N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Rural Health

> 311 Ashe Avenue Raleigh, NC 27606 Phone: 919.527.6440 • Fax: 919.733.8300

> https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/orh

North Carolina Office of Rural Health

2023 Profile (Data from State Fiscal Year 2023 and current as of 6/30/2023)

Grant Facts

\$66.8M

Available grant funding (federal, state, philanthropic)

\$25.4M

Special Appropriations funding

274

Jobs (full-time and part-time) supported in local communities

438

Contracts to support communities

Direct

426,175 Patients served

Of ORH funding is spent directly on communities

\$89.80

Average annual contribution by ORH per patient



71%

Patients with well controlled diabetes, as evidenced by A1c levels < 9

66%

Patients with well controlled hypertension, as evidenced by blood pressure levels < 140/90



60%

Patients screened for obesity through Body Mass Index (BMI) testing



70% Patients screened for tobacco cessation and treatment

Overview

In 1973, the North Carolina Office of Rural Health (ORH) became the first State Office of Rural Health in the Nation. Created to focus on the needs of rural and underserved communities, ORH continues to empower communities and populations by developing strategies to improve quality and cost-effectiveness of health care for all. While ORH does not provide direct care, its programs support numerous health care safety net organizations throughout the state. Continued support and recurring funding for ORH strengthened North Carolina's health care safety net infrastructure to ensure that all of the state's medically vulnerable residents (Uninsured, Underinsured, Medicare and Medicaid) have access to affordable and appropriate high quality primary care. It is a conservative estimate that the State's primary care safety net system serves 973,000 vulnerable, uninsured residents in 2022 (American Community Survey, US Census Bureau).

Special Appropriations

In SFY 2023, ORH was directed to administer \$25.4 million in special appropriations from the NC General Assembly to disperse funds for specific projects or specific health care organizations in North Carolina.

Office of Rural Health Programs:



Rural Hospital

Support operational improvement projects for the benefit of all critical access hospitals and eligible small rural hospitals



Medication Assistance

Provide free and lowcost medications donated by pharmaceutical manufacturers to patients who cannot afford them



NC Statewide Telepsychiatry

Support psychiatric evaluation of patients through videoconferencing in emergency departments and community settings



Innovations

Support data analytics, shortage designations, and pioneering efforts to improve health, such as the NC Community Health Worker Initiative



Placement and **HPSA Services**

Recruit providers to health professional shortage areas



Health Operations

Support state designated rural health centers that serve the entire community



Community Health Grants

Support the primary care safety net system with increasing access to health care for vulnerable populations



Health

Support medical, dental and educational services for members of the North Carolina agricultural labor force and their families



Health Information Technology/ Telehealth

Provide technical assistance to improve the use of Health Information Technology and adaptation of telehealth.

Return On Investment and Economic Impact

Source: IMPLAN

ORH Expenditures \$38,270,039

Generates

205 1 205

additional jobs

from the economic

impact

Created Economic Impact

\$37,629,266

\$2,827,081

Generated in state and local

taxes which

goes back into

state economy

the local and



Total Impact

\$75,899,306



In employee compensation impacted from the grant

Each ORH grant dollar has a total economic impact



*Economic impact is estimated to be much greater because improved health outcomes can lead to fewer missed work days, reduced health care costs, and reduced premature morbidity and mortality. Some expenses such as out of state purchases, overhead, and rollover payments are not captured for ROI and economic impact.



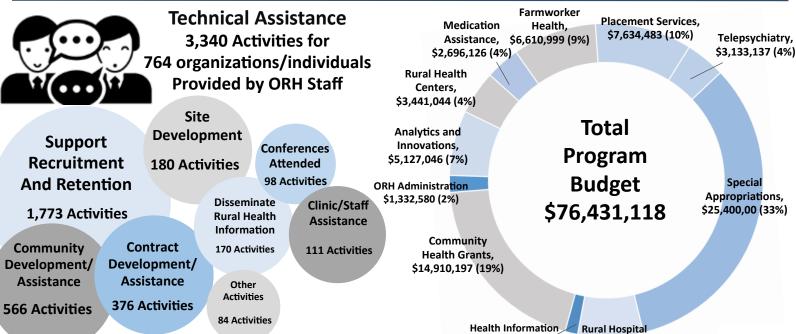
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162

Agencies funded

Program Reach

Technology,

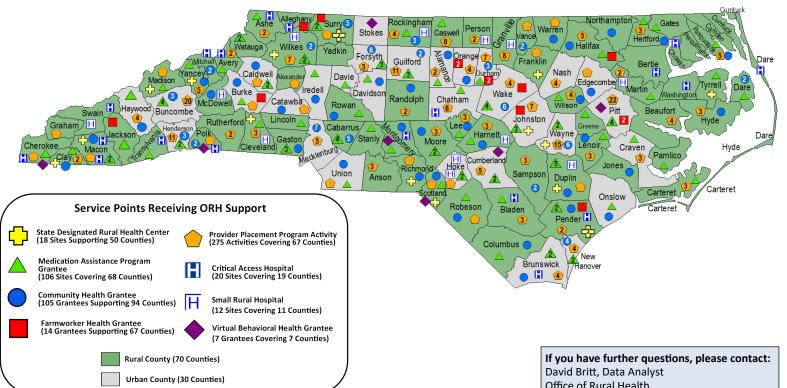
\$1,004,610 (1%)

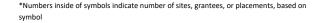
Total counties covered

Assistance,

\$5,140,896 (7%)

Rural counties covered







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