



**Pennsylvania:
A Partnership that Works!**

Addressing Rural Pennsylvania's
Health Needs Together




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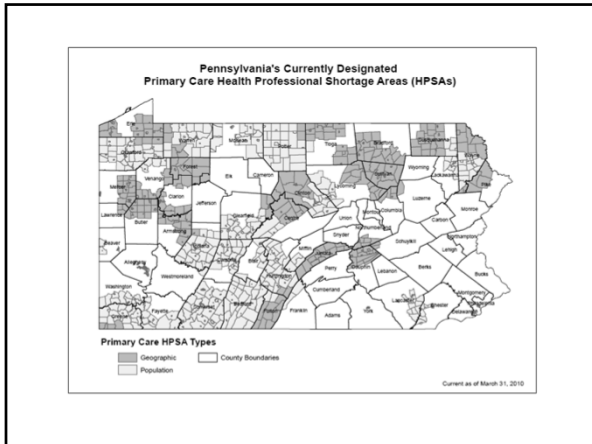
July 7, 2010

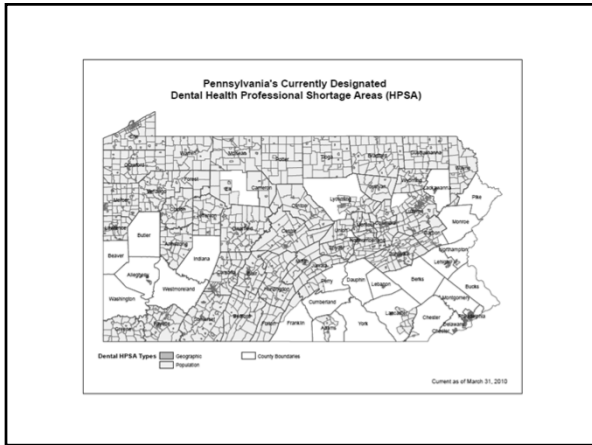


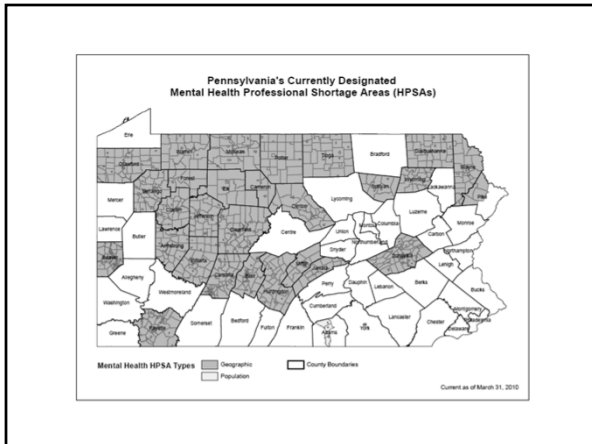
**What PADOH Does to Define and Support
Rural Health**

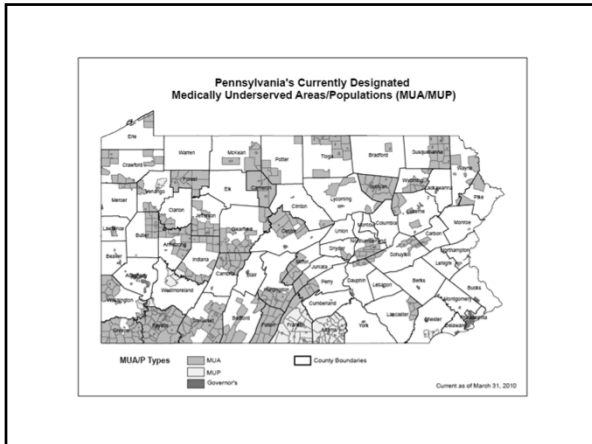
- Shortage Designations
- Primary Health Practitioner Loan Repayment
- Conrad 30 J-1 Waiver Program
- Community Primary Care Challenge Grants
- Flex Program
- PA Office of Rural Health Support
- Area Health Education Centers












How PADOH Defines Rural and Urban Counties


- Rural/Urban defined by county of practice site.
- Urban populations are those residing in incorporated areas or Census Designated Places with 2,500 or more.
- An Urbanized Area is continuously built up area of people of 50,000 or more people.
- PADOH defines those counties with greater than 50% of population not classified as urban or urbanized to be rural.



Primary Health Practitioner Loan Repayment Program

- A Loan Repayment Program for:


Physicians	Physician Assistants
Dentists	Dental Hygienists
Nurse Practitioners	Nurse Midwives
- Participants agree to practice full-time in Health Professional Shortages areas for 3 to 4 year commitments



**Primary Health Practitioner Loan
Repayment Program**

- Current Participants – 56% Rural; 44% Urban
 - Dentists: 6
 - Nurse Midwives: 1
 - Nurse Practitioners: 9
 - Physician Assistants: 10
 - Physicians: 13


Total: 39 rural participants out of 70



**Primary Health Practitioner Loan
Repayment Program**


- All Participants since 1992 – 57% Rural; 43% Urban
 - Dentists: 20
 - Nurse Midwives: 5
 - Nurse Practitioners: 18
 - Physician Assistants: 41
 - Physicians: 88

