



RRPD Grantee Newsletter
November 2021



Notice of Funding Opportunity

A new RRPD NOFO was published October 20, 2021 and is available on grants.gov [here](#)! For FY22, HRSA is anticipating investing \$10.5M for up to 14 RRPD awards, up to \$750,000 each (contingent on FY22 appropriations) to support the planning and development costs of new, sustainable rural residency programs that are accredited by the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

Recent Publications



The RURAL MONITOR

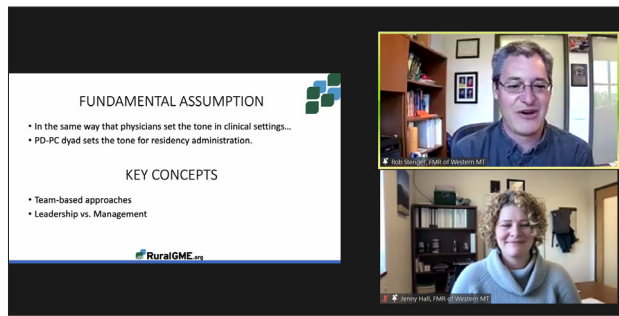
FEATURES

RURAL SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEWS

AROUND THE COUNTRY

The Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub) published an article by Allee Mead entitled "Creating New Rural Residency Programs: Three Grantees Share Their Stories" highlighting three RRPD programs. The article featured comments from James Dalkiewicz, MBA, MHA from St. Luke's University Health Network, Seger Morris, DO from Baptist Memorial Hospital, and Dineen Greer, MD from Sutter Health. The article can be found [here](#).

Recent Webinars



On September 14, 2021 Laney McDougal, MC-HSM, C-TAGME presented "Update from ACGME: Rural Track Program Designation" for RRPD grantees. Laney is the Director of Medically Underserved Areas/Populations and GME for ACGME. On October 12, 2021 "The Program Coordinator-Program Director Relationship: Fostering Team-Based Residency Administration" was presented by Jenny Hall, C-TAGME and Rob Stenger, MD, MPH. Rob is the Program Director and Jenny is the Residency and Curriculum Manager for the Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana.

The slides for both webinars are available in the [RuralGME toolbox](#).

Toolbox Spotlight



Community Engagement | Specialty: Not Specialty Specific | Type: Resource Collection Or Website



Training and Rural health professions Education that is community Engaged and Sustainable (TREES) toolkit

The TREES toolkit is a bookmarked PDF with attachments on The RTT Collaborative website. The Community Assets and Capacity Inventory starts on page 8 of the TREES toolkit and includes questions for the rural community, health professions education in the community, community concerns or challenges, information on the prospective practice site and participating rural hospital (including scope of services and house staff), even a community impact tool for long-range planning

The TREES toolkit is available in the Community Engagement section of the [RuralGME toolbox](#). It is a wonderful tool that can help assess community assets and capacity.



National Rural Health Day

November 18, 2021 is National Rural Health Day sponsored by the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH). This day is an opportunity to "Celebrate the Power of Rural." RRPD will be holding a webinar, "Engaging State Offices of Rural Health in Support of Graduate Medical Education," on November 16, 2021. Please register for the webinar [here](#).



Important Dates

Upcoming Webinars

11/16/21 - National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) Webinar - 12-1pm Eastern, 9-10am Pacific
Please register for the webinar [here](#).

Grantee Program Profile



Program: Quinnipiac University
Institution: Netter School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University
Rural Locations: Fort Kent, ME and Torrington, CT

What are some of the strengths and/or accomplishments of your program?

One of our greatest strengths is the dedication and commitment of our hospital leadership, faculty, community stakeholders, and GME and grant consultants to creating a robust and holistic training program that will prepare residents well to address health care inequities and to improve the health of the communities in which they serve. Our enthusiastic faculty at each of our rural sites are well equipped to provide one on one attention to the residents for an individualized personal and professional development plan, and to model the importance of building relationships with patients, families, and community.

We also have the benefit of a sponsoring institution and an urban partner who bring valued experience in GME to the table, and a program director who has close connections to each of our locations. Our Maine faculty also bring a wealth of knowledge in longitudinal curricular mapping due to their undergraduate medical education experience, which will be a crucial component of our rural track curriculum. Core faculty are full scope family physicians with a strong commitment to work life balance for residents and faculty.

What barriers have you had to overcome in developing your program and how did you overcome them?

One of our challenges is the geographical distance of our Maine site from our Connecticut sites (approximately 10 hours apart). However, our team proactively addressed this with stakeholder work, “community building”, and thoughtful governance. Our Program Director and the Associate Program Directors from both rural sites are on the GMEC, and we have intentionally fostered a culture of community and equity of voice within our team and faculty. In addition, not only does our Program Director have close ties with both the Connecticut sites and the Maine site, but we will also have annual retreats for all members of the residency program leadership team, rotating the host site between Maine and Connecticut. Our second challenge is the relative naiveté of both rural sites to resident education. We are well poised to proactively prepare the sites for their new role in GME however, thanks to our University’s and our DIO’s extensive experience in GME, and our outstanding Department of Faculty Development.

Describe the area you serve and what appeals to you most about the location.

Both of our rural sites feature beautiful places to work and live, with peaceful surroundings and an abundance of outdoor activities and nature, offering residents and faculty a unique opportunity for work-life balance. These communities are close-knit, welcoming, and supportive. The professional culture at all our sites is focused on collegiality, collaboration, practice-based learning, and quality of care. They are eager to teach, and both the patients and the communities welcome resident involvement.

Interested in Sharing About Your Program?

We'd love for you to share your tips and tricks that have worked for your program with other grantees. If you are interested in facilitating one of the monthly webinars, please email info@ruralgme.org. Hearing from other grantees is beneficial to all of our programs.

EASTERN U.S. HUB

[Dr. Cristen Page, MD MPH welcomes the HRSA RRPD Grant Recipients](#)

CENTRAL U.S. HUB

[Dr. Randall Longenecker, MD introduces the Central Hub](#)

WESTERN U.S. HUB

[Dr. Frederick Chen, MD MPH of the University of Washington School of Medicine introduces the](#)



Technical Assistance Center

