Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

Resource Guide

For New Applicants & Grantees

Disclaimer

"The following non-exhaustive listing of resources was compiled from publicly available sources. The programs have not been formally evaluated or approved by HHS. Inclusion of a program in this listing should not be viewed as an endorsement by HHS, nor should exclusion of a program be viewed as a non-endorsement."

FORHP Resource Guide

for New Applicants & Grantees

Table of Contents

I. General Overview

1. [Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub)](#)
   The RHIhub, formerly the Rural Assistance Center (RAC), is an "information portal" and "one-stop-shop" that helps rural communities and other rural stakeholders access the full range of available programs, funding, and research that can enable them to provide quality health and human services to rural residents. The RHIhub offers many services to help inform decisions: an online library, information and resources based on topic and state, tools for success, publications as well as updates and customized assistance. All services are provided free of charge.

2. [Rural Community Health Gateway](#)
   The Gateway can help build effective community health programs and improve services. Resources and examples in this Gateway are chosen for effectiveness and adaptability and are drawn from programs with a strong history of service and community success. Evidence-based toolkits include literature reviews and provide resources to implement programs on topics such as: care coordination, community health workers, mental health and substance abuse, obesity prevention, etc.

3. [Rural Health Models and Innovations](#)
   The Rural Health Models and Innovations database has recently been created within the Gateway and provides examples of evidence-based programs and approaches that can be adapted, including models shown to be effective, as well as new and emerging ideas. The RHIhub uses established criteria to categorize each program based on the level of evidence available for the approach.

4. [Rural Health Research Gateway](#)
   The Rural Health Research Gateway is an online library of research and expertise. It's free to use, searchable, and provides access to the work of all ten federally-funded Rural Health Research Centers and Policy Analysis Initiatives.

5. *Program Assessment and Evaluation*:
   [Introduction to Program Evaluation for Public Health Programs: A Self-Study Guide](#)
   This document is a "how to" guide for planning and implementing evaluation activities. The manual, based on CDC's Framework for Program Evaluation in Public Health, is intended to assist managers and staff of public, private and community public health programs to plan, design, implement and use comprehensive evaluations in a practical way.

   [CDC Program Evaluation Resources and Tools](#)
   This framework guides public health professionals in program evaluation. It is a practical, non-prescriptive tool designed to summarize and organize essential elements of program evaluation.

   [W.K. Kellogg Foundation Evaluation Handbook](#)
   This handbook provides a framework for thinking about evaluation as a relevant and useful program tool. It was written primarily for project directors who have direct responsibility for the ongoing evaluation of W.K. Kellogg Foundation-funded projects.

[Conducting Rural Health Research, Needs Assessment, and Program Evaluation Websites & Tools](#)
This topic guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to Conducting Research, Needs Assessment, and Evaluation and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

6. [Health Extension Toolkit](#)
   The Health Extension Toolkit has been developed as a mechanism for states to begin collaborating around better ways to improve quality of care within their primary care practices while improving community health. Its intended audience includes: academic health centers, land grant universities, primary care divisions, community hospitals, Area Health Education Centers (AHECs), community health workers, departments of health, or Medicaid agencies, as a method of disseminating a model of health extension.

7. [Rural Health Link](#)
   The Community Health Systems Development team (CHSD) of the Georgia Health Policy Center (GPHC) hosts this site as a resource for clients, including recipients of grants from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy within the Health Resources and Services Administration; these grants include the Rural Health Outreach, Network Planning, Network Development and Delta States grants.

8. [National Rural Health Resource Center](#)
   The National Rural Health Resource Center provides technical assistance, information, tools and resources for the improvement of rural health care. The Center focuses on five core areas: Performance Improvement; Health Information Technology; Recruitment and Retention; Community Health Assessments; Networking.

9. [Rural Health Value](#)
   Rural Health System Analysis and Technical Assistance is a cooperative agreement between the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, the RUPRI Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis, and Stratis Health. The RHSATA goal is to assist rural communities and providers in achieving a high performance health system by providing tools and resources appropriate for varying levels of change-readiness.

10. [National Rural Health Association (NRHA)](#)
    NRHA is a national nonprofit membership organization with more than 20,000 members. The association's mission is to provide leadership on rural health issues. NRHA membership consists of a diverse collection of individuals and organizations, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health.

