Health in Transportation Working Group

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CONTENTS

1. Introduction	4
2. Working Group Overview	4
3. 2018 Working Group Accomplishments	4
4. Other Health in Transportation Accomplishments in 2018	8
5. Progress Toward Achieving 2018 Goals	10
6. 2019 Working Group Goals	11

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1. INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Health in Transportation (HinT) Working Group examines and promotes the Department's existing policies and programs to assist modal agencies address health-related topics that are raised by staff, project sponsors, and the public. The Working Group covers topics such as multimodal connectivity, safety, accessibility, air quality, noise, and access to jobs and services. This annual report provides an overview of the Working Group's activities in 2018, summarizes other USDOT health-related accomplishments, documents the Working Group's progress toward implementing the goals laid out in the 2017 Annual Report, and offers goals for the Working Group for 2019.

Many of the Working Group's activities in 2018 support the goals in the <u>USDOT Strategic Plan</u> of safety, infrastructure, innovation, and accountability. Appendix A demonstrates how the Working Group activities described in this report support these goals.

2. WORKING GROUP OVERVIEW

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) established the HinT Working Group in 2012 in response to growing interest in how transportation can support healthy outcomes in the communities we serve. The Working Group initially included representatives from various FHWA Offices. Since then, the Working Group has expanded its membership to include representatives of other modal administrations, including the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and the Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST).

The Working Group's purpose is to support transportation planning, programming, and project delivery by fostering a Department-wide understanding of health in transportation and identifying aspects of existing agency programs that relate to health. Through regular meetings, publications, and collaborating with the field and other Federal agencies, the HinT Working Group prepares participants to quickly find answers and expertise needed to respond to stakeholder requests. The Working Group develops a work plan annually that lays out its planned activities for the year.

3. 2018 WORKING GROUP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

COORDINATION WITH CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

TOPIC-SPECIFIC SUBGROUPS

At a November 2017 workshop, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Built Environment Work Group (BEWG) and HinT Working Group developed a roadmap for interagency collaboration for the following several years. Based on this roadmap, three subgroups were formed to carry out activities of mutual interest for the two agencies. In 2018, the subgroups pursued the following activities:

- State and Local Coordination on Transportation Planning and Health began developing an informal inventory of where there is collaboration between health and transportation agencies.
- Active Transportation and Physical Activity discussed planning a webinar to inform transportation stakeholders about CDC recommendations on land use and physical activity.
- *Transportation and Health Data Linkages* used a pilot project to help link health and transportation datasets and initiate a nationwide data linkage project and began taking inventory of other types of data linkage resources.

BEWG MEETING FOCUSED ON TRANSPORTATION AND SUB-GROUP UPDATES

On November 6, 2018, the BEWG collaborated with the HinT Working Group to discuss current USDOT health and transportation related projects and updates from the three CDC-DOT subgroups. Several HinT Working Group members presented virtually on the USDOT <u>Safety Data Initiative</u>, the <u>Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian</u> (STEP) Innovation through the FHWA's Every Day Counts initiative, and guidebooks on <u>Community Impact Assessments and Measuring Multimodal Network Connectivity</u>. Following the presentations, BEWG members and HinT Working Group members engaged in discussion about these programs.

FHWA MULTIMODAL CORRIDOR PLANNING FRAMEWORK TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

In 2018, FHWA selected six transportation agencies to receive training and technical assistance on how to use the <u>Framework for Better Integrating Health into Transportation Corridor Planning</u> to incorporate multimodal access, improve health outcomes, and enhance community considerations into corridor planning. The purpose of this effort is to support transportation agencies working to enhance collaboration with stakeholders, safeguard communities, and build partnerships that promote a healthy environment.

FHWA EVERY DAY COUNTS (EDC) 5 - SAFE TRANSPORTATION FOR EVERY PEDESTRIAN (STEP)

From October to November 2018, five cities hosted the FHWA <u>EDC-5 Advancing</u> <u>Transportation Regional Summits</u> to provide States the opportunities to participate in EDC-5 initiative innovations. The EDC-5 program runs from 2019-2020 and includes multiple innovations to enhance roadway safety, reduce traffic congestion, and improve environmental sustainability. One of these initiatives, <u>STEP</u>, is managed by HinT Working Group members and focuses on reducing pedestrian fatalities at both uncontrolled and signalized crossing locations.

