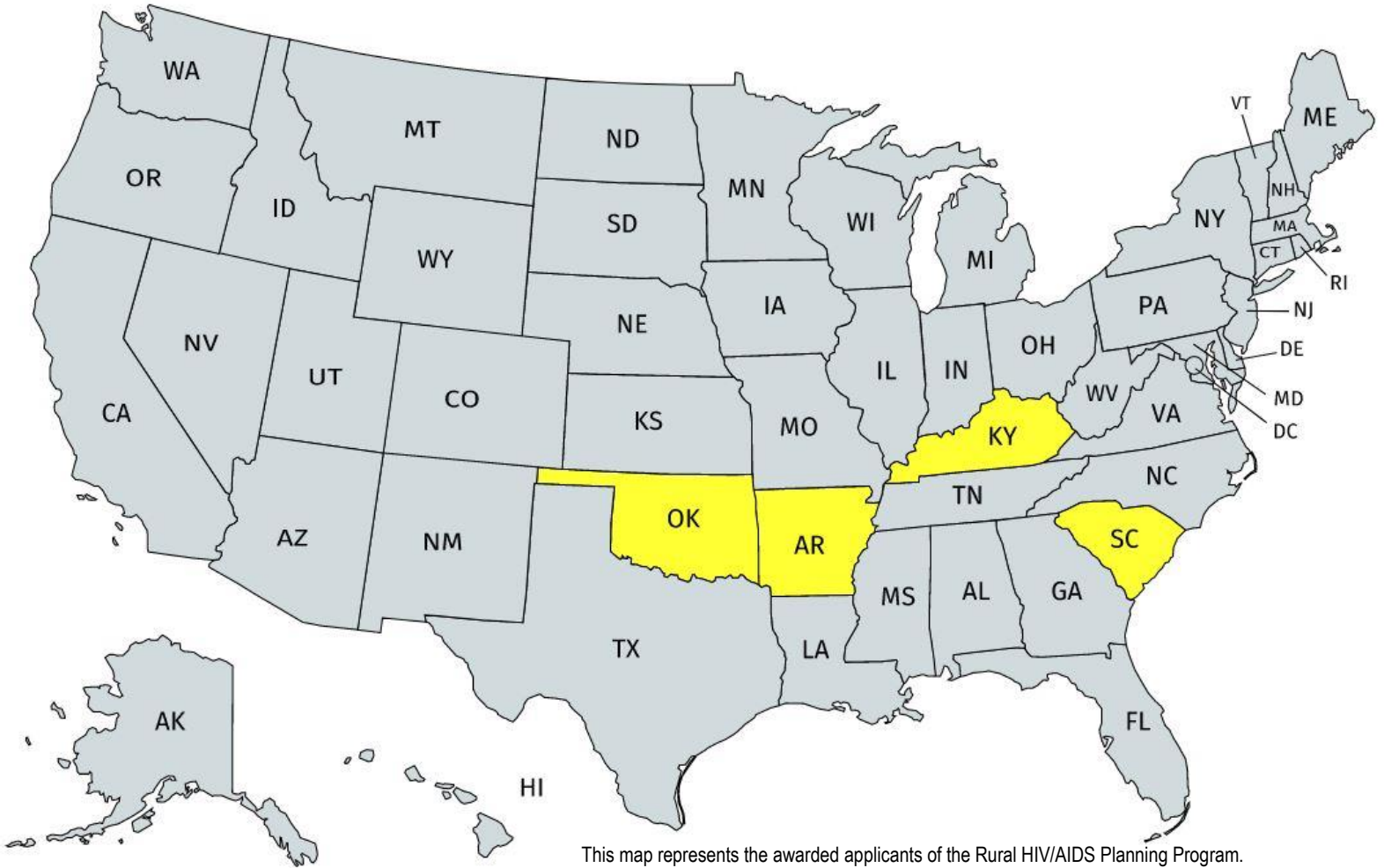


GRANTEE DIRECTORY

2020



This map represents the awarded applicants of the Rural HIV/AIDS Planning Program.

JANUARY 2021

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
THE FEDERAL OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH POLICY



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Introduction

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America, is a multi-year effort to end the HIV epidemic in the United States by the year 2030. In FY 2020, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), through the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) awarded **seven** Rural HIV/AIDS Planning Program grants to assist in the development of integrated rural HIV health networks for HIV care and treatment to address the four key strategies identified in the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) plan:

- ❖ **Diagnose** all people with HIV as early as possible.
- ❖ **Treat** people with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression.
- ❖ **Prevent** new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs (SSPs).
- ❖ **Respond** quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them¹.

The Rural HIV/AIDS Planning program targets seven states (Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma and South Carolina) with a disproportionate number of HIV diagnoses in rural areas. The purpose of the Rural HIV/AIDS Planning program is to support the planning and development of an integrated rural HIV health network for HIV care and treatment, specifically with network participants who do not have a history of formal collaborative HIV efforts. The Rural HIV/AIDS Planning program offers rural health care providers the opportunity to address community HIV needs, gaps and challenges, the development of innovative service delivery models with the goal of improving health outcomes among people with HIV, and reducing the number of new HIV infections.