11. [National Cooperative of Health Networks Association (NCHN)](#)
    The National Cooperative of Health Networks Association (NCHN) is a national professional membership organization comprised exclusively of health networks, alliances, and/or consortiums dedicated to supporting the success of health networks. NCHN is a dynamic, progressive, and nationally recognized professional organization that is relevant for health networks regardless of their stage of development.

12. [National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH)](#)
    NOSORH was established to assist State Offices of Rural Health (SORH) in their efforts to improve access to, and the quality of, health care for America's rural citizens. The general purpose of each SORH is to help their individual rural communities build health care delivery systems, and they are expected to: collect and disseminate information; coordinate rural health care activities in states in order to avoid duplication; and provide technical assistance to public and non-profit private entities.

13. [NACCHO Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP)](#)
    Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) is a community-driven strategic planning process for improving community health. These frameworks, facilitated by public health leaders, helps communities apply strategic thinking to prioritize public health issues and identify resources to address them. MAPP is not an agency-focused assessment process; rather, it is an interactive process that can improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and ultimately the performance of local public health systems.

14. *Community Development*:
    [CDC Tools for Community Action](#)
    This link is a reference page to other community development links provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

    [The Guide to Community Preventive Services (The Community Guide)](#)
    The Community Guide is a free resource for evidence-based recommendations and findings from The Community Preventive Services Task Force, an independent, nonfederal, volunteer body of public health and prevention experts. These reviews are conducted, with oversight from the Task Force, by scientists and subject matter experts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in collaboration with a wide range of government, academic, policy, and practice-based partners.

    [Community Tool Box](#)
    The Community Tool Box is a free, online resource for those working to build healthier communities and bring about social change. Our mission is to promote community health and development by connecting people, ideas, and resources.

15. [Finding Statistics and Data Related to Rural Health](#)
    This resource helps users locate and fairly and accurately use statistics and data in order to: understand rural health needs and rural/urban disparities, communicate rural health needs, and inform decision-making related to service delivery and policy.

II. Access to Health Care Services

1. [Healthcare Access in Rural Communities Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to Healthcare Access and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
Low cost health and dental insurance for uninsured children and pregnant women in families with incomes too high for most Medicaid programs. CHIP is financed through the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA).

3. HealthCare.gov
A consumer website that provides one-stop shopping access for health care information that includes: federal and state public policies, comparison of private coverage and option plans, personal health tools, and Health Insurance Marketplace. A Spanish language version, CuidadoDeSalud.gov, is also available.

4. From Coverage to Care
From Coverage to Care is an initiative to help people with new health care coverage understand their benefits and connect to primary care and the preventive services that are right for them, so they can live a long and healthy life. There are resources, videos and different ways to connect with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

III. Aging Population

1. Rural Aging Websites & Tools
This topic guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to aging and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. Eldercare Locator
This link connects older Americans and their caregivers with sources of information on senior services. It links those who need assistance with state and local area agencies on aging and community-based organizations that serve older adults and their caregivers.

3. National Center on Elder Abuse State Resource Directory
This directory assists states, agencies and organizations in offering participant-directed services to people with disabilities. It promotes excellence in participant-directed home and community-based services for older persons and people with disabilities.

4. National Resource Center for Participant-Directed Services
This resource center assists states, agencies and organizations in offering participant-directed services to people with disabilities. In addition, it promotes excellence in participant-directed home and community-based services for older persons and people with disabilities.

5. Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
This is an overview of the PACE program, which provides comprehensive medical and social services to certain frail, community-dwelling elderly individuals, most of whom are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid benefits.

IV. Behavioral/Mental Health and Substance Abuse

1. [FORHP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Toolkit](#)
   The toolkit is made up of several modules. Each concentrates on different aspects of mental health and substance abuse programs. Modules include resources for you to use in developing a program for your community.

2. [Rural Mental Health Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to Mental Health and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

3. [Rural Substance Abuse Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to Substance Abuse in Rural Areas and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

4. [Community Conversations About Mental Health Toolkit](#)
   This toolkit contains briefs, guides, and other resources designed to help people promote mental health and access to treatment and recovery services within their communities.

5. [SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Innovative Health Solutions (CIHS) Quick Start Guide to Behavioral Health Integration](#)
   An interactive flowchart to walk you through some of the questions to consider when integrating behavioral health care and, most importantly, point you toward helpful resources that can answer those questions.

