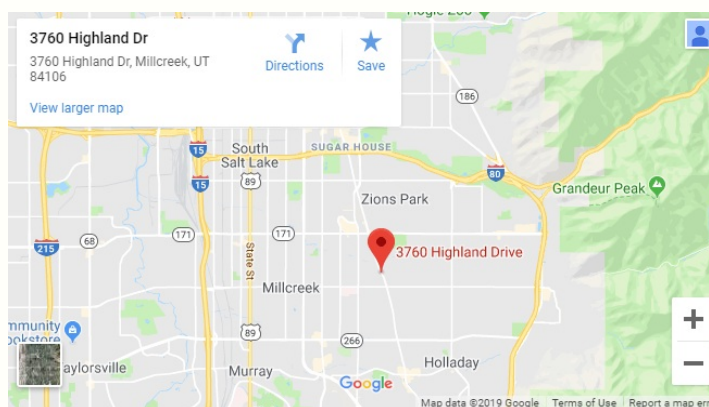
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The OPCRH provides support to our stakeholders and clients in the form of hands-on support, economic impact analysis, research, community health needs assessments, and healthcare workforce needs assessment. We also provide technical assistance and pertinent information on student loan repayment programs and grant opportunities

If you would like to be a part of our newsletter in the future and/or would like to submit a success story, announcement, or communicate any other information to us or your rural health partners, please contact Colton Gordon Program Specialist 801-273-6618, coltongordon@utah.gov

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