Awardees and their partners are planning for and developing formal HIV health care networks. They are conducting local and regional needs assessments to better understand the unmet needs. Through these assessment activities they also seek to understand the local factors that drive the disproportionately high numbers of HIV diagnoses in their communities, and assess the current and needed capacity to effectively diagnose and treat people with HIV, prevent new HIV transmission, and efficiently respond to outbreaks. Grantees are engaging network partners in strategic planning around new service line development and the creation of models of better integrated HIV/AIDS care across providers. They are exploring evidence-based models that can more effectively address HIV in their communities, and building the capacity and infrastructure to implement those models at local and regional levels at the end of the planning year.

This Directory provides contact information and a brief overview of the seven awardees funded under the Rural HIV/AIDS Planning program. The Table of Content that follows lists the awardee organizations alphabetically and by state and highlights the key EHE strategies for each. ²

¹ <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/community/index.html/rural-hiv-aids-planning-program-awards>

² <https://grants.hrsa.gov/2010/Web2External/Interface/FundingCycle/ExternalView.aspx?fCycleID=1b271287-b7aa-4a4d-9100-86ee143676b3>

Grantees by State

State	Grant Organization Name
Arkansas	ARcare
Kentucky	Kentucky Health Center Network Incorporated
Kentucky	Pikeville Medical Center, Inc.
Oklahoma	Cherokee County Health Services Council, The
Oklahoma	Rural Health Project, Inc.
Oklahoma	Stigler Health & Wellness Center, Inc.
South Carolina	Care South Carolina, Inc.

Grantees by Grant Organization Name

Grant Organization Name	State
ARcare	Arkansas
Care South Carolina, Inc.	South Carolina
Cherokee County Health Services Council, The	Oklahoma
Kentucky Health Center Network Incorporated	Kentucky
Pikeville Medical Center, Inc.	Kentucky
Rural Health Project, Inc.	Oklahoma
Stigler Health & Wellness Center, Inc.	Oklahoma

EHE Strategies

Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America focuses on four key strategies to end the HIV epidemic:

- ❖ **Diagnose** all people with HIV as early as possible.
- ❖ **Treat** people with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression.
- ❖ **Prevent** new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs (SSPs).
- ❖ **Respond** quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them.

Awardees identified the strategies that would be the focus of their HIV/AIDS planning efforts.

Diagnose	Prevent
ARCARE CareSouth Carolina, Inc. Cherokee County Health Services Council Kentucky Health Center Network Pikeville Medical Center, Inc. Rural Health Projects, Inc. Stigler Health and Wellness Center	ARCARE CareSouth Carolina, Inc. Cherokee County Health Services Council Pikeville Medical Center, Inc. Rural Health Projects, Inc. Stigler Health and Wellness Center
Treat	Respond
Cherokee County Health Services Council Kentucky Health Center Network Pikeville Medical Center, Inc. Rural Health Projects, Inc. Stigler Health and Wellness Center	Cherokee County Health Services Council

Grantee Profiles

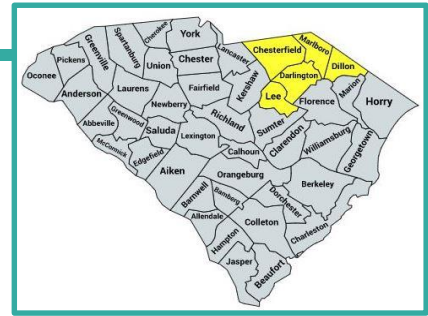


Arkansas

ARcare

Grant Number:	P15RH39983			
Organization Type:	Federally Qualified Health Center			
Grantee Organization Information:	Name:	ARcare		
	Address:	117 South 2nd Street		
	City:	Augusta	State:	Arkansas
	Tel #:	870-347-2534		
	Website:	www.arcare.net		
Primary Contact Information:	Name:	Dr. Steven Collier		
	Title:	CEO		
	Tel #:	870-347-3304		
	Email:	steven.collier@arcare.net		
Network Partners:	Partner Organization	County	State	Organization Type
	Arkansas Rural Health Partnership	Southeast AR counties	AR	Non-profit
	Arkansas Department of Health	Statewide	AR	Government
	Rural Health Association of Arkansas	Statewide	AR	Non-profit
Counties the project serves:	County	County		
	Arkansas	Drew		
	Ashley	Grant		
	Bradley	Jefferson		
	Calhoun	Lee		
	Chicot	Lincoln		
	Cleveland	Monroe		
	Columbia	Ouachita		
	Dallas	Phillips		
	Desha	Union		
Target population served:	Population	Yes	Population	Yes
	Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Men who have sex with men	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	African Americans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pacific Islanders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Alaska Natives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	People who inject drugs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	American Indians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pre-school children	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Caucasians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pregnant Women	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Elderly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (elementary)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Infants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (teens)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Latinos	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uninsured	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Focus Area:	Yes	Focus Area:	Yes

