



ARHP Impact Report

20
22

About Us

OUR FUNDERS

U. S. Health Resources Services Administration Federal
Office of Rural Health Policy
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - SAMHSA
U. S. Department of Labor
United States Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Justice Assistance
State Justice Institute
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Delta Regional Authority
Blue and You Foundation for a Healthier You
Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield
Arkansas Department of Health
Arkansas Department of Human Services
Arkansas Economic Development Commission
Arkansas Children's Hospital
Arkansas Department of Finance & Administration
Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

OUR COLLABORATIONS

Allivant Solutions (Developed by Mayo Clinic and Select
Medical)
Former Governor Asa Hutchinson
Arkansas General Assembly
Arkansas Insurance Department
Arkansas Economic Development Commission
Attorney General Tim Griffin
Arkansas USDA Rural Development
Arkansas Center for Health Improvement
Arkansas Community Health Worker Association
Arkansas Municipal League
Arkansas Office of the Drug Director
Arkansas Department of Education
Arkansas Insurance Department
Arkansas Public Health Association
Criminal Justice Institute
Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine (ARCOM)
Congressman Rick Crawford
U.S. Senator John Boozman
U.S. Senator Tom Cotton
Congressman Bruce Westerman
Rural Health Association of Arkansas
Community Health Centers of Arkansas
ARCare
Dr. James Wright, DO
Phoenix Youth & Family Services
Phillips County Opioid Awareness & Prevention Initiative
The Functional Pharmacist
South Arkansas District Court
Phoenix Youth & Family Services
Options, Inc.

New Vision
Dallas County Sheriff's Office
Pinnacle Point - The Pointe
Delta Counseling Associates
10th Judicial Drug Task Force
1st Judicial Drug Task Force
Tritanium Solutions Medical Withdrawal Management
Arkansas Recovery Ministries (ARM 180)
University of Arkansas at McGehee
University of Arkansas at Monticello
University of Arkansas at Crossett
Phillips Community College University of Arkansas

OUR PARTNERS

Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine
Ashley County Medical Center
Baptist Health-Stuttgart
Bradley County Medical Center
Chicot Memorial Medical Center
Dallas County Medical Center
DeWitt Hospital & Nursing Home
Delta Memorial Hospital
Drew Memorial Health System
Forrest City Medical Center
Helena Regional Medical Center
Jefferson Regional
Magnolia Regional Medical Center
Mainline Health Systems
McGehee Hospital
Medical Center of South Arkansas
Mid-Delta Health Systems
New York Institute of Technology - Jonesboro
Ouachita County Medical Center
Sevier County Medical Center
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

BOARD LEADERSHIP

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CEO, Jefferson Regional
Brian Miller | Vice President
CEO, DeWitt Hospital & Nursing Home
Scott Barrilleaux | Secretary & Treasurer
CEO, Drew Memorial Health System

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Peggy Abbott

CEO, Ouachita County Medical Center

Phillip Gilmore

CEO, Ashley County Medical Center

Terry Amstutz

CEO, McGehee Hospital

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS**Allan Nichols**

CEO, Mainline Health Systems

Harrison Reed

Associate Vice Chancellor - Clinical Strategy, UAMS/UAMS Health

John Ballard

CEO, Forrest City Medical Center

Lori House

CEO, Sevier County Medical Center

Monica Lindley

CEO, Mid-Delta Health Systems

Shane Speights, DO

Campus Dean, NYITCOM at Arkansas State University

Sherry Turner, DO, MPH

Associate Dean of GME & DIO Professor, Agency Medicine at ARCOM

LEADERSHIP TEAM**Mellie Boagni (f. Bridewell)**

ARHP Founder, President & CEO

Lynn Caldwell Hawkins

Vice President of Operations

Brandon Gorman

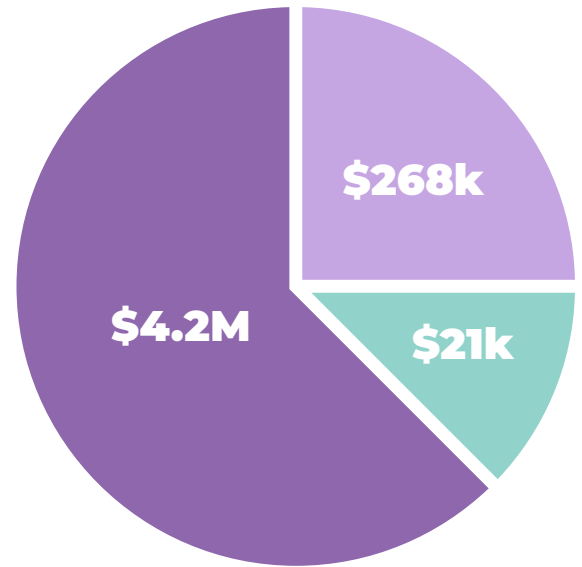
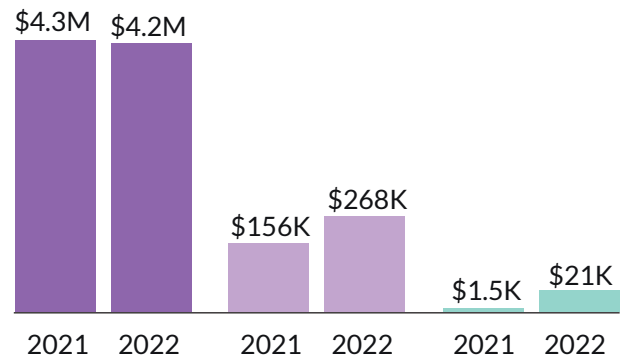
Chief Financial Officer

Amber O'Fallon

Executive Officer of Logistics

Amanda Kuttenkuller

Vice President of Programs

**YEAR OVER YEAR GROWTH**

Message from our Leaders

Have you ever run a marathon? For weeks and months, you dedicate countless hours to fully preparing your body for competition. You undergo rigorous physical training, make meaningful changes to enhance your diet, engage in adequate amounts of rest, and ensure you are mentally prepared for the challenge ahead. Finally, race day arrives. Surrounded by friends and family, you run. The cheers and support of your inner circle pair with the mental and physical disciplines you established to eventually push you across the finish line.

