

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Center for Rural Health

ANNUAL REPORT | FY 2017-18



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
MEL & ENID ZUCKERMAN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Center for Rural Health

Please join us in welcoming **Dr. Michael D. Dake**, the senior vice president for health sciences at the University of Arizona. "It is an honor to join the University of Arizona at such an exciting time in its distinguished history. With five health colleges and a strong partnership with Banner Health, the UA is positioned to emerge as a transformative force in medical education, patient care and the health sciences," Dr. Dake said.



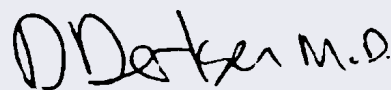
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FY 2017-18

The University of Arizona Center for Rural Health (AzCRH) annual report summarizes activities from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 related to its mission to improve the health and wellness of Arizona's rural and vulnerable populations. AzCRH provides trusted data, analyses, and reports to inform policymakers, providers, consumers, and stakeholders in legislation, regulation, program implementation, and evaluation.

Remarkable progress was made over the last year, yet the risks for 2018-19 are considerable. The U.S. and Arizona uninsured rate rose slightly to 10% in 2017-18. The Arizona economy improved, and more received coverage through employer sponsored insurance, while publicly subsidized health coverage through AHCCCS (Medicaid), KidsCare (CHIP), Marketplace, and Medicare remained relatively steady.

The state, the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other grants, contracts, and interagency services agreements (ISAs) with the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) fund AzCRH initiatives. FY 2018 was outstanding: HRSA funded three AzCRH programs with Dr. Dan Derksen as Principal Investigator (PI): 1) the five-year competitive State Office of Rural Health (AzSORH) renewal grant (2016-21), 2) the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (AzSHIP) competitive renewal grant (2016-19), and 3) the Rural Hospital Flexibility Program (AzFlex) grant was approved for year four of its 2015-19 award. AzCRH also houses the HHS funded AzCRH Navigator Consortium (Dr. Derksen, PI) for the third consecutive year through August of 2018. AzCRH collaborates with CDC-ADHS via ISAs for the Arizona Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse Initiative online Continuing Medical Education Modules and the Arizona First Responders Initiative described in more detail in this annual report.

The 2017-18 University of Arizona Center for Rural Health Annual Report details achievements, identifies challenges, and explores opportunities for the coming year 2018-19, building on the storied 40-year history of the partners dedicated to improve the health of all Arizonans, but especially its rural and vulnerable populations. On behalf of the AzCRH faculty, staff, students, and collaborators — we congratulate you on your service across Arizona and look forward to working with you in 2018-19!



Daniel Derksen, MD, Walter H. Pearce Endowed Chair & Director
The University of Arizona Center for Rural Health



The Arizona State Office of Rural Health

AzCRH is federally designated as the Arizona State Office of Rural Health (AzSORH) that helps rural communities build and sustain health services and address rural health needs. AzSORH has been continuously funded since 1990 with initial funding from the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP). AzSORH is now funded at a 3:1 state-federal match. AzSORH collects and disseminates rural health information, coordinates rural health activities in the state, and provides technical assistance (TA) to rural communities and entities providing rural health services including rural and critical access hospitals (CAHs), rural health clinics (RHCs), Indian Health Service and 638 Self Determination hospitals and clinics, community health centers, county health departments, state agencies, and private providers, practices, businesses and others.

Arizona Partner Organizations (Affiliated National Organization):

AACHC	AZ Alliance for Community Health Centers (NACHC)
ADHS	AZ Department of Health Services
AHCCCS	AZ Health Care Cost Containment System (Medicaid)
APHA	AZ Public Health Association (APHA)
ArMA	AZ Medical Society (AMA)
AzAFP	AZ Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
AzCHOW	AZ Community Health Outreach Workers Network
AzHHA	AZ Hospital and Healthcare Association (AHA)
AzRHA	AZ Rural Health Association (NRHA)
AzSORH	AZ State Office of Rural Health (NOSORH)
NGA	National Governors Association

AzSORH by the Numbers: July 1 to June 30 Fiscal Year (FY)

Technical Assistance (TA)	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18*
Total TA	3,847	3,902	4,858
In Person	1,984	2,016	2,633
Phone / Email	828	798	536
Webinar	668	760	1,241
Teleconference	198	116	125
Assistance to researchers, others	169	212	323
Newsletter (launched 11/16/16)	N/A	3,235	6,098
Webpage visits	N/A	14,601 [†]	37,000

*Partial data July 1, 2017 to June 28, 2018; [†] 7/1/16 – 2/15/17

More information at: <https://crh.arizona.edu/programs/sorh>

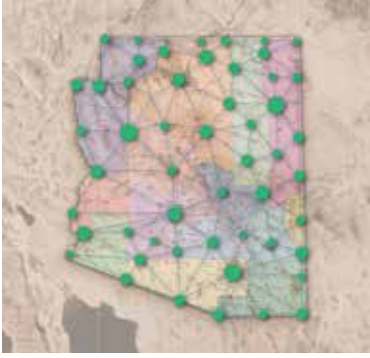


WHAT IS A STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH?

- The State Office of Rural Health (SORH) Program is a federal-state partnership of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) in the US Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).
- SORHs are neutral conveners of state partners, health providers and community members. They coordinate efforts in health sector economic development and innovation in rural hospitals, outpatient clinics, and emergency departments.
- SORHs connect state and federal resources to over 1,300 Critical Access Hospitals, thousands of rural health partners, and millions of rural people across the United States.



