

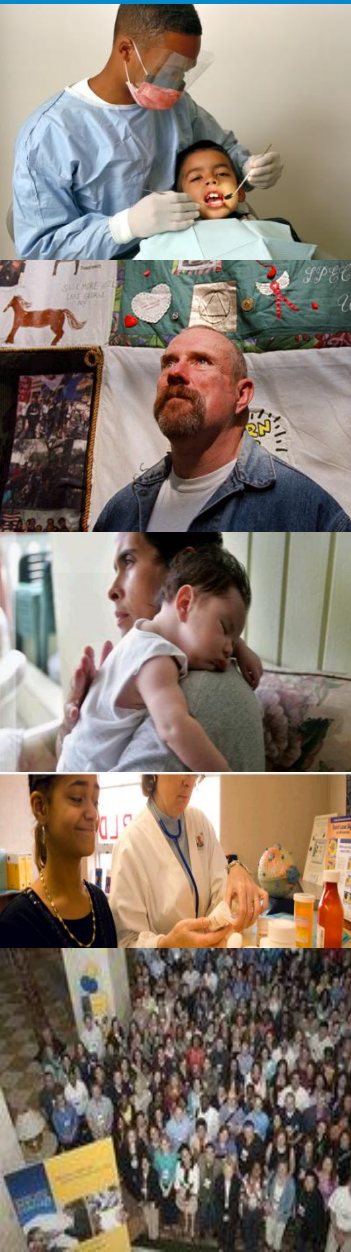
Health Resources and Services Administration

Healthy Communities, Healthy People



The People We Serve

- Nearly 19 million patients are served through HRSA-funded health centers,
 - 1 in 3 people with incomes below the poverty level.
- Over 500,000 people living with HIV/AIDS
- 34 million women, infants, children, and adolescents benefit from HRSA's maternal and child health programs.
- About 14,000 safety net providers participate in HRSA's 340B program that provides access to discount drug purchases.
- Currently more than 6,700 National Health Service Corps clinicians are (or will be) working in underserved areas in exchange for loan repayment or scholarships.





Administrator's Priority Areas

- ✓ Build the Health Care Workforce
- ✓ Improve Access to Quality Primary Care and Health Services, Linking to Public Health
- ✓ Strengthen HRSA: Organizational Infrastructure, Workforce, Workplace Climate, and Technology



HRSA

America's Health Care Safety Net

- Community Health Centers
- HIV/AIDS
- Maternal and child health
- Health workforce training
- Rural health
- 340B drug pricing



Rural Clinics and Community Health Centers

- Community Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics are a key part of the rural health care safety net.
- Ensure rural communities have access to primary care, oral health services and mental health services.



Community Health Centers

- HRSA's health center network treated 19.5 million patients at more than 8,500 service delivery sites in 2010.



HRSA and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Investment

- The ACA invests \$11 billion over five years to sustain and expand health center operations.
- ACA provided almost \$900 million to more than 500 Health Centers serving rural areas.



HRSA and the ACA Investment

- FY 2011, HRSA awarded:
 - Over \$12 million in Affordable Care Act funding for 26 awards to support new health center locations in rural areas.
 - \$4.5 million awarded to 57 organizations in rural areas to become community health centers.



HRSA and ACA Investment

- HRSA awarded over \$200 million to 52 health centers to support major construction and renovation projects in rural communities
- Also provided needed employment in many of these communities.



HRSA and ACA Investment

- 80% of health centers in rural locations are becoming patient-centered medical homes.
- \$15 million was provided to support national accreditation as medical homes.



Community Health Centers

- Network with over 1,100 grantees.
at 8,000 sites.
- 40 percent have no insurance.
- Everyone served, sliding scale fees.
- Poorest pay nothing.