For the past several years, rural health systems across Arkansas have endured a once-in-a-lifetime marathon. Three long years of the COVID-19 pandemic stressed the critical infrastructure and capacity of rural hospitals already challenged to keep their beds full and doors open. Healthcare providers remained dedicated to serving their patients even at the cost of their own health and wellness. Due to the faithfulness of our rural health systems, providers and support staff, rural residents never experienced a break in access to locally available healthcare and support services, perhaps when it was needed most.

These extreme circumstances have reinforced our deepest held conviction: **The only way forward is together.** The Arkansas Rural Health Partnership (ARHP) exists to serve rural health systems, their staff, and patients so that we cross the finish line, together. When local health systems win, we all win. Local economies remain strong. New businesses are launched.



Our schools ready the next generation to serve. Individuals and families choose to stay rural rather than leave looking for a better life. Our rural communities thrive.

We are often asked, "Does ARHP provide all these services?" Our overwhelming response is, "No! There is no way we could do everything and we wouldn't want to do it if we could. What we love to do is come alongside all of these amazing organizations and help take them to the next level. That's our heart." We aim to be the loudest cheerleader on the sidelines of the race and champion the ones running the race- to not give up, to keep going, to run hard and strong until the end.

In 2022, ARHP came alongside over 60 rural health systems, educational institutions,

workforce and economic development partners, and community organizations spanning 20+ counties to support rural health infrastructure and ultimately, the health and wellness of rural residents.

MELLIE BOAGNI (f. BRIDEWELL)
ARHP Founder, President & CEO

BRIAN THOMAS
Board President, ARHP
President & CEO, Jefferson Regional

Here for rural leaders. Here for rural residents.

Throughout 2022, ARHP worked to strategically expand their impact to better serve rural leaders and residents. In November 2022, the organization launched a much needed building expansion project (completed in February 2023), which doubled the footprint of the existing ARHP headquarters.

The Lake Village, Arkansas downtown location now houses administrative and staff offices, a conference room, telehealth resource center, a commercial & teaching kitchen (The Good Food Rx), and dedicated space to offer in-person health-social support for rural residents (through non-profit partners).



EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Continued growth in 2022 also required the addition of new educational partners. New technical institutes, community colleges, undergraduate, and graduate schools further expanded impact, particularly related to the health workforce continuum and behavioral health initiatives.

“We are proud to partner with the Arkansas Rural Health Partnership. Their mission to improve the healthcare infrastructure across south Arkansas is creating transformative, sustainable change in our state,” said Dean Victoria DeFrancesco Soto.



“Students choose the Clinton School because of opportunities to work with organizations like ARHP that are delivering long-term community impact. Chase Encalade’s recent Capstone project with ARHP exemplifies the type of experience we want our students to have at the Clinton School.”

16

rural hospital members

3

medical teaching institutions

2

federally qualified health centers

2

food pantries

2

telehealth resource centers

Chase Encalade, MPS

Clinton School of Public Service, Class of 2023, ARHP Program Officer I, SAMHSA Project Director

Photo courtesy of the Clinton School



Our Areas of Focus



Rural Hospital Sustainability

pg. 8

ARHP strengthens and supports the infrastructure and capacity of rural hospitals by leveraging resources, facilitating collaboration, and supporting healthcare leaders to navigate continuous policy changes at the state, regional, and federal level.



Health Workforce Continuum

pg. 12

ARHP works with diverse education partners from across the region and state to recruit, educate, and retain a local healthcare workforce and then ensures access to current, best practice training and continuing education courses to provide top-notch care.



Health-Social Initiatives

pg. 20

ARHP offers wrap-around services to support the health-social factors that impact health and wellness outcomes (often referred to as social determinants of health). Rural residents benefit from increased access to insurance enrollment, prescription assistance, healthy food, and more.



Behavioral Health Initiatives

pg. 21

ARHP supports individuals experiencing mental health and substance use concerns and strengthens the local systems of care that aim to serve them well.

The Mississippi River Bridge
between Lake Village, Arkansas
and Greenville, Mississippi.



“Rural healthcare services will only continue to exist in rural communities if healthcare organizations work together collaboratively across a regional level to address the needs of their patients and community members.”

Mellie Boagni (f. Bridewell)

ARHP Founder, President & CEO

A decorative, hand-drawn style squiggle in a light blue color.

We build bridges to infuse rural healthcare systems and communities with life-giving support.

Rural hospitals across Arkansas are facing critical and immediate needs to keep their doors open. For some, the situation is dire. The ripple effect within a rural community from a single closure will be devastating.

ARHP assists rural healthcare systems and their leaders to navigate the continual changes required to remain financially sustainable and locally relevant. This work touches on every facet of care delivery, from the way services are provided to how they are reimbursed, and the way facilities are structured to meet changing requirements while also responding to community needs.



“ARHP is now synonymous with driving rural health innovation and change across south Arkansas. As our goals to improve health and healthcare in Arkansas align, UAMS proudly built upon its long-term alliance with this dynamic organization in 2022, collaborating on several workforce initiatives. We look forward to strengthening the rural health landscape together through expanded telehealth, healthcare provider education and training programs, and exciting, new projects.”

Stephanie Gardner, Pharm.D., Ed.D.

