



OFFICE OF PRIMARY CARE & RURAL HEALTH

Our Goal

Dedicated to improving access to quality healthcare services in New Mexico by providing collaborative leadership and resources to healthcare and community organizations.

Our Funding

The OPCRH is the recipient and oversight agency of four Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) federal grants, in addition to State general funds.

These funds support the healthcare infrastructure in New Mexico's rural areas, and assist small hospitals in performance improvement, quality improvement, and adoption of health information technology.

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OVERVIEW

The Office of Primary Care & Rural Health (OPCRH) advocates for quality health care delivery systems for all New Mexicans. The OPCRH provides information, referrals, education, health planning, grant opportunities, technical assistance, and financial assistance for health centers in New Mexico.

PRIMARY CARE PROGRAMS

Rural Primary Health Care Act (RPHCA) program provides financial support for the operations of 95 community-based primary health clinics sites throughout the state ensuring the provision of basic health care. RPHCA documented more than 441,000 patients and over 1,188,000 primary care encounters in state fiscal year 2019 (FY19).

Primary Care Provider Recruitment and Retention supports a clearinghouse for recruitment and retention of primary care providers for underserved and rural areas of the state: 59 health professionals were placed in 15 counties in 20 different communities during FY19.

Primary Care Capital Fund (PCCF), in cooperation with the New Mexico Finance Authority, the PCCF offers low-interest rate loans to community-based primary care centers and hospices. There were 3 active loans for primary care center facilities in FY19.

Primary Care Cooperative Agreement (PCO) supports the coordination of state primary care center program activities with those of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The PCO works to foster collaboration, provide technical assistance, assess needs, develop workforce for National Health Service Corps (NHSC) and safety net programs, and coordinate Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). There were 215 NHSC clinicians serving at 110 sites in the state of New Mexico in FY19.

Our Partners

Flex

- Eastern New Mexico Emergency Medical Service / EMS Region I & III
- iVantage / Chartis Center for Rural Health
- New Mexico Hospital Education and Research Foundation
- New Mexico Rural Hospital Network

PCO and SORH

- New Mexico Health Resources, Inc.
- New Mexico Primary Care Association
- Varela Consulting Group

RPHCA

- Albuquerque Healthcare for the Homeless
- Ben Archer Health Center
- De Baca Family Practice
- El Centro Family Health
- El Pueblo Health Services
- First Choice Community Healthcare
- First Nations Healthsource
- Guadalupe County
- Hidalgo Medical Services
- Jal Clinic
- La Casa de Buena Salud
- La Clinica de Familia
- La Clinica del Pueblo de Rio Arriba
- La Familia Medical Center
- Las Clinicas del Norte
- Mora Valley Community Health Services
- Nor-Lea Hospital District
- Pecos Valley Medical Center
- Presbyterian Health Services - Carrizozo
- Presbyterian Medical Services
- Quay County
- South Central Colfax County
- Torrance County
- Village of Logan

SHIP

- Artesia General Hospital
- Cibola General Hospital
- Dr. Dan C. Trigg Memorial Hospital
- Guadalupe County Hospital
- Holy Cross Hospital
- Lincoln County Medical Center
- Miners Colfax Medical Center
- Nor-Lea Hospital District
- Roosevelt General Hospital
- Socorro General Hospital
- Union County General Hospital

RURAL HOSPITAL AND HEALTH NETWORK PROGRAMS

Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Program supports the development of rural health care networks and the conversion of eligible rural hospitals to Critical Access Hospital (CAH) status. Ten New Mexico hospitals were certified as CAHs in FY19.

Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP) supports improved systems development and quality management in eligible rural hospitals statewide. In New Mexico, eleven rural hospitals were participating in the program to improve operations during FY19.

State Office of Rural Health Program (SORH) supports the coordination of state rural health program activities with those of HRSA. It assures effective use of federal and state resources for rural safety net agencies by strengthening state, local, and federal partnerships in rural health. The OPCRH provided 164 in-depth technical assistance encounters to 164 clients (academic institutions, associations, clinics, hospitals, and providers) in FY19.

HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

New Mexico Health Service Corps (NMHSC) provides financial support to primary care medical and dental students as an incentive to increase the supply of these providers in underserved areas of the state. In FY19, the NMHSC provided financial support to 8 (6 renewals and 2 new) health professionals in training.

J-1 Visa Waiver (Conrad 30) Program allows the Department of Health (NMDOH) to recommend to the U.S. Department of State that foreign physicians be permitted to extend their residency in the United States while they practice in underserved areas of New Mexico. The NMDOH can support requests for up to 30 candidates per federal fiscal year. More than 89 physicians are currently serving in New Mexico.

New Mexico Rural Health Care Practitioner Tax Credit Program (NMRPTC) is available to health care providers who provide care in rural, underserved areas who are certified as eligible by NMDOH for an income tax credit of \$3,000 or \$5,000. For tax year 2018, 2,139 rural health care providers were determined eligible for the NMRPTC, totaling over six million dollars in tax credits.

New Mexico Dental Support Center (NMDSC) provides training and technical assistance to dental providers serving in community health centers and rural areas. In FY19, the NMDSC developed a network of over 500 dental providers throughout the state, and a separate network of 45 dental educators statewide.