AD HOC COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE
Creating an Arizona Health Workforce
Data System



Draft for Discussion
December 18, 2017

Author: Bryna Koch, MPH
<https://crh.arizona.edu/publications/crh-report/2069>

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE:

Dr. Derksen was appointed to the Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care Workforce co-chaired by Rep. Heather Carter (Chair of the House Health Committee) and Sen. Nancy Barto (Chair of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee). The Committee was tasked with submitting a report with findings and recommendations for the collection and publication of data on Arizona's health professions workforce by January 10, 2018 to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Based on Committee recommendations, Rep. Carter introduced HB 2197 Health Professionals; Workforce Data. It passed unanimously and signed into law by Governor Ducey on May 16, 2018 with provisions to:

1. Require health professional licensing Boards to collect data from individuals seeking initial or renewal licensure, starting January 2, 2020.
2. Require the ADHS Director to adopt rules about specific data to be collected (Minimum Data Sets).

AzCRH assists with the stakeholder engagement phase – With the support of the Arizona Area Health Education Center, AzCRH will obtain technical assistance and consultation from the University of North Carolina Sheps Center, and with preliminary health workforce data collection and analysis.

Informing Rural and Public Health Policy

Consistent with its mission to improve the health and wellness of rural and vulnerable Arizonans, the AzCRH provides data, reports, and synthesis to inform the policymaking processes at the state and national levels including legislation, regulation, program implementation, and evaluation. In 2017-18, the AzCRH director, faculty, program managers, and staff actively participated in contemporary public health issues.

Dr. Derksen provided data and informed rural and public health policy serving on the Board of Directors of the Arizona Rural Health Association, the Arizona Academy of Family Physicians (where he was President from 2017-18), and the Arizona Medical Association (ArMA) Public Health Committee. Dr. Derksen was invited to provide expert testimony on several health workforce issues in the Sunrise Committee in 2017, and in the 2018 legislative session, and signed into law by Governor Ducey.

These included HB 2324 Community Health Worker Voluntary Certification (Rep. Carter) and HB 2235 Dental Therapists (Sen. Barto). Dr. Derksen was invited to attend Gov. Ducey's press conference kicking off the special legislative session to address Arizona's opioid epidemic on Monday January 22, 2018 that culminated in the signing of the omnibus Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act on Friday January 26, 2018 after being passed unanimously by the Arizona legislature.



Governor Ducey - Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act - Governor Calls Legislature Into Special Session To Take Immediate Action On The Opioid Epidemic
Monday January 22, 2018 | Office of the Governor Doug Ducey



Dan Derksen with Gov. Ducey at UA President Robbins' installation, November 2017.

AzCRH Statewide Conferences 2017-18

■ The 44th Annual Arizona Rural Health Conference

AzCRH hosted the 44th Annual Arizona Rural Health Conference “Making the Case for Rural Health and Wellness” in Flagstaff, Arizona July 25-26, 2017 in conjunction with the Pre-Conference Workshop: “Understanding & Leveraging the Economic Impact of Rural Health Care” a Rural Health Works Regional Workshop.

The conference allowed over 180 attendees and 21 exhibitors to network, discuss projects and form partnerships with health care professionals, administrators, policymakers, state and local leaders, businesses, and others from state and federal agencies. The presentations and workshops included project and program updates, best practices and ways to innovate in rural Arizona.



Jack Dempsey, CEO of Little Colorado Medical Center in Winslow (2nd from right), networking between sessions.



Marcus Johnson, Director, State Health Policy and Advocacy, Vitalyst Health Foundation



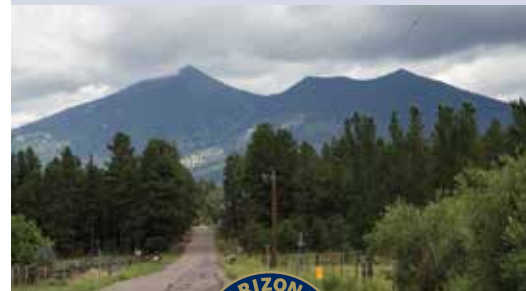
Amy Snell (right) receiving AzFlex Shining Star Award from Jill Bullock.



Jim Dickson (middle) receiving the AzRHA Award for Inspiring Rural Health Program from Robert Fleet (left) and Dan Derksen (right).



AzCRH staff members, Bryna Koch and Alyssa Padilla.



Thank You to our 2018 Conference Sponsors!

PLATINUM LEVEL:

- Arizona AHEC
- Arizona Complete Health
- Health Choice Integrated Care

SILVER LEVEL:

- Western Region Public Health Training Center



Rep. Kirsten Engel, Dist. 10

■ Annual Arizona Rural and Public Health Policy Forum

AzCRH in collaboration with the Arizona Rural Health Association hosted the annual Arizona Rural and Public Health Policy Forum on Wednesday, January 25, 2018 at the state capitol during the legislative session. Over 100 people attended – including 17 legislators. The Forum focuses on current rural and public health policy issues under consideration by the legislature, and their impact on Arizona’s rural, tribal, and vulnerable communities. The Forum included presentations from the Governor’s Office, ADHS, AHCCCS, health advocacy organizations, and others on legislative priorities for 2018.



