



## Top Stories

### Report: Poverty Continuing to Rise Among Older Adults

A recent **report** examining poverty in the state finds that poverty rates for children in Wisconsin went down in 2017, but **those for the elderly rose**. Rising out-of-pocket medical expenses like copayments, insurance premiums, prescription costs and uninsured medical costs may be the cause. Yet there are a number of resources available for older adults they may not be aware of.



Photo by sabinevanerp on Pixabay

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### Wisconsin CAHs Have Top Quality Performance

Wisconsin is once again among the top ten states for quality improvement among its Critical Access Hospitals, **announced the Health Resources and Services Administration last week**. This is the third consecutive year Wisconsin has received the distinction.

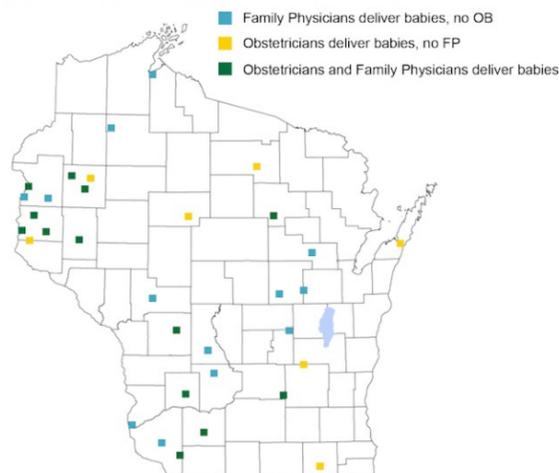
A big thank you to Wisconsin CAHs that drive high quality care by participating in the MBQIP program!



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### New Report On Rural Obstetric Delivery Services

Types of Providers Delivering Babies in Rural Hospitals



We're proud to announce the release of a **new report** on the availability of obstetric delivery services within rural Wisconsin hospitals.

The assessment details the rural hospitals within the state that provide obstetric care, the types of providers available for those services, and risk factors that may signal the closure of rural obstetric units in the future.

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## More News

- Overdose deaths saw a 5.1 percent decline in 2018, according to **new provisional data**, but officials say the crisis **"will not be solved overnight."**
- The Ways and Means Committee has **convened** a rural health task force.
- A new **report** finds that the new tax on e-cigarette fluid—just passed as part of the state budget—is at a rate tied for the lowest of any state that taxes e-cigarettes.
- Some **examples** of collaborative thinking and community support that have helped some rural hospitals survive and expand.

## Grants & Funding Opportunities

- The Wisconsin Dental Program offers funding to nonprofit organizations that are

- engaged in projects to **improve access to oral health care**. Deadline: July 31.
- Funding to support **health-related programs** that strengthen regional and rural communities in western Wisconsin. Deadline: August 9.
- Funding for the development and expansion of **dementia-capable home and community-based service systems** in states and communities. Deadline: August 13.
- Small grants for nonprofits and public health agencies that wish to explore, plan, implement or improve **cross-jurisdictional sharing in public health**. Deadline: August 16.
- **Grants** to include education and neighborhood improvement, economic development, youth development, community problem-solving, and more in **some Wisconsin locations**. Deadline: August 29.
- **Equipment grants** for rural fire, rescue, and ambulance departments. Deadline: August 31.

## Events

- July 25: A **webinar** on new Medicaid alternative payment models for hospice and palliative care programs. 12:30 pm.
- July 26: A **webinar** for healthcare professionals on digital approaches to the psychiatric care of older adults.
- July 30: A **webinar** will outline an initiative to increase the number and competency of sexual assault nurse examiners in Indiana, with a focus on rural and underserved communities. 1pm.
- July 30: A **webinar** will outline how to build a strong, professional therapy service for your rural hospital. 2pm.
- Register for our **Rural Hospital Finance Workshop** on August 23 in Sauk City, with topics on: a CAH regulatory update, Medicare and Medicaid updates, 340B, co-location guidance, telehealth compliance and billing, and measuring CAH productivity.