Ending the HIV Epidemic Strategies of Focus:	Diagnose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Treat	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Prevent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Respond	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Program focus areas:	Needs assessment	Access to essential health care			
	Partnership development				
Network Description:					
<p>The members of the Arkansas Rural HIV/AIDS Planning (ARHP) Coalition are the organizations with the largest footprint in the proposed service area. They have the experience in working with the HIV/AIDS population and the capacity to determine the needs of this population and how those needs can be addressed. ARcare is the lead applicant and fiscal agent for the grant project. ARcare oversees all grant deliverables, ensures project activities are completed, and tracks all grant expenses. The Arkansas Rural Health Partnership (ARHP) will lead the partners in conducting the community needs assessment. The Rural Health Association of Arkansas (RHAA) will compile data from assessments and provide results to the partners. RHAA will also assist in facilitation of the Strategic Planning Retreat. The Arkansas Department of Health will assist in prevention campaigns and data analysis/resources.</p>					
Project Description:					
<p>The target population for this project includes all persons living with or diagnosed with HIV/AIDS that reside in the 18 counties of Southeast Arkansas. The overarching goal of the Arkansas Rural HIV/AIDS Planning Coalition is to develop a regional approach to strengthen the healthcare infrastructure to alleviate barriers in HIV care in Southeast Arkansas. The Coalition will achieve this goal by coming together to complete a community needs assessment for the service area, determining the gaps in HIV care that should be addressed first, meeting with community leaders and other organizations to assist and plan for community prevention/education campaigns, and providing opportunities for providers to receive training in HIV prevention and treatment services. The Coalition will also develop a Strategic Plan and Sustainability Plan. The two key EHE strategies of prevention and diagnosis are the foundation of meeting these challenges. Prevention through education, awareness, support groups, and PrEP opportunities is the most important strategy for activating a successful program. The second strategy is diagnosis. This planning team will evaluate the current level of trained providers in diagnosis of HIV/AIDS, resources for testing sites, and what is needed to expand testing. These two strategies will lead to the greater plan of an organized and systematic health care system for HIV/AIDS programs through the collaborative Strategic and Sustainability Plans.</p>					
Expected Outcomes:					
<p>The results/impact the community will see from the planning grant activities will begin with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A more inclusive conversation on what is needed and who needs to be at the table to implement change • An outlined plan of action resulting from the strategic planning process • New training opportunities for providers and health systems to increase access at the local level • A road map of new access to services that include prevention, diagnosis, and treatment • Targeted outreach and awareness campaigns to provide information on prevention and PrEP resources. 					
Project Officer (PO) Contact Information:	Name:	Jillian Causey			
	Tel #:	301-443-1493			
	Email:	JCausey@hrsa.gov			
	Organization:	Federal Office of Rural Health Policy			
	City:	Rockville	State:	Maryland	Zip code:
Technical Assistance (TA) Consultant Contact Information:	Name:	Karen Wakeford			
	Tel #:	404-413-0314			
	Email:	kwakeford@crlconsulting.com			
	Organization:	Georgia Health Policy Center			
	City:	Atlanta	State:	Georgia	Zip code:



South Carolina

Care South Carolina, Inc.

Grant Number:	P15RH39984			
Organization Type:	Federally Qualified Health Center			
Grantee Organization Information:	Name:	CareSouth Carolina, Inc.		
	Address:	201 S. Fifth St.		
	City:	Hartsville	State:	South Carolina
	Tel #:	843-857-0111		
	Website:	www.caresouth-carolina.com		
Primary Contact Information:	Name:	John Douglas		
	Title:	Chief of Business Development		
	Tel #:	843-616-1471		
	Email:	John.douglas@caresouth-carolina.com		
Network Partners:	Partner Organization	County	State	Organization Type
	Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center	Darlington	SC	Hospital
	ALPHA Center	Chesterfield & Lee	SC	Substance Use Disorder Treatment Facility
	Rubicon Counseling Services	Darlington	SC	Substance Use Disorder Treatment Facility
	Trinity Behavioral Care	Dillon & Marlboro	SC	Substance Use Disorder Treatment Facility
Counties the project serves:	County	County		
	Chesterfield	Lee		
	Darlington	Marlboro		
	Dillon			
Target population served:	Population	Yes	Population	Yes
	Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Men who have sex with men	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	African Americans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pacific Islanders	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Alaska Natives	<input type="checkbox"/>	People who inject drugs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	American Indians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pre-school children	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Caucasians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pregnant Women	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Elderly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (elementary)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Infants	<input type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (teens)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Latinos	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Uninsured	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Focus Area:	Yes	Focus Area:	Yes
	Diagnose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Treat	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ending the HIV Epidemic Strategies of Focus:	Prevent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Respond	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Program focus areas:	Eliminating stigma	Recruitment and retention			
	Partner collaboration	Improve HIV testing			
Network Description:					
<p>CareSouth Carolina (CSC) will facilitate collaboration toward the completion of the goals, objectives, activities, management, and evaluation of the network. CareSouth will provide outreach in Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Marlboro and Lee counties in South Carolina for the purpose of connecting human services and health entities. Collaborators will develop and implement a unified regional plan for increasing access to HIV prevention and diagnosis services. Together, partners will build local, regional, state and federal support to sustain network activities.</p>					
Project Description:					
<p>The overarching goal of the network planning program is to improve health outcomes among people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH) and reduce the number of new HIV infections in Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Lee and Marlboro counties by planning for increased access to diagnosis and prevention services.</p> <p>Strategies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff the network, convene partners, and execute HIV Network Memorandum of Understanding with partners. • Analyze local need and gaps in services, develop a comprehensive Strategic Plan that address the gaps in HIV diagnosis and prevention services, and develop a workforce plan identifying staffing needs. • Analyze lessons learned from CareSouth Carolina and other entities utilizing evidence-based practices, identify staffing needs, and identify in kind staffing or other funding HIV diagnosis and prevention services. <p>CareSouth has identified two HIV prevention interventions to use in the targeted rural communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLEAR (Choosing Life! Empowerment! Action! Results!) is an evidence-based, health promotion intervention for females and males ages 16 and older living with HIV/AIDS. • Healthy Relationships is a five session, small group intervention with men and women living with HIV/AIDS. It is based on the Social Cognitive Theory and focuses on the development of coping skills needed to make decisions regarding whether, when, and how to disclose to family and friends, disclose to sexual partners, and build healthier /safer sexual relationships. 					
Expected Outcomes:					
<p>Since 1980, CareSouth Carolina has delivered high quality, comprehensive health care to our community. CareSouth, working together with all other network partners, will provide primary care, health education, outreach, including HIV prevention, testing, and counseling services. By improving the health of residents, CareSouth Carolina will lower the risk of complications from serious, often life threatening diseases in our rural communities.</p>					
Project Officer (PO) Contact Information:	Name:	Jillian Causey			
	Tel #:	301-443-1493			
	Email:	JCausey@hrsa.gov			
	Organization:	Federal Office of Rural Health Policy			
	City:	Rockville	State:	Maryland	Zip code:
Technical Assistance (TA) Consultant Contact Information:	Name:	Amanda Phillips Martinez			
	Tel #:	404-413-0314			
	Email:	aphillipsmartinez@gsu.edu			
	Organization:	Georgia Health Policy Center			
	City:	Atlanta	State:	Georgia	Zip code:

