Top Stories

New Proposed Standards for Older Adult Surgery

Adults over 65 account for 40 percent of patients undergoing surgery in hospitals, a percentage that is only growing. A surgeons’ group is proposing a set of thirty standards to make surgeries better for older patients--from "geriatric-friendly" patient rooms to a different approach for managing opioids. Later this year, hospitals can begin applying for geriatric verification under the program.

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Program Helps Rural High Schoolers Navigate College Application Process

A St. Paul-based nonprofit is helping high school grads in rural Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Oregon navigate the process of applying to college. The program, College Possible, provides virtual help to public school students on everything in the college application process, from filling out the application itself to researching financial aid. Just 29 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds from rural areas are enrolled in some form of higher education, below the overall average of 42 percent.

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Rescue Divas Summer Camp Underway!

The 2019 edition of Rescue Divas is underway this week in the northern Wisconsin community of Delta. The annual hands-on summer camp is designed for middle school girls interested in exploring careers in emergency medicine. This year, campers learned CPR, had a self-defense lesson, underwent a mock ATV crash simulation, and toured the area search and rescue department, coast guard, county dispatch, and police department.

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search and rescue department, coast guard, county dispatch, and fire department. Communities can implement their own Rescue Divas program using our office's toolkit.

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More News

- A study of large surveys measuring access to health care finds that they don't ask rural-specific questions.
- A new technology could disrupt the complex way drugs are currently distributed and eliminate inflated costs for consumers and pharmacies.
- Wisconsin has the highest rate of deadly falls in the country among elderly adults--there were 1,393 unintentional fatal falls for those 65 and older in 2017.
- Experts share evidence-based models to increase access to mental health services and integrate behavioral health services into primary care clinics.
- Community development financial institution represent a unique way for public and private investors to work effectively in rural areas.

Grants For...

- Rehabilitating and preserving affordable housing for rural, low-income homeowners and renters. Deadline: July 8.
- Expanding health and wellness in Indian Country. Deadline: July 12.
- Addressing disparities in maternal health on a state level. Deadline: July 15.
- Addressing a gamut of rural community challenges, from improving access to locally-produced food to developing outdoor recreation. Deadline: July 22.
- Projects that improve access to oral health care. Deadline: July 31.

Events

- June 19-20: AARP's Rural Livability Workshop, live-streamed from Portland...
• June 19-20: AARP’s Rural Livability Workshop, live-streamed from Portland, Maine, will focus on creating intergenerational communities, strengthening transportation options, and improving housing affordability and choice.

• June 20: A virtual learning session will outline opioid prescribing for patients with chronic opioid use disorder (opioid CME credit available).

• June 20: A webinar will outline specific examples of how to successfully bring partners on board for rural community health improvement initiatives.

• June 23-27: The 35th National Rural Institute on Alcohol and Drug Abuse will be held at UW-Stout in Menomonie, Wisconsin. Registration deadline June 21.