6. [SAMHSA-HRSA CIHS Assessment Tools for Organizations Integrating Primary Care and Behavioral Health](#)
   These assessments can provide a jumping off point to identify the logical next steps for organizations to determine areas for workforce development, exploration into the addition of specific clinical services, or the adoption or expansion of your health information technology capabilities.

7. [Toolkit for Expanding the System of Care Approach](#)
   Resources have been developed to help expand and sustain systems of care for children, youth, and young adults with mental health challenges as well as their families throughout states, tribes, territories, and communities. This toolkit brings these resources together to make them easily accessible to jurisdictions engaged in expansion efforts. It provides a strategic framework for system of care expansion and guides for strategic planning, implementing expansion strategies, financing, and performance and outcome measurement.

V. Black Lung/Coal Miner Health

1. [NIOSH Occupational Respiratory Disease Surveillance](#)
   NIOSH implements the Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program, which, in its current incarnation, tracks health data for miners in underground and surface mines. NIOSH's

website enables users to generate tables and maps of the distribution and severity of black lung disease throughout the country. It also lists requirements for health facilities and coal mine operators participating in the Surveillance Program.

2. U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)
MSHA provides historical and current data on the number of mines and miners in the country as well as reported mining accidents, injuries, and deaths. It also provides citation/violation statistics.

3. DOL Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP)
OWCP's Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation administers claims filed under the Black Lung Benefits Act. The Division's website provides guidance for how to file a claim for black lung benefits; statistics on the number of claims filed across the country; and up-to-date information about outreach events and policy changes.

4. U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)
The EIA provides data on coal imports and exports, prices, production, consumption, reserves, and transportation rates. It also produces an Annual Coal Report that provides a snapshot of the current state of the industry.

VI. Care Coordination

1. FORHP Care Coordination Toolkit
The toolkit is made up of several modules. Each concentrates on different aspects of care coordination programs. Modules also include resources for you to use in developing a program for your area.

2. AHRQ Curriculum Tools
AHRQ offers several curriculum tools that health care professionals can use to make care safer and improve their communication and teamwork skills.

3. AHRQ PCMH Resource Center
This website provides policymakers and researchers with access to evidence-based resources about the medical home and its potential to transform primary care and improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of U.S. health care.

4. NCQA Patient-Centered Medical Home Recognition
The evidence presented here outlines how the medical home inspires quality in care, cultivates more engaging patient relationships, and captures savings through expanded access and delivery options that align patient preferences with payer and provider capabilities.

5. Rural Care Coordination Websites & Tools
This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to care coordination and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

VII.   Child Wellness

1. Bright Futures Tool and Resource Kit
    The *Bright Futures Tool and Resource Kit* provides forms and tools for health care providers, patients, and families to complete before, during, or after well-child visits. Providers can use or adapt these materials to meet the needs of their practices and ensure they are following the recommendations presented in the *Guidelines* when delivering care to patients.

2. Early, Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program
    The Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Program is the child health component of Medicaid. This website provides information about how EPSDT works with public health, families, managed care organizations, pediatricians, and other health providers.

3. Project Launch
    The purpose of Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health) is to promote the wellness of young children ages birth to 8 by addressing the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral aspects of their development.

4. Safe Schools/ Healthy Students
    The Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative was created in response to rising concerns about youth violence, substance abuse and school safety. This initiative takes a comprehensive approach, drawing on the best practices and the latest thinking in education, justice, social services, and mental health to help communities take action.

5. Stopbullying.gov Resources
    This website provides information from various government agencies on what bullying is, what cyberbullying is, who is at risk, and how you can prevent and respond to bullying.

6. CDC Adolescent and School Health
    This is a tools and training guide created under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that address access curricula, policies and programs, program evaluation tools, training procedures and other resources specific to adolescent and school health.

7. Rural Schools and Health Websites & Tools
    This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to schools and health and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

VIII.   Community Health Workers

1. FORHP Community Health Workers Toolkit
    This toolkit is designed to help you evaluate opportunities for developing a CHW program and provides resources and best practices developed by successful CHW programs.

2. Community Health Workers in Rural Settings Websites & Tools

This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to community health workers and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

3. [CDC Community Health Worker (CHW) Toolkit](#)
CDC has compiled evidence-based research that supports the effectiveness of CHWs in the Community Health Worker Toolkit. The toolkit also includes information that state health departments can use to train and further build capacity for CHWs in their communities, as well as helpful resources that CHWs can use within their communities.