Provost, Chief Academic Officer, and Chief Strategy Officer, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS)



Dr. Gardner discusses improved collaboration and service delivery at the ARHP Board Retreat in Little Rock, AR, May 2022.

Sustaining Rural Hospitals

The heart of a rural community beats in the local, rural hospital. ARHP works closely with rural hospital leaders to strategically support and expand needed infrastructure and capacity relevant to operations, sustainability, and growth.

MEMBER EXPANSION

In 2022, ARHP added three new rural hospital members, including Forrest City Medical Center, Helena Regional Medical Center, and Sevier County Medical Center. The corresponding service area grew, adding Phillips, St. Francis, and Sevier Counties to the region impacted by ARHP efforts.

- In 2019, Sevier County Medical Center (De Queen, Arkansas) closed its doors due to financial setbacks. The organization became a new member of ARHP in 2022 prior to reopening its doors as a critical access hospital.
- New hospital member growth in 2022 means that ARHP now spans much of the South Arkansas Delta region.

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

The IRS requires all non-profit hospitals to complete a Community Health Needs Assessment every three years. In 2022, ARHP facilitated the CHNA process for 11 ARHP member hospitals.

- Number of community meetings: **19**
- Number of meeting participants: **471**

Key Priority Areas

1. Mental Health & Substance Use
2. Chronic Disease
3. Health Workforce
4. Healthy Eating/Healthy Food Choices
5. Elderly Insecurities

SWING BED PROGRAM

Rural Medicare patients (65+) and their family members benefit from opportunities to recover from acute illness close to home. The hospital-based transitional care program from Allevant Solutions (Mayo Clinic & Select Medical) increases capacity at local critical access hospital (CAH) partners to provide more advanced treatment of care in the rural setting. Larger acute care hospitals also benefit by transferring less acute patients to smaller partner hospitals and increasing care to more complex patients. Rural residents enjoy healing closer to home and are discharged in less time than other post-acute care options.

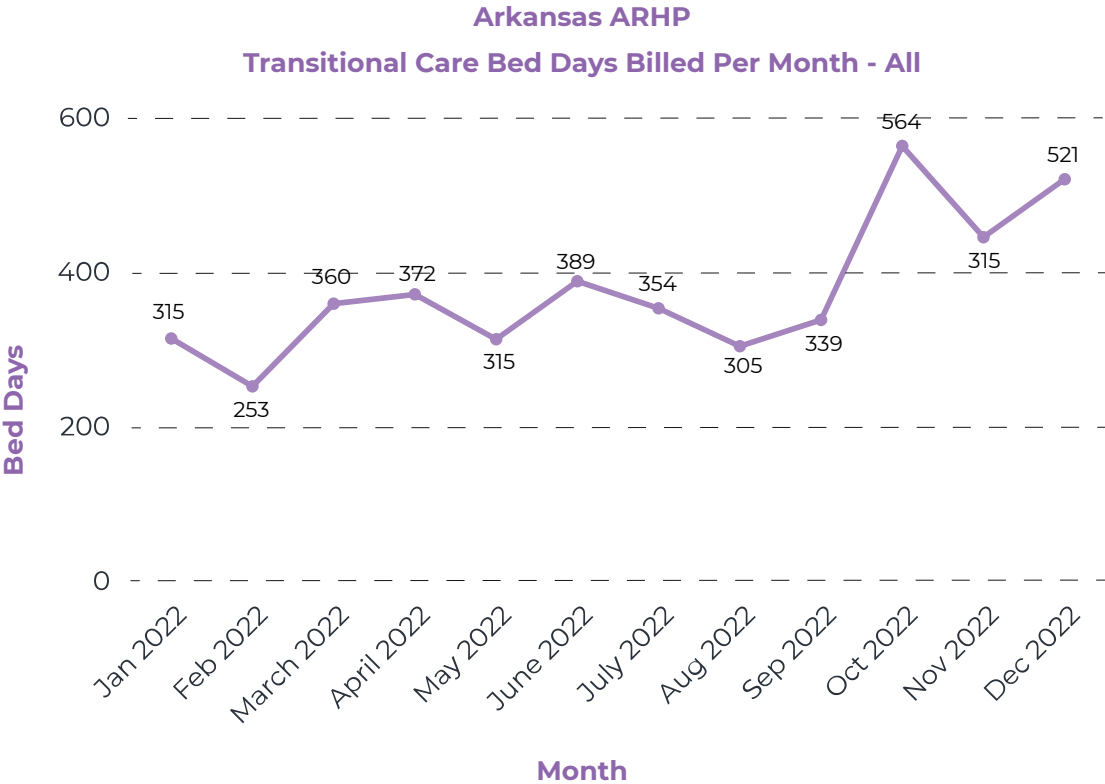


7 participating Critical Access Hospitals

There are 7 participating CAHs: Ashley County Medical Center, Bradley County Medical Center, Chicot Memorial Medical Center, Dallas County Medical Center, Delta Memorial Hospital, DeWitt Hospital & Nursing Home, and McGehee Hospital.

5 Sites With Consistent Data Demonstrate the Following 2022 impact:

- Known 2,493 revenue-producing Transitional Care/Swing Bed days
- 208 patient stays
- Average length of stay: 12 days
- Average stay is much lower than the most recently available Medicare Part A Nursing Home Skilled stays (2021 dates of service) of 26.2 days (via the 2023 MedPAC Report to Congress).
- Of 2010 patients discharged as entered in the Allevant data by 5 sites in 2022, 70% were discharged from Transitional Care/Swing Bed to Home, and only 7% were discharged from Transitional Care/Swing Bed to an acute bed with a Transitional Care stay of 30 days or less.



