



## Top Stories

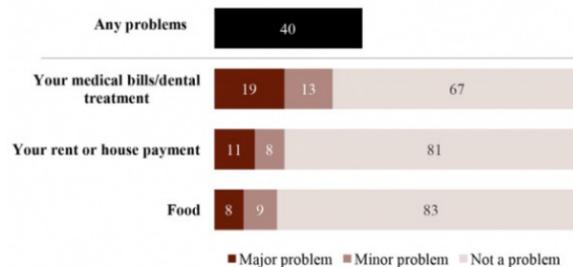
### Life In Rural America Poll Finds Optimism; Economic Challenges

A **new poll** surveyed 1,405 adults about life in rural America, and found that respondents were optimistic about their communities, felt safe at home, and had attained satisfaction with their quality of life. At the same time, forty percent of rural adults said they struggle with routine medical bills, food, and housing, and about half say they could not afford to pay an unexpected \$1,000 expense of any kind. The poll is the second in a series examining life in rural America. **NPR, Daily Yonder,** and **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** analyze the **results**.

[Read more](#)

#### Rural Families Face Difficulties Paying Medical Bills, Housing, Food, in Percent

Q30. Within the past few years, have you or anyone in your family ever had a problem paying for..., or not? If yes: Was this a major problem or a minor problem?



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Life in Rural America Part II, 1/31/19 – 3/2/19. Q30a-c. N=1,405 rural adults ages 18+.

### Improving Health Through Trauma-Informed Care

A practice called trauma-informed care seeks to change how caregivers and health, human services and criminal justice professionals work with traumatized individuals.

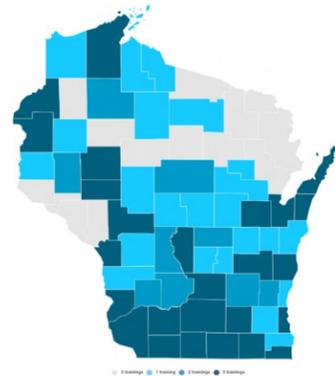
It's a practice that acknowledges how things called adverse childhood experiences can result in changes to the brain, leading to cascading behavioral and mental health problems. A **new documentary looks at trauma informed care in Wisconsin**, and a recent national report puts **adverse childhood experiences in a rural health context**.

Training on trauma-informed care is available from **state** and **national** sources.

[Read more](#)

Participation in the Wisconsin Trauma Project by County, 2012-2019

The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families has offered trauma-informed care trainings for counties and tribes since 2012 through the Wisconsin Trauma Project and Training Grants. The blue shading on general health-related professional communities.



Source: Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

### Physician Ranking Says: Midwest Is the Best!

A **ranking** of the best and worst states to practice as a physician in 2019 puts Wisconsin as the third-best state to practice in the nation, behind only Minnesota and Iowa. MedScape cites Wisconsin's low cost of living, lower level of burnout than the national average and a high level of happiness on the job as reasons to practice in the state.

But hey, MedScape-might we suggest practicing in one of Wisconsin's rural communities?

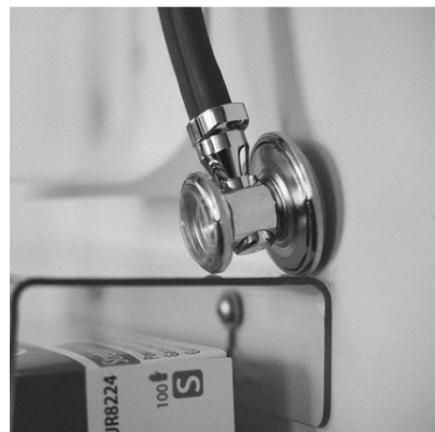


Image: Parentingupstream on Pixabay

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## More News

- A **new tool** helps visualize comparisons between 35 health measures across Wisconsin counties.
- The **state's shortage of mental health providers** means kids must wait to get help. And, hundreds of children in the state's welfare and juvenile justice systems are being **sent for care to facilities outside of the state**.

- School associations have joined a coalition of dozens of other groups **pushing to allow dental therapists** to practice in Wisconsin.
- In more dental news, the state's budget-writing committee approved the creation of a **scholarship program for dental students** who agree to practice in a rural underserved area.
- The first medical school with a tribal affiliation on tribal land **broke ground this week**. The school aims to train physicians to supply the surrounding region of Cherokee Nation and rural northeastern Oklahoma.
- During **EMS Week** and throughout the year, a big thank you to EMS personnel across the state.

## Funding & Opportunities

- The annual **Monato Rural Essay Prize** provides a \$2,500 award for the best paper on a rural health topic, and is open to all University of Wisconsin students and recent graduates. Deadline: June 1.
- Funds for the **design and implementation of a rural leadership program**. Public and nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply, and collaborations of multiple partners are welcome. Deadline for brief proposal: June 3.
- Two-year grants for **disseminating training and technical assistance** to rural communities addressing opioid abuse issues. Deadline: June 7.
- An initiative to **expand Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)** will grant an estimated eleven awards to those in rural counties. Deadline: June 10.
- Funding for organizations to **develop or expand services for grandparents or other relatives** who act as surrogate parents. Deadline: June 12.
- Registered nurses can apply for projects that enhance **knowledge and awareness of cancer prevention**, detection, and treatment. Deadline: June 15.
- Planning and implementation grants to support the **consumption and access to locally and regionally produced food**. Deadline: June 18.
- Grants to expand **health and wellness in Indian Country**. Deadline: July 12.
- The application for our office's **Health Professions Loan Assistance Program** is now open. Eligible health care professionals who agree to work in federally-defined health shortage areas are invited to apply. Deadline: September 12.

## Events

- May 29: The Surgical Collaborative of Wisconsin will host its **virtual spring meeting** that will focus on rural surgical care in the state.
- May 31-June 1: A **workshop in Rothschild** will benefit those in EMS operations management and those aspiring to such positions. Deadline to register: May 24.
- May 31: A **webinar** will focus on overcoming communication and strategy barriers for rural initiatives. 11am Central.
- June 5: A **webinar** will walk participants through how to establish a rural telehealth program. 12pm Central.
- June 11-12: A conference for professionals to learn **effective substance use prevention strategies** will have 42 breakout sessions. Deadline to register: June 4.



Wisconsin Office of Rural Health