4. [USAID Community Health Worker Assessment and Improvement Matrix (CHW AIM)](#)
The USAID Health Care Improvement Project created the CHW AIM Toolkit to help ministries; donors and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) assess and strengthen their community health worker programs to improve their functionality.

5. [CDC Road to Health Toolkit: How to Prevent or Delay Type 2 Diabetes Training Guide for CHWs](#)
This link increases knowledge and skills regarding type 2 diabetes prevention among community health workers (CHWs) in Hispanic/Latino and African American/ African Ancestry communities, so they are able to clearly relay the following message: Type 2 diabetes does not have to be our destiny.

6. [National Diabetes Education Program Road to Health Toolkit Evaluation Guide for CHWs](#)
The National Diabetes Education Program created this guide for community health workers (CHWs), promotores de salud, diabetes educators, lay health workers, and health educators who want to know (1) how the Road to Health Toolkit is making a difference in the lives of their participants who are at risk for type 2 diabetes, and (2) how well they have conducted their own activities.

7. [IMPaCT ™Model Toolkit](#)
This model is an evidence-based system for CHW recruitment, training and care. It has been developed as a free toolkit to help other organizations adapt and implement this model. Different models have been laid out in regards to individual roles within the CHW program.

IX. Chronic Disease

1. [FORHP Rural Obesity Prevention Toolkit](#)
This toolkit is designed to help pinpoint factors in your community that promote obesity, convene partners to help address those problems, and apply proven obesity prevention strategies.

2. [Rural Obesity and Weight Control Websites & Tools](#)
This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to obesity and weight control and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

3. [Medicare Chronic Conditions Dashboard(s)](#)

The Medicare Chronic Conditions Dashboard(s) present statistical views of information on the prevalence, utilization and Medicare spending for Medicare beneficiaries with chronic conditions and multiple chronic conditions. The information is presented for HHS/CMS regions, states, counties, and hospital referral regions and is available in four separate dashboards.

4. [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)](#)
The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is the nation's premier system of health-related telephone surveys that collect state data about U.S. residents regarding their health-related risk behaviors, chronic health conditions, and use of preventive services.

X. Critical Access Hospitals

1. [Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) Websites & Tools](#)
This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to critical access hospitals and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. [NRHRC Technical Assistance and Services Center](#)
With a comprehensive network of rural health resources, TASC offers a variety of communication tools, education and technical assistance services.

3. [Flex Monitoring Team](#)
The Flex Monitoring Team is a consortium of the Rural Health Research Centers in Minnesota, North Carolina, and Maine. Their efforts aim to improve the accessibility, viability, and quality of health care for rural residents and communities. They provide State Flex Programs and Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) with ways to optimize their performance based on evidence and/or best practices.

XI. Emergency Medical Services

1. [Rural Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Trauma Websites & Tools](#)
This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to emergency medical services and trauma and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

XII. Emergency Preparedness and Response

1. [Rural Emergency Preparedness and Response Websites & Tools](#)
This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to emergency preparedness and response and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. [Community Emergency Response Teams](#)

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

3. [National Disaster Life Support Foundation, Inc.](#)
   The National Disaster Life Support Foundation, Inc. oversees the National Disaster Life Support (NDLS) courses, a series of educational programs to better prepare health care professionals and emergency response personnel for mass casualty events. The NDLS courses are comprehensive, all-hazards, competency-based, standardized, and multi-disciplinary and assist health professionals respond to mass casualty events regardless the cause.

4. [CDC Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever](#)
   This guide provides information on the Ebola Virus Disease through links and resources provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Information provided includes: signs and symptoms, transmission, prevention, risks of exposure, diagnosis, etc.

5. [Mental Health First Aid](#)
   Mental Health First Aid is an in-person training that teaches you how to help people developing a mental illness or in a crisis.

XIII.   Federally Qualified Health Centers and Look Alikes

1. [Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to federally qualified health centers and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. [HRSA Health Center Program](#)
   Learn about one of the largest safety net systems of primary and preventive care in the country, including its impact on the people it serves and the fundamentals of the Health Center Program.

