



# Rural Health Community Capacity Academy

The Rural Health Community Capacity Academy is designed to support underserved communities and organizations in rural areas. Through this program, selected

organizations receive personalized guidance from a rural health development coach over 13 months. These coaches collaborate with organizations to assess their strengths and develop strategies to overcome challenges. The academy's primary goal is to empower participants to tackle community health issues by enhancing their capacity for community engagement and development.

## → Eligibility

**Rural organizations committed to advancing health equity in rural communities facing significant disparities and socioeconomic challenges are encouraged to apply.**

Organizations must serve rural communities, especially those impacted by persistent poverty or inequity. This includes working with individuals from underserved communities, such as racial and ethnic minorities, religious minorities, LGBTQ+ individuals, and people with disabilities.

## → Development Coaches

**Development coaches are dedicated to strengthening rural communities by offering tailored support through site visits and ongoing communication. They work closely with organizations to:**

- Evaluate community health needs assessments
- Develop and implement strategic plans
- Identify technical assistance resources
- Assess staffing and operational needs
- Strengthen collaboration with community stakeholders
- Enhance workforce development, including community health workers and behavioral health professionals

## → Participant Responsibilities

**Selected organizations work closely with their development coach to:**

- Create a clear action plan to address organizational challenges
- Arrange and facilitate 2-3 site visits
- Maintain regular communication with their coach
- Provide ongoing feedback through assessments at key points: baseline, mid-point, end-of-year, and annual follow-up

## → Frequently Asked Questions

**Is there any cost to participate?**

No, participation is fully funded. There are no costs associated with the program.

**How are organizations selected?**

Organizations are chosen based on their readiness and ability to identify and address capacity-building needs, as well as the overall characteristics of the population served.

**Will coaches assist with federal grant writing?**

Securing grant funding is not guaranteed. Coaches can help identify grant funding opportunities as well as other revenue and resources to support the community.

**How are coaches and communities matched?**

Coaches are matched based on their experience in rural health and their ability to understand the cultural and specific needs of the selected communities.



For more information, contact Courtney Glover at [cglover@ruralhealth.us](mailto:cglover@ruralhealth.us)

Supported in part by a grant from the  
Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

[www.RuralHealth.US](http://www.RuralHealth.US)



**National Rural  
Health Association**