Eric Descheenie, Dist. 7



Senator Nancy Barto and Rep. Randall Friese



Rep. Heather Carter, Dist. 15

AzCRH Programs and Collaborations

■ Arizona Rural Hospital Flexibility Program (AzFlex)

In 1999, the Arizona Center for Rural Health (called the Rural Health Office at that time) initiated the AzFlex Program funded by HRSA's Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program.

Today, 14 rural Arizona hospitals are federally designated Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs). In 2017-18 AzFlex supported Banner Payson in the CAH designation process, and is expecting the CMS ruling for it to become Arizona's 15th CAH any day. AzFlex is entering its 4th year of the current federal funding cycle, and will be submitting a competitive renewal grant this year for the 2018-23 funding cycle.

To be a **Critical Access Hospital**, facilities must:


- Be located in a rural area, have less than 25 inpatient beds
- Be 35 miles or more from another facility
- Staff a 24-7 Emergency Department
- Maintain acute care status by averaging less than 96 hours for inpatient stays.

AzFlex assists and provides technical support for Arizona's CAHs in:

- Quality Improvement
- Financial and Operational Improvement
- Population Health Management
- Emergency Medical Services Integration
- Designation or De-designation of CAHs



Quality Improvement – Flex Quality Improvement is via the Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP). All AzCAHs participate in at least one MBQIP area: patient safety, patient engagement, care transitions, and/or outpatient measures. AzFlex helps CAHs improve patient satisfaction using the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers (HCAHPS) tool and the “Ask me 3@” campaign to improve communication and transitions of care.

Financial and Operational – AzFlex used consultants to conduct Financial and Operational Assessments at two AzCAHs, and a Charge Master Review at a third. Charge Master Review, Financial and Operational Assessments help CAH Leadership operate in a rapidly changing health system.

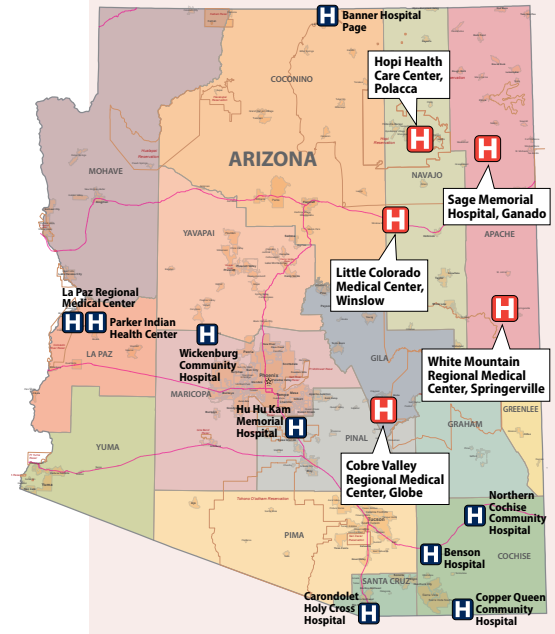


Do you know what's in your medicine cabinet? They do.

Lock it up Inventory Discuss Disposal



AZCJC.gov

In 2017-18, five AzCAHs (see map) qualified for Flex Supplemental funding to enhance hospital substance abuse service capacity and/or programs. The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) used overdose mortality, poverty, persistent poverty, and unemployment rates to target 40 CAHs across the country for supplemental funding. Rural communities have disproportionate overdose risks due to poverty, geographic isolation, unemployment, uninsured, and lack of treatment options and providers.



Flex supplemental funding will be used to increase AzCAH capacity to prevent, screen, refer, treat, and provide education about substance misuse/abuse. The five Arizona CAHs, EDs and EMS agencies are funded to: 1) improve provider education on substance misuse/abuse; 2) evaluate substance misuse/abuse assessment and referral processes; 3) increase training and capacity for rural EMS providers to prevent opioid-related overdose; 4) enhance coordination between EMS, hospitals, behavioral health providers, and community resources; and 5) create and disseminate educational materials to inform individuals, families, and communities about opioid misuse/abuse, treatment, and resources.

◀ A billboard was developed for two CAHs through Flex Supplemental funding.



RESPONDING TO AN OPIOID OVERDOSE

“The training program funded by this grant has the potential to save hundreds of lives in Arizona,”

said UA President Robert C. Robbins.

“The opioid epidemic is a national public health emergency and we are very proud of the UA Center for Rural Health’s 36-year record for improving the health and wellness of rural and underserved populations in Arizona.”



For more information visit:

<http://crh.arizona.edu/samhsa-first-responders-initiative>

■ Arizona First Responders Initiative

In the midst of statewide and national opioid public health emergencies, the AzCRH and the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) partnered on a four-year, \$3.1 million Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant to train first responders to recognize the symptoms of opioid abuse and to administer naloxone, a drug used to counter the effects of opioid overdose and save lives. AzCRH will work with ADHS through a four-year, \$2.1 million Interagency Services Agreement (ISA) to decrease opioid-related overdoses, morbidity, and mortality by:

- Identifying rural training needs for EMS, first responders, family, and community members to administer naloxone;
- Developing a naloxone distribution system so first responders can have it readily available to administer in rural areas;
- Training EMS, first responders, family, and community members to administer naloxone;
- Developing, implementing, and assessing the first responder Opioid Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment SBIRT curriculum to instruct EMS, first responders, family, and community members on how these interventions in the field.

The UA Center for Rural Health (AzCRH), the ADHS Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System, the Arizona Peace Officers Training Board and other stakeholders will work in rural Arizona communities to instruct EMS personnel, first responders, family and community members on screening, briefly intervening and referring to treatment (SBIRT-EMS).

