Funding Opportunities

- 1. The 2016 National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Students to Service Loan Repayment Program application cycle is now open! All fourth-year medical students (both allopathic & osteopathic) planning to pursue primary care are eligible to apply. Students may receive up to \$120,000 in tax free loan repayment in return for three years of full-time service at an NHSC-approved site in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HRSA) after residency. The application cycle closes October 22, 2015 at 7:30 PM EST. A technical assistance webinar will be held Thursday, September 17th from 7-8 PM EST to answer questions related to application process, program eligibility and service commitment. To access the webinar, go to this link: https://hrsa.connectsolutions.com/s2sapplication/, and dial-in number: 1-888-566-6151, using passcode 4221465.
- 2. On **Thursday, September 24th**, the <u>Delta Regional Authority</u> will join with HRSA to host a free <u>Federal Health Funding Opportunities Workshop</u> in Memphis, TN. Prospective applicants for HRSA grants in the Delta region will get detailed information on upcoming funding opportunities, how to apply, and strategies for writing a responsive application. Attendance is free and includes breakfast and lunch. <u>Register online</u> for limited seating. For more information, contact Aprill Springfield Blanco at 202-309-6038 or Mirielle Burgoyne at <u>mburgoyne@dra.gov</u>.
- 3. The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy is pleased to announce awards for the Rural Health Care Coordination Network Partnership Program (Care Coordination Program). The pilot program awards eight grantees up to \$200,000 each a year for three years, to organize care and information sharing around patients' needs. Health organizations within each community will form and maintain networks focusing on one or more for the following chronic conditions: 1) Type 2 Diabetes, 2) Congestive heart failure, or 3) Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
 - The Care Coordination program stemmed from the <u>2014 Public-Private Collaboration in Rural Health</u>, the second annual convening of federal, association and philanthropic stakeholders in rural health. Initiated in 2011 as an activity of the <u>White House Rural Council</u>, the initiative has resulted in resource sharing and <u>collaboration</u> between public and private partners around key innovative rural health projects.
- 4. Last week, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced more than \$1.5 billion to expand and support broadband in rural areas over the next six years. Through its Connect America Fund, the FCC subsidizes private investment in deploying networks into remote areas and expects to "expand broadband to nearly 7.3 million rural consumers in 45 states nationwide and one U.S. territory." FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler says that "access to modern broadband is critical to life in today's society. The financial support provided by American ratepayers through the Connect America program is an investment in the future of our rural communities that will pay dividends for all Americans for years to come."

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