The Rural Regional Reorientation (RRR) program supports one-time, shovel-ready investments that can improve access, quality, or sustainability of healthcare in rural Oklahoma. Funded projects should demonstrate clear, near-term impact and be structured to sustain benefits beyond the grant period without relying on ongoing funding. **The examples below illustrate the types of initiatives that align with RRR priorities.** These examples are intended to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.

1. Expanding Local Labor & Delivery Services in a Rural Critical Access Hospital

A small critical access hospital in a rural region with limited maternal health access proposes to expand local labor and delivery services. Currently, the hospital has midwives on staff who provide prenatal and postpartum care, but patients often must travel over 100 miles to deliver. The hospital plans to retrofit existing clinical space and purchase necessary equipment to support obstetric services, enabling midwives already on staff to safely provide care through delivery. To ensure quality and appropriate risk management, the hospital will partner with a regional referral hospital with higher-level maternal and neonatal capabilities to establish protocols for consultation and transfer of high-risk patients. This investment will improve access to essential maternal care while creating a sustainable, locally anchored service model.

2. Expanding Behavioral Health Access Through Telehealth in Rural Library Settings

A mental health clinic proposes to expand access to behavioral health services by partnering with five public libraries located in high-need rural communities. These communities demonstrate significant gaps in access to care, including designation as mental health provider shortage areas, long travel distances to the nearest behavioral health providers, limited broadband access at home, and high rates of unmet behavioral health needs. Funding will support retrofitting private, HIPAA-compliant spaces within each library and equipping them with the necessary technology to enable telehealth visits. Through this partnership model, libraries serve as trusted, accessible community hubs where individuals can connect to behavioral health services in a private and supportive environment.

3. Expanding Preventive Breast Cancer Screening Through a Regional Mobile Mammography Unit

A partnership of five regional primary care clinics and three rural hospitals propose to expand access to preventive breast cancer screening by deploying a mobile mammography unit across underserved communities. Patients in this region face significant barriers to screening, including long travel distances, limited local imaging capacity, and transportation challenges that contribute to missed preventive care. In this region, only 65% of women ages 50–74 have received a mammogram in the past two years—below both the Oklahoma average (70%) and national benchmark (76%). Funding will support the purchase and deployment of a mobile mammography unit, including necessary imaging equipment, which will rotate on a regular schedule across participating sites to provide accessible, high-quality screening services. This model leverages a coordinated regional partnership to increase screening rates, enables earlier detection of breast cancer, and reduce disparities in access to care.

4. Modernizing Rural Healthcare Logistics Through a Drone-Enabled Supply and Specimen Delivery Network

A rural health system operating a Critical Access Hospital, multiple rural health clinics, and long-term care facilities across a four-county region proposes to deploy a drone-enabled logistics network to transport laboratory specimens, medications, and critical medical supplies between care sites. Currently, the system relies on ground-based couriers to move time-sensitive materials across a large geographic area. When no courier is available, particularly on weekends and holidays, rural clinic staff cannot transport specimens to the hospital for processing. As a result, patients who need urgent test results are often transported to the hospital themselves, simply so a lab test can be run. This workaround is more costly, more disruptive to patients, and pulls staff away from other care needs. Funding will support drone flight corridors connecting the system's facilities and integration with existing clinical workflows. By reliably moving specimens and supplies without relying on human couriers, the system can free up ground transportation staff to focus exclusively on moving patients, improving access to care across a dispersed rural region. The shared airspace infrastructure is designed to be opened to partner EMS agencies and public health departments over time, creating a self-sustaining regional logistics asset beyond the grant period.