“Arizona is doing everything it can to advance statewide solutions that prevent opioid overdoses, and this partnership between the ADHS and UA will enhance our ability to save even more lives,” said Governor Ducey. “First responders are on the front lines of this crisis, and because of this partnership we will be able to train even more people to administer this life-saving medication.” In January, Governor Ducey signed the Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act into law after it passed unanimously by the state legislature. “Having the UA Center for Rural Health as a key partner in this initiative will foster critical links with first responders in the most underserved areas in Arizona,” said Cara Christ, MD, MS, ADHS Director.

The SAMHSA First Responders Initiative began trainings in May, 2018. AzCRH, along with partners ADHS Bureau of EMS and Trauma System and Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board initiated Naloxone training to AZDOT police in Prescott Valley, Arizona. The initial training series reached approximately 100 law enforcement personnel.

For more information, and to set up a training in your community, contact Amy McPherson and Hillary Evans at:
endtheepidemic@email.arizona.edu.



■ Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse Initiative

AzCRH worked with the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and the UA College of Medicine, Office of Continuing Medical Education to create and market substance misuse and opioid-related free online Continuing Medical Education (CME) modules targeted for healthcare providers licensed to prescribe controlled substances in Arizona. Governor Doug Ducey signed the Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act January 2018 requiring these providers to complete three hours of opioid, substance use, or addiction related CME each license renewal cycle.

AzCRH added one training module in 2017-18 to total six online CME hours with funding from ADHS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The free, online CME modules are available at: <https://www.vlh.com/azprescribing/>.

More information at: <https://crh.arizona.edu/programs/prescription-drug-misuse-abuse-initiative>

■ Students Helping Arizona Register Everyone (Project SHARE)

UA was designated a *White House Healthy Campus Challenge* winner for 2016-17 efforts to engage students in the health coverage eligibility, enrollment and education in collaboration with UA Campus Health. The AzCRH 2018-19 Project SHARE fourth cohort will train UA Health Sciences Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Public Health students to be Certified Assisters. Students learn about the U.S. Health Insurance System, public (Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program, Medicare) and private payers (Arizona Marketplace), the Affordable Care Act, and other programs, laws, and regulations that affect how Arizonans are covered and access health services. Collaborators include the Regional Center for Border Health, and the Western Region Public Health Training Center. Student leaders share best practices via posters and formal presentations at state and national conferences.

SHARE Program Cohorts, 2015-18

College of Public Health Students:	45
College of Medicine Students:	29
College of Pharmacy Students:	4
College of Nursing Students:	1
MD/MPH Students:	3
Total of UAHS SHARE Students:	82
Students trained as Certified Application Counselors:	71
Students trained as Navigators:	6

Opioid Prescribing CME Courses: Responding to the Public Health Emergency

Online courses offering free AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ to help Arizona prescribers use pain management best practices.

www.vlh.com/AZPrescribing

Developed by AZ Prescription Drug Misuse & Abuse Initiative, AZ Department of Health Services, UA College of Public Health, AZ Center for Rural Health, UA College of Medicine

The following FREE services and materials are available:

1. Online opioid, substance use, and addiction related CME
2. 2018 Arizona Opioid Prescribing Guidelines
3. Arizona Emergency Department Prescribing Guidelines
4. Arizona Prescription Drug Misuse & Abuse Toolkit
5. Naloxone training and supplies



Kendra Marr, Project SHARE Leader and UA College of Medicine Student presents at Learn Serve Lead 2018: The AAMC Annual Meeting.

For more information visit:

<https://crh.arizona.edu/programs/SHARE>



Congratulations to the 2017-18 graduates who did internship and dissertation projects with us!

Gabriela Flores, MPH, RN

Internship Project: *Reviewing Student Barriers to Public Health Intervention Program Participation*

Anthony Loffredo, MPH

Internship Project: *Obamacare in the Trump Era: Open Enrollment Comparisons*

Ali Gabriel, DrPH

Dissertation: *Increasing Patient Satisfaction in a Rural Hospital Emergency Department*

Taylor George, DrPH

Dissertation: *Arizona Statewide Emergency Medical Services Needs Assessment*

Arianna Price, MPH

Internship Project: *Modifying Recruitment Efforts, Increasing Student Knowledge of Health Insurance, and Creating Targeted Learning Objectives with Project SHARE*

Ruben Soliz, MPH

Internship Project: *State Medicaid Reform*

■ AzCRH Internship Program

The AzCRH Internship Program provides opportunities for health professional undergraduate and graduate student (undergraduate and graduate) internship and dissertation projects in Arizona's rural and urban underserved areas:

- Community Health Needs Assessments
- Project SHARE Coordination, Assessment, and Marketing
- Program Planning and Implementation
- Coalition Participation
- Hospital Community Engagement Analysis
- Critical Access Hospital Quality and Performance Improvement Reports
- Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP) Assistance
- Marketing and Social Media Development
- Blogs, newsletters, and reports publishing
- Literature Reviews and Research



AzCRH Interns graduating – left: Gabriela Flores; middle: Anthony Loffredo; right: Ruben Soliz

“The individuals whom I worked alongside at the AzCRH were always willing to inform me of their diverse array of projects, from the Opioid Abuse crisis to HCAHPS and hospital quality assessments.”

– ARIANNA PRICE, MPH EDUCATION INTERN 2018

More information at: <http://crh.arizona.edu/programs/internships>.