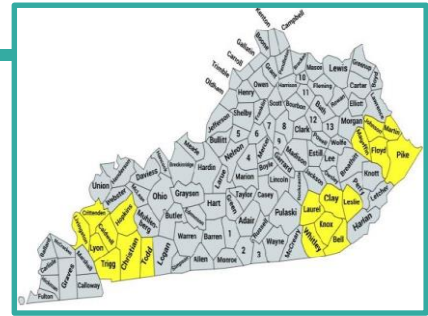


Oklahoma

Cherokee County Health Services Council, The

Grant Number:	P15RH39985			
Organization Type:	Community Organization			
Grantee Organization Information:	Name:	Cherokee County Health Services Council		
	Address:	135 N. Muskogee		
	City:	Tahlequah	State:	Oklahoma
	Tel #:	918-822-5232		
	Website:	www.CCHSCok.org		
Primary Contact Information:	Name:	Pamela Iron		
	Title:	Executive Director		
	Tel #:	918-822-5232		
	Email:	Pamela.iron.cchsc@gmail.com		
Network Partners:	Partner Organization	County	State	Organization Type
	Stilwell Memorial Hospital	Adair	OK	Hospital
	NeoHealth	Cherokee	OK	Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)
	Meese Medical Clinic	Delaware	OK	General Practice Clinic
	Northeastern State University Police Department	Cherokee	OK	Law Enforcement
	National Indian Woman's Health Resource Center	Cherokee	OK	Community Organization
	Delaware Community Partnership	Delaware	OK	Community Organization
	Rapid Start	State wide	OK	HIV Health Services Provider
Counties the project serves:	County	County		
	Adair	Delaware		
	Cherokee			
Target population served:	Population	Yes	Population	Yes
	Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Men who have sex with men	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	African Americans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pacific Islanders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Alaska Natives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	People who inject drugs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	American Indians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pre-school children	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Caucasians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pregnant Women	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (elementary)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Infants	<input type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (teens)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Latinos	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Uninsured	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Ending the HIV Epidemic Strategies of Focus:	Focus Area:		Yes	Focus Area:		Yes
	Diagnose		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Treat		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Prevent		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Respond		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Program focus areas:	Partnership self-assessment (Organizational Needs Assessment)			Community needs assessment		
	Health information technology assessment			Partnership development		
Network Description:						
<p>The Tri-County HIV Rural Health Network (TCHRHN) is a partnership convened by Cherokee County Health Services Council and includes medical providers in three counties and two community coalitions, a state outreach agency, and a law enforcement agency. This is the first initiative of this kind in the region and the long-term goal is to develop referral protocols, share best practices, collect and compare data to identify common needs and gaps in care and explore other funding opportunities to improve the health and well-being of area residents.</p>						
Project Description:						
<p>The goal of the project is to plan and develop an integrated rural HIV health network for HIV care and treatment in Northeastern Oklahoma by project end. Strategies to achieve this goal are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalize the TCHRHN • Complete a Strategic Plan incorporating data from four planning documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community needs assessment • A community organizational assessment to include a health information technology readiness assessment • A partnership self-assessment • A strengths/weaknesses/opportunities/ threats (SWOT) analysis 						
Expected Outcomes:						
<p>The outcomes will include a set of comprehensive documents to support the creation of an integrated care network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A completed community needs assessment for each county and a collated document for the entire region, • A community organizational assessment report to identify strategies for improving health information technology. • A description of the partnership and how it will impact all communities and incorporates the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis that informs next steps for addressing weaknesses within the partnership. <p>The EHE strategies expected to be advanced as a result of this initiative include an increase in medical providers treating HIV; availability of Infectious Disease case managers, ability to work virtually across entities to facilitate entry to care; in-home HIV testing, with agencies providing pre-/post-test counseling and case management electronically via tele-health modalities; and, PrEP prescriptions easily available through local pharmacies and doctors' offices.</p>						
Project Officer (PO) Contact Information:	Name:	Jillian Causey				
	Tel #:	301-443-1493				
	Email:	JCausey@hrsa.gov				
	Organization:	Federal Office of Rural Health Policy				
	City:	Rockville	State:	Maryland	Zip code:	20857
Technical Assistance (TA) Consultant Contact Information:	Name:	Eric Baumgartner				
	Tel #:	504- 813-3688				
	Email:	etbaumgartner@bellsouth.net				
	Organization:	Georgia Health Policy Center				
	City:	Atlanta	State:	Georgia	Zip code:	30303

