



### OPCRH Staff Introductions

Ray Rodriguez comes to us from Las Vegas, NV. He is a graduate of the UNLV, School of Community Health Sciences with a Master's degree in public health (MPH). Ray has worked with universities across the country in public health and health promotion roles, including positions at Iowa State and Duke University. He started on July 20<sup>th</sup> of this year, working as our new Health Program Coordinator and aiding all of our current grant programs. When not here, Ray spends his time with his partner Justine and daughter Kyra (currently a UNLV student). He enjoys traveling across the US and is a huge Disneyland fan.

### Back to the Future: Making House Calls for Better Care, Reduced Costs

In the age of high tech medicine, busy ERs, and long wait times for doctor appointments, house calls seemed to have gone the way of Marcus Welby MD, the 1970s TV drama. But that's exactly what our Medical House Call teams do every day—and we're providing high-quality care for frail elderly at a savings to Medicare. [Read more...](#)

### Evidence-Based Programs and Strategies for Reducing Healthcare Associated Infections in CAHs

Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs) in hospitals have garnered considerable attention in recent years and are the focus of multiple national and state reporting requirements. [Read more...](#)

### Conferences & Trainings

- ✓ [NRHA Conferences](#)
- ✓ [StuderGroup Conference](#)
- ✓ [Baldrige Regional Conferences](#)
- ✓ [NOSORH- Past Webinars Materials](#)

### Policy Updates

- [Rural Health Clinics \(RHC\) TA Series Calls](#)
- [Federal Register News](#) from the past 120 days
- Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services: be up to date on policies, news and other topics. [Get Email Updates](#)

### Funding Opportunities

- [HRSA-16-005- Service Area Competition](#). Apply by Sep 28.
- [HRSA 16-074 Substance Abuse Expansion](#). Apply by Sep 28.
- [RFA-SH-16-001 Research and Methods in Health Statistics](#). Apply by Oct 7.
- [Grants.gov](#) is your place to FIND and APPLY for federal grants.
- [USDA programs and Services](#), [USDA Rural Development](#) and [USDA Utah](#)

### Events

- CMS MLN Connects- National Provider Call Program-[Upcoming Events](#)
- [CMS Open forum](#).

### Issue's Topic

- 2015: [Rural Medicare Advantage Enrollment Update](#), July 2105

### Tools, Resources, and Links

- [Prehospital EMS personnel in Rural Areas](#): Final Report Aug 2015
- [Finding Statistics and Data Related to Rural Health](#).
- [Rural Grant Writing](#) and [Rural Capital Funding](#)

### Issue's Definition

- Rural Health Clinics ([RHCs](#)): program is intended to increase access to primary care services for Medicaid and Medicare patients in rural communities. RHCs can be public, nonprofit, or for-profit healthcare facilities, however, they must be located in rural, underserved areas.

### Helpful Websites

[NOSORH](#) [NRHA](#) [NHSC](#) [3RNet](#) [MBQIP](#) [HCAHPS](#) [ICD-10](#) [TASC](#)  
[National Rural Health Resources Center](#) [Flex Monitoring Team](#) [Rural Assistance Center \(RAC\)](#)  
[Rural Health Research & Policy Centers](#) [Federally Qualified Health Centers Center](#)  
[CMS-MLN](#) [HPSA Designations](#) [Utah Telehealth Network](#) [the Baldrige Framework](#)

### Contact Information

Owen Quiñonez: 801-273-6620 or [ouquinone@utah.gov](mailto:ouquinone@utah.gov).  
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