■ AZ3RNet

AzSORH manages the state's Rural Recruitment and Retention Network (Az3RNet), a member of the National 3RNet. Along with our partners, ADHS Bureau of Health Systems Development and Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers, Az3RNet connects health professionals seeking positions in rural and underserved areas with health facilities offering employment opportunities. Approximately 50 candidates registered during the reporting period while over 20 new organizations posted job openings. Examples of new positions posted include Certified Nurse Midwife, Social Worker, and Dental Hygienist.

More information at: <https://crh.arizona.edu/programs/workforce>.

CONGRATULATIONS!



After 20 plus years at Copper Queen Community Hospital, **Jim Dickson** CEO, is retiring. Jim has led health care improve-

ments in Cochise County that spans over 6,200 sq. miles, has a population density of 20 persons per sq.mi., and 17% poverty rate. His efforts brought state-of-the-art care to southern Arizona through renovation and expansion of the hospital, and RHC diagnostic and treatment services. AzCRH thanks Jim for his dedication to his community.



■ Arizona Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (AzSHIP)

AzSHIP helps small rural hospitals under 49 beds meet goals under value-based purchasing, accountable care organization/shared savings programs, and purchasing equipment/training to comply with meaningful use, ICD-10 standards, and payment bundling. Continuously funded by HRSA since 1992 in AzCRH, it averages \$122,000 annually in sub-awards to support the quality improvement and sustainability of small rural hospitals throughout Arizona, a \$1.5 million Federal investment over a thirteen-year period. Eleven Arizona hospitals participate in the current SHIP funding cycle.

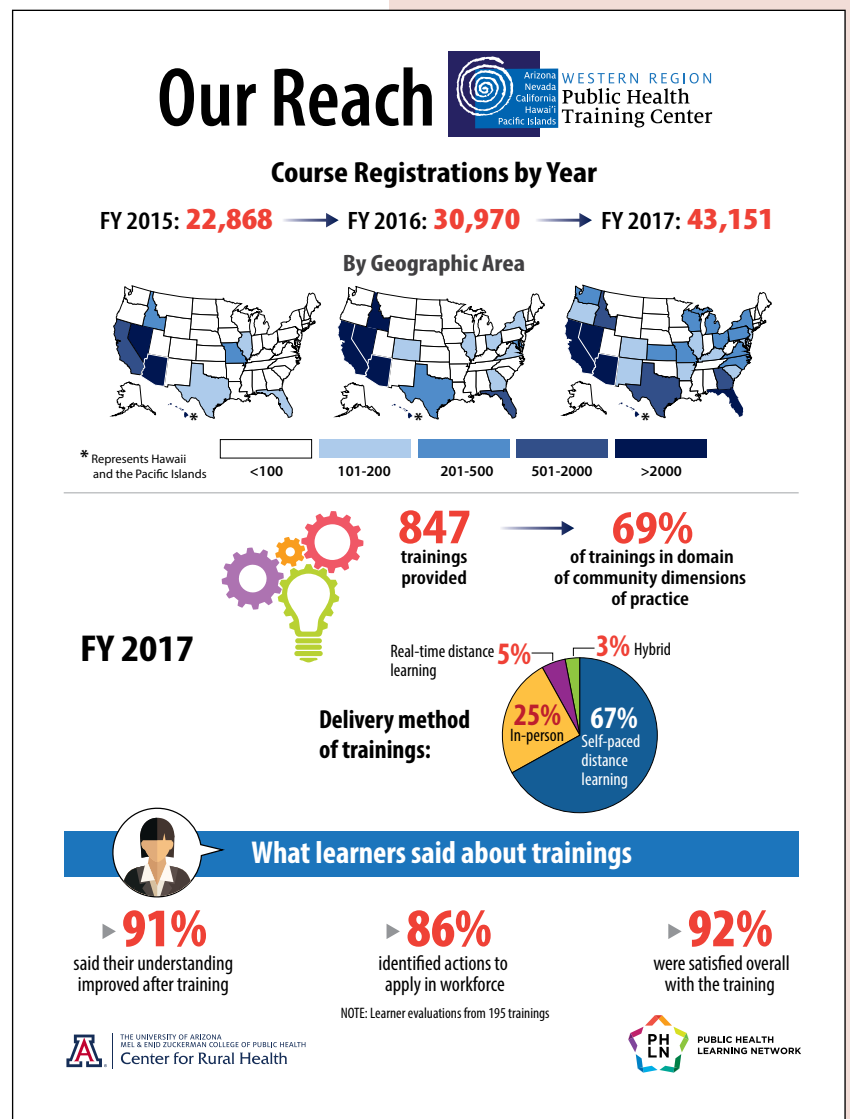


■ The Western Region Public Health Training Center (WRPHTC)

WRPHTC provides innovative, skill-based training and continuing education for the public health workforce in HRSA Region 9, which includes Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and the U.S. Pacific Islands. WRPHTC is one of 10 university-based regional public health trainings centers under the Public Health Learning Network (PHLN), a group of public health educators, experts, and thought leaders advancing public health practice and improving population health. Training courses are free, adaptable, and easy to access.

HRSA awarded the WRPHTC a competitive renewal grant for 2018-22 to continue its efforts to support and strengthen the public health workforce in HRSA Region 9, focused on the public health issues of childhood obesity, the opioid epidemic, and mental health.

More information at <https://wrphtc.arizona.edu> or contact Abby Stoica: stoica@email.arizona.edu or 520-626-1108.