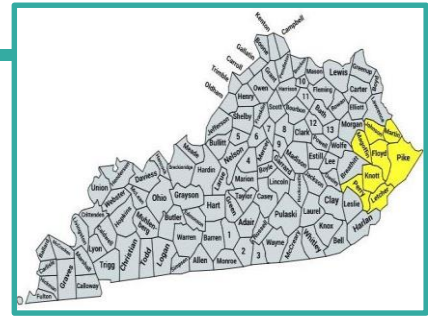


Kentucky

Kentucky Health Center Network Incorporated

Grant Number:	P15RH39986			
Organization Type:	Health Center Controlled Network			
Grantee Organization Information:	Name:	Kentucky Health Center Network		
	Address:	PO Box 1127		
	City:	Mount Sterling	State:	Kentucky
	Tel #:	270-519-8211		
	Website:	www.Kyhcn.org		
Primary Contact Information:	Name:	LaShae Nall		
	Title:	Director of Health Informatics and Analytics		
	Tel #:	270-519-8211		
	Email:	Lashae.nall@kyhcn.org		
Network Partners:	Partner Organization	County	State	Organization Type
	Pennyroyal Healthcare Services d/b/a Community Medical Clinic	Caldwell	KY	Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)
	Grace Community Health Center, d/b/a Grace Health	Whitley	KY	FQHC
	Big Sandy Health Care, Inc.	Floyd	KY	FQHC
Counties the project serves:	County	County		
	Bell	Leslie		
	Caldwell	Livingston		
	Christian	Lyon		
	Clay	Magoffin		
	Crittendon	Martin		
	Floyd	Pike		
	Hopkins	Todd		
	Johnson	Trigg		
	Knox	Whitley		
Laurel				
Target population served:	Population	Yes	Population	Yes
	Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Men who have sex with men	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	African Americans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pacific Islanders	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Alaska Natives	<input type="checkbox"/>	People who inject drugs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	American Indians	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pre-school children	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Caucasians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pregnant Women	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Elderly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (elementary)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Infants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (teens)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Latinos	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uninsured	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ending the HIV Epidemic Strategies of Focus:	Focus Area:	Yes	Focus Area:	Yes	
	Diagnose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Treat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Prevent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Respond	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Program focus areas:	Needs assessment	Partnership development			
	Toolkit development	Community outreach			
Network Description:					
<p>The Kentucky Health Center Network (KHCN) has partnered with three FQHC members: Big Sandy Health Care, Grace Community Health Center, and Pennyroyal Healthcare Services. These members along with KHCN have committed to fulfilling the roles and responsibilities and offering the experts needed to increase diagnosis and treatment of HIV within the rural service area. The consortium will develop a toolkit for the diagnosis and treatment of HIV/AIDS in rural health clinics that can be shared among other FQHCs and others.</p>					
Project Description:					
<p>The goal of the Kentucky Health Center Network Rural HIV Planning project is to conduct planning activities targeted toward improving diagnosis and treatment in rural communities in Kentucky that are served by FQHCs. The target population for the initiative are the 1,084,303 residents of the 19 rural counties in eastern, southeastern and western Kentucky. Rural residents in these counties have disparities in income, education, health access and health outcomes. Opioid use is a key factor in the HIV risk for this rural population where there are increasing rates of OUD and few resources for treatment. The project's goals and objectives support these planning activities, which include conducting community and organizational needs assessments and strategic planning.</p>					
Expected Outcomes:					
<p>The consortium will conduct organizational, provider and community needs assessments within rural communities served by the three FQHC partners in order to improve outcomes for rural patients based on identifying key strategies. These strategies will include identification and administration of steps to support an improved system of care for those rural residents with HIV/AIDS.</p>					
Project Officer (PO) Contact Information:	Name:	Jillian Causey			
	Tel #:	301-443-1493			
	Email:	JCausey@hrsa.gov			
	Organization:	Federal Office of Rural Health Policy			
	City:	Rockville	State:	Maryland	Zip code:
Technical Assistance (TA) Consultant Contact Information:	Name:	Amanda Phillips Martinez			
	Tel #:	404-413-0314			
	Email:	aphillipsmartinez@gsu.edu			
	Organization:	Georgia Health Policy Center			
	City:	Atlanta	State:	Georgia	Zip code:



Kentucky

Pikeville Medical Center, Inc.

