

VIRGINIA RURAL HEALTH CARE PLAN
Work Groups
March 2005

The following Work Groups are being established to assist with the development of the Virginia Rural Health Care Plan. The purpose of the Work Groups is to involve rural health stakeholders from across the Commonwealth and to ensure that the rural health needs, resources, and activities are accurately represented in the Virginia Rural Health Care Plan. The items listed under the Work Groups are only suggestive of topics the group might explore.

Data Group Work Group – This group will determine and review available data on rural health care in Virginia, develop a draft data section for the plan, and make recommendations for future data collection needs.

- Rural Health Status
- Demographics
- Economics Characteristics of Rural Virginia Residents

Access Work Group – This group will study access issues to rural health care services, develop a draft section on current access trends, and make recommendations on how to improve health care access in rural Virginia.

- Rural Health Care Services
 - Rural Hospitals
 - Emergency Medical Services
 - Rural Health Networks
 - Rural Health Clinics/Community Health Centers/Free Clinics
 - Telehealth

Quality Work Group – This group will identify what rural health quality data is available, review the data, and make recommendations for quality improvement efforts and/or activities.

Rural Definition Work Group – This group will review the various definitions of “rural” and recommend a definition for determination of how rural health care resources should be utilized to meet the most needs.

Rural Health Care Resource Work Group – This group will determine what resources are currently available for rural health care and contribute to the development of a Virginia Rural Health Care Resource Guide.

