

The Delta Region Community Health Systems Development Project

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy Fact Sheet | February 2019

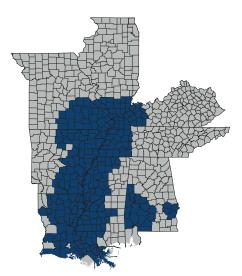
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Delta Region Community Health Systems Development Project improves healthcare delivery in the Delta region through intensive, multi-year technical assistance to healthcare facilities in rural communities.

The Delta project is a collaboration of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) and the Delta Regional Authority.

The project supports capacity building for health care facilities across the following areas:

- Quality improvement. Implementing improvement activities to promote development of an evidence-based culture to improve health outcomes.
- **Telehealth.** Addressing gaps in clinical service delivery and improving access to care.
- *Care coordination.* Working collaboratively with the community to increase accessibility to care.



Project sites across eight states: Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi and Tennessee

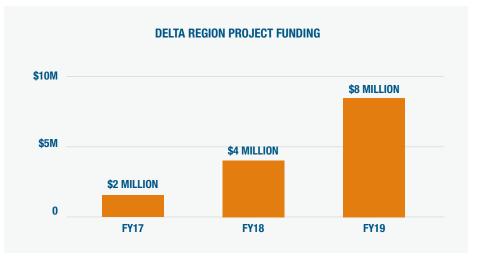
- **Population health.** Strengthening the local healthcare system to improve population health.
- Integration of social services. Providing services to address broader socioeconomic challenges faced by patients (e.g., housing, child care, energy assistance, access to healthy food, elderly support services, job training).
- **Emergency medical services.** Ensuring access to, and availability of, emergency medical services.
- Workforce. Identifying workforce recruitment and retention resources targeted to rural communities.
- **Financial and Operational Improvement.** Improving financial position and increasing operational efficiencies.

FUNDING AND AWARDEES

Funding for this program has quadrupled since its inception, from \$2 million in FY 2017 to \$8 million in FY 2019.

Hospitals and communities in the rural Delta Region¹ are eligible and apply through the Delta Regional Authority.

The National Rural Health Resource Center, the awardee, is working with nine hospitals and clinics in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Missouri. Applications for additional sites for the FY 19 year will be accepted on a rolling basis.²



¹ <u>https://www.dra.gov/about-dra/dra-states/</u>

² https://dra.gov/initiatives/promoting-a-healthy-delta/delta-community-health/

PROGRAM IMPACT

The project emphasizes health care value through:

- Increased financial viability and operational efficiency. Costs are lower due to more economically-viable service delivery.
- Increased quality of care. Care provided leads to high quality outcomes.
- **Patient-centered care.** Focus is on individual health needs and desired health outcomes.
- **Community care coordination.** Care is collaborative, coordinated, and accessible.

HRSA FEDERAL OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH POLICY

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) administers grant programs to improve rural health care by increasing access to care for underserved populations and building health care capacity at both the state and local levels. FORHP advises the Secretary on the effects of current policies and proposed statutory, regulatory, administrative, and budgetary changes.³

³ <u>https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title07/0711.htm</u>