Engaging with Healthcare Leaders

HEALTH WORKFORCE ROUNDTABLES

ARHP facilitates roundtable meetings for healthcare professionals across the region. Meetings are organized by department and bring together like-minded professionals to inspire collaboration, joint learning, promote best practices, and leverage resources.

2022 Roundtables

- Nurse Educator
- Revenue Cycle
- Plant Operations-Maintenance
- Social Services
- Chief Nursing Officers
- Laboratory
- Information Technology
- Materials Management
- Radiology
- Emergency Room Directors
- Compliance & Quality Improvement
- Chief Financial Officers
- Medical Records
- Human Resources
- Pharmacy

BILLING & CODING LEARNING MODULE

The financial viability and sustainability of rural hospitals is largely dependent on the timely and accurate billing and coding for services rendered. This requires that staff maintain current training on effective practices, procedures, and legislative mandates that impact charges. Through the UAMS Learn on Demand platform, ARHP provides billing and coding education for existing hospital and clinic staff to ensure effective payment for services.

- In 2022, 20 healthcare staff completed billing & coding modules with a special emphasis on telehealth service charges.

27
meetings held in 2022.

226
individuals attending meetings in
2022.



Looking Ahead

Throughout 2023, ARHP will seek to leverage strategic funding to expand existing telehealth and behavioral health service capabilities with partner hospitals (and affiliated clinics). Efforts will also support board education for a greater number of ARHP member hospitals to ensure a thorough and comprehensive understanding of community needs in light of the new rural hospital emergency designation and the growing number of rural hospital labor & delivery unit closures.



ARHP conducts a roundtable on hospital pain points in May 2022

RURAL HOSPITAL BOARD RETREATS

Due to infrastructure and time constraints, many local hospital board members are not given the proper tools to fully understand and support the specific needs of rural hospitals. This often leads to misunderstanding, poor engagement, and high turnover rates with CEOs, which has a negative effect on staff morale and the hospital's bottom line. To help meet this gap, ARHP recently launched hospital board retreat facilitation.

- The first rural hospital board retreat took place in 2022. The gathering featured state-level experts (Arkansas Hospital Association & Arkansas Center for Health Improvement) and provided updates on federal legislation and the current healthcare landscape in Arkansas.
- Retreats include roundtable discussions & strategic plan development.
- Initial retreat outcomes included increased understanding, improved collaboration with other local safety net providers and improved service delivery.

EXECUTIVE COACHING & VIRTUAL C-SUITE SERVICES

At times, rural hospitals experience vacancies in hospital administrators and it takes time to recruit, hire, and train qualified leaders. To help fill short-term critical leadership gaps, ARHP launched executive coaching and virtual C-suite services in 2022.

- Initial focus with launch: Chief Financial Officer (CFO) position
- Within a year of launch, the demand has grown from one to three partner hospitals.
- More focus areas will be added over time based on demand and capacity.



Shane Speights, D.O., FAAFP
Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine, NYIT - Jonesboro, speaks to the ARHP Board at the Board Retreat May 2022.

Cultivating the Workforce of the Future

The rural workforce shortage in healthcare is not slowing. In order to fill existing and future staffing gaps, ARHP devotes efforts to the entire health workforce continuum, which includes pipeline efforts to inspire, educate, and recruit future healthcare leaders, as well as provide continued support and training to existing health workforce to support long and thriving careers in rural healthcare.

1

Inform & Inspire

2

Equip & Educate

3

Recruit & Hire

4+

**Retain, Support &
Thrive**

1. Inform & Inspire

ARHP is fully invested in strategically shaping the health workforce of tomorrow through “Grow Your Own” programs. In 2022, the organization partnered with dozens of organizations spanning 20+ counties to inspire, recruit, and prepare the healthcare leaders of tomorrow.

HEALTH WORKFORCE MOBILE UNIT

As the old adage goes, “You don’t know what you don’t know.” One of the key contributing factors to the lack of local interest in health careers is lack of understanding and access to related knowledge. In response to this need, ARHP created a health workforce mobile unit (2022) to bring an immersive learning experience to rural residents of all ages.

