

IRHA Programs

Indiana Rural Health Information Technology Education

The Indiana Rural Health Information Technology Education (IRHITEN) is a rural-focused education and training network that recruits motivated students, delivers certified health information (IT) education and training, facilitates meaningful apprenticeships, and places graduates in rural health IT jobs. Through this effort the IRHITEN provides rural workers with the relevant health IT skills, experience, and certification necessary to catalyze a high-quality, safe and cost-efficient 21st Century health care environment.

Upper Midwest Telehealth Resource Center

The Upper Midwest Telehealth Resource Center (UMTRC) is a consortium of active telehealth organizations, headed by the Indiana Rural Health Association (IRHA), that provides a comprehensive set of telehealth clinical and technical assistance services leveraged into products of lasting value to rural providers. The UMTRC focuses on telehealth programs and technical assistance needs within Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Ohio. The UMTRC is funded through a grant from HRSA. For more information visit www.umtrc.org

Rural Health Clinics

The Rural Health Clinics Program was developed to meet the need of Medicare and Medicaid recipients in underserved areas. The RHC program is designed to encourage healthcare professionals to practice in rural areas. Indiana is home to 58 certified RHCs. IRHA supports RHCs through workshops, website, newsletters, templates for policies, promotion of educational opportunities and advocacy.

Annual Rural Health Conference



IRHA hosts the largest annual health conference in the state of Indiana. The conference brings together health professionals, advocates and residents of rural communities from across the state. Practitioners from the field and national experts discuss current topics, as well as share the experiences of others in public health and rural health care delivery, along with the latest information regarding the start-up and on-going management of rural health care delivery models.

*Plan now to attend the IRHA Annual Conference
June 21-22, 2016
French Lick Springs Hotel, French Lick, Indiana*

IRHA Programs

Indiana Tobacco Quitline

The Indiana Tobacco Quitline is a free phone-based counseling service that helps Indiana smokers quit. Services include:

- One-on-one coaching for tobacco users who have decided to quit
- Resources for health care providers who want to improve patient outcomes
- Best practices for employers who want to implement smoke-free policies
- Support for family and friends who want to help loved ones stop smoking
- Tools for tobacco control partners to complement their current programs

Services are available to you 7 days a week in more than 170 languages. A trained quit coach will work with you and provide solutions tailored to your needs.

For support information, call today at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (800-784-8669) or call the IRHA office at 812-478-3919, ext. 222.

Indiana Telehealth Network

The Indiana Telehealth Network was one of 62 projects nationwide awarded funding under the Federal Communications Commission's Rural Health Care Pilot Program (RHCPP) which provided an 85% subsidy for the construction, installation, and monthly costs of creating a dedicated healthcare network. Now, the ITN operates as a consortium leader for the FCC's Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) which continues the mission of the Pilot Program, but with a subsidy of 65%. The HCF is open to Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs), Community Health Centers (CHCs), Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs), Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and Rural Health Clinics (RHCs), data centers, and administrative offices. Additionally, the HCF allows for the inclusion of non-rural sites in consortiums which maintain a 51% rural designation, which was not allowed previously.

For questions or to apply for funding, contact Ally Orwig at aorwig@indianarha.org or (812) 478-3919 ext. 235.

Indiana Rural Health Services Corporation / Business Partner Network

In 2013, the Indiana Rural Health Association established the for-profit corporation, Indiana Rural Health Services Corporation (IRHSC).

The IRHSC then formed the Business Partner Network (BPN). The BPN offers unique support, from carefully selected businesses, to IRHA members facing the challenges inherent in today's healthcare environment, and to help IRHA members sustain and grow their operations in these complex times.

The Business Partner Network members are vetted by IRHA administrators for their capacity to be of real service, their demonstrated expertise, and for their recognized commitment to growing and supporting rural Indiana and healthcare operations in smaller cities.

If you are seeking the services of an IRHA Business Partner, please visit the IRHBP website at www.IRHBP.com.

Membership is limited. If you would like information about how to become a Business Partner member, please contact Jenni Hill at jhill@indianarha.org or 812-478-3919 ext. 225.

IRHA Programs

Indiana Statewide Rural Health Network

The Indiana Statewide Rural Health Network (InSRHN) was developed through the Indiana Rural Health Association (IRHA) as a result of a three year HRSA network development grant award received from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP) for the development of a statewide rural health network in Indiana. The InSRHN is designed to improve the financial viability and sustainability of rural health care providers in Indiana. The Mission of InSRHN is to create a network of rural providers dedicated to improving their ability to deliver high-quality health care to rural residents. Benefits offered to InSRHN members include networking with peers through quarterly round table meetings, peer review services, remote pharmacy services, Community Health Needs Assessments, and many other services. www.indianaruralhealth.org/InSRHN

Flex Programs

The Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Program was established as part of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 to support and preserve the nation's smallest and most vulnerable rural hospitals. This program is designed to help sustain the rural healthcare infrastructure, with the CAH as a hub of an organized system of delivery across the continuum of care that meet local needs.

