"Community as Partner" Model

Elko, Nevada

- 250 miles from SLC VA
- Different time zone
- Adverse winter weather

Elko, Nevada

- High mountain passes
- Estimated veteran population in area = 4,000
- Enrolled veteran population = 211
- Agriculture and mining
Community Engagement

Elko County Community-Based Partnership

- Veteran Service Organizations (VFW, American Legion)
- Elko County Commission
- Great Basin College

Elko County Community-Based Partnership

- University of Nevada, Reno
- Nevada Health Systems
Town Hall Meetings

- Community members
- Veteran Service Organizations
- Local medical providers: private and public
- Local and state policy makers
- Academic institutions
- Salt Lake VA Health Care System leadership

Agenda Focus

- Care for Veterans
- Care for:
  - Uninsured
  - Underinsured
  - Medically-needy

“Negotiation with VA”

- Proposal for a CBOC
- Feasibility assessment
- Evaluation of Telehealth as a delivery mechanism (home and facility based)
- Identified gaps/barriers
- Develop a joint business plan with community leadership
Shared Resource Allocation

**VA**
- Subject matter expertise
- Curriculum development
- Provider
- Telehealth technology
- CPRS
- Office supplies/equipment
- TV/DVD
- Utilities

**Community**
- Space, IT, nurse faculty
  - Great Basin College
- Furniture
  - University of Nevada
- Marketing
  - VSOs, policy makers, local media, community
- Draw Station, Exam Room
  - Local public healthcare clinic

Elko Telehealth Clinic

Evaluation

- Improved access for original 211 enrollees
- Increased unique veteran enrollment to >400
- Improved patient satisfaction
Evaluation

• Expansion of services:
  ✓ Mental Health
  ✓ Specialty Consultations

Evaluation

• Increased space (400 sq. ft. to 1200 sq. ft.)
• Jobs in the community

Examples of Community Resources
National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health

**Mission Statement**
NOSORH promotes the capacity of state offices of rural health to improve health care in rural America through leadership development, advocacy, education, & partnerships.

**Purpose**
- Support the development of state and community leadership for rural health
- Facilitate partnerships at the national and state levels to enhance sharing and collaboration
- Help communities promote a healthy rural America through enhanced access to quality healthcare services

State Community Resources

- State Offices of Veteran Affairs
  - [http://www.va.gov/statedva.htm](http://www.va.gov/statedva.htm)
- Rural Assistance Center
  - [http://www.raconline.org/](http://www.raconline.org/)
- Rural Healthy People 2010
  - [http://www.srph.tamhsc.edu/centers/rhp2010/](http://www.srph.tamhsc.edu/centers/rhp2010/)

VA Rural Health Resources

Office of Rural Health
VA Rural Health Resources

**Veterans Rural Health Resource Centers**

Eastern Region (VISNs 1–10)

**Director:** Ryan Lilly, ryan.lilly@va.gov  
**Deputy Director:** Alan West, PhD, alan.west@va.gov

---

VA Rural Health Resources

**Veterans Rural Health Resource Centers**

Central Region (VISNs 11–17, 23)

**Director:** Peter Kaboli, MD, peter.kaboli@va.gov  
**Deputy Director:** Mary Charlton, PhD, nancy.daily@va.gov

---

VA Rural Health Resources

**Veterans Rural Health Resource Centers**

Western Region (VISNs 18–22)

**Director:** Byron Bair, MD, byron.bair@va.gov  
**Deputy Director:** Nancy Dailey, MSN, RN-BC, nancy.dailey@va.gov
For more information on rural veterans, contact:

VJ Periyakoil, MD
periyakoil@stanford.edu
ruralhealth.stanford.edu