

RURAL HEALTH CONNECT

Improving the Health of Rural Communities

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What's New

Community Impact and Benefit Activities of Critical Access, Other Rural, and Urban Hospitals, 2017

The FLEX monitoring team has released a new report on the community impact and benefit activities of Critical Access Hospitals (CAH), rural non-CAHs and urban hospitals.

To access the report, please click [here](#).

CDC Opioid Rapid Response Team (ORRT):

Information for State, Local, and Tribal Health Departments

The Department of Health and Human Services and our law enforcement partners are committed to combating the national opioid crisis. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps are working together to support state and local agencies when there is a spike in opioid-related overdoses or closure of a clinic where patients are prescribed opioid therapy. This effort demonstrates HHS' commitment to ensuring patients have access to appropriate services.

For more information regarding the ORRT, please click [here](#)

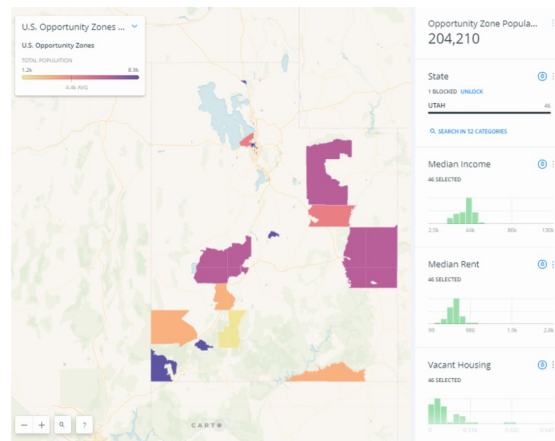
New CDC Vital Statistics Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics released provisional counts of overdose deaths in the United States that showed a decline of 5.1 percent between 2017 and 2018.

To read the full article, please click [here](#).

OPCRH Office Highlight:

Each month the OPCRH team highlights a map or project in our office. This month, we're highlighting the U.S Opportunity Zone Map. Opportunity Zones are designed to spur economic development by providing tax benefits to investors. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act created Opportunity Zones to spur investment in distressed communities throughout the country. New investments in Opportunity Zones can receive preferential tax treatment. To access the map, please follow the link [here](#).



Upcoming Events

National Rural Health Week Photo Contest

Each year for National Rural Health Week, the Office of Primary



Care and Rural Health judges a photo contest based on creativity, originality, photo quality, and how well the pictures communicate the concept of "rural." We will open photo submissions *September 1, 2019*. If you have any photos you would like to submit, please send them to opcrh@utah.gov.

For more information, and to view last year's winning photos, please follow the link [here](#).

2019 HRSA Behavioral Health Integration Summit

Attendees of this one-day conference in Anchorage, Alaska will learn about pathways to integrations, discuss the evolutionary journey of behavioral health integration (BHI) in Alaska, and develop a BHI Action Plan for the state of Alaska

The summit will be held September 17, 2019.

[To register, please click here](#)

Mental Health First Aid Training

Attendees will learn:

- Risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns
- Strategies for how to help someone in both crisis and non-crisis situations
- Local behavioral health resources available to assist adults

There is no cost for this training; however attendance will be limited to 30 trainees that serve adults. Registration will be on a first-come basis, therefore do not delay in registering for the training. There are no continuing education credits offered with the training.

The training is held in Port Angeles, Washington, August 22, 2019.

[To register, please click here](#).

OPCRH Program Updates

HEALTH SYSTEMS SUPPORT

- We are excited to announce the Office of

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- We would like to

Primary Care and Rural Health has been *awarded* the **Rural Veteran Health Access Program** grant! If you have any questions or comments regarding the award, please contact our office at opcrh@utah.gov.

- The OPCRH has *been awarded* the **FLEX NOA** for an additional 5 years.
- For anyone who missed the **Lean Six Sigma webinar series**, please contact our office for the recordings.

congratulate the 43 agencies that have been awarded funding from the **State Primary Care Grant Program** for FY 2020.

- There is still funding available for the **Rural Physician Loan Repayment Program**. Click [here](#) to apply.
- The OPCRH Team is **travelling throughout the state** to visit sites and learn more about how we can help you. If you have any questions regarding our future site visits, please email us at opcrh@utah.gov.
- The OPCRH has filled **eight (8) J-1 Visa Waiver** slots this year. Click [here](#).

Statewide Announcements

Governor's Office of Economic Development: Rural Economic Development Incentive

The Rural Economic Development Incentive (REDI) program is designed to incentivize businesses that create local jobs remote, online, or in a "satellite hub" in rural Utah counties. For each new high-paying position, the business will receive \$4,000 to \$6,000 based on the employee's location.

