



## Mark your Calendar!

- ◆ *Wed, May 7th @ 5 pm*  
NOSORH All Members Meeting @ NRHA; Sheraton New Orleans hotel in the Gallier Room (4th floor)...see you there!
  - ◆ *Tue, May 13th*  
"The Veteran's Health Administration and SORHs: Making Connections"  
<http://nosorh.acrobat.com/va/>  
Dial: (866) 910-4857  
Access #: 983448
  - ◆ *Thur, May 29th @ 3PM*  
"Assessing Mental Health Resources" webinar
  - ◆ *September 24th-26th*  
**NOSORH Annual Meeting and ORHP SORH Grantees Meeting** are being held back to back in Traverse City, Michigan. The NOSORH meeting will be held September 24<sup>th</sup> – September 25<sup>th</sup> and the ORHP meeting will convene on the afternoon of September 25<sup>th</sup> and adjourn by 1 PM on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Registration fee \$200. For more information on northern Michigan or the meetings' topics [click here](#), for hotel information, [click here](#).
- Contact Information
- [Teryl Eisinger](#)  
Director  
(586) 739-9940
- [Betty King](#)  
Program Specialist  
(520) 319-0113
- [Donna Pfaendtner](#)  
Program Assistant  
(586) 336-4627

# The Branch

An Update for State Offices of Rural Health and our Partners

April 2008



**NOSORH meeting at NRHA Meeting** - This will be a short meeting of SORH to hear from Tom Morris, ORHP Acting Associate Administrator, learn about the work of the Policy Committee and meet with your SORH colleagues. Thanks to all those who volunteered to staff the NOSORH display. **See you in New Orleans!**

**Promising Practices of State Offices of Rural Health** report is ready for your input. In summer of 2007 NOSORH contracted with Rocky Coast Consulting to identify assets, strengths & opportunities of State Offices of Rural Health. Many SORHs provided their annual reports, strategic plans and were interviewed to assist this effort. The results are in and ready for your comment. [Click here](#) to read the full report and accompanying reference materials. Contact [Teryl](#) or Performance Measures Committee Chair [Mark Schoenbaum](#) to comment on the report.

**NOSORH submits written testimony to Appropriations Subcommittee. To view the full document [click here](#).** Testimony supported FY '09 appropriations:

- \$12 Million for State Office of Rural Health
- \$39.2 Million for the FLEX and SHIP programs
- \$9.7 Million for Rural Outreach and Network Development Grants

**Initial results from the Leadership and State Rural Health Association** survey are in. Responses were received from at least 40 states. A full report on the survey are forthcoming.

- 94% of respondents agree (in concept) that NOSORH should co-sponsor a Leadership Institute.
- 3 highest rated topics for educating SORHs were: managing resources, informing the public and evaluation.
- Most common joint SRHA and SORH activity is a rural health conference.

**Need Maps?** If your SORH needs maps to display the health needs of rural communities contact [Teryl](#).

**The Value Driven Health Care Initiative Webinar Recording and Presentations** are posted on NOSORH website [click here](#) to listen to the recording or to view other webinars. For more information about value driven healthcare grants, email Nancy Wilson [Nancy.Wilson@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:Nancy.Wilson@ahrq.hhs.gov)

**Not too late to register** for the NOSORH EMS Partnership meeting, some mentoring funds are available to support travel for this meeting, which is being held in conjunction with the EMS Summit at the Lake. [Click here](#) for the registration packet or more information about the meetings.

**Congratulations to Alison Hughes (AZ),**



NOSORH Past President who was the 2008 recipient of the Tucson Women's Political Caucus "Women Making History" award on March 14, 2008!