

South Carolina Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare

Rural Library Health Initiative

Nationally and in South Carolina, libraries have increasingly been serving their communities to connect patrons to healthcare. This initiative supports projects to expand the role of libraries as community hubs that have established, trusting relationships, which can be used to increase access to needed healthcare and other supportive social services in their respective communities.

Program Goals

- 1 Expand access to health and supportive social services**
- 2 Increase health education**
- 3 Encourage better health outcomes**

Focus Areas



Community Health Workers



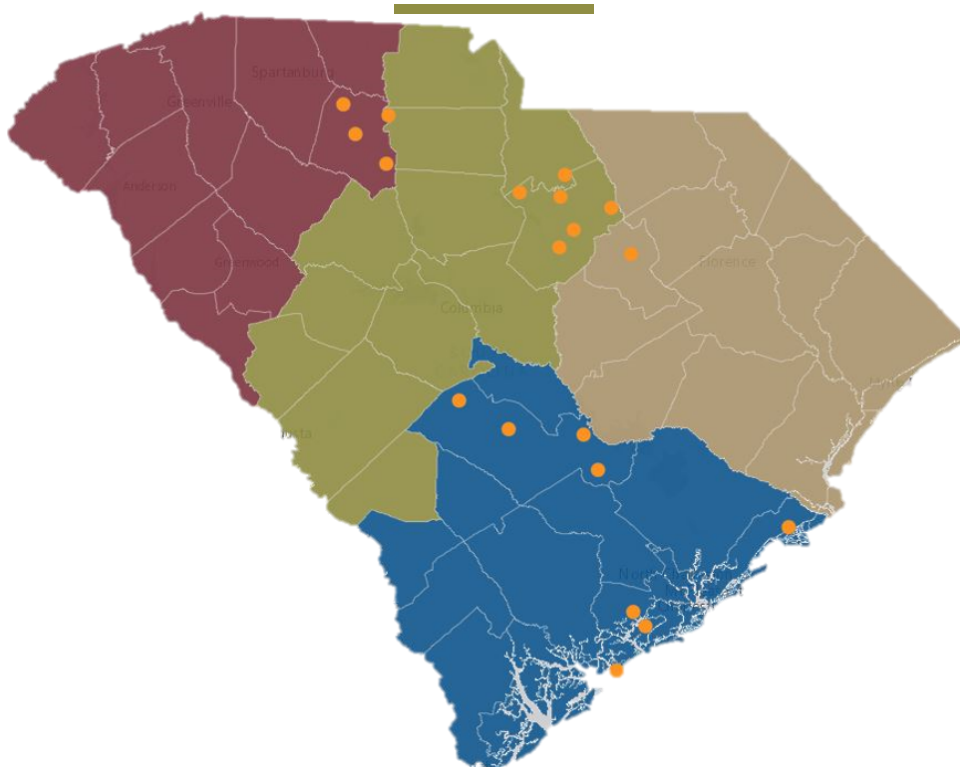
Social Workers



Telehealth

Program Reach

Five communities were awarded **Rural Library Health Cooperative Agreements** to increase access to high value, quality healthcare.



"The Rural Libraries and Health Rural Innovations cooperative agreement with the Center will allow us to build on our previous experience and increase our services to the community and meet the needs we see daily among our patrons"

- Taylor Atkinson, Interim Director of the Union County Library System

Connecting community members to the appropriate services for consistent and sustained preventive care and treatment

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Funded Programs

Expanding Access to Healthcare in Union County

Expands broadband internet to improve access to healthcare in Union County as well as implementing a social worker position to focus on building stronger relationships with the school districts to help families of children with special needs.

Lee County Public Library Community Health Hub

Increase clinical-community linkages between high-risk underserved rural residents in Lee County, SC and health and social service providers to improve rural population health outcomes, utilizing the Lee County Public Library as a community hub.

Library Social Worker - Kershaw County Library

Provides a library social worker position to offer consultations to individuals in rural locations to improve health and wellness by connecting community members to health care providers.

Orangeburg County Library Resource Associate

Provides a social worker (known as a Library Resource Associate) to address social determinants of health and provide the missing link in coordination of connecting library patrons to comprehensive services, to include healthcare.

The Women in Southeast (WISE) Telehealth Network - Charleston County Public Library System

Addresses disparities in women's health through health promotion and disease prevention and by connecting women to healthcare resources.