



SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

Back-to-school edition

As students return back to school this week, they may be sharing more than their notes. As the number of measles cases is at its highest number in 27 years, experts say close to 50,000 children in the state are unvaccinated.

While the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine is normally required by schools, students can be exempted for personal convictions, religious reasons, or medical reasons. Elsewhere in

school news, [rural districts are struggling](#) with how to recruit and retain teachers.



Article source: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, image courtesy of Element5 Digital on Unsplash

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What are the structural challenges in rural EMS?

An interview with Wyoming's State EMS Manager outlines structural challenges with rural EMS, including low population volume and a societal shift away from volunteerism.

Source: New York Public Radio's The Takeaway

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Maternal health care in rural communities

A federal issue brief outlines the issues affecting healthcare access for rural women, from hospital closures and insurance coverage to workforce supply and distribution.

Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

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More news

HRSA launches auto-HPSA portal. The agency has completed a change in how it scores facilities as Health Professional Shortage Areas, and has opened a portal to submit additional data. [Read more](#)

Lawmakers approve funding for farmer's mental health aid. State lawmakers approved \$200,000 in funding for mental health services for Wisconsin's farmers. [Read more](#)

Wisconsin receives more funding for opioid crisis. The state received two new federal grants with a combined total of over \$17 million to enhance opioid prevention, treatment, and recovery. [Read more](#)

Late-stage colon cancer slightly more prevalent in rural. A new study says patients who live in remote or very small rural communities are a bit more likely to have late-stage colon cancer. [Read more](#)

Grants & Funding Opportunities

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

Local governments, Indian tribes, and nonprofit institutions can apply for funding to revitalize neighborhoods through a development of local food systems. [Learn more](#)

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 17, 2019

Wisconsin counties, tribal governments, and nonprofit agencies can apply for grant funding to establish opioid and methamphetamine treatment centers. [Learn more](#)

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 25, 2019

Federal funding will support integrated rural health care networks in order to address the health care needs of a targeted rural community. [Learn more](#)

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 19, 2019

The state of Wisconsin will award up to \$24 million in newly-announced grants to facilitate broadband expansion across the state. [Learn more](#)

Events

CONFERENCE | SEPTEMBER 19, 2019 | MADISON

A conference from the Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality will explore issues related to improving the quality and affordability of healthcare in Wisconsin. [Learn more](#)

WEBINAR | SEPTEMBER 19, 2019 | 12 PM

A webinar for primary care providers will give an overview of opioid prescribing after surgery or trauma. [Learn more](#)

FORUM | SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 | NEKOOSA

A community forum and resource fair will discuss challenges and opportunities in economic development and education, civic issues and life in Wisconsin's small, mighty communities. [Learn more](#)

CONFERENCE | SEPTEMBER 24 & 25, 2019 | MARSHFIELD

A conference will convene medical and dental providers, educators, public health officials, health policy advocates and more to discuss the future of oral health care in Wisconsin. [Learn more](#)

One last thing...

It's been a pleasure to learn so much about the issues, challenges and innovations in health care in rural Wisconsin over the past nineteen months—and to distribute the news to you through this newsletter and online. Alas, I have accepted another position, and my time at the Wisconsin Office of Rural Health has come to an end. While I'm sad to go, I remain inspired by the hard work, perseverance, and community spirit of Wisconsin's rural communities. As we search for the next Communications Coordinator, you may see some interruption to this newsletter and online posting. We'll be back soon!



Brought to you by Wisconsin Office of Rural Health

Delivering the latest in rural health news, straight to your inbox, every week!