Health Center Goals

- To increase access to quality health care to all persons regardless of their ability to pay
- Coordinate services with other providers and organizations in communities such as hospitals, health departments and other providers
- Serve as an integral part of the health care safety net



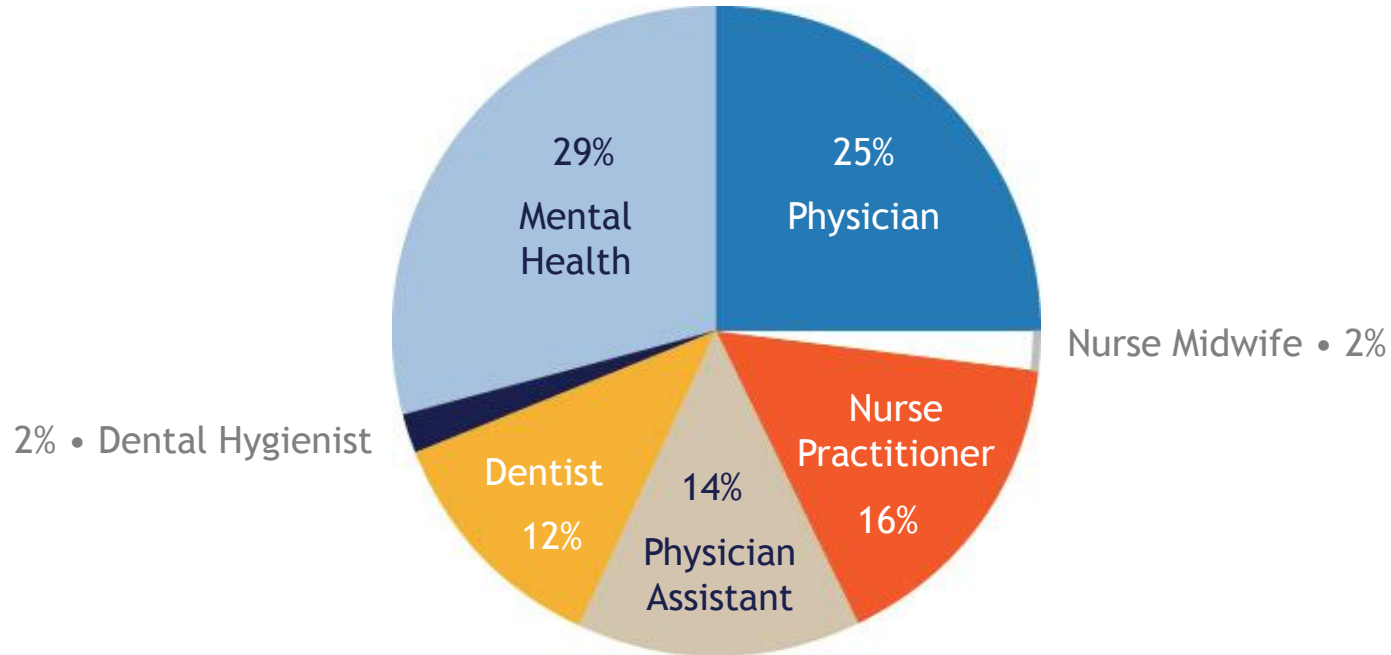
NATIONAL HEALTH
SERVICE
CORPS 

The NHSC provides financial support to providers in exchange for working at NHSC-approved sites.

A diagram consisting of two blue arrows originating from the end of the main text block. One arrow points to a yellow circle on the left, and the other points to a yellow circle on the right. Both circles contain text in bold, dark blue capital letters.

**LOAN
REPAYMENT
PROGRAM**

**SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM**



More than 8,000 NHSC primary care providers are working in communities with limited access to health care nationwide.



NHSC in Missouri

- Total NHSC Providers: 366
 - ❖ Primary Care = 150
 - ❖ Dental Care = 56.50
 - ❖ Mental Health = 159.50



Eligibility

- ✓ U.S. citizen or national
- ✓ Currently work, or applying to work, at an NHSC-approved site
- ✓ Have unpaid government or commercial loans for school tuition, reasonable educational expenses, and reasonable living expenses, segregated from all other debts
- ✓ Licensed to practice in state where employer site is located



Loan Repayment

- The full-time program offers up to **\$60,000** in tax-free loan repayment for **2 YEARS** of service, and up to **\$170,000** for a **5-YEAR** service commitment.
- With continued service beyond 5 years, health care providers may be able to pay off all their student loans.



The Scholarship Program

Students pursuing careers in primary care can receive a scholarship now and serve later.

