



CALIFORNIA
RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

CalRHT Accelerator Partners Webinar

Jennifer Hernandez
Director, California Rural Health Transformation

Lemeneh Tefera, MD, MSc
Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Director for Innovation

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Agenda

- CalRHT Program Overview
- Accelerator Partners Grant Overview
- Application Dates, FAQ, and Reminders

The CalRHT program is supported by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$233,639,308.46 with 100 percent funded by CMS/HHS. The contents are those of CalRHT and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CMS/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

CalRHT Program

2026 – 2031



The California Rural Health Transformation (CalRHT) program vision is a **connected, resilient rural health system** in which every rural Californian can access timely, person-centered primary, maternal, specialty, and behavioral health care close to home, **supported by a sustainable workforce, modern technology and data infrastructure.**

CalRHT will expand Rural Collaboratives and partnerships; apply evidence-based care; deploy tools that work in low resource settings; and invest in local readiness and health care services.

CalRHT Initiatives

Transformative Care Model

Develop Rural Collaboratives to implement care models built on a foundation of skilled workforce and effective technology to strengthen access, quality, and sustainability in rural health systems.

Workforce Development

Grow and retain a homegrown rural health workforce through statewide mapping, education pathways, clinical pipelines, and retention supports.

Technology & Tools

Modernize rural health IT with grants and hands-on assistance to expand telehealth and eConsults, improve interoperability and cybersecurity, and scale patient-facing digital tools via shared services.

Accelerator Partners

Funding Available for Budget
Period 1: **\$39M**

Workforce Recruitment & Retention

Funding Available for Budget
Period 1: **\$54M**

EHR Modernization Grants

Funding Available for Budget
Period 1: **\$11.6M**

Accelerator Partners Program Objectives

Incubate innovative ideas in rural health care

Establish partnerships to support coordinated implementation

Contribute to TCM metrics in **primary and maternal care**



Strengthen and improve **access to rural health care delivery**

Generate lessons learned and **actionable insights** to inform statewide scaling

Accelerator Partners are not solely implementers of TCM initiatives but are strategic learning collaboratives.

TCM Metrics of Accelerator Partners

Accelerator Partners should seek to strengthen primary and maternity care in rural parts of the state by contributing to at least one TCM metric in their project

TCM Metrics

Improve or increase rates of:

1

**hypertension
control**

2

**diabetes
control**

3

**screening for
colorectal
cancer**

4

**uncomplicated
vaginal births
after cesarean
sections**

5

**first-trimester
prenatal care**

6

**telehealth
virtual visits /
eConsults**

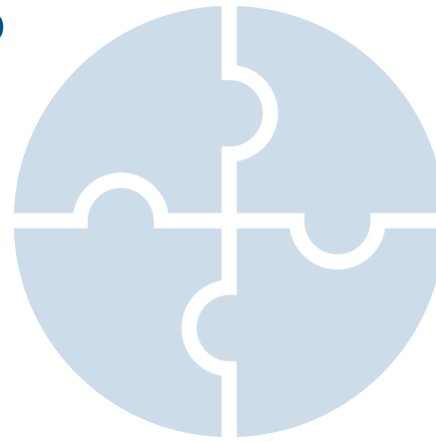
Successful Applications Will Consider

Approach to Innovation

“Innovative” could include bringing an existing care model, partnership structure, service, technology, or way of delivering services to a community.

Partnerships

Having one or more partnerships will positively impact scoring of an application.



Operational Capability

Applicants will be assessed on readiness to implement the proposed project, contribute to regional learning and scaling, and maintain stable leadership.

TCM Metric Alignment

Projects are expected to drive measurable progress on one or more TCM metrics over time.

Budget Period 1 Key Dates

Application window for Budget Period 1 closes¹	August 14 th , 2026 at 3pm
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) review of selected applicants	August 2026
Award notifications issued	August / September 2026
Grant agreements executed	September / October 2026

Applications are rolling

Organizations are encouraged to submit their applications as early as possible.

1. Applications submitted after the August 14th, 2026 deadline will be considered for Budget Period 2 funding.

Example Scenarios and FAQs

What if I apply after the deadline?

What if my organization is not focused on maternal or primary care?

What type of partnerships are accepted?

Application Preparation Reminders

CalRHT is here to work with you!

Please reach out if you have any questions or need support completing your application.

- Think about **how your initiative maps to TCM metrics**. An application mapping to multiple TCM metrics may be stronger than mapping to one metric.
- **Applications are evaluated on a rolling basis**. Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible. Applications received after application close date may be considered for Budget Period 2.
- Use the published **Grant Guide and Request for Application** to prepare. Gather required information offline submitting through the application portal.

Additional Resources

Please visit the [HCAI CalRHT webpage](#) for CalRHT program updates and the following resources:

- Accelerator Partners Grant Guide
- Accelerator Partners Request for Application (RFA)
- Budget workbook template
- Application portal
- Webinar recording (*to be published soon*)

For inquiries, please contact us at: info@calruralhealth.org or call 1-888-CAL-RHTP (888-225-7487)

Questions?

For CalRHT program updates, FAQs and more, visit the

[HCAI CalRHT webpage](#)

OR

Please email
info@calruralhealth.org

If your question was not answered in today's webinar,
please first review the FAQs, then submit your question to the email above.



Thank You!