3. [HRSA Health Center Program Technical Assistance](#)
   Under the Bureau of Primary Care, this link provides information on program opportunities, recent news, as well as health center program requirements, quality improvement, data and reporting as well as a health center locator.

4. [HRSA Health Center Capital Development Programs](#)
   Capital Development grants support health center efforts to expand their capacity to provide primary and preventive health services to medically underserved populations in underserved communities. They are one-time awards supported with funds made available by the Affordable Care Act.

5. [Federal Torts Claims Act (FTCA)](#)
   This link provides Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) information for Free Clinics, including application information and annual reporting procedures. Also provides information for

health centers, including application process guidance, policy information regarding particularized determination, and guidance on the claims filing process.

6. [National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC)](#)
NACHC works with a network of state health center and primary care organizations to serve health centers in a variety of ways: Provide research-based advocacy for health centers and their clients, educate the public about the mission and value of health centers, train and provide technical assistance to health center staff and boards, develop alliances with private partners and key stakeholders to foster the delivery of primary health care services to communities in need.

XIV.   Food Systems, Sustainable Agriculture, Nutrition and Hunger

1. [Rural Hunger and Access to Healthy Food Websites & Tools](#)
This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to hunger and access to healthy foods and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. [Community Food Assessment Toolkit](#)
This report provides a toolkit of standardized measurement tools for assessing various aspects of community food security. It includes a general guide to community assessment and focused materials for examining six basic assessment components related to community food security.

3. [Food Security in the U.S.](#)
ERS research focuses on: food security in U.S. households, food security's impact on the well-being of children, adults, families, and communities, and food security's relationship to public policies, public assistance programs, and the economy.

4. [Farmers Markets and Local Food Marketing](#)
USDA launches National Local Food Directories to help customers locate Farmers Markets, On-Farm Markets, CSAs, and Food Hubs. To better connect farmers and buyers, and enhance awareness of available local food sources, USDA has expanded on the popular and comprehensive National Farmers Market Directory.

5. [USDA Healthy Food Access](#)
Learn more about USDA tools and support to expand healthy food access through the development of local food systems in the KYF Compass. Then view some of the projects that are increasing access to healthy, local food on this interactive map.

6. [Nutrition.gov](#)
Nutrition.gov provides easy access to vetted food and nutrition information from across the federal government. It serves as a gateway to reliable information on nutrition, healthy eating, physical activity, and food safety for consumers.

7. [Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education](#)

The SARE grants and education program has advanced agricultural innovation that promotes profitability, stewardship of the land, air and water, and quality of life for farmers, ranchers and their communities.

8. [CDC Food Deserts](#)
   If you struggle with finding affordable fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat milk and other healthy foods, the important thing to remember is that you can still take steps to improve your diet.

XV.   Health Care System Financing

1. [Healthcare Access in Rural Communities Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to healthcare access and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. [Medicaid and Rural Health Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to Medicaid and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

3. [New Market Tax Credit (NMTC) Program](#)
   The NMTC is authorized by the U.S. Department of Treasury, Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) fund as part of a bi-partisan effort to stimulate investment and economic growth in low income urban neighborhoods and rural communities that lack access to the capital needed to support and grow businesses, create jobs, and sustain healthy local economies.

4. [ACF Community Economic Development (CED)](#)
   Community Economic Development (CED) is a federal grant program via the, which funding Community Development Corporations that address the economic needs of low-income individuals and families through the creation of sustainable business development and employment opportunities.

5. [USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program](#)
   This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.

XVI.   Health Education and Promotion

1. [Rural Wellness and Prevention Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to wellness and prevention and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. [Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce](#)
   Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce is a collaboration of U.S. government agencies, public health organizations, and health sciences libraries which provides timely, convenient access to selected public health resources on the Internet.

3. [HealthyPeople.gov Tools for Professionals](#)
   These tools of communication aim to help public health professionals connect with consumers and the public through means of various online resources.

4. [CDC Health Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (HECAT)](#)
   The Health Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (HECAT) can help school districts, schools, and others conduct a clear, complete, and consistent analysis of health education curricula based on the National Health Education Standards and CDC's Characteristics of an Effective Health Education Curriculum.

5. [CDC Physical Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (HECAT)](#)
   The Physical Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (PECAT) is a self-assessment and planning guide developed by CDC. It is designed to help school districts and schools conduct clear, complete, and consistent analyses of physical education curricula, based upon national physical education standards.