- ✓ Payment of tuition and required fees (tax-free)
- ✓ Some other tax-free educational costs (books, etc.)
- ✓ A monthly living stipend (taxable)
- ✓ Two years service for one year of school

NHSC Sites

- Health care practice sites apply to the NHSC to participate in the NHSC loan repayment and scholarship programs.
 - 260 sites in Missouri



NHSC Site Eligibility

- Located in a federally designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)
- See all patients regardless of ability to pay
- Provide services on a discount fee schedule
- Accept patients covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program
- Not discriminate in the provision of services



Site Eligibility

- Document sound fiscal management
- Have capacity to maintain a competitive salary, benefits, and malpractice coverage package for providers Accept patients covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program
- Not discriminate in the provision of services
- Document sound fiscal management



State Resources

- Primary Care Organizations
- Primary Care Associations
- Area Health Education Centers
- State Offices of Rural Health
- Regional BCRS Office in KCMO



Shortage Designation

- State PCO, and HRSA BSD collect and evaluate criteria.
- Determine if geographic area, population, group, or facility is:
 - Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)
 - Medically Underserved Area or Population (MUA/MUP)



Types of HPSCA Designations

- Primary medical care
- Dental
- Mental health
- Urban or rural areas,
- Population groups
- Public facilities.



6,419 Primary Care HPSAs

- 66.5 million people.
- 17,727 practitioners needed to meet their need for primary care providers

*(Population to practitioner ratio of 2,000:1).



4,661 Dental HPSAs

- 52 million people.
- 10,152 practitioners to meet their need for dental providers

*(Population to practitioner ratio of 3,000:1).



3,770 Mental Health HPSAs

- 94.6 million people.
- 6,221 practitioners to meet their need for mental health providers

*(Population to practitioner ratio of 10,000:1).



Medically Underserved Areas

- **MUAs** may be a whole county.
- Group of contiguous counties.
- Group of county or civil divisions.
- Group of urban census tracts with shortage of personal health services.



Medically Underserved Populations

- MUPs may include groups of persons who face barriers to health care.
 - Economic.
 - Cultural.
 - Linguistic.

New Proposed Rules

- The proposed rule as part of ACA to improve SD process.
 - Incorporate up-to-date measures of health status and barriers to access
 - Automated processes and increase use of technology



New SD Process

- Eliminate inconsistencies and duplication
- Reduce effort and data burden on States and communities
- No changes to criteria for designating dental and mental health HPSAs.
- Automatic designations include Health Centers and Tribal Clinics



Benefits to Shortage Areas:

- Health Center Program grants to providers in underserved areas
- Rural Health Clinic Program cost-based reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid
- Medicare HPSA Bonus Payment for physicians



Benefits to Shortage Areas:

- National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarship Programs for primary care health professionals
- Indian Health Service Scholarship Program for health professions students



Benefits to Shortage Areas:

- Exchange Visitor Program for foreign physicians with J-1 visas working in shortage areas
- Conrad State 30 Program allows States 30 J-1 visa waivers each year in exchange for service in a shortage area



Contact:

- sdb@hrsa.gov
- 1-888-275-4772.
 - Press option 1, then option 2



National Rural Health Resource Center

- Technical Assistance and Services Center (TASC)
- Provides TA to SORH, CAHs, and individual State Flex programs.
 - Information,
 - Tools
 - Education
 - Templates



National Rural Health Resource Center

- Five core areas:
 - Performance Improvement
 - Health Information Technology
 - Recruitment & Retention
 - Community Health Assessments
 - Networking

www.ruralcenter.org



Resources

- State Primary Care Organization
- State Offices of Rural Health
- www.hrsa.gov/ruralhealth
- www.hrsa.gov/ruralhealthnetwork



Web Sites

- hrsa.gov
- bphc.hrsa.gov/healthcenter
- [NHSC.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment](https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment)
- [NHSC.hrsa.gov/scholarship](https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/scholarship)
- [NHSC.hrsa.gov/search](https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/search)
- [NHSC.hrsa.gov/communities](https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/communities)



QUESTIONS?

Sharon Turner, MSW, MPA
Public Health Analyst
Health Resources and Services Administration
Office of Regional Operations
601 East 12th Street, Room 1728
Kansas City, MO 64106
E-mail: sturner@hrsa.gov
Office: 816-426-5206
BB: 816-298-3431