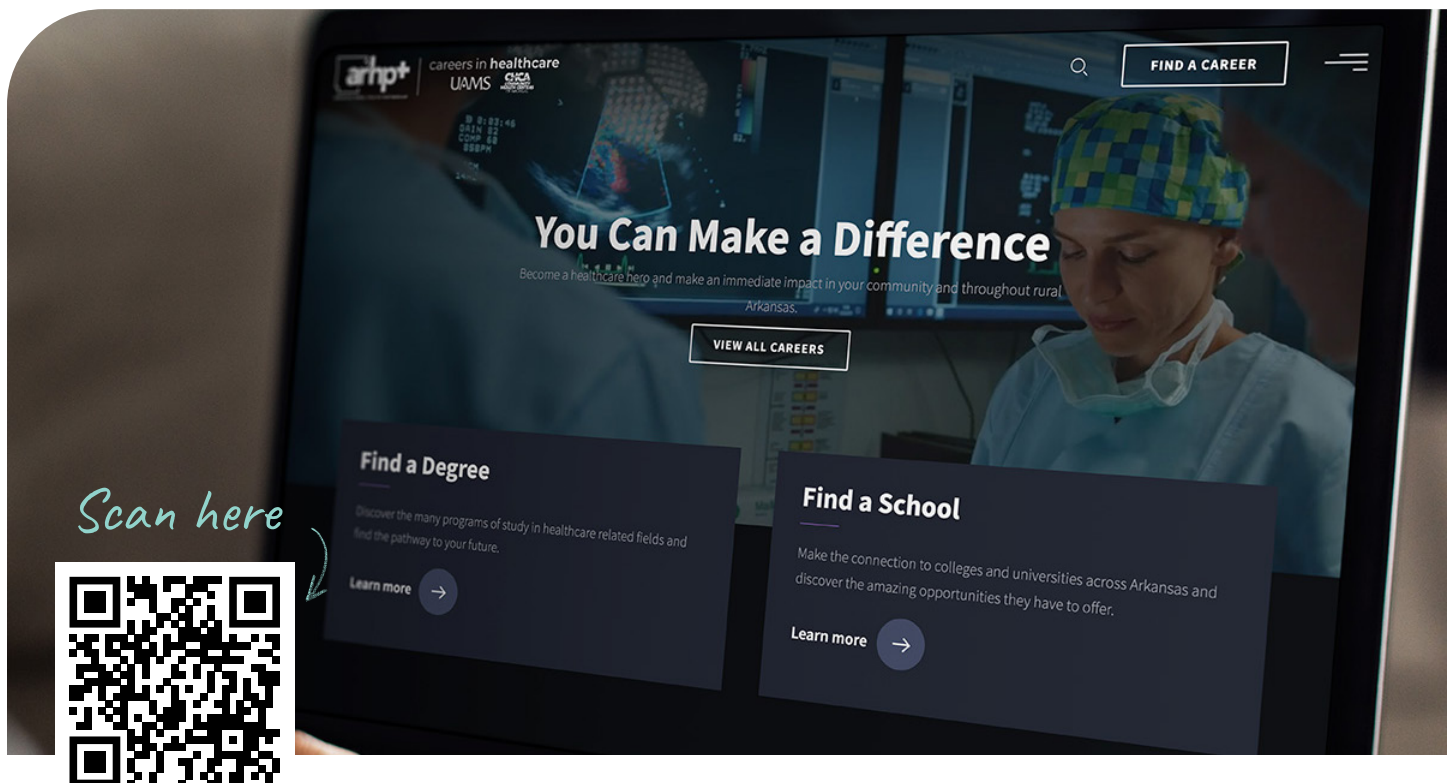
Individuals enter the mobile unit and engage with touch screens and the interactive ARHP health workforce website to learn about the demand and availability of healthcare jobs, related education requirements, and potential salaries. While on the mobile unit, individuals can take the next step and directly connect with college and career counselors and student success coaches to begin the enrollment process (including financial aid).

HEALTH WORKFORCE WEBSITE

In 2022, ARHP created and launched a dedicated website to support community education efforts regarding the health workforce pipeline. This innovative tool is promoted at local schools, community & outreach events, as well as state and national conferences. In 2022, the site hosted 42 careers, with 27 videos, and was viewed more than 8,000 times.

1.5k
students educated on health careers
(across 22 high schools)

230
community members educated on
health careers at the Dumas Fall
Festival



2. Equip & Educate

K-12 PROGRAMS

Early exposure is essential to generating interest in health careers. Students spanning primary through high school need consistent investment to develop a solid foundation in core competencies required to excel in challenging educational programs.

- In 2022, ARHP partnered with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) to provide ACT prep courses for 42 high school seniors interested in a health career.



Nathan O'Fallon, ARHP Mobile Unit Coordinator, educates a high school student about various health careers available.

DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATE, & UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

There are many paths to a rewarding health career. ARHP partners with local technical schools, community colleges, and four-year universities to engage students in health career programs such as Connect2tech, summer internships for college students, and the nursing school clinical collaborative.

Summer Internships For College Students: Each summer, ARHP facilitates paid summer internships to rising college freshman and current college students with ARHP members in partnership with UAMS. The program offers a firsthand immersive experience in a variety of rural healthcare settings spanning public health, mental health, administration, primary care, and more.

20

paid 2022 summer internships for rising & current college students

connect2tech

Connect 2 Tech is a partnership with Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas and University of Arkansas at Monticello - College of Technology (Crossett) to educate 70 Arkansas Delta students to fill vacancies in Health Information Technology (HIT) and Behavioral Health Technology (BHT) fields.

The program (funded by the Delta Regional Authority & the U.S. Department of Labor) includes financial support, apprenticeships, one-on-one support, Community Health Worker (CHW) training, and career placement with an ARHP member hospital upon successful program completion.

36

Total number of students provided financial assistance

\$55K

Provided in Financial Assistance

13

Students Enrolled in the Behavioral Health Technology (BHT) Program

8

Students Enrolled in the Health Information Technology (HIT) Program



Lataaka Harvey, ARHP Health Careers Coordinator/Counselor, hands out BHT & HIT informational brochures to a prospective scholarship participant in Lake Village, AR.

The project has helped to identify and lay the groundwork for the following additional supports:

Nursing School Clinical Collaborative: Through Delta Regional Authority funding, ARHP established the first regional nursing school collaborative in the south Arkansas Delta (2021). The effort brings together over 20 nursing schools, hospital, and clinic partners to strengthen nursing pipeline efforts in the south Arkansas Delta and infuse newly trained Delta nurses into ARHP partner hospitals and clinics.

- ARHP Nursing Charter
- Clinical placement software
- Additional matriculation agreements between nursing schools
- New training programs for nurse preceptors

MEDICAL SCHOOL PRECEPTORSHIPS

ARHP partners with the three medical schools in the state

(University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, NYIT at AR State, Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine) to coordinate and schedule clinical rotations. Third and fourth year medical students are placed with board-certified physicians employed at ARHP member hospitals. The partnership directly increases the number of available medical student preceptorship slots, while also allowing for distinctly rural training experiences.

