

ABOUT ARHP

The Arkansas Rural Health Partnership (ARHP) is a non-profit organization consisting of 21 member organizations including 16 rural hospitals, two Federally Qualified Health Centers, and three medical schools in Arkansas. Founded in 2008, the organization has obtained over \$42 million in grant funds to strengthen rural healthcare infrastructure and capacity across rural Arkansas.

HEALTH-SOCIAL INITIATIVES

Navigation Services

Community Health Workers provide patient assistance, navigation services and connection to needed resources through a 24/7 toll-free number.

Enrollment Services

Community Health Workers provide insurance enrollment (Medicare and AR Works), prescription assistance, housing assistance, and food assistance services throughout the service area.

The Good Food Rx

The pilot project provides free food for seniors (65+) with chronic disease experiencing food insecurity. Services include personalized food delivery, nutritional/health coaching, reci-

pes and healthy cooking classes, virtual patient education, and tracking and support through remote patient monitoring.

Satellite Telehealth Resource Center

The site provides remote patient monitoring training and support for rural providers and patients in partnership with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Institute for Digital Health & Innovation (IDHI).

Healthcare Resource Directory

The annual directory (available via print and online formats) is a valuable resource for residents and providers throughout the service area, providing current contact information for locally available health and health-social resources.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INITIATIVES

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Training

The evidence-based training model teaches individuals how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use concerns. ARHP offers this free training to youth, college students, healthcare workers, emergency responders, and community members throughout the state of Arkansas.

Opioid Crisis Informational Video

The educational video aims to raise awareness about the opioid crisis with local residents and healthcare providers, and has been highlighted across the state and nation as a realistic portrayal of the complexities facing rural communities.

Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) Training

The evidence-based training model teaches individuals how to recognize and respond to suicide risk while providing time-sensitive intervention efforts.

South Arkansas Behavioral Health Task Force

The workgroup consists of 27 individuals representing health-care, workforce, behavioral health, law enforcement, and state agencies to address the need for additional behavioral health services and resources in the region.

Peer Recovery Specialists

Individuals with personal success in the substance use recovery process provide support to others throughout the prevention, treatment, and recovery continuum. Efforts actively engage local hospitals, law enforcement, and court systems.

Narcan Training

Narcan is a medication that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. Staff train community members, school staff, first responders, and healthcare workers throughout the ARHP service area how to properly administer the life-saving medication.

HEALTH WORKFORCE CONTINUUM

Summer Internships for College Students

Rising and current college students have the opportunity to intern at ARHP and member healthcare organizations throughout the service area to gain first-hand experience, valuable certifications, and training.

Connect to Emergency Response. The program offers full scholarships and student support services for 70 individuals to successfully complete Emergency Medical Training (EMT) and/or Paramedics programs (East Arkansas Community College, Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas, Southeast Arkansas College, University of Arkansas at Monticello, and South Arkansas College).

Connect To Tech

The program offers full scholarships and student support services for 70 individuals to successfully complete a certificate or degree program in Health Information Technology (University of Arkansas at Monticello) or Behavioral Health Technology (Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas).

Healthcare Training and Certification

The organization provides continuing education units (CEUs), training, and certification for existing health workforce to continue providing quality, locally available care. Efforts include access to an online CEU learning platform, in-person certifications (i.e. basic life support), simulation training, and more.

Community Health Worker (CHW) Training

ARHP will soon become an approved CHW training provider for the state of Arkansas (through the Arkansas Community Health Worker Association). The organization actively trains students, community members, and key stakeholders to serve as CHWs in order to meet the demonstrated health and health-social needs of rural residents.

Health Workforce Website

The interactive website provides an in-depth introduction to in-demand health careers throughout the region. Features

include video interviews with rural health workforce, education and training requirements, local colleges and universities with programs of study, and annual salaries of healthcare positions. The website is loaded on large, interactive white boards that travel with the ARHP health workforce mobile unit.

Connect to Healthcare Operations

The program offers full scholarships and student support services for individuals (predominantly in existing health careers) to successfully complete a certificate or degree program in healthcare business operations (University of Arkansas Grantham). Programs of study include medical coding and billing, health information management, clinical documentation, and healthcare administration.

Health Workforce Mobile Unit

The mobile unit (managed by ARHP and in partnership with UAMS and CHCA) travels across the state to inform and educate individuals about the need for and availability of meaningful careers in rural healthcare. Features include engagement with current rural health workforce, connection to local programs of study, student support services, and simulation experiences.

Regional Nursing Clinical Collaborative

The first regional nursing collaborative of its kind brings together nurse leaders from 9 nursing schools, 17 hospitals, and 2 FQHCs to recruit, train, and retain the next generation of Arkansas Delta nurses. The three focus areas include laying critical groundwork for new and expanded academic practice partnerships, centralized clinical placement software, and the rural Arkansas nursing development network.

Rural Residency Training Track

The intensive planning project engages regional and state education and healthcare partners (6) to establish an ACGME-accredited rural residency training program in family medicine by 2024 in partnership with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and Ashley County Medical Center (Crossett, AR).

RURAL HOSPITAL SUSTAINABILITY

Professional Roundtables

Department-oriented meetings offer peer support for healthcare professionals to facilitate communication and improve efficiencies, revenue, and cost savings.

Swing Bed Program

In partnership with Allevant Solutions (developed by Mayo Clinic and Select Medical), critical access hospital members are empowered to increase their swing bed volume and related revenue while enabling rural patients to heal close to home.

Member Job Board

The online job board (hosted on the ARHP website and updated weekly) provides a central location for all ARHP member organizations to post vacant positions and recruit a local health workforce.

Clinically Integrated Network

Acute care/PPS hospital members work together to create a more efficient and effective healthcare experience for the patient while also decreasing costs to healthcare systems.

Community Health Needs Assessments

Every three years, ARHP assists non-profit hospital members to complete IRS-required assessments, which highlights the most pressing local health concerns.

Hospital Board Retreats

ARHP recently started facilitating board retreats for member hospitals to increase understanding, improve collaboration with safety net providers, improve service delivery, and better support hospital leadership.