Eligibility:

Any business other than those engaged in construction, retail, staffing or public utility industries are encouraged to apply. A business considering the REDI grant must apply for and receive approval through the Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) in advance of creating any new position(s) which meets the following requirements:

- Pays at least 110% of the county's average wage
- Is filled by an employee who works at least 30 hours per week

- Will exist for at least 12 consecutive months

For more information, please click [here](#).

State of Utah Census

The state of Utah is attempting to get a complete count of Utah residents for the U.S. Census in 2020 and will be administered online for the first time. In 2010, there was only a 75% initial response rate to the census questionnaire.

In the past, it has always been difficult to count university students, isolated or rural populations, minority, and homeless populations. This will be even more challenging now that the survey is administered online as more than 73,000 of Utah households have no internet access at home.

Please take a moment to view this brief video that explains the importance of an accurate census and think about ways you can help our state increase participation. We all need to do our part to impress upon everyone in our circle of influence how important it is to provide this information.

Census 2020 [video](#)

Webinars

Improving the Health and Well-Being of Rural Communities Through Collaboration



In this webinar learn how rural hospitals, community health centers, local public health departments and other rural stakeholders can work together to assess and address their rural communities' health needs.

Two innovative rural health organizations will be highlighted that have developed strategies to meet population health goals, address social determinants of health, and improve health outcomes. Solutions to support rural health organizations' financial viability and lessons learned will also

be shared.

Registration

This webinar is free. High-speed internet is required to participate. A recording will be available on our website after the live event. Connection details will be emailed to you immediately upon registration. If you have questions or problems with the registration process, please contact RHIhub Webinars at webinars@ruralhealthinfo.org.

**Thursday, August 15, 2019
11 a.m. MST**

[For more information, please click here.](#)

Integrative Health Care: Addressing the Opioid Epidemic in Oregon



Objective

This will be a virtual community of sharing with subject matter experts from Federal, State, and local agencies and community partners who provide care and service in diverse communities. Discussion will focus on creating a baseline for understanding the opioid epidemic in the state of Oregon and identifying promising practices and state-specific interventions to combat the opioid crisis.

This event will feature presentations from:

- Oregon Health Authority
- HIV Alliance
- Oregon AIDS Education and Training Center (AETC)
- HRSA HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB)

Hear from these subject matters as they discuss:

- Epidemiological risk factors and root causes of the opioid

epidemic in Oregon.

- Innovative solutions to combat the opioid crisis with people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Quick start solutions and recommendations for integrating behavioral health with primary care and/or vice versa.
- How health centers can utilize HRSA programs and funding to expand access to quality Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Mental Health services.

[For more information, please click here.](#)

Proactive and Reactive Society: Focus on Rural Mental Health

Rural healthcare providers and safety professionals have an important role to play in supporting people experiencing stress or mental health challenges. Come listen as Ted Matthews talks about what we can do to be proactive and prepare ahead of crisis. Ted understands the demands farmers face because he counsels farmers in a plethora of areas from crisis intervention to helping farmers relate to their families and workers to better utilize their resources. If you're a rural health professional looking to integrate mental health counseling in your care, take time to listen to Ted's experiences. He will help you rethink your approach to providing mental health support.

**Monday, August 12, 2019
12 p.m.-1 p.m. CDT**

[For more information, please click here.](#)

Fostering Resiliency in Your Workplace

The webinar recording and related



materials address workforce burnout during healthcare transformation with a focus on rural health networks. The material address causes of burnout, tools for encouraging positive psychology and resiliency, organizational culture, and workflow to help improve retention and productivity.



[Access to recording and materials can be found here.](#)

Have Healthy People 2020 Benchmarks for Leading Causes of Death Been Met in Rural and Urban Areas?



Analyzing progress toward targets set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the Healthy People 2020 program for the leading causes of death is important. It is unclear whether progress is consistent when considering urban versus rural residence, race and ethnicity, gender, and census region.

The purpose of this webinar is to report findings from our analysis of death rates for seven major causes of death (coronary heart disease, cancer, diabetes, stroke, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, unintentional injury, and suicide) in light of Healthy People 2020 benchmarks. Presenters for this webinar include Alva O. Ferdinand, Tim Callaghan, Marvellous Akinlotan, and Kristin Primm all representing the Southwest Rural Health Research Center.

**Tuesday, August 20, 2019
10 a.m .MST**

[To access the webinar, please click here.](#)

Please check our website for updated funding opportunities. You can find the table by following the link [here](#).

National Organizations

[Human Services to Support Rural Health](#)

[Oral Health in Rural Communities](#)

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

[HRSA US Fact Sheet by State](#)

[Rural Health Care Professional Job Posting](#)



Find Us

3760 South Highland Drive
Suite 361C
SLC, UT 84106

Call Us

Office: 801-273-6677
Fax: 801-273-6512

Email Us

opcrh@utah.gov



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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