AzCRH Navigators focus on rural areas and populations with historically low rates of health insurance coverage including Latino, American Indian, rural, and urban underserved populations.

AzCRH Navigators provide eligibility and enrollment assistance in one-on-one appointments. AzCRH Navigators are state and federally certified to provide impartial, unbiased assistance to Arizonans on their health insurance options and enroll in plans that best meets their needs.

AzCRH Navigator services are FREE of charge.

AzCRH Navigator Consortium

HHS and CMS awarded AzCRH a three-year, \$1.7 million Cooperative Agreement to support Navigators in Arizona's Marketplace from 2015-18. AzCRH Navigators collaborate with the Pima County Enrollment and Cover Arizona Coalitions and the Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers, to help uninsured Arizonans understand their health coverage eligibility in Medicaid/AHCCCS, Marketplace and other health insurance options, with enrollment assistance, and in outreach, marketing and education activities.

AzCRH Navigator Program Goals:

1. Increase the participation rate of eligible uninsured Arizonans in the Federally Facilitated Marketplace (FFM) Qualified Health Plans (QHPs) and in the state Medicaid program (AHCCCS).
2. Facilitate re-enrollment for eligible Arizonans in its FFM QHPs.

More information at: <http://crh.arizona.edu/programs/navigator>.

The AzCRH Navigator Consortium By the Numbers

Sept 12, 2017 - June 12, 2018

8,786

Instances of assistance provided to help Arizonans understand their health insurance options

Referral Sources

Community/
social service
organization

Radio

Word of
Mouth

Health
Provider

Event Agent

286 + 80

Events

Organizations

Events

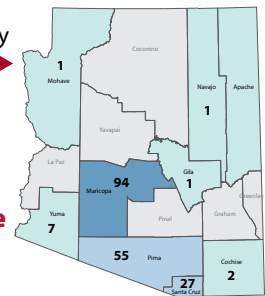
98

188

Estimated reach:
1,089,680 people
(including radio)

■ Marketing & Promotion ■ Outreach, education

Events by
County



AzCRH Navigators used a statewide reporting system to setup individual consumer appointments:
<http://coveraz.org/connector/>

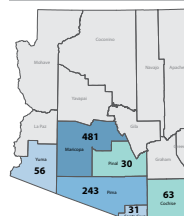
991

Appointments scheduled



91%

Appointments completed

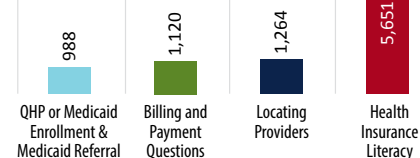


Appointments
by County

32%

Appointments' Primary
Language was Spanish

Type of Assistance



Az CRH Navigator Consortium

The project described was supported by Funding Opportunity Number CA-NAV-17-001 from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Grant number 5 NAVCA150222-03-01. The contents provided are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS or any of its agencies.

■ Tribal Health Initiatives

AzCRH collaborates with Arizona's 22 sovereign tribal nations and rural non-profit organizations to improve health outcomes and wellbeing by strengthening the American Indian health professional pipeline, building capacity in health promotion/disease prevention interventions, and training health educators and community outreach workers on multi-media health literacy and communication methods. AzCRH disseminates information on events, grants, resources and webinars via the AZ Tribal Health Listserv.

■ Rural Health Professions Program

The AzCRH welcomes home the Rural Health Professions Program, an initiative from the Arizona Area Health Education Centers program. The RHPP supports the development and delivery of service learning courses. It has been a very busy year for the RHPP as we continue to provide opportunities for our MPH and doctoral students to participate in service learning courses and activities throughout our state. These community-engaged experiences provide the framework for understanding the assets and issues of our rural and underserved communities. Our partnerships with the AHEC centers throughout the state are the platform for active learning and reflection on strengthening health equity and eliminating health disparities. The program continues to inspire our students, faculty and community partners.

During the past year 63 students participated in our service learning courses and activities. Seventy-eight percent are female, 30% are Hispanic, 10% are African American, 8% are Asian and 2% are American Indian. Of the 63 students participating, 48% are either the first in family to attend college, have received a scholarship or loan for disadvantaged students, have received or the family has used federal or state assistance program or lived where there were few medical providers at a convenient distance; 24% grew up in a rural area; and 60% grew up in Arizona.



Service learning students learn about seed-to-table gardening and cooking education in South Tucson. The Garden Kitchen aims to increase families' food security by teaching community members the basics of growing their own food and eating well on a budget. (South Tucson, Summer, 2017)

CONGRATULATIONS!



The National Rural Health Association presented **Agnes Attakai, MPA**, director of health disparities outreach and prevention education for the Arizona Center for Rural Health, the Rosemary McKenzie Legacy Award for her work as a champion of health equity in Arizona and nationally to reduce health disparities among Arizona's Native Americans. The award is given to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to improve health for multiracial and multicultural, LGBT, veterans, homeless, and other underserved populations.



Jill Guernsey de Zapien joined the Rural Health Office (now AzCRH) shortly after it was awarded federal AHEC funding in 1984. Jill is a passionate advocate and effective leader in community-based public health interventions and research in Arizona, the Southwest and binationally along the US-Mexico border. She collaborated to establish the first lay health educator or Promotora outreach program in Arizona, Health Start, to assure access to prenatal care for farm worker women. She informed policy and worked with many others to inform legislative policy on HB 2324 Voluntary Certification of Community Health Workers that was passed then signed into law in May of 2018. We congratulate Jill on her sustained advocacy for rural health and wish her the best in her retirement.