6. [NCBH Health Promotion Tools and Resources](#)
   The tools and resources listed below are a small sample of the wealth of information that exists in the public domain. Employers are encouraged to at least consider the information provided here as they move forward to develop a wellness and health promotion program for the workplace.

XVII. Health and Human Services Integration

1. [Human Services to Support Rural Health Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to human services and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. [USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)](#)
   SNAP offers nutrition assistance to millions of eligible, low-income individuals and families and provides economic benefits to communities. SNAP is the largest program in the domestic hunger safety net.

3. [USAC Lifeline Program](#)
   The Lifeline Program helps telecommunications companies offer discounts to consumers that lower the cost of monthly telephone services.

4. [ACF Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)](#)
   The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program is designed to help needy families achieve self-sufficiency. States receive block grants to design and operate programs that accomplish one of the purposes of the TANF program.

5. [USDA National School Lunch Program (NSLP)](#)
   The National School Lunch Program is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day.

6. [Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Human Services](#)
   The Human Services Program supports the Department's Strategic Goal to Advance Quality Communities for Tribes and Alaska Natives by improving welfare systems for Indian Tribes and Alaska Natives. Human Services consists of direct funding and activities related to social services, welfare assistance, Indian child welfare, and program oversight.

7. [USDA Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations](#)
   The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) is a Federal program that provides USDA foods to low-income households, including the elderly, living on Indian reservations, and to Native American families residing in designated areas near reservations and in the State of Oklahoma.

8. [ACF Head Start](#)
   Head Start promotes the school readiness of young children from low-income families through agencies in their local community. Head Start and Early Head Start programs support the comprehensive development of children from birth to age 5, in centers, child care partner locations, and in their own homes. Services include early learning, health, and family well-being.

XVIII. Health IT

1. [Health Information Technology in Rural Healthcare Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to health information technology and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. [AHRQ Health IT Tools and Resources](#)
   AHRQ and its community of contractors and grantees have developed tools to help health care organizations plan for, implement and evaluate health information technology (IT). These tools describe and recommend strategies for addressing some of the common challenges organizations encounter when working with health IT systems.

3. [Rural Health IT Adoption Toolbox](#)
   This resource is targeted towards rural health providers seeking to implement health IT to improve the overall effectiveness of their institutions. It is organized in a question-and-answer format and includes a compilation of resources relevant to all stages of planning, executing, and evaluating the implementation of health IT.

4. [HRSA Health IT Toolboxes](#)
   This toolbox provides references to a variety of health links under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, that address IT issues in implementation, adoption, children's providers, HIV/AIDS care and oral health.

5. ICD-10 Implementation Toolkit
   The purpose of the ICD-10 Toolkit is to provide guidance and assistance to rural health care providers in making the transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10. This toolkit is designed to be used in conjunction with any coder or physician training that a rural hospital or clinic may be doing.

6. AHIMA ICD-10 Overview and Implementation
   AHIMA provides the knowledge, resources and tools to advance health information professional practice and standards for the delivery of quality healthcare. Whether you work in the field, or are just interested in learning more about the profession, ahima.org provides the answers to your HIM questions and effective solutions for critical HIM issues.

7. HealthIT.gov
   Health information technology (health IT) makes it possible for health care providers to better manage patient care through secure use and sharing of health information. Health IT includes the use of electronic health records (EHRs) instead of paper medical records to maintain people's health information.

8. Telebehavioral Health Training and Technical Assistance
   The SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions Telebehavioral Health Training and Technical Assistance Series is designed to help safety net providers and rural health clinics understand and adopt telebehavioral health services. The implementation of telehealth services for mental health and substance use allows for increased access to these services, particularly in rural or underserved areas.

XIX.   Networks

1. Contracts and MOUs
   As community-based primary and behavioral health care providers come together to better meet patient needs by integrating services and sharing staff, there are practical considerations such as contracting and partnership agreements that will help community health organizations transform from clinical models of integration into truly integrated practices. CIHS regularly shares useful resources for community providers to draw upon when entering supportive relationships.

2. Writing Guide for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
   This tool is intended to be your guide for writing an MOU. The document is laid out in a recommended MOU structure with suggested headings for each section. Each section poses questions to consider in helping guide you when writing content for it.

