

# Rural Health Update

## Utah Office of Primary Care & Rural Health (OPCRH)

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### OPCRH NEWS!

#### New staff...

Robbin Williams joined the office as the State Primary Care Grant Program I and II Program Coordinator. She previously worked in HR for the State of Utah before coming to OPCRH. This is a new and exciting challenge for her.

When not learning about her new position, Robbin enjoys spending time with her family. She and her husband enjoy Harley rides and cruising in their restored 1964 Chevelle.



Matt McCullough is a GIS professional who is currently pursuing a PhD in Medical/Health Geography at the University of Utah along with a Graduate Certificate in Public Health. He is excited to work at OPCRH and hopes that his GIS and mapping background can be helpful for the office. He has lived in Utah his entire life and now lives in Layton with his wife and 5 children. He loves photography, astronomy, snow skiing and maps!

OPCRH allocated over 3.5 million to over 90 contracts as part of the Small Hospital Improvement Program (20), State Primary Care Grant Program (60), and the state loan repayment programs. These funds support quality improvement activities among rural hospitals, providing primary care services to underserved and underinsured individuals, and supporting recruitment and retention of health care professionals in rural Utah.

In June 2016, OPCRH provided full day trainings to Rural Health Clinics in Cedar City and Park City. The RHC are an important access point for Medicaid and Medicare patients in rural Utah. OPCRH also successfully completed the annual summit for Rural Hospital CEOs.

### Policy Updates

- Policies updates and policy briefs: [FORHP](#), [NRHA](#), [CRH](#), [RUPRI](#), [NARHC](#)
- [Federal Register News](#) from the past 120 days
- Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services: [Get Email Updates](#)

### Funding Opportunities

- HRSA-17-050 – 055 Service Area Competition, [see table](#) for FOA release dates and submission deadlines.
- [NHSC Student to Serv. Loan Repayment Program](#), cycle opens in August

### Events

- Care Coordination: Transforming Your Communities' Health [Workshop](#)
- Network Planning Welcome [Webinar](#)
- CMS MLN Connects-[Upcoming Events](#), and [Medicare Learning Network](#)
- Webinars &TA Series Calls: [RHC](#), [NOSORH](#), [RH Research Gateway](#)
- Conferences: [Studer Group](#) , [NRHA](#), [NARHC](#)

### Tools, Resources, and Links

- [Ambulatory Surgery Center Toolkit](#)
- [2016 Financial Leadership Report](#): Strategies for Rural Hospitals Transitioning to Value-based Purchasing and Population Health
- [Economic Impact](#) of an Independent RHC Research Study
- Population Health [Portal](#) & Population Health Readiness [Assessment](#), Using [Analytics](#) to Manage Population Health, A Strategic [Framework](#) for Assisting Rural Hospital to Move to Population Health, [HRSA Data Warehouse](#), [Rural Grant Writing](#) & [Rural Capital Funding](#)

### Issue's Topic

- MACRA transforms Medicare Physician Payment  
President Obama signed into law the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA). [Read more](#)

### Helpful Websites

[NOSORH](#)   [NRHA](#)   [NHSC](#)   [3RNet](#)   [MBQIP](#)   [HCAHPS](#)   [ICD-10](#)   [TASC](#)  
[National Rural Health Resources Center](#)   [Rural Health Information Hub](#)  
[Rural Health Research & Policy Centers](#)   [Federally Qualified Health Centers Center](#)  
[CMS-MLN](#)   [HPSA Designations](#)   [Utah Telehealth Network](#)   [The Baldrige Framework](#)

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