FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

RURAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRAINING GRANT
THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Application Deadline: February 14, 2022

How to Apply

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2022 Rural Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Training Grants. The purpose of this program is to recruit and train EMS personnel in rural areas with a particular focus on addressing mental and substance use disorders. SAMHSA recognizes the great need for emergency services in rural areas and the critical role EMS personnel serve across the country. Eligibility is statutorily limited to rural emergency medical service agencies operated by a local or tribal government (fire-based and non-fire based) and non-profit emergency medical service agencies.

For More Information
RURAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE

Rural communities face unique challenges that impact their ability to deliver fair and equitable justice. Despite these challenges, rural communities rely on their many strengths to address the needs of their residents.

The National Center for State Courts, in partnership with Rulo Strategies, launched the Rural Justice Collaborative (RJC) to showcase the strengths of rural communities and highlight the cross-sector collaboration that is a hallmark of rural justice systems.

The work under the RJC is supported by a crosssector advisory council composed of rural judges along with additional stakeholders in the justice, child welfare, and behavioral health systems. The advisory council guides and identifies innovative programs and practices.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

RIGOROUS EVALUATION OF STRATEGIES TO PREVENT OVERDOSE THROUGH LINKING PEOPLE WITH ILLICIT SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS TO RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) is soliciting investigator-initiated research that will support the identification and rigorous evaluation of practical strategies that link people in recovery for illicit substance use disorders to at least one evidence-based recovery support service available within their community, and, if needed, re-link people to such services following resumption of illicit substance use.

For More Information

RURAL PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE TRAINING NETWORK PROGRAM

THE HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA)

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) accepts applications for the fiscal year (FY) 2022 Rural Public Health Workforce Training Network Program. This program aims to expand public health capacity by supporting health care job development, training, and placement in rural communities. HRSA will support rural health networks to address the critical need for more trained health professionals, which the COVID-19 pandemic has amplified.

For More Information
ANNOUNCEMENT

THE CONVENING COUNTY, COURT & JUSTICE LEADERS: A FRAMEWORK FOR CROSS-SYSTEM COLLABORATION

ANNOUNCING THE FIRST SELECTION OF COHORT SITES

This initiative is offered at a critical point when local governments are planning how they will use federal funds available under the American Rescue Plan (ARP). These funds provide a unique opportunity to better understand the needs and opportunities in one's community and enhance the justice system's capacity to increase public safety and improve people's lives.

Participating counties will receive expert facilitation and technical assistance throughout the project at no cost to them. After the initiative, counties will have a written implementation plan addressing their top justice-related priorities. As part of the initiative, counties will:

• Establish a collaborative and sustainable relationship between county leaders, judges, and justice stakeholders
• Participate in a structured and facilitated process of identifying gaps and prioritizing strategies and solutions to address critical local justice issues
• Learn from subject-matter experts and peers from other jurisdictions about evidence-based approaches and different innovative strategies; and
• Learn about how ARP dollars and other federal funding can be leveraged to increase access to justice, reduce the number of individuals with mental health and substance use disorders involved in the justice system, enhance community trust and reduce reliance on incarceration.

Counties are welcome to Apply Online or complete this Fillable PDF. Applications are currently being accepted through February 11, 2022.

Each county will receive expert guidance and assistance based on its unique needs. There is no direct funding offered to sites selected through this opportunity.

The first five sites selected for this opportunity include:

• Potter County, PA
• Charlottesville/Albemarle, VA
• Navajo, AZ
• Cuyahoga, OH
• Lake County, CO

An additional five counties will be selected to participate in this 12-month project.

The Convening County, Court & Justice Leaders: A Framework for Cross-System Collaboration is supported by the National Association of Counties (NACo), Rulo Strategies, and Praxis Consulting, with funding from the State Justice Institute. Please reach out to Elynn Lee, elee@naco.org, with any questions about the project.
PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION LAUNCHES RURAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE TO ADDRESS LEGAL DESERTS AND CLOSE THE JUSTICE GAP

In December 2021, the Legal Services Corporation launched a Rural Justice Task Force. The goals of the Rural Justice Task Force include raising awareness of the civil legal needs of rural residents, profiling model programs that provide effective legal services or information to those in rural communities, recommending strategies for engaging private attorneys to provide pro bono legal assistance, and identifying opportunities for state and federal legislative assistance.

Kristina Bryant, co-director of the RJC, is representing the RJC on this Task Force.

For More Information

NEW MOTLOW (TN) PROGRAM FIGHTS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Thanks in part to a grant from the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) within the US Department of Justice, Motlow State College recently kicked off a program to reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking throughout the rural communities it serves. Motlow State College is uniquely positioned to target rural areas because 10 of the 11 counties the College serves are rural areas. None of the cities or towns in these ten counties have a population greater than 25,000.

To learn more, watch a quick video on the program.

For More Information
New National Poll Shows Encouraging Signs of Reduced Stigma Around Farmer Mental Health (January 2021)

The American Farm Bureau Federation surveyed rural adults and farmers/farmworkers to measure changes and trends in stigma, personal experiences with mental health, awareness of mental health resources, and comfort in talking about mental health with others.

Justice by Geography: The Role of Monetary Sanctions Across Communities (November 2021)

This article examines how differences in court structure and organizational dynamics in communities across the rural-urban continuum lead to differences in how court actors consider the role of monetary sanctions.

Vera Institute of Justice Unveils Updated Incarceration Trends Website (December 2021)

The Vera Institute of Justice recently announced a new, updated version of its Incarceration Trends website, which includes more than five decades of local jail and state prison data at the national, state, and county levels. The updated site brings many of the data points current to spring 2021 and represents the most comprehensive look to date at the growth of mass incarceration across states, counties, and urban-to-rural geographies.

Improving Health in Rural Communities (December 2021)

This report compiles an account of Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) programs, policies, and outreach that have impacted rural health in fiscal year (FY) 2021. These activities prioritize rural populations or are designed for all CMS beneficiaries and enrollees, but rural populations, in particular, may stand to benefit. In this report, you will see a greater reflection of the work taking place across rural, frontier, and tribal communities as well as the remote areas of the U.S. territories. CMS remains committed to those they serve and to providing patients in rural communities with access to more affordable, equitable, and quality healthcare.
RESOURCES

The International Society for the Study of Rural Crime

The International Society for the Study of Rural Crime (ISSRC) comprises scholars, students, and practitioners from around the world interested in reducing crime in all its forms in rural areas. The bulk of crime and criminal justice research is focused on urban settings; yet, rurality can exacerbate some criminal issues, add complexity, or manifest distinctive crimes, but these are not well understood and are often underplayed in scholarship. As such, rural crime and society is an important and growing field of research highlighting the unique issues surrounding crime, disorder, and criminal justice in non-urban settings.

Rural Appalachian Parks Departments ‘Train Trauma’ to Support Youth

Elizabethton (TN) Parks and Recreation is one of five departments that have been awarded grants from the National Recreation and Park Association (NPRA) to implement its Youth Mentoring Framework. The NRPA developed the Youth Mentoring Framework for local parks and recreation agencies to establish mentorship programs to serve the unique needs of their respective communities.

Farm State of Mind

More farmers and farm families are experiencing stress and mental health concerns. The Farm State of Mind, an American Farm Bureau Federation project, provides a resource directory and supports rural farmers. To learn more, watch this short video.