Mission

Improve the health status of rural and underserved people through advocacy, education, and assistance to providers, communities, and policymakers.

Major Accomplishments

- Developed and finalized the South Carolina Rural Health Action Plan (RHAP), an intensive, multi-stakeholder planning process that established 5 areas of focus, 15 recommendations, and 50+ action steps. The RHAP is intended to spur progress over the next 3-5 years focusing on improving health and well-being in South Carolina’s rural communities.
- Implemented the Blueprint for Health Program, a Blue Cross Blue Shield of SC Foundation funded effort to improve the overall health of five rural communities by addressing the social determinants of health.
- Supported Healthy People Healthy Carolinas (HPHC), an initiative of The Duke Endowment, in expanding to five SC areas: Greenville, Kershaw, Fairfield, Orangeburg and Chesterfield/Dillon/Marlboro counties. HPHC addresses chronic health issues such as unhealthy weight, diabetes and heart disease.
- Worked collaboratively with multiple SC organizations to assist practices in understanding the new CMS Quality Payment Program (QPP). For example, led a state-wide workshop with more than 150 participants in collaboration with BCBS SC, SC Department of Health and Human Services, SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, SC Hospital Association and SC Medical Association.

Impact Examples

- Successfully completed bi-directional outreach with >2600 clinicians practicing in small, underserved and rural practices related to the QPP and provided technical assistance and consultations as needed. Additionally, bi-monthly webinars to support quality improvement and improved practice performance were broadcast.
- Provided over 60 Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) tuition assistance scholarships to rural Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers in 2017.
- Assisted over 25 rural practices in successfully achieving Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) recognition through National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).