3. A Guide to Memorandum of Understanding Negotiation and Development
   The MOU is an important device in organizing community care systems for the elderly since it can be used to stipulate client flow and other issues related to efficient service delivery in advance of operation. This paper discusses the process an agency should follow to develop interagency MOU's and presents examples of MOU's which can be used as models.

4. Confidentiality

A common misperception exists that sharing mental health and substance use information with primary care providers is prohibited. These resources and examples help providers fully understand confidentiality issues and overcome perceived obstacles.

5. [Workflow](#)
   Workflow is the sequence of physical and mental tasks performed by various people within and between work environments. CIHS provides the latest tools and resources to help community health providers make access to care timelier, address revenue losses due to no-show appointments, and master technology to improve performance, and address other workflow issues.

6. [Coalitions Work Tools](#)
   This coalition guide provides tools and resources that describe the many stages of coalition development, from start-up tools to sustainability mechanisms.

7. [Community Tool Box](#)
   Toolkits help you get a quick start on key activities in community work. Select the work closest to what you are doing to see an outline of key tasks, examples, and links to more detailed instructional sections.

XX.   Oral Health

1. [FORHP Oral Health Toolkit](#)
   This toolkit is designed to help you identify and implement an oral health program. It also provides you with resources and best practices. It is made up of several modules each of which concentrates on different aspects of oral health programs. Modules also include resources for you to use in developing a program for your area.

2. [Oral Health in Rural Communities Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to oral health and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

3. [AAP Children's Oral Health Practice Tools](#)
   Learn how to perform an oral health risk assessment, nutrition and oral hygiene counseling, and to apply fluoride varnish when needed as a vital part of the well child exam.

4. [Bright Futures Toolbox: Health Professionals and Human Services Providers](#)
   This toolbox provides a variety of references and guides for health care professionals and human services providers. These references include: education and training, screening and risk assessment tools, anticipatory guidance, etc.

5. [Smiles for Life](#)
   Smiles for Life is a comprehensive oral health curriculum for primary care clinicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, students, and educators. The set of courses, available online or for download, is designed to enhance the role of primary care clinicians

in the promotion of oral health for all age groups through the development and dissemination of high-quality educational resources.

6. [ADA Mouth Healthy](#)
This link provides general information on keeping one's mouth healthy through articles, dental emergency 101, the effects of diseases and health facts.

7. [AHRQ Oral Health Resources](#)
The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ's) mission is to improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care for all Americans. At AHRQ no special distinction is made between oral health and other health subspecialties.

XXI. Quality Assurance and Improvement

1. [HRSA Quality Toolkit](#)
The HRSA Quality Toolkit is designed to assist a health care organization with its quality improvement (QI) efforts. The toolkit is comprised of tools and resources to support an organization's new or existing QI program.

2. [AHRQ Health Care Innovations Exchange](#)
The Innovations Exchange offers busy health professionals and researchers the opportunity to share, learn about, and ultimately adopt evidence-based innovations and tools suitable for a range of health care settings and populations. Its website has the following components: searchable innovations and quality tools, articles and resources and networking opportunities.

3. [Quality Measure Tools & Resources](#)
This link provides quality improvement measurement tools, and information, including AHRQ Quality Indicators Hospital Toolkit, ambulatory clinical performance measures, the National Quality Measures Clearinghouse, and Talking Quality.

4. [Rural Healthcare Quality Website & Tools](#)
This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to healthcare quality and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

XXII. Radiation Exposure and Screening

1. [FORHP Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program (RESEP)](#)
Grant awards are made to eligible entities for the provision of education and screening services to individuals with an increased risk for development of malignant and non-malignant radiogenic diseases. Individuals who lived near areas where above-ground nuclear tests were conducted from 1945 through 1962 and/or worked in the uranium mining industry from 1942 through 1971 are eligible to receive a screening exam at one of the funded RESEP clinics. Authorized through the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA), RESEP services also offer eligibility assistance and counseling services for individuals

filing benefit claims under the RECA program or the Energy Employee Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA).

2. U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Radiation Exposure Compensation (RECA) Program
The DOJ administers the program under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) in order to provide compensation to individuals who contracted certain cancers and other serious diseases as a result of their exposure to radiation released during above-ground nuclear weapons tests or as a result of their exposure to radiation during employment in underground uranium mines.

