Rural Regional Reorientation

South East (SE) & East Central (EC) Kickoff
July 24, 2026

Oklahoma Rural Health
Transformation Program

Before we begin

Please take a moment to scan the QR code, add your contact details, and review the participation agreement.

Documented participation will be considered when awarding funds in future years.

Objectives for today

Provide Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) overview

Introduce Rural Regional Reorientation (RRR) and facilitator role

Highlight key access, quality, and sustainability opportunities in the region

Discuss next steps to begin engaging with your facilitator

Rural Regional Reorientation (RRR) is one program within larger Rural Health Transformation Programs (RHTP)

Innovating the care model (9 programs)	**Moving Upstream** (7 programs)	**Facilitating regional collab.** (3 programs)	**Shifting to value** (4 programs)	**Growing next-gen rural talent** (3 programs)	**Building health data utility** (3 programs)
Bringing care closer to home through telehealth, transportation support, expanded care teams, and investments in local health infrastructure	Strengthening community-led prevention and wellness via chronic disease prevention and management programs	Helping local partners share resources and form strategic partnerships among rural facilities and providers	Supporting the transition to value-based care through technical assistance, infrastructure development, and incentive programs	"Grow your own" initiatives, training placements, residency programs, and recruitment to build a sustainable rural workforce	Investing in technology that improves data sharing and care coordination, including EHR upgrades, interoperability, and advanced analytics

Rural Regional Reorientation lives within facilitating regional collaboration

Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) is a five-year federal grant made up of 29 OK-specific programs

Federal RHTP

- **$50B federal program** designed to strengthen rural healthcare across the nation
- Runs for **five program years, from 2026 through 2030**

Oklahoma's RHTP

- OK received the **5th largest award nationally**
- **$223.5M was awarded for Program Year 1**; future year funding will be determined annually

RHTP Timeline

- **Program Year 1 was less than a full calendar year** because state award decisions were released in December 2025
- Program Year 2 **begins on October 31st, 2026**

RRR aims to build reoriented systems of care for rural residents

RRR Purpose

- A reoriented system of care means one that focuses on **delivering the right services, at the right time, in the right setting**
- To enable this, RRR will introduce a competitive funding opportunity annually targeting **4 objectives**, and fund a set of facilitators who will help stakeholders **connect with other community members to develop coordinated solutions to shared challenges**
- The needs and ideas you share will help **shape regional priorities and future funding opportunities**
- The relationships built through this process are **intended to extend beyond RRR and RHTP to strengthen the future of health in Oklahoma**

RRR Objectives

Quality	Reduce chronic disease rates and avoidable hospitalizations for related complications
Access	Improve access to critical localized care (e.g., primary care/mental health care/OBGYN) or improve access to specialized care in areas/for populations with pronounced access barriers
Sustainability	Improve effectiveness and efficiency of rural care resources to ensure existing assets are sustained
Partnership	Invest in the future of rural health partnerships through funding of regional planning and coalition development

Our goal moving forward is to build regional coordination through partnerships

December 2026 – October 2026
In year 1, we prioritized:

- **Shovel ready initiatives** that did not require extensive planning or regional collaboration
- **Partnerships**; earned extra points when scored, but were not required

Funding amount: ~$20M NOFO
Y1 application has closed. Notice of awards to be communicated in Aug

November 2026 – October 2027
In years 2-5, we will prioritize:

- **Coordination of solutions to persistent challenges** based on the unique needs and profile of the region, driven by partnerships
- **Reorienting the care delivery footprint** for rural residents, focusing on delivering the right services at the right time in the right modality in a sustainable way

Funding amount: Up to $35M/year
Application to open early 2027

There will likely be strong applications that do not receive year 1 funding that will be good candidates for years 2–5

For questions on year 1 applications reach out to OklahomaRHTP@health.ok.gov; facilitators are not involved in application review

Introductions | Melanie McGee will serve as the facilitator for South East and East Central Oklahoma

