

South Carolina Center for **Rural and Primary Healthcare**

Clinical Outreach - iCARE

Through collaboration with rural communities and medical practices, providers and other components of the healthcare delivery system, the Improved Care And provision of Rural access to Eliminate health disparities (iCARE) program provides clinical services and practice support with a focus on innovative technologies. iCARE supports rural clinical practice and communities through support of onsite primary care and subspecialty support, telemedicine, technical skills training and community engagement.

Program Goals

Improve access to specialty services in rural areas

Incorporate new technologies into rural health

Enable collaborations that **targets rural health issues**

Provide **professional development and continuing medical education** and peer-to-peer consultations for primary care practices that serve underserved populations

Local Specialty Care

Since 2017

iCARE programs have served **over 8,200 rural SC patients**

and helped rural South Carolinians

avoid over 900,000 miles of travel for care

iCARE services are delivered across **22 Counties** in the **Upstate, Midlands, Pee Dee, and Lowcountry Regions**

Over **140 Medical Students** and **70 Residents** have participated in these **rural experiential learning opportunities** and **clinical service delivery**

Transportation barriers can be an impediment for rural residents with specialty care needs. Through iCARE support, specialists travel to rural health practices or use innovative telehealth models to serve patients in their own community.

iCARE gives South Carolina's rural population access to life saving medical care in their own communities

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Current iCARE Programs

Pediatric Subspecialty - Midlands

The Prisma Health Department of Pediatrics provides outreach clinics in rural communities in South Carolina. Subspecialty clinics include Cardiology, Endocrinology, Pulmonology, Nephrology, and more. Clinics are held throughout the midland's region including Aiken, Florence, Fort Mill, Lancaster, Orangeburg, and Sumter.

Pediatric Subspecialty - Upstate

Increase the presence of pediatric Cardiology in Lancaster and Chester, SC as well as the surrounding rural catchment area with a rotating team of pediatric Cardiologists. Additionally, a team of forensic pediatrics provide services at Foothills Alliance Children's Advocacy Center to help maintain access to service in Anderson, SC and the surrounding rural catchment area.

Telepsychiatry

Provide adequate mental health care to underserved rural populations by providing psychiatric teleconsultations. Additionally, this program provides more opportunities for medical students and residents to have exposure to the capabilities of telemedicine.

The McLeod Family Medicine and USC Behavioral Health Collaborative Care Initiative

This project aims to improve patient access to behavioral health care by establishing a collaborative care model of integrated care within the Family Medicine Center.

Immunology Center - Hepatitis C Intervention and Elimination

Promote early Hepatitis C intervention and treatment through case consultations and FibroScan referrals. Provide expert infectious disease collaborative care with the Southeast Viral Hepatitis Interactive Case Conference for patients in underserved rural areas of South Carolina and neighboring region. Additionally, the program will give providers access to evidence-based education to optimize the health outcomes of patients.

HIV PrEP Uptake Teleconsultation

Implements primary care providers in under-resourced, rural counties with the high incidence of HIV into a PrEP clinic which offers technical support with on-site visits, provides a tailored PrEP provider toolkit, and invites participation into PrEP Teleconsultation

Community Based CHW

Embeds a Community Health Worker within the local care teams at two medical clinics in Chester, SC to improve community resource utilization and chronic disease outcomes. CHW will integrate health care and community programs by providing patients of each clinics with tailored recommendations and conducting referral follow-ups.

Family Medicine Practice Support

Provides support for Family Medicine practices in Winnsboro and Bishoville to ensure those vital services are available in those communities.

MUSC College of Dental Medicine – Dental Services in Rural

Provides additional dental services to rural clinics in the low country. This will include student rotations, residency support, and training facilitation.

Acute Neurology Care

Provides acute neurological care to approximately 400 patients per year in Sumter SC and reduce the number of neurology service related transfers.