3. DOL Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act
The Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) compensates current or former employees (or their survivors) of the Department of Energy (DOE), its predecessor agencies, and certain of its vendors, contractors and subcontractors, who were diagnosed with a qualifying radiogenic disease as well compensation to individuals (or their eligible survivors) for any occupational illnesses that are causally linked to toxic exposures in the DOE or mining work environment as defined by section 5 of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act. The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Labor.

4. Comprehensive Database and Atlas Assessments of Uranium Mines on Navajo Nation
Part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund Program, a comprehensive database and atlas assessments of all known uranium mines on the Navajo Nation was developed in 2007. Since 1994, the Superfund Program has provided technical assistance and funding to assess potentially contaminated sites and develop a response that addresses the potential health effects resulting from exposure to contaminants from uranium mines.

5. EPA Citizen's Guide to Radon
An EPA guide, which contains basic information about Radon in the home and how to test and read the results. The EPA Radon website provides comprehensive public information, tools and resources addressing Radon exposure, associated health risks and how to avoid/reduce exposure to Radon.

XXIII.   Rural Health Centers

1. Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) Websites & Tools
This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to rural health clinics and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. National Association of Rural Health Clinics
The National Association of Rural Health Clinics (NARHC) is the only national organization dedicated exclusively to improving the delivery of quality, cost-effective health care in rural underserved areas through the Rural Health Clinics (RHC) Program.

3. FORHP Starting a Rural Health Clinic – A How-To Manual

The Rural Health Clinic program presents a very real opportunity for enhancing access to health care in underserved rural areas. The following information will provide you with a description of the program requirements and describe in easily understandable language the mechanism for becoming an RHC. The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy has prepared this document to assist health care practitioners to better understand the process for becoming a Federally-certified Rural Health Clinic.

4. [FORHP Rural Health Clinic Technical Assistance Series](#)
   The Rural Health Clinic Technical Assistance conference call series connects you with timely and useful information on operational and policy issues specific to Rural Health Clinics. The series is produced in conjunction with the National Association of Rural Health Clinics (NARHC). All are recorded and available through this link for your review.

XXIV.   Wellness and Prevention

1. [Rural Wellness and Prevention Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to Wellness and Prevention and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. [CDC Healthier Worksite Initiative](#)
   This site addresses workforce health promotion (WHP), a topic that is receiving a lot of attention in workplaces today. Well-constructed and well-run programs can reduce costs to the employer and improve employee health and morale. This Web site was designed as a resource for WHP program planners in state and federal government.

3. [CDC Health-Related Quality of Life](#)
   This resource focuses on the concepts of well-being that measure living conditions through a variety of functions critical to public health and policy.

4. [CDC National Healthy Worksite Program](#)
   The National Healthy Worksite Program is designed to assist employers in implementing science and practice-based prevention and wellness strategies that will lead to specific, measureable health outcomes to reduce chronic disease rates.

5. [HHS Prevention](#)
   This link provides information on prevention of health issues through numerous topics such as exercise and fitness, healthy lifestyles, health screenings, vaccinations, etc.

XXV.   Workforce Development, Recruitment and Retention

1. [Rural Healthcare Workforce Websites & Tools](#)
   This guide is designed to serve both as an introduction to healthcare workforce and as a reference that collects the "best of the best" resources: selected documents, organizations, tools, funding opportunities, news items, events, and program examples.

2. [3RNet Midwest Retention Toolkit](#)

This toolkit includes worksheets, sample surveys, agendas, and plans that may be utilized within health care providers. The tools ensure they are properly orientated to the practice, integrated into the community along with their family and recognized for their service and impact on local health care. It also features a national resource section with websites and contact information.

3. [SAMHSA Building a Recruitment and Retention Plan](#)
   Because organizations often have a greater ability to change non-wage-related issues, this resource focuses on building a plan that increases successful recruitment, reduces turnover, and improves retention without utilizing an increase in compensation. It is up to individual agencies to assess their available resources and decide what role wages and benefits can play in recruitment and retention efforts.

4. [Regional Public Health Training Centers Network](#)
   Expand your public health skills by using the training and resources available from the Public Health Training Centers Network. Trainings cover topics such as leadership and management, epidemiology, and basic public health skills. There are also resources and publications with tools and information relevant to public health practitioners.

5. [National AHEC Organization (NAO)](#)
   The National AHEC Organization supports and advances the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Network to improve health by leading the nation in recruitment, training and retention of a diverse health work force for underserved communities.