Rural Health Update
Utah Office of Primary Care and Rural Health (OPCRH)

October 1-December 31, 2017

OPCRH News
Together with Governor Herbert, OPRCH sent a letter to the federal government requesting all 13 frontier counties in Utah to be designated as shortage areas, allowing clinics in these areas to potentially be certified as Rural Health Clinics (RHCs). This will increase access to primary care services for Medicaid and Medicare patients in rural communities, if the request is approved. Watch for further updates on this.

New Staff
Matt McCullough was recently promoted to be the new Director of the Utah OPCRH. Matt has been with the office as a Senior Research Analyst coordinating the activities of the Primary Care Office (PCO) program since June of 2016. He has over ten years of experience with GIS and spatial data analysis and is currently pursuing a PhD in Medical/Health Geography at the University of Utah. He is very excited about his new role and the opportunity to work with a great staff to improve access to primary care services in underserved and rural communities in Utah.

OPCRH welcomed Holli Childs as the lead for the PCO Program. Holli has worked in public health for more than 2 years. She previously worked with medical staff at a state funded primary care clinic in a low-income shortage area to ensure excellent customer service and quality healthcare delivery to patients. She loves to try exotic foods and be outside. She is excited to be a part of the work done here in OPCRH. Continued on the next page...

We want to hear from you!

Please share any concerns, questions, or ideas with us. Contact us at opcrh@utah.gov or 801–273–6677.

Working toward the best health status of all rural individual in Utah
Continuation...

Statewide Primary Care Needs Assessment: We are looking for community feedback regarding barriers to receiving care. If you are interested in participating in a survey or focus group, you can contact hchilds@utah.gov

Utah Department of Health News
- Stepping Up for Utah Babies Program: 11 rural hospitals are working toward their Breastfeeding Friendly Facility certification.
- MotherToBaby: medications & more during pregnancy & breastfeeding - You have questions. We have answers - Ask the Experts.
- Office of Home Visiting: provides home visits to low income pregnant women and children under 5 years. Information and support about breastfeeding, toilet training, nutrition, home safety, child development and much more. If you qualify for WIC, you also qualify for Home Visiting!

TOOLS, RESOURCES AND LINKS
CDC Guidance for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain
Chronic Care Management Toolkit
Data Sources & Tools Relevant to Rural Health
Capital Funding for Rural Healthcare
Catalog of Value-Based Initiatives for Rural Providers
Rural Health Updates, Evidence-Based Toolkits

DATA SOURCES AND REPORTS
State Flex Program Rural EMS Assessment Strategies - FMT Policy Brief # 46
Rural Transportation: Challenges and Opportunities – Policy Brief
Assessing the Impact of Medicaid Policy Changes Project
America’s Health Rankings 2016 Annual Report
IBIS: Utah’s Public Health Data Resources
County Health Rankings & Road Maps

Key Websites

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<th>NOSORH</th>
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| National Rural Health Resources Center | Rural Health Information Hub
| Rural Health Research & Policy Centers | Federally Qualified Health Centers Center
| HPSA Find | Utah Telehealth Network | Flex Monitoring Team

Policy Updates
- Policies updates and policy briefs: FORHP, CRH, RUPRI, NARHC, NOSORH
- Federal Registry from the past 120 days
- Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services: Get Email Updates
Rural Health Policy 101 & Rural Health Policy Organizations
Medicaid & Medicare Rural Health 101
NRHA’S rural MACRA Analysis
Utah Department of Health – Medicaid Expansion
Get covered in 2018

Workforce Resources
3RNet News!
Southern Utah AHEC is excited to be the host agency of 3RNet for the State of Utah. If you are an individual interested in working in a rural or underserved area, or if you are an employer who would like to advertise a job, please visit https://www.3rnet.org/ or contact Rita Osborn at osborn@suu.edu.

Utah Medical Education Council - UMEC
National Health Service Corps Programs
Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) enables students in 10 western states and the CNMI to enroll in selected out-of-state professional healthcare programs and pay reduced tuition.
Recruitment and Retention for Rural Health Facilities 101
Shortage Designations 101
Community Health Workers in Rural Settings 101
Community Paramedicine 101

CONTACT INFORMATION
Owen Quiñonez: 801-273-6620 or oquinone@utah.gov
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