RURAL PHYSICIAN RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Through the HRSA Rural Residency Training Track Program grant, ARHP is working with medical school, hospital, and federally qualified health center partners to lay the groundwork for a ACGME accredited program in Family Medicine in Ashley and Chicot Counties, Arkansas. Partners include the Arkansas College of Health Education (ACHE), University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), Jefferson Regional, Ashley County Medical Center, and Mainline Health Systems (MHS).

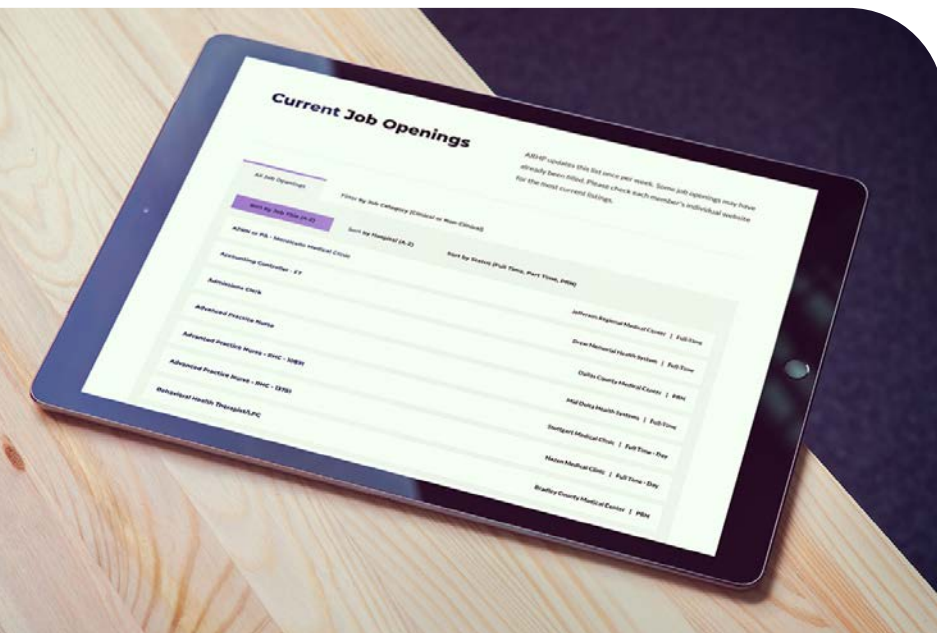
ARHP JOB BOARD

4.4k

jobs posted to the ARHP Job Board

6.5k

views of the careers listed on the ARHP Job Board



In April 2022, ARHP established a new recruiter position (funded by HRSA) to assist in health workforce recruitment for individuals throughout the continuum (high school through residency programs).

“

"My role is to find clinical and non-clinical professionals to fill current openings in our partnership network of 16 hospitals and 80+ clinics across South Arkansas."

Carol Anne Rowland
ARHP Healthcare Workforce Recruiter

To view current ARHP Member job openings, please visit us online at <https://www.arruralhealth.org/resources/member-job-board>

Or contact Carol Anne Rowland via email at carolanne@arruralhealth.org



4. Retain, Support & Thrive

HEALTH WORKFORCE TRAINING & CONTINUING EDUCATION

ARHP supports the local health workforce and member organizations by providing current, best practice training and continuing education opportunities.

Ramona Hill
ARHP Clinical
Educator



CONTINUING EDUCATION ONLINE MODULES

ARHP partners with UAMS to offer continuing education courses to healthcare providers through the online Learn on Demand platform. New, relevant educational material is continually uploaded to the site so that local providers benefit from easy access to the latest information and training opportunities. This also decreases time and travel constraints for local health workforce to maintain up-to-date certifications.

912

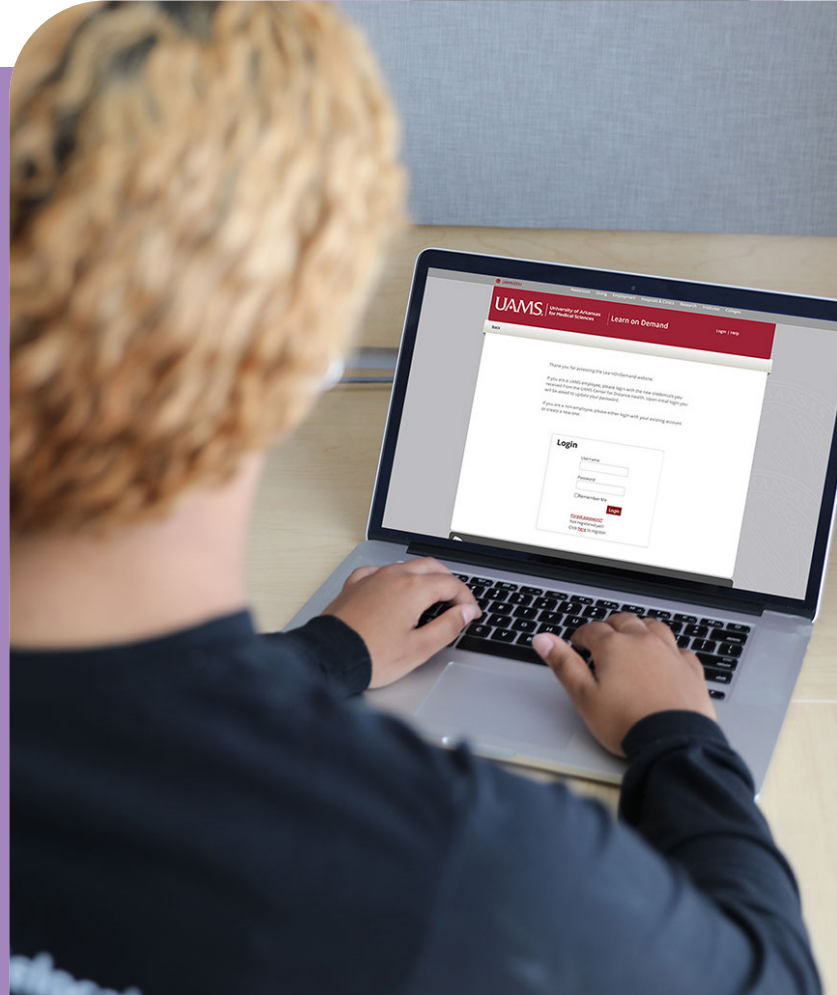
healthcare providers trained

8,963

modules completed

2.4K

CEUs obtained



SIMULATION TRAINING (ON-SITE)

Through a partnership with UAMS, ARHP offers on-site simulation training to healthcare providers throughout the service area. Current simulation training offered includes advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) and pediatric advanced life support (PALS).

