



Mark your Calendar!

◆ July 14 - 15

Region C Annual Meeting
Minneapolis, MN

◆ July 28 - 30

Region B Annual Meeting
Charleston, WV

◆ July 22nd @ 1 pm (est)

*"The Federal Communication
Commission's Rural Health
Care Pilot Program: What
have SORHs Got To Do With
It?"*

[http://nosorh.na3.acrobat.com/
usac/](http://nosorh.na3.acrobat.com/usac/)

Dial: (866) 910-4857
Access: 983448

◆ **September 24th-26th
NOSORH Annual Meeting
and ORHP SORH Grant-
ees Meeting** are being held
back to back in Traverse
City, Michigan. The
NOSORH meeting will be
held September 24th – Sep-
tember 25th and the ORHP
meeting will convene on the
afternoon of September 25th
and adjourn by 1 PM on
September 26th. Registra-
tion fee \$200. To view the
DRAFT Agenda and sug-
gested optional activities,
[click here.](#)

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Workforce Committee invites you to join their efforts to plan collaboration on workforce for SORH and follow up from the Workforce Summit. Next committee meeting will be July 9th at noon. The committee surveyed SORH regarding their activity and suggestions for NOSORH role last spring. A summary of the survey results and the Workforce Summit report can be viewed by [clicking here](#). Twenty six states responded and ranked the following as highest priorities.

- Increasing the primary care workforce in rural areas
- Identifying successful state models
- Higher education collaborations

For more information about the committee contact Committee Co-Chair: Pamela Smith (MA) Pamela.Smith@state.ma.us

Did you know? Flex Committee meeting dates and minutes are posted on the NOSORH website. [Click here](#) to see meeting minutes and plan to join the next Flex Committee meeting on July 10th @ 3PM eastern. For more information about Flex Committee activities contact Marlene Miller (ND) marlenemiller@medicine.nodak.edu or Scott Daniels (HI) scott.daniels@doh.hawaii.gov

Regional meeting season. SORH attended the Region D meeting in Oklahoma City. Outside speakers included Dr. William Pettit, Dean of Oklahoma Center for Rural Health, Cheryl St. Clair and Gerald Doeksen from Rural Health Works, Elanor Wallis of Oklahoma Foundation for Medical Quality, Norma Heuer of Comprehensive Advance Life Support and Bill Lottero from The Access Project. Of particular note was the discussion regarding a potential for regional focus on uninsured and underinsured populations in the region. The group enjoyed a relaxing dinner at Val Schott's home. Thanks to Corie Kaiser and Val Schott for hosting the meeting.

Region A met in Williamstown, Massachusetts and heard from guest speakers William Perlak, David Hartley, John Gale, Marion Pawlek. Pamela Smith and Cathleen McElligott, Massachusetts host state staff coordinated an optional evening visit to a local ski resort powered by wind turbine and learned about the use of rural development funding for the power project and the planning for the greening of Martha's Vineyard Hospital from Christopher Knowles. Region A is considering some future work together on addressing homeless issues in rural areas

If you're interested in any of the presentations at the regional meetings [click here.](#)

SORH Promising Practices report is available on line now! For the next few months you'll be able to read about some important characteristics of SORH and learn about SORH activities you should know about. [Click here](#) for the full report or [click here](#) to view and listen to the recorded webinar.

#1 Expert Relationship Developer

- Organize, Convene Stakeholders, and Sustain Partnerships
- Bring participants with rural interests to the table, to sustain their interest, foster their input and to keep them interested in continuing to collaborate
- Assure that Office gets "invited to the table" when significant rural issues are discussed and the ability to present an image that the SORH is a necessary participant for other to seek out when addressing rural issues
- Add value to discussions (as a good process participant and by intellectual value to discussions and strategy/program development)
- Nurture a strong rural health association

SORH Examples

- *Partnership meetings monthly to go through all possible projects and to discuss mutual needs (VT)*
- *Memo of Agreement with partners organizations on info sharing, point of contact with multiple parties outside of state government, complemented by twice monthly calls (WA)*
- *Development of a rural forum for all Penn State faculty, staff, and students across all Penn State campuses and colleges interested in rural issues (PA)*