

# CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**Deadline: February 3, 2012**

## 2012 Minnesota Rural Health Conference

### Bringing It All Together

**June 25-26, 2012**

**Duluth, Minnesota**

#### **Sponsored by:**

Minnesota Department of Health - Office of Rural Health and Primary Care

Minnesota Rural Health Association

National Rural Health Resource Center

The success of the Conference depends upon the excellent presentations people give about their work in rural Minnesota. Please consider applying to present a breakout session this year. Proposals are only accepted electronically and the link for the submission form is at the end of this call for proposals.

**The first day of the Conference focuses on Critical Access Hospitals and their communities. The second day takes a broader look at rural health in Minnesota.**

#### **Conference Theme: Bringing It All Together**

- **Networks & Collaboration**
- **Community & Population Health**
- **Health Care Reform**
- **Quality Through Technology**
- **Workforce**

#### **Focus areas and suggested breakout session topics to address:**

##### **Networks & Collaboration**

- Leadership and culture
- Performance improvement
- Team-based care
- EMS networks
- Grant writing and development
- Community collaboration
- Benefits of formalized rural health networks
- Forming a rural health network
- Flex Program and critical access hospitals
- CMS Innovation grant projects

##### **Community & Population Health**

- Community health needs assessment
- Community benefit
- Quality improvement and reporting
- Trauma systems
- Prevention and health care integration
- Hospice and home care

- Public health
- Services for rural veterans
- Mental health (EMS/Transport/Crisis Response)
- Minority health
- Dental health challenges
- Quality measurement and reimbursement
- Linking public health and primary care
- Statewide Health Improvement Program projects

#### **Health Reform**

- Accountable Care Organizations
- Financial performance
- Health information technology (HIT) and incentives
- Payment reforms
- Continuum of care
- ICD-10
- Reducing costs while improving quality
- Health insurance exchange
- CMS' Triple Aim

#### **Quality Through Technology**

- Electronic health record (EHR) incentives and health information exchange (HIE)
- Performance improvement
- Quality measures and reporting
- Financial performance
- Health information technology (HIT) and incentives
- e-prescribing
- Affordable insurance exchange
- Education and training simulations
- Patient/consumer engagement in HIT

#### **Workforce**

- Primary care and specialty services
- Workforce needs – data, planning and solutions
- Oral health and dental access
- Mental and behavioral health
- Rural OB services
- The Future of Nursing (Institute of Medicine Report)
- National Health Service Corps
- Community paramedics
- Dental therapists

## Selection/Recruitment Guidelines

Sessions will be 60 minutes in length. Sessions may be individual presentations, panel discussions (limit three panel members per session), skill-building workshops, facilitated discussions or demonstrations (including technology). Those formats that provide active audience participation are particularly encouraged. **All presentations must include a rural health care provider.** In addition, priority will be given to proposals that:

- Address at least one of the focus areas
- Can be effectively covered in the time provided
- Suggest an engaging format for conference participants
- Are received by **February 3, 2012.**

## Additional Considerations

The planning committee will develop a conference program that is balanced according to:

- Session content - roughly equal number of sessions on each of the five themes
- Geography - to the extent possible, presenters will come from all regions of the state
- Session format - a variety of presentation formats.

Presenters should:

- Email PowerPoint presentation no later than two weeks prior to the conference. Presentations will be loaded on flash drives for participants and posted on the Conference website after the event.
- Provide printed handouts to session participants, if desired.
- Expect to register and pay a reduced conference fee.

## Target Audiences

- Rural hospital, long term care, rural health clinic and community-based service administrators, staff and volunteers
- Rural health professionals, including physicians, mid-level practitioners, nurses, allied health professionals and educators
- Rural dentists and pharmacists
- Rural Health Advisory Committee (RHAC) members
- Rural Hospital Flexibility Committee (FLEX) members
- Elected and appointed officials including county commissioners and state legislators
- Federal, state and local government public health staff
- Policy analysts, researchers and students interested in rural health issues
- Health plan representatives
- Community leaders and activists
- Rural health care consumers
- Other partners in rural health.

Click [HERE](#) to submit your online proposal.

**CONFIRM RECEIPT:** A confirmation email will be sent to you.

Direct questions to Sally Trnka at 218-727-9390, ext 233 or [strnka@ruralcenter.org](mailto:strnka@ruralcenter.org).