

Kansas Rural Health Options Project

Project Opportunities

Kansas Rural Health Works' Community Engagement Process

The Kansas Rural Health Options Project is taking applications from communities interested in participating in the Kansas Rural Health Works' Community Engagement Process. The program, led by Dr. John Leatherman, Kansas State University, is designed to generate useful resources that will strengthen the local health care system. The process includes generating and analyzing information that begins to identify community health care issues. If the community believes these issues require further action, an action plan is developed. The entire process usually takes place over six to eight months and includes a community facilitator and a community steering committee. Task forces are also organized to address how to publicize the program, collect and distribute the data and information, create a health care directory, and develop a health care survey. Planning sessions will be held to identify top issues and short- and long-term goals.

To learn more about the Kansas Rural Health Works' Community Engagement Process, please join the informational Webinar on May 13th at 12:00 pm. To register for the Webinar or for more information regarding the program, please contact Debbie Hall at dhall@kha-net.org or 785/233-7436.

Kansas Hospital Mock Survey Program

An opportunity is again available for interested individuals and CAHs to participate in the mock survey training program. Applications are currently being accepted for individuals and CAHs to apply. Under the program, hospital personnel are trained by retired KDHE state survey manager Mary Kabriel to perform state surveys in Critical Access Hospitals. Each session will consist of one day of class followed by four days of surveying a CAH under the guidance of Ms. Kabriel. Costs incurred by trainees will include hotel/motel accommodations, breakfast and dinner. Participants must agree to be available as mock surveyors at a later date to survey a CAH other than their employer.

Attached are two applications. The mock survey training application is for hospital personnel wishing to attend one of the week-long training sessions. Up to six trainees will be chosen. CAH CEOs are welcome to apply for these slots as well. The Critical Access Hospital application is for CAHs wishing to receive a mock survey by serving as a training site for the mock surveyors. Up to three CAHs will be chosen for the initial training sessions. The deadline for both applications is May 21, 2010. All applicants will be notified by May 30th. If you need additional information, contact Deborah Stern at dstern@kha-net.org or 785/233-7436.

New CFO and Business Office Manager Training Program – Save the Date

The Kansas Rural Health Options Project will again be sponsoring an educational session for new CFOs and business office managers. The purpose of the CFO/Business Office Orientation program is to provide an overview of the health care payment system. The one and a half day program will address

several pertinent issues relating to the Medicare/Medicaid program, private insurance, and other reimbursement initiatives. In addition, participants will receive information on how to access resources for the various programs. There will be no charge for this event, but registration will be limited to the first 25 individuals. The program is tentatively scheduled for August 12 and 13. The registration form is expected to be released within the next month. If you need more information please contact Debbie Hall at dhall@kha-net.org or 785/233-7436.