Grant Number:	P15RH39987			
Organization Type:	Hospital			
Grantee Organization Information:	Name:	Pikeville Medical Center, Inc.		
	Address:	911 Bypass Road		
	City:	Pikeville	State:	Kentucky
	Tel #:	606-218-3500		
	Website:	www.pikevillehospital.org		
Primary Contact Information:	Name:	Christy Prater		
	Title:	Project Manager		
	Tel #:	606-218-6223		
	Email:	Christy.prater@pikevillehospital.org		
Network Partners:	Partner Organization	County	State	Organization Type
	Pike County Health Department	Pike	KY	Nonprofit / Public Health
	Mountain Comprehensive Care Center	Pike	KY	Nonprofit / Health Clinic
	Big Sandy Health Care	Pike	KY	Nonprofit / Health Clinic
	Pikeville Medical Center, Inc.	Pike	KY	Nonprofit Hospital
Counties the project serves:	County	County		
	Floyd	Magoffin		
	Johnson	Martin		
	Knott	Perry		
	Letcher	Pike		
Target population served:	Population	Yes	Population	Yes
	Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Men who have sex with men	<input type="checkbox"/>
	African Americans	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pacific Islanders	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Alaska Natives	<input type="checkbox"/>	People who inject drugs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	American Indians	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pre-school children	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Caucasians	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pregnant Women	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (elementary)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Infants	<input type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (teens)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Latinos	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uninsured	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ending the HIV Epidemic Strategies of Focus:	Focus Area:	Yes	Focus Area:	Yes
	Diagnose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Treat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Prevent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Respond	<input type="checkbox"/>

Program focus areas:	Partnership development and collaboration	Needs assessment
	Infectious disease (HIV/AIDS) management	Healthcare access

Network Description:

The goal of the Eastern Kentucky Rural HIV/AIDS Network is to produce a blueprint for a comprehensive plan to HIV/AIDS in the region. The planning process will be conducted by the HIV/AIDS Consortium, a community planning body made up of HIV service providers, Federally Quality Health Center (FQHC) providers, public health agencies, mental and behavior health agencies and community members who have a responsibility for assessing needs, prioritizing interventions, and evaluating service outcomes in relation to HIV prevention and care. Through collaboration, Pikeville Medical Center and the partners hope to reduce the “silo” effect of each provider and minimize duplication among agencies. With this effort, the Network will work to reduce the duplication of services by providing a system which gives HIV patients access to the most appropriate level of care by the most appropriate organization. Each member of the consortium was chosen because the coordination of the services that each member provides will ensure that the full spectrum of HIV issues and HIV care are included. Open communication and a network approach will ensure the needs of the patients drive all activities and that a better system of health care for the community is developed. This approach will be effective in breaking down the barriers between current service providers and will help ensure the needs of the patients are met. The goal is to identify a streamlined continuum of care that will operate efficiently and maximize the public dollars and private investments that are made in the system.

Project Description:

The purpose of this project is to plan and develop a formal, integrated, effective, evidence-based, scalable, and sustainable rural HIV/AIDS network of regional care providers and other community stakeholders to address community HIV needs, gaps and challenges in Eastern Kentucky counties which are health professional shortage areas, and/or designated as medically underserved communities/population.

To do so, Pikeville Medical Center will lead a consortium of local entities who will collectively: (1) compile, share, and assess data related to HIV/AIDS prevalence and treatment; (2) conduct a regional needs assessment based upon said data, consortium member experiences, and discussions with other community members and organizations to identify the needs of the community as it relates to HIV/AIDS diagnoses and treatment; and (3) develop a rural HIV health network operations plan – to include the establishment of a formal memorandum of agreement/understanding (MOA/MOU), a shared mission statement, an agreed-upon action plan with defined roles and responsibilities of the network partners and decision-making structure.

Data collection and planning activities will allow those who provide care to the HIV community to move from data to evidence-informed action, and to an alignment of services across providers. With a focus on social and economic factors, prioritization will provide direction and create opportunities for all, especially for those most at risk and/or affected by HIV/AIDS.

Expected Outcomes:

The network aims to:

- Transform the HIV diagnostic and treatment service delivery for our service area into a patient-centered and value-based driven system that support the EHE Initiative;
- Improve health outcomes among people with HIV; and
- Reduce the number of new HIV infections in the rural eastern Kentucky community.

The network seeks to establish a service area platform for a streamlined system of care coordination between partners that supports a cross-agency system for screening, referral, interventions, and follow-up for HIV/AIDS patients. The intended results of the network are to support the current regional health care landscape to improve outcomes, reduce costs, ensure access and efficient linkage to appropriate HIV prevention, care, treatment, and supportive services. The network will accomplish this by planning innovative approaches to rural HIV care and sustaining an actively involved and engaged network that will implement collaborative services for those in the most rural areas in the region.

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Oklahoma

Rural Health Project, Inc.

