



**State Offices of Rural Health
Program Update**


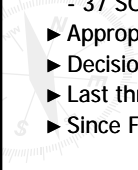
Keith J. Midberry, MHSA
SORH Program Coordinator
Department of Health & Human Services
Health Resources and Services Administration
Office of Rural Health Policy

SORH Grantee Meeting
Traverse City, MI
September 25, 2008


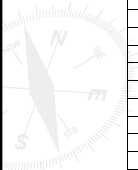



A quick look back...

- ▶ FY 08 is 18th year of SORH Grant Program!
- ▶ Aligns with mission of ORHP - where rubber meets the road!
- ▶ Federal (~*85M) and State (~\$230M) funds!
- ▶ First appropriation in FY 91 - \$1.6M
 - awards based on "rurality" formula
 - 37 SORHs received ~ \$45K each
- ▶ Appropriation increased in FY 02 to \$7M
- ▶ Decision to level fund SORHs @ \$150K each
- ▶ Last three SORHs - ME, NH & NJ
- ▶ Since FY 06, all states providing full 3-1 match

FY	SORH	
	APPROPRIATION \$M	CUMULATIVE \$M
87	0	0
88	0	0
89	0	0
90	0	0
91	1.6	1.6
92	2	3.6
93	2.5	6.1
94	2.8	8.9
95	2.8	11.7
96	2.8	14.5
97	2.8	17.3
98	2.8	20.1
99	2.7	22.8
2000	2.7	25.5
2001	3.8	29.3
2002	7	36.3
2003	8.44	44.74
2004	8.4	53.14
2005	8.32	61.46
2006	8.22	69.68
2007	8.22	77.91
2008	7.998	85.91
Total	85.91	

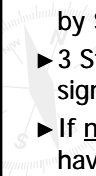
FY 08 SORH Appropriation

- ▶ FY 08 Appropriation (CR) was ~\$8.0M
~\$225K *less* than FY 07
- ▶ \$7.6M available after HHS/HRSA taps
~\$209K *less* than FY 07
- ▶ \$7.2M available for awards
~60K *less* than FY 07
- ▶ FY 09 - level funding expected (CR)



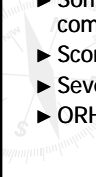
FY 08 SORH Awards

- ▶ \$7.2M (~\$61K *less* than in FY 07)
- ▶ 47 States received \$147.7K
- (\$800 *less* than FY 07 - \$148.5K)
- ▶ Larger reduction avoided by *reducing*
NRHA / NOSORH Cooperative agreements
by \$100K / \$30K
- ▶ 3 States received reduced awards due to
significant FY 06 carryovers totaling \$160K
- ▶ If not for reductions, FY 08 awards would
have been ~\$138K, FY 09 - \$?



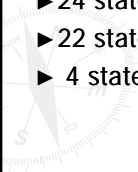
Application Review Process

- ▶ Reviews went well overall
- ▶ Many reviewers had rural background
- ▶ "Field Review" process prevented reviewers from
collaboration
- ▶ Three scores averaged, comments consolidated
- ▶ Some inaccurate and inappropriate reviewer
comments
- ▶ Score, ranking, comments provided to SORHs
- ▶ Several SORHs provided written feedback
- ▶ ORHP provided feedback to DIR



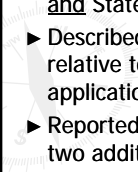
Application Scores

- ▶ Scores ranged from 96.33 – 76
- ▶ Average score – 88.65
- ▶ Three states tied for #1 – GA, MS & ND !
- ▶ 24 states scored 90 and above
- ▶ 22 states scored between 80 and 90
- ▶ 4 states scored between 76 and 80



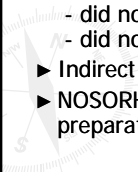
Program Narrative

- ▶ *Much* improvement in this part of application!
- ▶ *Meat* of application, tells SORH *story!*
- ▶ Described population served by State and ORHP definitions of rural, many included tables/charts
- ▶ Listed programs administered with Federal and State matching funds
- ▶ Described progress achieved since last submission relative to goals and objectives stated in prior year's application
- ▶ Reported on activities that support three core and two additional functions



Common Errors

- ▶ ~70% contained budget related errors
- ▶ SF 424A Budget form
 - info in wrong columns
 - did not include state matching funds
- ▶ Budget Justification Narrative
 - lacked detail
 - did not discuss use of state matching funds
 - did not discuss subcontract deliverables
- ▶ Indirect charge exceeded 15% total direct charges
- ▶ NOSORH to coordinate Webinar on budget preparation prior to end of calendar year 2008



Carryover Concerns

- ▶ FY 02 closeout returned \$1.4M to Treasury!
 - Office of Management and Budget (OMB) now aware
- ▶ FY 06 unobligated ~\$1.1M, some carried forward, some left on table!
- ▶ Recurrent problem for several states
- ▶ FY 07 FSR due by September 30, 2008
 - Copy to Program Coordinator
- ▶ FY 07 unobligated funds must be carried forward into FY08
 - Request due by December 1, 2008
 - Must obligate by June 30, 2009
- ▶ New GMO policy - mandatory off-set of FY 09 awards if FY 07 funds not carried forward
- ▶ FY 09 Guidance will reflect policy changes, FSR and carryover request must be submitted at same time



Travel / Required Meetings

- ▶ FY 08 application required list of meetings attended since last application, few complied
- ▶ SORH funds can be used for non-required meetings (i.e. NRHA Policy Institute)
- ▶ State travel restrictions are major concern
- ▶ ORHP will send letters, contact state if requested
- ▶ Four required meetings as condition of award:
 1. SORH Regional Meetings (May - Sep.)
 2. ORHP All Programs Meeting (DC / August 2009)
 3. NRHA Annual Meeting (Miami, FL / May 2009)
 4. NOSORH Annual meeting (site TBD for 2009)



GPRM Measures – Old and New

- ▶ FY 07 is last year "old" GPRM data collected
 - unduplicated communities receiving TA
 - focal point for rural recruiting (yes/no)
 - submit via email by end of Nov 2008
- ▶ FY 08 starts collection of "new" GPRM data
 - Number of technical assistance encounters provided
 - Number of clients that received TA
 - Submit directly into EHB by Aug. 1, 2009



Office of Performance Review

- ▶ OPR has reviewed 30 SORHs over last 3 years
- ▶ Overall feedback has been positive
- ▶ 11 SORHs scheduled for calendar year 2009
 - AK, AL, CA, FL, LA, NY, ME, MI, MO, PA, WY
- ▶ NOSORH Cooperative agreement is tentatively scheduled for review
- ▶ FLEX grant reviews still under discussion
- ▶ FY 09 Guidance requires discussion of review and action plan activities (if applicable)



SORH Challenges

- ▶ Reauthorization / appropriation sunset
- ▶ Relatively flat appropriation
- ▶ Decreasing amount of awards
- ▶ Equity among States
- ▶ Linkage of State matching funds to rural
- ▶ Indirect charge limitation
- ▶ Recurrent large carryovers
- ▶ Travel requirements
- ▶ Performance measurement



FY 09 Guidance

- ▶ Non-competitive continuation
- ▶ Anticipate release early December
- ▶ Due Grants.gov – February 2, 2009
- ▶ Due in EHB – February 16, 2009
- ▶ Change from Pure Edge Viewer to Adobe
- ▶ Staffing Plan as attachment #1
- ▶ New OPR section
- ▶ Webinar in late Dec. or early Jan.



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