FHWA GUIDEBOOK FOR MEASURING MULTIMODAL NETWORK CONNECTIVITY

The FHWA Office of Human Environment (HEPH) released the <u>Guidebook for Measuring</u> <u>Multimodal Network Connectivity</u> that focuses on measuring the connectivity of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and incorporating connectivity analysis into the transportation planning process. HEPH solicited applications to award funding to six to ten regional and local transportation agencies for pilot projects using the Guidebook.

FTA ACCESS MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

FTA issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for <u>Access and Mobility Partnership</u> <u>Grants</u> (formerly Rides to Wellness). The grants will help finance projects for the transportation disadvantaged that improve coordination of transportation services and non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services. The 2018 NOFO, which closed in November, made available up to \$6.3 million.

FTA STAKEHOLDER INPUT

FOCUS GROUPS

The Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM) is an interagency partnership established in 2004 by Executive Order 13330 to coordinate the efforts of the federal agencies that fund transportation services for targeted populations. The CCAM issues policy recommendations and implements activities that improve the availability, accessibility, and efficiency of transportation for people with disabilities, older adults, and individuals of low income. In 2018, FTA hosted virtual and in-person CCAM Focus Groups to gain state and local input; 179 individuals from 22 states participated, representing a diverse array of CCAM funding programs.

LISTENING SESSIONS

To understand transportation coordination challenges and promising practices, FTA conducted Public Transit Listening Sessions in collaboration with the FTA-funded National Center for Mobility Management (NCMM). Locations included:

- American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Bus and Paratransit Conference, Tampa, FL on May 9, 2018
- <u>National Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) Review Board Meeting</u>, Washington, DC on May 10, 2018
- <u>Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) Expo</u>, Pittsburgh, PA on June 13, 2018

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MEETING

On November 28, 2018, FTA hosted a Federal Interagency Input Meeting for CCAM partners to provide input on the new National Center for Mobility Management (NCMM), a national technical assistance center funded through a 5-year cooperative agreement with FTA. The NCMM carries out activities in support of the CCAM, to improve and enhance the coordination

of federal resources for human service transportation, especially transportation for people with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes. Primary activities include supporting partners in adopting proven, sustainable, replicable, customer-centered mobility strategies that promote health, economic vitality, and self-sufficiency.

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

ITE HEALTH INITIATIVES

Jeff Lindley of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) presented at a HinT Working Group meeting to discuss the ITE Health Initiatives that began in 2017 and opportunities to collaborate with the HinT Working Group in the future. The ITE Health Initiatives align with many of HinT's goals such as educating transportation professionals on active transportation, complete streets, access and accessibility, and multimodal issues, and promoting resources and tools.

OUTREACH ON MULTIMODAL CORRIDOR PLANNING FRAMEWORK

At the 2018 Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting, HinT Working Group members conducted outreach on the FHWA <u>Framework for Better Integrating Health into Transportation Corridor Planning</u> and upcoming technical assistance opportunities.

2018 WORK PLAN - ALIGNING GOALS WITH THE USDOT STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022

At the beginning of 2018, the HinT Working Group developed a work plan to align with the strategic goals of USDOT Strategic Plan for FY 2018-2022, which focus on safety, infrastructure, innovation, and accountability. Health is included in several strategies and details throughout the Strategic Plan such as collaborating with public health advocacy groups to improve safety, providing multimodal travel options for people of all ages and abilities and ensuring multimodal infrastructure connectivity, safeguarding communities and maintaining a healthy environment, and encouraging innovative ways to provide safe, clean and accessible transportation. OST, which led development of the Strategic Plan, also presented an overview of the Strategic Plan at a HinT Working Group meeting.