Grant Number:	P15RH39988			
Organization Type:	Rural Health Projects, Inc.			
Grantee Organization Information:	Name:	Rural Health Projects, Inc.		
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	City:	Enid	State:	Oklahoma
	Tel #:	580-213-3177		
	Website:	www.rhp-nwahec.org		
Primary Contact Information:	Name:	Allison Seigars		
	Title:	Project Director		
	Tel #:	580-213-3177		
	Email:	agseigars@nwsu.edu		
Network Partners:	Partner Organization	County	State	Organization Type
	Great Salt Plains Health Center	Alfalfa, Blaine, Garfield, Grant	OK	Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)
	St. Mary's Regional Hospital	Garfield	OK	Hospital
	Enid Community Clinic	Garfield	OK	Free Clinic
	Garfield County Health Department	Garfield	OK	Regional Health Department
	Oklahoma State University	Oklahoma	OK	State University
Counties the project serves:	County	County		
	Alfalfa	Grant		
	Blaine	Major		
	Garfield			
Target population served:	Population	Yes	Population	Yes
	Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Men who have sex with men	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	African Americans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pacific Islanders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Alaska Natives	<input type="checkbox"/>	People who inject drugs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	American Indians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pre-school children	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Caucasians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pregnant Women	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (elementary)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Infants	<input type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (teens)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Latinos	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Uninsured	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ending the HIV Epidemic Strategies of Focus:	Focus Area:	Yes	Focus Area:	Yes
	Diagnose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Treat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Prevent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Respond	<input type="checkbox"/>

Program focus areas:	Needs assessment	Coordinate services
	Expanded access to care	

Network Description:

Each member of the Ending the HIV Epidemic in Rural Oklahoma (e-HERO) Network was chosen for their commitment to improving the health of Garfield and surrounding communities. Great Salt Plains Community Health Center (GSP) is the region’s Federally Qualified Health Center, with offices in Grant, Garfield, Alfalfa, and Blaine counties. GSP’s role is to improve health outcomes for people with HIV (PWH) by early detection and diagnosis, linkage, retention and viral suppression. St. Mary’s Regional Center’s role will be to participate in e-HERO activities, representing half of the primary care physicians in Garfield County, the medical hub for Northwest Oklahoma. The role of the Enid Community Clinic will be to participate in e-HERO activities, assist with data gathering, and educate volunteers about HIV prevention, care, and referral sources. Rural Health Projects’ (RHP) role will be to staff and participate in the e-HERO activities, manage the grant and funding, and contribute to the project through continued partnership development and relationship building. The regional County Health Department serves Grant, Garfield, Alfalfa, Blaine, and Major counties, with offices in all counties except Alfalfa. Garfield County serves as the regional administrative headquarters for the area. In addition to a variety of services, the county health departments also provide HIV testing, family planning, and birth control services. The represented health departments’ role will be to participate in the e-HERO activities, assist with data gathering and input for the needs assessment and Strategic Plan, and educate staff about HIV prevention, care, and referral sources.

Project Description:

The Tri-County Health Improvement Organization (Tri-CHIO,) through its fiscal agent Rural Health Projects, Inc. (RHP), has formed a collaborative partnership with various state agencies, Oklahoma universities, and private rural healthcare organizations, to develop a rural HIV health network initiative titled “Ending the HIV Epidemic in Rural Oklahoma (e-HERO) Network.” This network is addressing the urgent need for secondary (e.g., HIV screening) and tertiary (e.g., medical care) HIV prevention coordination that delivers HIV services to the right people at the right time in the right setting, with healthcare goals designed to improve health outcomes of at-risk community members. The objective of e-HERO Network is to leverage the strength and expertise of public and private stakeholders to deliver new and innovative health solutions. The target population of the Ending the HIV Epidemic in Rural Oklahoma (e-HERO) Network are men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, emergent adults 18-29 years of age, and racial ethnic minorities in Alfalfa Blaine, Garfield, Grant, and Major Counties in rural Northwest Oklahoma. The program goal is to develop culturally-congruent programs to diagnose persons with HIV as soon as possible and to treat people with HIV rapidly and effectively.

Expected Outcomes:

One expected outcome of the planning process is the development of HIV medication rapid-start protocols in which PWH could be seen by a physician via telemedicine and placed on HIV antiretroviral therapy within a span of a few days—as compared to the traditional 40 to 60-day waiting period currently within these clinics. This approach will expedite the linkage of patients to an HIV provider, the collection of bio specimens for baseline labs (e.g., CD4, viral load), and medication adherence counseling. Such approaches have been piloted by Oklahoma State University Center for Health Services in Eastern Oklahoma, with preliminary data noting on average, rapid-start clients had their first physician appointment 5.41 (SD= 5.5) days after initial clinic contact compared to 42.91 (SD= 11.42) for standard referrals. Such linkages will allow PWH to continue receiving care at Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) HIV clinics, given these entities also provide direct care to insured PWH. These enhancements not only improve access to care for rural PWH but more importantly, through the development of protocols to improve efficiency, ensure patients are provided quality HIV-related care.

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Oklahoma

Stigler Health & Wellness Center, Inc.