Indiana Rural Health Association (IRHA) received HRSA Flex grant funding from the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), State Office of Rural Health (SORH) to provide programs to the Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs). Each of these programs focuses on the 4 core areas of Flex (www.indianaruralhealth.org/FLEX). The IRHA Flex Programs provide 3 annual CAH educational programs centered on quality, leadership, and health information technology with a strong emphasis on performance improvement; networking with peers; access to a rural video bridge for virtual meetings, programs, and training sessions; and participation in quality improvement projects. No other programs throughout the state have a focus solely on CAH needs. It is goal of the IRHA Flex program that Indiana's rural communities and residents will experience increased/more stable access to health care services as a result of the efforts of the Flex program.



Enhancing the health and well-being of rural populations in Indiana through leadership, education, advocacy, collaboration and resource development.

**2901 Ohio Boulevard, Suite 240
Terre Haute, IN 47803
812/478-3919
Fax: 812/232-8602**

www.indianaruralhealth.org

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IRHA Activities, History & Director

Public Policy Advocacy:

- Provides grassroots advocacy and education on issues impacting the health and well-being of rural residents
- Advocates for the unique concerns of rural residents and health providers to government officials and regulators
- Utilizes the resources of the National Rural Health Association where federal legislation and regulations are concerned
- Partners with other organizations that have similar public health goals and objectives to strengthen the voice of Indiana's rural residents and providers
- Advocates for adequate emergency response systems in rural Indiana



Networking:

- Facilitating successful county collaborations
- Provides opportunities for networking among rural hospitals, public health nurses, rural health clinics, rural residents, and rural health professionals who serve rural Indiana
- Indiana's largest state-wide annual conference regarding rural health
- Workshops addressing current issues around health care regulation geared to the unique needs of rural health care providers
- Facilitates the sharing of successes and failures in the provision of health services and programs
- Serves as a liaison to the Indiana State Office of Rural Health (SORH)

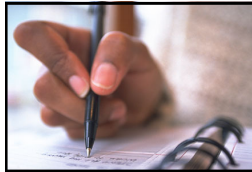


Resource for Rural Healthcare:

- Helps to improve health care access to rural residents
- Assists with health care provider recruitment and retention
- Promotes use of Telehealth in remote rural areas
- Encourages health care professionals to locate in rural areas

Educational Opportunities:

- Provide educational programs and e-learning, addressing health services and clinical operations
- Conduct research to learn more about the health status of health delivery systems in rural Indiana
- Provide scholarships for health profession students to attend the Annual Rural Health Conference
- Provide the opportunity for students to display posters related to rural health, including a poster contest at the annual conference
- Provide health promotion information to rural citizens



History of the Organization:

The Indiana Rural Health Association was founded in 1997 as a not-for-profit corporation for the purpose of improving the health of all rural citizens in Indiana. Since the organization's inception, IRHA has developed collaborative relationships with several state agencies, including the Indiana Primary Health Care Association, the Indiana University School of Medicine, the Richard G. Lugar Center for Rural Health, Indiana Hospital Association, ISDH-State Office of Rural Health, Health Care Excel and the American Heart Association. IRHA is a state member of the National Rural Health Association.

The Executive Director:

Don E. Kelso, MBA, ACHE, became the Executive Director of IRHA in January of 2008. He came to IRHA from Daviess Community Hospital in Washington, where he served as the Vice President of Operations. He previously served as Vice President of Human Resources at Daviess Community Hospital from 1994 to 1998, Director of Human Resources at Jasper Memorial Hospital from 1991 to 1993, Director of Human Resources at Kimball International from 1980 to 1991 and Business Teacher and Coach at Washington Catholic High school from 1977 to 1980. Mr. Kelso previously served IRHA as Treasurer of the Board of Directors.



IRHA Board of Directors

Meredith Addison
Regional Hospital

David Bailey
Community Hospital of Bremen

Jennifer Baron
Indiana University Health

Elizabeth Burrows
Newport Chemical Depot Reuse Authority

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Laura Carlson
Operations Manager

Becky Sanders
UMTRC Director/ Director of Operations

Jeff Iloff
HPP Rural Health Director

Deena Dodd
Network Development Officer

Ally Orwig
Project Coordinator

Cody Mullen
Project Coordinator

Jenni Hill
Business Manager, IRHSC

Phil Ellis
Membership Engagement & Development

IRHA Membership

Benefits of Membership:

- Receive up-to-date information regarding legislation and regulations, at both the national and state level, that impacts rural health issues in Indiana
- Receive IRHA's newsletter and mailings containing current information related to rural health issues
- Opportunities to serve on Association committees
- Active participation in Indiana's number one advocacy organization for rural health
- Participation in educational programs geared to rural providers and consumers
- A voice in developing IRHA's legislative and regulatory advocacy platform
- Reduced fees for IRHA programs

To become a member, visit our website
www.indianaruralhealth.org

Annual Membership: July 1 - June 30

Membership Categories

1. **Students (Full time)**.....Free
2. **Individual**.....\$100.00
3. **Organizational**Fee structure below
An Organizational Membership allows all designated individuals from your facility to be an IRHA member.
50 or less employees - \$450
51-300 employees - \$600
301-500 employees- \$750
501-750 employee - \$900
more than 750 employees - \$1,050
4. **Indiana Statewide Rural Health Network (InSRHN).**
\$10,000 new members - \$5,000 current member renewal
Open only to Indiana Critical Access and Rural Hospitals.

5. **Business Partner Network Member (BPN)**
This membership category is limited. Contact Jenni Hill for more information, jhill@indianarha.org