- ACLS: Advanced Cardiac Life Support Training: 49
- PALS: Pediatric Advanced Life Support: 7

ADDITIONAL TRAINING (IN-PERSON)

ARHP provides required and additional evidence-based training to ARHP hospital and clinic member staff in order to support continuous learning and best practice service delivery. Training in 2022 included Basic Life Support and Stop the Bleed.

- Basic Life Support: 520 individuals trained
- Stop the Bleed: 372 individuals trained

MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR THE HEALTH WORKFORCE CONTINUUM

For several years, ARHP has offered evidence-based Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training to individuals working in the healthcare sector, including students, providers, and healthcare administrators.

- In 2022, 274 individuals within the healthcare sector were trained in MHFA.



Looking Ahead

Throughout 2023, ARHP will continue to expand the footprint of current successful health workforce continuum efforts. The workforce mobile unit will add new stops at elementary schools, after school clubs, local job centers, Chamber of Commerce meetings, and community events to increase exposure to health careers, education requirements, and local job opportunities. ARHP will also add student internships, apprenticeships, and scholarship opportunities for students, beginning at the high school level. New degree and certificate programs in billing and coding (in partnership with UA Grantham and HRSA) will empower current healthcare staff to advance their skills, while supporting hospital sustainability. A new

Master's Degree capstone program (in partnership with the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service) will provide opportunities for graduate students to immerse themselves in the rural health landscape. By late summer 2023, ARHP will become a certified Community Health Worker training agency in the state, significantly increasing the ability to train laypersons, students, and existing healthcare workforce in the evidence-based model. The organization will also expand Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training across the state for healthcare providers (in partnership with Blue & You Foundation for a Healthier Arkansas) and local colleges in the Delta (in partnership with SAMHSA).

ENROLLMENT SERVICES

ARHP staff (certified community health workers) enroll individuals in needed assistance programs to support their health and wellness, including but not limited to housing & utilities assistance, insurance enrollment, and prescription assistance

Insurance Enrollment:

- AR Works (Marketplace): 25 beneficiaries assisted
- Medicare: 1,362 beneficiaries assisted

Prescription Assistance:

- 463 individuals
- 445 prescriptions
- \$1,254,659 cost savings

NAVIGATION SERVICES

ARHP serves as a community health resource hub for rural residents spanning 24 counties. Throughout the week, individuals can speak with a community health worker to understand and connect to locally available healthcare services throughout the region.

ARHP Toll-free Hotline:

- Staffed Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
- 2022: # of calls: 479

ARHP Resource Directory:

- Annual update every July
- 2022: Distributed via print & web in 24 counties
- 2022: Distributed to over 1500 individuals

Ileen Talavera
Community Health
Worker

TELEHEALTH RESOURCE CENTERS

ARHP has established a telehealth resource center at the Lake Village, Arkansas office headquarters in partnership with UAMS. The satellite resource center is one of three in the region and five in the state. The center serves as a local space for ARHP community health workers to provide direct support to patients, particularly for patients enrolled in pilot programs utilizing patient remote monitoring devices (The Good Food Rx). UAMS staff also have the ability to train healthcare providers how to best utilize remote monitoring devices.

- 2022: 207 Trained

HEALTH COACHING FOR RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS

Once arriving home, the health coach would call each patient and ensure they understood the importance of following up with their primary care provider.

