



## Top Stories

### Rural Hospitals Retreat From Delivering Babies

Citing legal and insurance costs, a growing number of rural hospitals do not deliver babies. The decline of local baby delivery and some obstetric care in rural communities creates cascading problems, creating risks for pregnant women who must travel long distances to receive obstetric care. Minnesota Public Radio **took a look** at the problem.



Image: Luma Pimentel

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### Improving Oral Health Care Services in Rural America

From lack of transportation to acute provider shortages, there are numerous barriers to providing oral health care in rural America. In 2018, only eleven percent of practicing dentists served rural or partially-rural communities

A **report** from the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services looks at ways to improve the quality and access to oral health care.

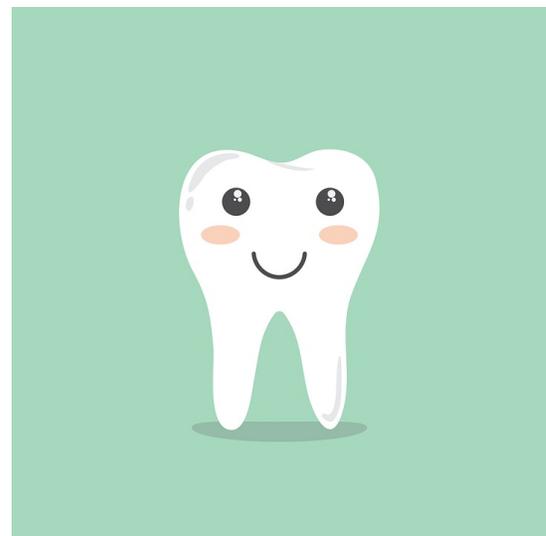


Image: Pettycon

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## Rural Health Award Nominations Are Open

The National Rural Health Association honors outstanding individuals and organizations in the field of rural health. Consider **nominating** your favorite rural health individual, program, or organization so they may be honored nationally for their contribution.

Either the nominee or nominator must have a connection to NRHA through membership. The deadline for entries is February 18th, 2019.



Image: Fauzan Saari on Unsplash

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## More News

- A new toolkit helps rural communities build partnerships with **philanthropies**.
- Rural communities are **feeling squeezed** by the current government shutdown.
- Governor Tony Evers told a statewide audience on Tuesday that he is directing the state's attorney general to **withdraw Wisconsin from a federal lawsuit** to overturn the Affordable Care Act. But his authority to do so is **being challenged**.
- In Wisconsin, a bill proposing protections against discrimination for those with **pre-existing conditions** has passed the Assembly and heads to the Senate.

## Funding & Opportunities

- **Grants** to enhance the safety of rural victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking. (Deadline: Feb. 14th)
- **Funding** to create, maintain, and expand tribal sexual assault services. (Deadline: Feb. 19th)
- **Loan repayment assistance** for substance use disorder clinicians who agree to serve in Health Professional Shortage Areas. (Deadline: Feb. 21st)
- **Action grants to communities** for education and neighborhood improvement, economic development, assistance to disadvantaged people, and more. (Deadline: February 28th)
- **Funding** to engage with rural stakeholders on national rural health policy issues and to facilitate and maintain rural collaborative projects. (Deadline: Feb 28th)

# Events

- Jan 25th: Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capabilities
- Jan 28th: Waushara and Green Lake Counties Rural Palliative Care Coalition
- Jan 29th: Shawano and Waupaca Counties Rural Palliative Care Coalition
- Feb 12th: Promising Practices for Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- April 9-10th: Wipfli Rural Health Clinic Conference in Wisconsin Dells



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Wisconsin Office of Rural Health