Total: 172 rural participants out of 302



State Conrad 30 J-1 Waiver Program in PA

- Current Participants – 46% Rural; 54% Urban
 - 46 of the 110 current physicians in the J-1 Waiver Program practice in a rural setting
- All Participants since 1992 – 52% Rural; 48% Urban
 - Of the 476 physicians who participated in this program since 1992, 247 practiced in a rural setting



Community Primary Care Challenge Grant Program

- The Challenge Grant is for health centers serving underserved populations
- Grantees must accept all patients regardless of ability to pay or type of insurance
- Grantees have to match 25% of grant award
- Grantees may apply for:
 - Tier 1: \$200,000 over two years for the expansion of primary medical or dental care services
 - Tier 2: \$500,000 over two years for the establishment of a community health center
 - (Tier 2 grantees must be in a Medically Underserved Area)



Community Primary Care Challenge Grant Program

- Current Participants – 24% Rural; 66% Urban
 - Primary Medical: 1
 - Primary Dental: 4
 - Combined: 0

Total: 5 of the 21 Challenge Grants went to rural primary care centers in FY 2009-2010



Community Primary Care Challenge Grant Program

- All Participants since 1992 – 45% Rural; 55% Urban
 - Primary Medical: 22
 - Primary Dental: 31
 - Combined: 1

Total: Since 1992, 126 Challenge Grants have been awarded, of which, 57 went to rural primary care centers

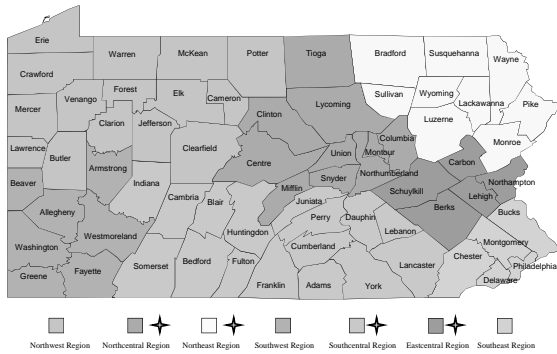


Area Health Education Center

- Recruitment and Retention of primary care and allied professionals to work in an underserved area
- In PA there is a state AHEC office with:
 - 7 regions
 - Cooperative agreements with 5 medical schools



AHEC REGIONS



The Collaboration of PADOH and PORH

- Flex Program
- Conferences
- Trainings
- Recruitment and Retention
- Network Development
- Boards/Advisory Groups
- Interaction



Flex Program

- PADOH recipient of Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program (Flex) Grant Award
- PORH Manages the Flex Program
- PADOH and PORH worked jointly assisting Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) in the application process
- PADOH attends quarterly CAH Consortium meetings



Flex Program

This joint effort brought the message that PADOH was more than a regulatory agency but was a partner in preserving access to care in rural communities.



PA Critical Access Hospitals



CAH Consortium Meetings

- PORH coordinates the CAH Consortium
- CAH Consortium meetings allow PADOH
 - Present grant opportunities
 - Announce Trainings and CMEs
 - Announce Conferences



Intergovernmental Agreement

- The Agreement between PORH and PADOH supports joint efforts
- Efforts include:
 - Serving as an information resource
 - Providing technical assistance
 - Coordinating educational activities statewide
 - Supporting primary care practitioner recruitment and retention efforts
 - Supporting state and federal partnerships



Information Resource

- Rural Health Magazine
- Website
- Resource library




**Technical Assistance
(PORH)**

- Rural Health Community
- PADOH

Conferences


- Migrant and Immigrant Health in Rural PA Conference
- PA Rural Health Conference



Trainings


- Community Primary Care Challenge Grant Technical Assistance
- Shared Learning for CAHs and other rural health providers
 - Leadership trainings
 - ❖ Balanced Score Card
 - ❖ Rural Health Care Managers Academy
 - ❖ Gaining Strategic Edge
 - Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation Conference

* Plans for the future



Recruitment and Retention

- J-1 Surveys
- State Loan Repayment Surveys
- Serves on State Loan Repayment Program Application Review Committee
- Connection between rural health care providers and practitioners



Network Development

- Susquehanna Valley Rural Health Partnership
- Pennsylvania Mountain Health Alliance



Boards/Advisory Groups

- State Rural Health Association Technical Assistance Committee
- Pennsylvania Rural Health Association
- Governor's Advisory Council on Rural Affairs
- Pennsylvania Commission on Women
- Pennsylvania Rural Partners,
- PADOHs Emergency Preparedness Statewide Advisory Committee
- Pennsylvania Coalition to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
- Collaborating with PACHC to coordinate a primary care summit
- Rural Health Works Managing Committee
- State Health Improvement Plan Steering Committee
- Appalachian Regional Commission's Health Policy Advisory Council
- Behavioral Health Alliance of Rural Pennsylvania etc.



Interactions

- Formal
- Informal
- Informational



State Health Improvement Plan

- PORH is our key partner in developing the new 2011-2015 State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP)
 - Facilitate Research and Writing
 - Provide Guidance on Rural Health perspective
- PORH serves on the SHIP Steering Committee
- Rural Health Care Work Force Report
- Northcentral Regional SHIP Committee



QUESTIONS

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