



RURAL HEALTH CONNECT

Improving the Health of Rural Communities

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Statewide Updates & News

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) educates, supports, and advocates for individuals and families experiencing mental health conditions. All courses, support groups and seminars are free and available online. There are options for both individuals with mental health conditions and their family members and loved ones, including a course for teens! Programs are led by certified volunteers who have a mental health condition or with a family member who has one. Also available every Thursday evening are 60 and 90 minutes seminars about mental health. For those looking for one-on-one assistance with mental health resources, mentors are available at 801.323.9900. For more information visit www.namiut.org.

- [NAMI Mentorship Program](#)
- [NAMI Online Programs](#)
- [Warning Signs of Mental Health Conditions](#)
- [Circle of Life: A Guidebook for Mental Health Caregivers](#)
- [Navigating a Mental Health Crisis](#)

Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR) University of Utah

The University of Utah's Nurse Education, Practice, Quality & Retention (NEPQR) program, in partnership with Association of Utah Community Health (AUCH) and the Utah Department of Health's Office of Primary Care and Rural Health, is excited to announce it will be holding its annual retreat over a five-day period next month! The official event is titled "Primary Care Transformation: The Role of the Registered Nurse". Each day features a 1 hour 15 minute session that revolves around primary care nursing. But, this does not mean that only nurses can attend! The sessions are open to and can be beneficial for everyone.

The [attached flyer](#) includes all details on speakers for each day and the topic presented. There is an amazing lineup of speakers, including Benjamin Anderson from the Colorado Hospital Association (who will also deliver the keynote address at our Rural Hospital Administrators' Summit next month), Faith Jones from

HealthTechS3, and Beth Ann Swan from the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University.

We hope you'll put this event on your calendars for **June 14, 16, 18, 21, 23 from 12:15-1 p.m. MT each day!** The flyer contains the registration link that will allow you to receive the Zoom link to join each session! This will allow you to receive the Zoom link to join each session.

AmeriCorps VISTA OPENING

The Office of Primary Care and Rural Health currently has two positions open. To apply, please click on the position links below:

[VISTA Rural & Veteran Health](#)

The Rural & Veteran Health position will: 1) develop & implement a plan to expand the Behavioral Health Workforce Loan Repayment program to rural areas; 2) develop & implement a system to measure the impact of the newly launched loan repayment program on behavioral health workforce retention in participating sites; 3) develop & provide educational resources for rural clinics and hospitals to distribute to their rural veteran patient population; 4) assess the Rural Veterans' Health Access Program's sub-grant program, and recommend improvements; and 5) take on other assignments that support OPCRH's mission to improve access to quality health care in rural and underserved communities.

[VISTA Health Provider Data](#)

The Health Provider positions will: 1) ensure data quality of Utah's health professional workforce data as it relates to Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) designations; 2) develop a system to routinely track and monitor the HPSA designations in the state; 3) track federal and state policy developments affecting the viability of rural healthcare facilities and workforce, and 4) track and disseminate information on rural health research topics relevant to OPCRH's partners and stakeholders.

More details can be found [here](#).

NHSC Site Application Extension

Health care facilities can still apply to be approved as a National Health Service

Corps (NHSC) site. The [2021 NHSC new site application cycle is open](#) for sites that:

- Have never been approved for NHSC, including sites that have applied and had their application denied or cancelled.
- Are currently an inactive NHSC site due to expiration or past compliance issues.

Deadline extended through: **Thursday, July 1, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. ET**

OPCRH Program Updates

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TEAM

- The Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program (HCWFAP) is available and accepting applications. For more information, please visit our [website](#) or email us at opcrh@utah.gov

HEALTH SYSTEM SUPPORT TEAM

- The Rural Veterans Health Access Program (RVHAP) Sub-grant program is accepting applications starting June 1, 2021. Applications are due June 30, 2021. The grant period runs from August 1 2021 to July 31, 2022. For more information, please email coltongordon@utah.gov or visit our website [here](#).

Webinars & Upcoming Events



University of Utah Project ECHO

Current Project ECHO Sessions

COVID-19:

June 7: Panel Presentation: Lisa O'Brien, Utah Long Haulers Group, Jeannette Brown, MD Launching University of Utah Health Long Haulers Clinic, and Lucinda Bateman, Bateman Horne Center Long Haulers Trial

For questions reach out to Sarah Day, sarah.day@hsc.utah.edu

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN BY ZOOM](#)

Endocrinology:

Held monthly on Tuesdays, from noon – 1pm

June 8: Medical Managements of Obesity, Juliana Simonetti, MD

For questions reach out to Genevieve Ellis, genevieve.ellis@hsc.utah.edu

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT A CASE](#)

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN BY ZOOM](#)

Pregnancy Care:

June 4: Postpartum PTSD Pregnancy, Dana Canfield, MD

June 18: Substance Use Disorder, Marcela Smid, MD or Jasmine Charles, PA-C, MPAS

For questions reach out to Linda Sossenheimer at linda.sossenheimer@hsc.utah.edu

[CLICK HERE to SUBMIT a CASE](#)

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN BY ZOOM](#)

[Burn ECHO](#)

Held quarterly on Wednesdays

June 16: Blast Injury: The Multisystem Trauma Patient, Giavonni Lewis, MD, FACS, Alexander L. Colonna, MD, MSCI, FACS, LTC, USAR, MC

For questions or more information on how to join, please email Annette Matherly Annette.Matherly@hsc.utah.edu

Funding Opportunities

[Rural Health Clinic Vaccine Confidence Program](#)
[COVID Community Partnership \(CCP\) Project](#)

Toolkit Highlight



Free Telehealth Certification Courses

The Northwest Regional Telehealth Resource Center is offering multiple telehealth certification courses for free. You can find the resources by following the link [here](#).



Connections for Community Care Project

Funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP), this project will provide Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) across the nation with easy access to and technical assistance (TA) for comprehensive, community-centric COVID-19 onsite testing and is *available at no cost*.

National Organization of State Office of Rural Health (NOSORH) will work with State Offices of Rural Health (SORH) to develop and implement strategies to enhance local, state, and national collaboration as well as provide targeted, individualized, community-centric technical assistance (TA) to participating RHCs.

Accessing additional information or getting started with the program is as simple as sending an email expressing interest to rhccovidtestinginfo@nosorh.org.

Rural Suicide Prevention Toolkit

The Rural Suicide Prevention Toolkit compiles evidence-based and promising models and resources to support organizations implementing suicide prevention programs in rural communities across the United States.

The modules in the toolkit contain resources and information focused on developing, implementing, evaluating, and sustaining rural suicide prevention programs. There are more resources on general community health strategies available in the [Rural Community Health Toolkit](#).

[To access the toolkit, please follow 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](#)



CONTACT US

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, OPCRH Program Specialist 801-230-6570, coltongordon@utah.gov

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