

Georgia Rural Health Association

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Member Update



GRHA News

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The **GRHA** website is being updated with legislative information for this session of the General Assembly. Our legislative agenda items (in both bullet format and in detail) are posted. We are also adding online sponsor registration. Details and times for **Rural Health Day** will be posted closer to **February 17** as we confirm speakers.

We are having some problems with member log in capacity and are working as hard as possible to get that resolved immediately. When we do have that repaired we will email and let you know. As a reminder, your email address serves as your user name and password. You may change your password after logging in when this is repaired. We will be posting tracking information on legislation throughout the session. Attached is the carryover from the 2009 session. We will update this as more bills are introduced.

To see the budget submitted by the Governor last Friday, use this link: <http://www.opb.state.ga.us/budget-information/budget-publications/governor's-budget-recommendations.aspx>. House committee chairs can be found here: http://www.legis.ga.gov/legis/2009_10/house/index.htm

GRHA would like for you to take a few minutes to complete this survey. Your opinions matter to GRHA and your feedback will be most helpful. Please click the link to take the survey. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MTQ9DFX>

REMINDER

It is Membership Renewal Time! We look forward to serving our members in the next year. If you or your organization is interested in joining **GRHA**, please visit our website: <http://www.grhainfo.org> and click on the membership tab and then click join **GRHA**. **GRHA** promotes rural health needs as a specific concern in our state, advocates for rural healthcare issues, and encourages the development of appropriate healthcare for the citizens of rural Georgia.

Family Health Widgets

A CDC widget is an application you can add to your web page, blog, or other site that CDC automatically updates for you as new information becomes available. We have added the featured family health widget to our website for up-to-date, credible health and safety information.

Please go to <http://www.grhainfo.org> and check out the Five Minutes or Less for Health widget.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention have other widgets you may be interested in. Go to their website at <http://www.cdc.gov>.

National Nurse Anesthetists Week is celebrated the last full week in January on an annual basis. 2010 will mark the 11th National Nurse Anesthetists Week, which began in 1999.

Important Information from the NHSC Expanded Availability of Loan Repayment Awards

There has never been a better time to recruit and retain clinicians through the National Health Service Corps (NHSC). Clinicians working in NHSC approved sites with HPSA scores as low as zero have greater opportunities and access to funding than ever before in the history of the program. Visit www.nhsc.hrsa.gov for more details and for an online application.

In excess of \$175 million in American Reinvestment and Recovery Act and FY10 funds is providing unprecedented opportunities for the NHSC and approved sites to expand the number of participating clinicians. As many as 4,000 new NHSC clinicians are going to be placed in underserved communities by September 2010 and your site can take advantage of this opportunity immediately.

Up to \$145,000 is available in loan repayment for qualifying clinicians choosing a five year commitment to the NHSC. Shorter two year service awards for \$50,000 are also available. Encourage your clinicians to apply today using the simplified online application at www.nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment. Applications are being accepted continuously through July 29, 2010.

In addition, sites, applicants, clinicians and other partner organizations can access newly created communication tools including an updated NHSC website, YouTube, Facebook, and NHSC Blog. These tools are helping create a greater sense of community for the NHSC. Links to these resources are below.

Ideas for Sharing Information about NHSC

- Is there a current NHSC Loan Repayor at your site about to complete their obligation? Encourage them to apply for an additional year of loan repayment.
- Identify an early careerist who may not know about the NHSC. Have a one on one meeting with them.
- Identify mid-careerists who may still have student loans and be interested in NHSC.
- Join our online communities.
- Put the NHSC on the agenda for your next staff meeting.
- Send out an office wide email with links to our website, YouTube videos, and other online tools.
- Post information on bulletin boards throughout your site.
- Contact local NHSC Ambassadors to create strategies for recruitment. Access the Ambassador Directory: www.nhsc.hrsa.gov/ambassadors/directory.asp

For more information:

www.nhsc.hrsa.gov

www.facebook.com/nationalhealthservicecorps

www.youtube.com/HRSATube (search for NHSC)

<http://nhsc.wordpress.com>

**Submit a vacancy for a specific clinician,
by calling the NHSC– RTSC at
1-877-313-1823**