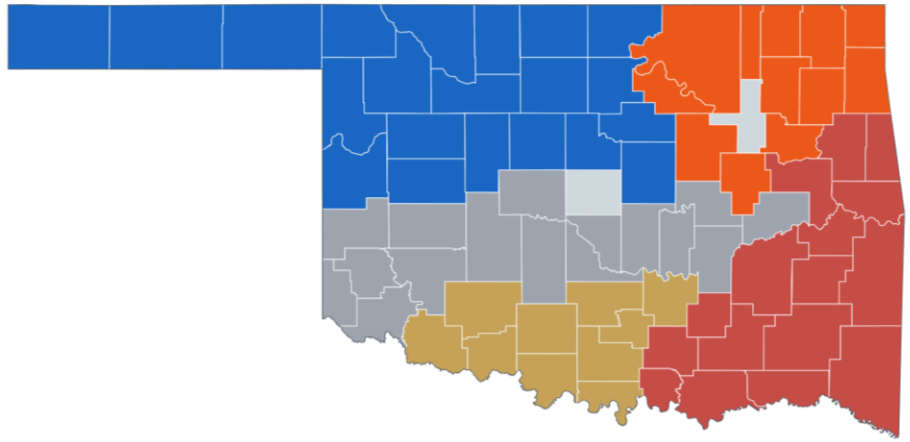
Clark Houser
NW and **NC** OK

Ann Paul
NE OK

Melanie McGee
EC and **SE** OK

Tamara Clift
SW and **Central** OK

Richard Gillespie
SC OK



Facilitators help ensure RRR funds address rural Oklahoma's greatest needs

Facilitators will help stakeholders work together to avoid duplicating applications and address top regional priorities

Facilitators will develop a **regional objectives plan** that identifies the region's greatest needs (across quality, access, and sustainability). OSDH leadership will approve this plan

Then, facilitators will help stakeholders form **strong, well-coordinated partnerships** to develop applications

Applicants will be encouraged to:

1. Develop solutions and address problems through partnerships
2. Address a need identified in your facilitator's regional objectives plan
3. Work openly and cooperatively with facilitators throughout the process

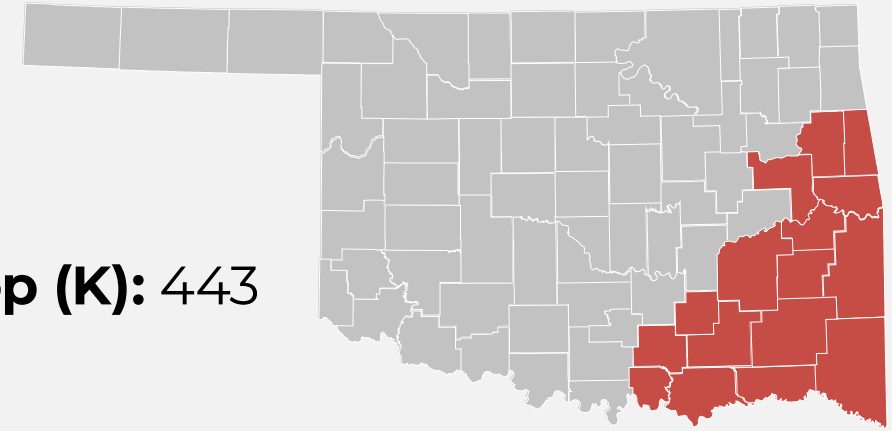
The facilitation process will help stakeholders develop applications

Regional kickoffs *July (today)*	**County Cluster kickoffs** *July - August*	**Needs refinement** *August-September*	**Solution development** *October - January*	**Application development** *February - March*
Introduce facilitator and future funding opportunity and expectations	Come together with neighboring stakeholders for a facilitator-led, open discussion of key needs within county-cluster subregions	Meet with facilitators 1:1 to share perspectives on regional and organizational challenges, which facilitators will use to inform regional objectives plan	Facilitators connect and encourage stakeholders facing similar challenges to develop joint solutions	Stakeholders solidify partnerships and develop and submit applications

