

Disparities and Challenges with Practicing Medicine in Underserved Areas

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At the time of the 2010 Decennial Census, almost **60 million** people, about **19 percent** of the population, lived in rural areas of the United States.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Services Rural: rural towns (places with fewer than 2,500 people), and urban areas with populations ranging from 2,500 to 49,999





Structural Barrier

Limited Task force, too busy,

Building capacity, facility

Limited education system, and professional incentive

Limited employment opportunity, low salary

Organization Politic, dramatic-problem solving paradise

Lack of care coordination, lack of access,

Lack of HIT integration, technology

Lack of insurance, charities

Lack of community resources

Environment Surroundings

Patient Barrier

Limited level of literacy

Limited health education

Many social determinant of health

Unemployment

Lack of trust in the system

Opioid crisis

Transportation

Chronic conditions

Family priorities

Culture and beliefs

Nature of the work conditions



A photograph of a man in a dark suit and glasses standing on a mobile clinic trailer. He is smiling and looking down. The trailer has a sign that says "NIC" and "Giving Hope". Another man in a suit is visible in the background.

Once upon a time

A HC has not pharmacy

No ACA

Surrounded by 10 casinos

Nearest home 10 miles

Nearest pharmacy 40 miles

340b pharmacy available next state

Drug delivery at HC within 48 hours

Once upon a time...

HC without dentist

Only a private dentist in the town

Dentist was hired by the HC

Condition of the HC was to bring the private patients

To be assigned their own zip code.



Hope....

Telemedicine

CHW model

Teaching health centers

Merge with a larger organization

Get HRSA funds

Mobiles vans

Retired doctors

International doctors





Questions?

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“ THANK YOU AND Y’ALL CARE ”