ARIZONA CENTER FOR RURAL HEALTH STAFF AND FACULTY



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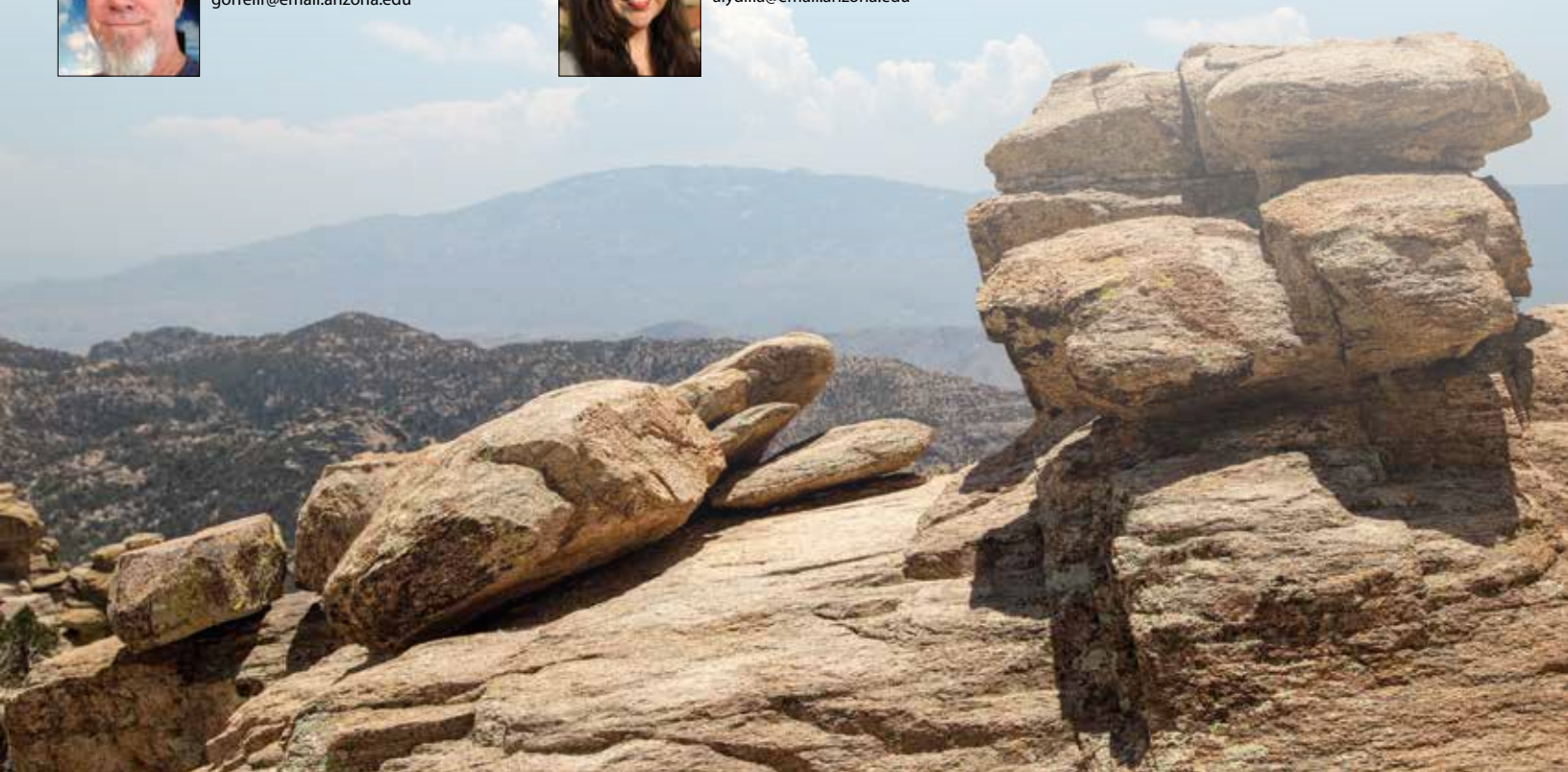
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AzCRH Deliverables – FY18: July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

FY 1st Quarter

Action Items:

- **AzCRH Annual Report:** early July
- **AzCRH Rural Health Conference:** July
- **ADHS Rx Drug** Qtrly Report: Sept 15
- **Flex** Grant Yr starts: Sept 1
- **Flex** Qtrly: Sept 30
- **Navigator** 4th Qtr Report: Sept 30
- **SHIP** NCC Released: Dec 1
- **SORH** Grant Yr Begins: Jul 1
- **SORH** PIMS Due: Aug 30

Financial Items:

- **ADHS Rx Drug** Purchase Order: Sept
- **Flex** Budget Ends: Aug 31
- **Navigator** Budget Ends: Sept 1
- **SHIP** Carry-Forward Jun-Sept
- **SORH** Carry-Forward Jun-Sept

FY 2nd Quarter

Action Items:

- **ADHS Rx Drug** Annual Report: Oct 30
- **ADHS Rx Drug** Qtrly Report: Dec 15
- **Flex** Performance Report (PIMS): Nov 15
- **Flex** Qtrly: Dec 31
- **Navigator** Grant Yr starts: Oct 1
- **Navigator** Annual Report: Mid-Oct
- **Navigator** Open Enrollment OE-5: 11/01/17
- **Navigator** 1st Qtrly Report: Dec 30