Grant Number:	P15RH39989			
Organization Type:	Federally Qualified Health Center			
Grantee Organization Information:	Name:	Stigler Health and Wellness Center (SHWC)		
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	Website:	www.thwcinc.com		
Primary Contact Information:	Name:	Brooke Lattimore		
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Network Partners:	Partner Organization	County	State	Organization Type
	McIntosh County Health Department (MCHD)	McIntosh	OK	County Health Department
	Oklahoma Primary Care Association (OKPCA)	Oklahoma	OK	501© Non-profit Association
	KiBois Community Action Foundation (KiBois)	McIntosh	OK	Community Action Agency
Counties the project serves:	County	County		
	McIntosh County			
Target population served:	Population	Yes	Population	Yes
	Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Men who have sex with men	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	African Americans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pacific Islanders	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Alaska Natives	<input type="checkbox"/>	People who inject drugs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	American Indians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pre-school children	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Caucasians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pregnant Women	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Elderly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (elementary)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Infants	<input type="checkbox"/>	School-age children (teens)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Latinos	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Uninsured	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ending the HIV Epidemic Strategies of Focus:	Focus Area:	Yes	Focus Area:	Yes
	Diagnose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Treat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Prevent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Respond	<input type="checkbox"/>
Program focus areas:	Partnership development		Coordination of resources	
	Network assessment		Strategic/Business Plan development	
Network Description:				
Through this project, the HOST Network will develop systems that allow local healthcare entities and community assistance agencies to coordinate resources to better meet the needs of McIntosh County residents. When the network				

is fully developed, McIntosh County residents will be able to access a number of HIV/AIDS-related treatment and prevention services utilizing transition points between The McIntosh County Health Department (MCHD), the local community health center, Stigler Health and Wellness Center (SHWC), and a very active community action agency (KiBois Community Action Foundation). As an added benefit, through the Oklahoma Primary Care Association (OKPCA), SHWC, the primary HIV/AIDS treatment provider in the area, will gain access to multiple statewide alliances and committees addressing the needs of HIV/AIDS patients. By leveraging this existing partnership, OKPCA has already linked the network to the University of Oklahoma's South Central AIDS Education and Training Center Program. As a result, the network is now engaged in training to equip providers to manage at-risk and HIV positive patients in rural settings and via telehealth.

Project Description:

The HOST Network Project is a one-year planning project aimed at creating a sustainable network to address the ongoing need for HIV/AIDS related services in McIntosh County. In the planning year, consortium members will focus the development of the new network. This will include: defining roles, responsibilities and the structure of the network; assessing network capabilities; identifying and developing linkages to improve the capacity to provide HIV/AIDS care/services between network partner agencies; developing systems and processes for providing a seamless continuum of in-person and telehealth services across multiple agencies/organizations; and, building community education programs designed to address both a lack of information and significant stigma attached to HIV/AIDS issues in rural Oklahoma.

Once the building blocks for the network are in place, the long-term goal for the HOST Network is to assist HIV/AIDS positive individuals to reach sustained viral suppression levels by linking individuals to treatment, and enabling their continued care through use of in-person and telehealth services and via assistance with acquiring needed medications. Additionally, the HOST Network will implement activities designed to limit, and even halt, new HIV transmissions through the use of proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) programs for those at high risk of HIV infection. This network will align its activities to match evidenced-based practices, such as Medical Advocacy & Outreach Telehealth Services and TelePrEP, programs that were specifically designed to serve the needs of rural populations.

Expected Outcomes:

As the HOST Network is actually an offshoot of an existing community-based health project, an updated Community Needs Assessment has already been obtained. This means the HOST Network can use the one-year planning period to develop strong plans and processes through the development of a formal Network Assessment, a Business Plan to guide future activities, and a fully developed Sustainability Plan with identified goals, strategies and outcomes for performance. In support of these planning activities, a network assessment tool, including queries related to staff and system capabilities, will be developed and completed by all participants. Data tracking/sharing systems will be identified and/or created. In addition, systems for the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of learning, knowledge, and products needed to inform future strategies, goals, activities, technologies, and business models will be created. Finally, all network members will actively participate in strategic planning that will guide the network in transitioning from planning to active community engagement.

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Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE)	Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America (EHE) is an operational plan developed by agencies across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to pursue the goal of ending the HIV epidemic in the United States within 10 years. For the first five years of the plan, the EHE initiative will focus on 57 priority jurisdictions where more than 50 percent of new HIV diagnoses occurred in 2016 and 2017 and also seven states with a disproportionate occurrence of HIV in rural areas.
Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)	FQHCs are community-based health care providers that receive funds from the Health Resources and Services Administration to provide primary care services in underserved areas. They must meet a stringent set of requirements, including providing care on a sliding fee scale based on ability to pay and operating under a governing board that includes patients.
Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)	A HPSA is a geographic area, population group, or health care facility that has been designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as having a shortage of health professionals. These areas have a shortage of primary, dental or mental health care providers
Antiretroviral therapy (ART)	Treatment that suppresses or stops a retrovirus. One of the retroviruses is the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that causes AIDS.
Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)	Pre-exposure prophylaxis is the use of medications used to prevent the spread of disease in people who have not yet been exposed to a disease-causing agent, usually a virus. The term typically refers to the specific use of antiviral drugs as a strategy for HIV/AIDS prevention.
Syringe services programs (SSPs)	SSPs are a community-based HIV prevention strategy for persons who inject drugs (PWID). SSPs aim to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis, and other blood-borne infections by using sterile injection equipment for each injection.

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