

OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH

Mission

The mission of the Oklahoma Office of Rural Health is coordinating, planning and advocating quality health care and improved delivery systems for rural Oklahomans through education, service, research, analysis and development. To achieve our mission, we assist leadership, health providers and policymakers of rural communities by providing education, technical assistance and facilitating healthcare network development and quality and performance improvement.

Vision

The Oklahoma Office of Rural Health will help create a state of health for Rural Oklahoma.

Core Values

Excellence – We seek excellence in all our endeavors, and we are committed to continuous improvement.

Integrity – We are committed to the principles of truth and honesty, and we will be equitable, ethical, and professional.

Service – We believe that serving others is a noble and worthy endeavor.

Intellectual Freedom – We believe in ethical and scholarly questioning in an environment that respects the rights of all to freely pursue knowledge.

Diversity – We respect others and value diversity of opinion, freedom of expression, and other ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

Stewardship of Resources – We are dedicated to the efficient and effective use of resources. We accept the responsibility of the public's trust and are accountable for our actions.

Strategic Goals, Critical Success Factors, Objectives, and Strategies

Goal One. The ORH will serve as the primary reference point to coordinate efforts promoting quality health care in rural Oklahoma.

Critical Success Factors:

- Provide/Coordinate educational and financial resources to at least ten organizations interested in or currently engaged in the rural health field on an annual basis.
- Modify the state's health plan to better address the future's changing needs within two years.
- Sponsor improved cooperation and collaboration through at least two annual state conferences and at least ten annual seminars, workshops or other training opportunities among rural hospitals and health delivery entities.
- Maintain, enhance, and improve at least 20 of ORH's Community Engagement Process communities within two years.

Objectives:

Objective 1.1: Provide educational resources to rural Oklahoma health providers and systems in collaboration with our partners.

Strategies:

- Develop and implement policies and procedures that enhance rural health.
- Provide assistance for network development in rural Oklahoma.
- Retain and form new collaborative partnerships with rural constituents and the educational community to focus on improving health.

Goal Two. The ORH will advocate for rural healthcare systems on the County, State and Federal levels.

Critical Success Factors:

- Build upon existing relationships with the entire Federal delegation and staff and establish at least 10 relationships with key State legislators including the Governor and the Executive branch and staff.
- Develop at least quarterly newsletter communications with these groups.
- Collaborate with other Oklahoma partners (for example groups such as the Oklahoma Hospital Association, the Oklahoma Medical Association, the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, and the Oklahoma State Chamber) on at least three projects annually.

Objectives:

Objective 2.1: Collaborate with state and national leaders to implement policies and procedures, which advance the cause of rural health.

Strategies:

- Staff will attend rural health conferences, seminars and visit various health leaders on the state and national levels to promote the exchange of new ideas.

Objective 2.2: Collaborate with state and national legislators to design and implement policies and procedure that advance rural health.

Strategies:

- Provide relevant testimony and input into the legislative process concerning rural health and rural economic development.

Goal Three. The ORH will sponsor and support new healthcare initiatives.

Critical Success Factors:

- Establish four networks between existing Critical Access Hospitals and other state hospitals.
- Establish twelve telemedicine program participants by the end of 2004.

Objective 3.1: Promote cooperation between new and existing healthcare infrastructures to maximize scarce resources.

Strategies:

- Promote educational opportunities for those either currently in rural health fields or considering such careers.

Objective 3.2: Promote use of technology to expand both access to and quality of health care in rural Oklahoma.

Strategies:

- Coordinate three distance-learning classes through our partnership with Career-Tech.
- Provide fiscal and technical assistance to rural hospitals in the establishment of the ORH's new telemedicine initiative.
- Promote educational opportunities for rural health administrators and others using distance learning capacities of the Oklahoma State University system.