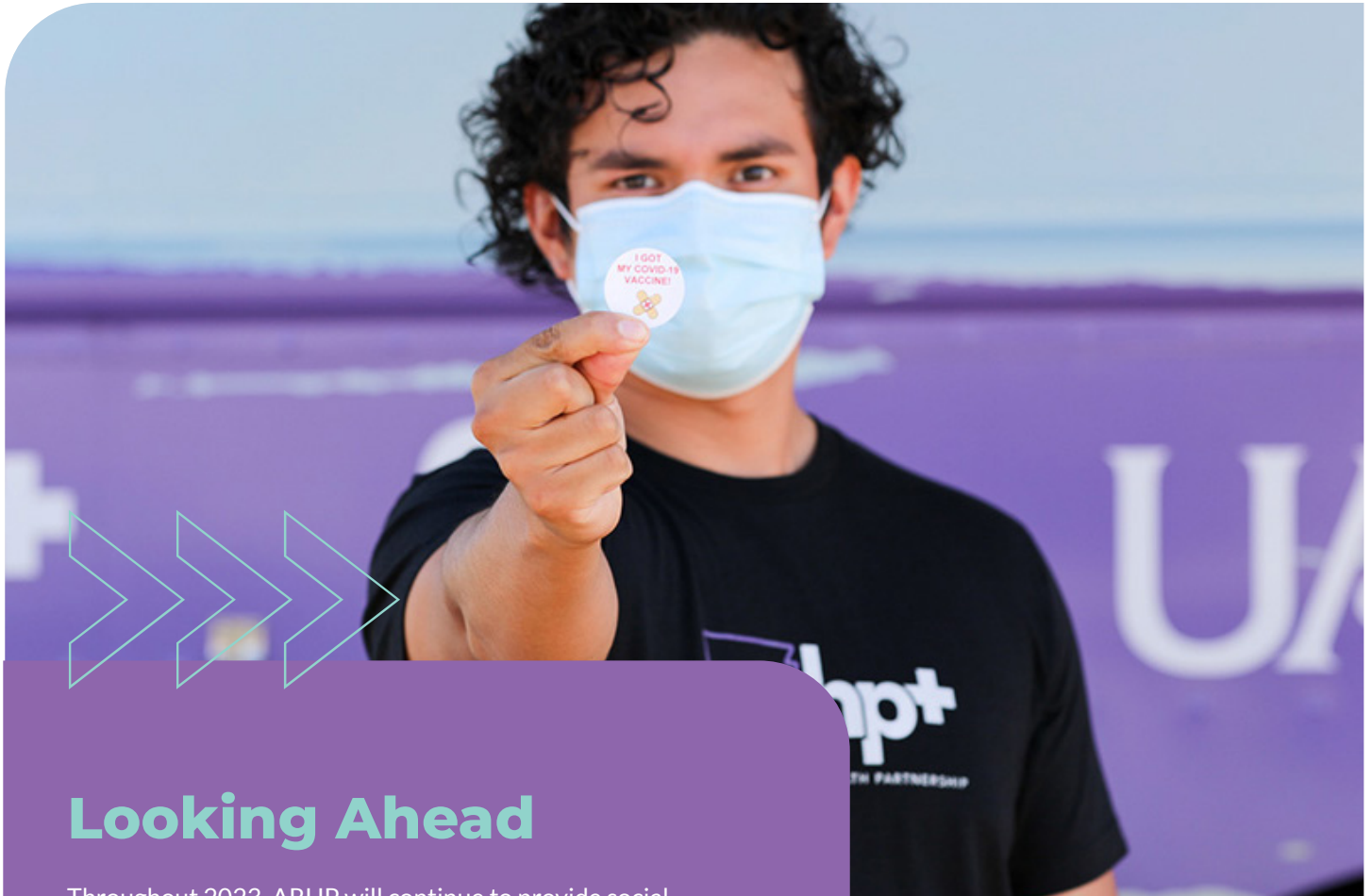
During this call, the health coach and patient would reconcile all medications and ensure understanding of when to contact their primary care provider or emergency department, depending on symptoms. If patients needed durable medical equipment for their recovery, the health coach would assist the patient in acquiring needed materials.

- In 2022, 6,708 patients benefited from health coaching services.



COVID-19 EDUCATION & VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, ARHP worked alongside local, regional, and state partners to increase education about COVID-19 prevention and local treatment options. The organization also increased access to COVID-19 vaccinations and related boosters, often through community outreach efforts in order to decrease transportation barriers for rural residents



Looking Ahead

Throughout 2023, ARHP will continue to provide social determinants of health (SDOH) screenings and related resources to rural residents with demonstrated need. This work will be especially important beginning May 2023, as individuals are once again required to enroll in Medicare/Medicaid after the requirement was waived through the pandemic. The organization will continue to build upon the early success of The Good Food Rx pilot (a program for seniors 65+ years with chronic disease experiencing food insecurity). ARHP will also launch the use of new health IT (Good Grid) to improve and streamline tracking of SDOH screenings, interventions, referrals, and community outreach across the organization.

7.2k

In 2022, ARHP provided COVID-19 education and vaccinations to 7,208 individuals.

In 2022, ARHP conducted Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) with nearly every non-profit member hospital (11). Every community identified behavioral health (mental health and substance use) as the #1 priority area to address. To this effect, the organization focused efforts on expanding collaboration, informing the community, increasing services for substance use disorder, and training laypersons to support mental health access needs.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TASK FORCE

The Behavioral Health Task Force was formed in June 2018 to increase dialogue and collaboration between diverse, cross-sector organizations serving individuals with mental health and/or substance use concerns.

Opioid Crisis Video

An informational video produced by ARHP several years ago on the local opioid epidemic and the need for treatment (including MAT providers) is widely disseminated.

- In 2022, the video was in wide circulation- being shared by nursing schools, colleges, and organizations across the state of Arkansas and beyond.

Substance Use Services

ARHP continues to leverage resources to increase and strengthen locally available substance use prevention, treatment, and support services. Current efforts include increasing the number of local peer-to-peer recovery specialists, partnering with the local judicial system to increase the number of individuals engaging in treatment, and providing support and counseling to those experiencing substance use disorder.

- Peer recovery specialists: 5
- AR County Southern District Pilot Drug Court: 24 Court Sessions, 425 Individuals Served
- Individuals trained in Narcan: 30

Mental Health/Suicide Prevention Training for Laypersons

For several years, ARHP has offered evidence-based Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training to individuals throughout the community, regardless of work sector or background. In 2022, the number of laypersons (non-healthcare background) trained in the model significantly increased.

926

total laypersons trained

420

college & university students & staff

506

youth group leaders & youth

Dani Gibson
ARHP Mental Health
First Aid Project
Coordinator



Looking Ahead

Throughout 2023, ARHP will expand a successful partnership with the local judicial system by increasing the number of peer recovery specialists to divert individuals with substance use from the criminal courts to treatment. The organization will look to increase behavioral health resources and service availability at partner hospitals (including inpatient treatment). New substance use prevention, treatment, and support videos will be released and the organization will host its first Drug Summit in collaboration with the Arkansas State Drug Director.



Thank You!

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If you would like to become a 2023 sponsor, please contact Lynn Hawkins at lynnhawkins@arruralhealth.org

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