RRR South East (SE) and East Central (EC) Region

SE & EC Region overview

Pop (K): 443



Counties (16)

- Adair
- Atoka
- Bryan
- Cherokee
- Choctaw
- Coal
- Haskell
- Johnston
- Latimer
- LeFlore
- Marshall
- McCurtain
- Muskogee
- Pittsburg
- Pushmataha
- Sequoyah

Non-exhaustive

Key opportunities for us to address together in this region

Quality

The quality of care impacting patient health

- **High rates of preventable hospitalizations** for both acute and chronic conditions
- **High chronic disease prevalence** and **underutilization of preventive care** and screening services
- **Low life expectancy** and high premature mortality
- **High smoking prevalence**

Access

The ability to obtain needed care

- **High Medicaid enrollment and uninsurance rate**
- **Emergency care access constraints** in Latimer
- **Long travel distances for in-state care**, especially OBGYN, mental health, and minor trauma care
- **Limited physician availability**, especially mental health and OBGYN providers

Sustainability

The long-term viability of organizations

- **Hospital financial pressures**, including thin or negative margins
- **Workforce recruitment and retention** constraints
- **Changing payer and reimbursement** landscape
- **Need to strengthen capabilities for value-based payment** and care delivery

Suggested topics to discuss with your facilitator in the coming months

Quality

The quality of care impacting patient health

- Which services are hardest for your patients/constituents to reach?
- What limits access most: transportation, broadband, hours, workforce?

Access

The ability to obtain needed care

- Where are the gaps between the care you want to provide and what's possible today?
- What would most improve coordination across providers in the region?

Sustainability

The long-term viability of organizations

- What most threatens the financial viability of your organization?
- Which services are at greatest risk of being cut back?

Connect with your facilitator to learn more about the other programs that are a part of RHTP

Innovating the care model	Moving upstream	Facilitating regional collab.	Shifting to value	Growing next-gen rural talent	Building health data utility
Transportation	Closed-loop care platform	EMS centralization	PACE expansion	“Grow your own”	Interoperability through HIE
MFM telehealth expansion	Lung cancer screening	Rural regional reorientation	Practice enablement	Rural re-location incentives	Integrated data & analytics
Telestroke expansion	Presidential Fitness preparation	Provider collaborative	PCP clinical extension	Rural residency	EHR expansion
RPM: Maternal	CHW expansion		Maternal value based program		
Doulas	Wellness hub microgrants				
BH integration	Consumer-facing tech				
School-based services	Chronic disease mgmt				
Community paramedicine					
PCP & BH tech co-op					

Questions?

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Next Steps

In-Person "County Cluster" Kickoffs will take place from 7/27 to 8/14 (full schedule on next page)

Meeting Objectives

- Meet your facilitator and connect with neighboring stakeholders
- Discuss key areas of need within "county clusters"
- Answer outstanding questions about RRR

Facilitators will begin meeting directly with stakeholders - feel free to reach out to connect 1:1 and share priority issues

Email: melanie.mcgee.ctr@health.ok.gov

In Person County Cluster Kickoffs

Date	Time	Counties covered	Meeting location
Thu., 7/30	3 – 4 PM	Muskogee, Cherokee, Adair, Sequoyah, Haskell (OSDH Distr. 7)	Cherokee County Health Dept. - 1298 W. 4th St., Tahlequah, OK
Fri., 7/31	11:30 - 12:30 PM	Pittsburg, Latimer, Le Flore (OSDH Distr. 9)	McAlester Health Dept. - 1400 E College Ave McAlester, OK
Thu., 8/13	3 – 4 PM	Pushmataha, Choctaw, McCurtain (OSDH Distr. 9)	Kiamichi Tech. Center, Hugo Campus - 107 S 15th St, Hugo OK
Fri., 8/14	11:30 - 12:30 PM	Johnston, Marshall (OSDH Distr. 8), Coal, Atoka, Bryan (Distr. 9)	KTC Center for Workforce Advancement - 314 E Main St, Durant OK

Thank you

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Oklahoma Rural Health Transformation Program