Financial Items:

- **Flex** Carry-Forward Oct-Nov
- **Navigator** Carry-Forward Oct-Nov



FY 4th Quarter

Action Items:

- **ADHS Rx Drug** Qtrly Report: June 15
- **Flex** Qtrly Report: June 30
- **Flex NCC released:** Mid-Mar
- **Navigator** 3rd Qtr Report: June 30
- **Navigator** NCC Released: Mid-April
- **Navigator** NCC Due: June 1
- **SHIP** Grant Yr starts: June 1

Financial Items:

- **Flex** Review & Spend-Down
- **Navigator** Review & Spend-Down
- **SHIP** Budget Ends: May 31
- **SORH** Budget Ends: June 30

FY 3rd Quarter

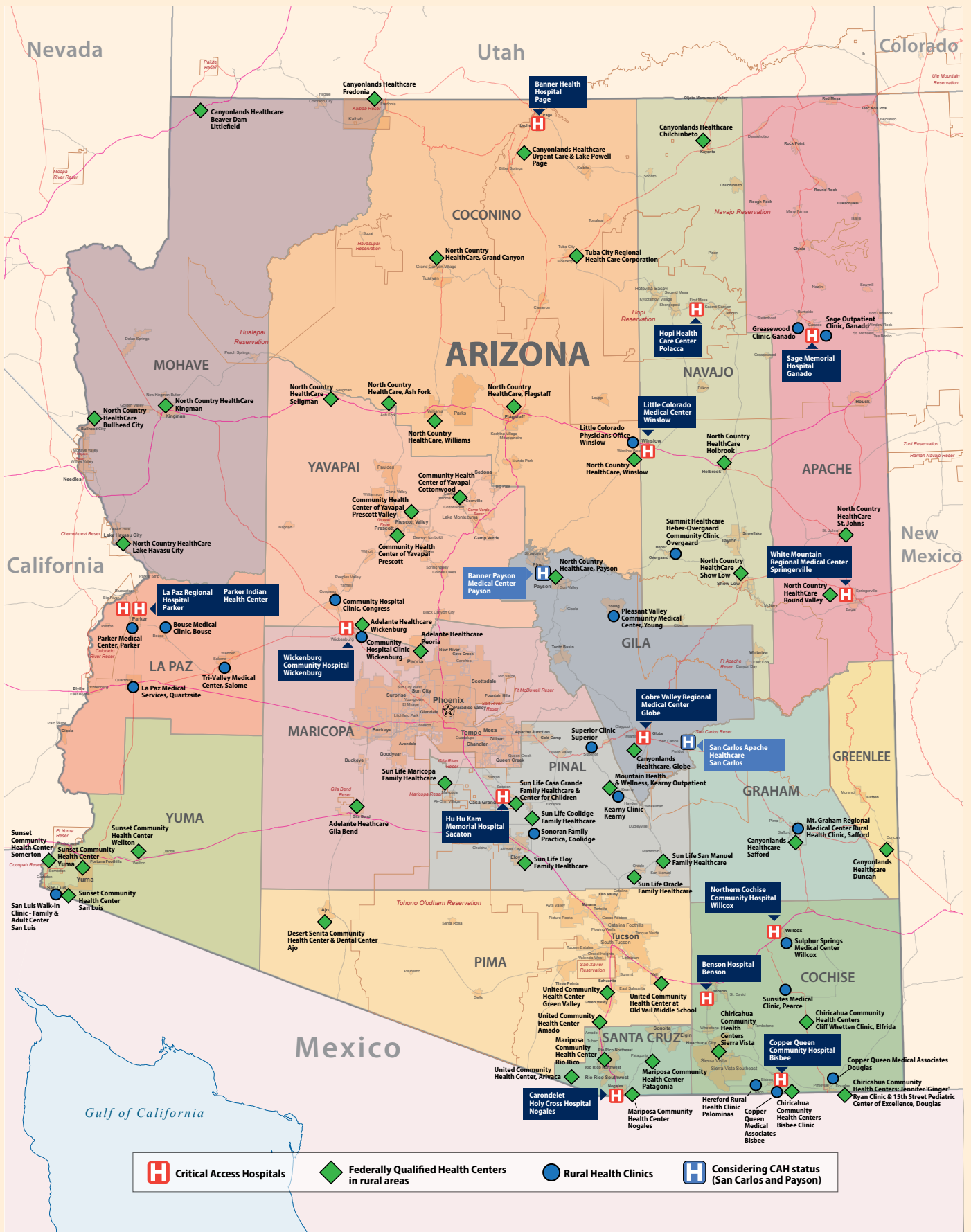
Action Items:

- **AzCRH Rural & Public Health Policy Forum**
- **ADHS Rx Drug** Qtrly Report: Mar 15
- **Flex** Quarterly: Mar 31
- **Flex** NCC released: Mid-Mar
- **Navigator** 2nd Qtr Report: Mar 30
- **Navigator** Open Enrollment Ends 01/31/17
- **SHIP** NCC Due: Mid-Feb
- **SORH** NCC Due: Mid-Mar

Financial Items:

- **ADHS Rx Drug** Purchase Order Fund Allotments: Jan-Feb
- **SHIP, SORH** Review Position & Spend Down

*UA Fiscal Year begins July 1



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Center for Rural Health

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