MEMBER SURVEY

To gather input from members on the format and content of Working Group meetings and suggestions for future focus areas, the Working Group developed a member survey in December 2018. Eight Working Group members responded to the survey. Overall, respondents were satisfied with the format, length, and frequency of Working Group meetings. Respondents made suggestions of topic areas to focus on in meetings, ways to enhance the CDC collaboration, and topics for a white paper that the group is planning to develop. These suggestions will be incorporated into the 2019 HinT Work Plan and Working Group activities in 2019.

4. OTHER HEALTH IN TRANSPORTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2018

In addition to the Working Group accomplishments described above, many members had other health in transportation accomplishments within their roles outside of the Working Group. These accomplishments are listed below, organized into the categories of resources, member participation in related conferences and meetings, and coordination with other organizations and groups.

RESOURCES

- FHWA HEPH released <u>Case Studies in Realizing Co-Benefits of Multimodal Roadway</u>
 <u>Design and Gray and Green Infrastructure</u>, which discusses how bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure can be combined with stormwater management design. It focuses on the significance of leveraging all projects simultaneously.
- FHWA HEPH updated The <u>Community Impact Assessment Guide</u> in 2018 to reflect current data approaches, methodology and environmental linkages. FHWA held webinars on the updated guide and released best practice examples.
- OST released the <u>Safety for All Users</u> report, which includes case studies from various State departments of transportation (State DOTs) on policies like complete streets policies, design flexibility, and road diets and resurfacing. This report was developed to satisfy Section 1442(b) of the FAST Act.
- OST announced the USDOT Safety Data Initiative, in support of the USDOT Strategic Plan for FY 2018-2022, and specifically the strategy focusing on improving the collection, management, and integration of data to enhance safety analysis. This initiative focuses on integrating, visualizing, and analyzing data to gain new insights into transportation safety challenges.
- FHWA Office of Planning (HEPP) began working on a guidebook to assist metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), Rural Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs), and State DOTs on planning for aging. The purpose of the study is to redefine what the next generation of seniors will look like, identify best transportation planning practices, and transportation policies for MPOs, RTPOs, and State DOTs.
- FHWA HEPP, released the <u>Community Connections</u> Toolkit, a series of tools and techniques to promote using transportation innovations, partnerships, and technologies to bring communities together and connect people to services and opportunities. These tools can be used by transportation practitioners to advance public involvement, enhance multimodal access, and community revitalization considerations in the transportation planning, project development, and design processes.
- The FHWA Office of Operations published a report titled <u>Transportation Systems</u>
 <u>Management and Operations (TSMO) in Smart Connected Communities</u>, which outlines
 the key characteristics of smart connected communities and the channels through which
 they may benefit from improved connections with TSMO. The report includes an
 overview of the ways in which interagency collaboration; data collection and data
 sharing; and use of innovative technologies enables communities to improve

- transportation systems that support safety, economic vitality, connectivity, reduced emissions, transit reliability, and improved quality of life.
- FTA published The Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP), Report 202: Handbook for Examining the Effects of Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Brokerages on Transportation Coordination. This report provides background information and describes the different models available to states for providing NEMT for Medicaid beneficiaries. The handbook also discusses why human services transportation and public transportation providers encourage coordination of NEMT with other transportation services. A companion document explores the state-by-state profiles of NEMT brokerages on transportation coordination.
- FTA released the TCRP Report 203: <u>Dialysis Transportation: Intersection of Transportation and Healthcare</u>. This report responds to major concerns of public transportation agencies about the rising demand and costs to provide kidney dialysis trips, requiring service more specialized than public transportation is designed to provide. The report documents the complicated relationship of two different industries, and strategies for addressing concerns.

FEDERAL FUNDING PROGRAMS

- FTA issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for <u>Access and Mobility</u>
 <u>Partnership Grants</u> (formerly Rides to Wellness), making available up to \$6.3 million to help finance projects for the transportation disadvantaged that improve coordination of transportation services and non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services.
- FAA collaborated with NASA, the Department of Defense, Transport Canada, and the Environmental Protection Agency to fund <a href="The Aviation Sustainability Center of Excellence for Alternative Jet Fuels and Environment (ASCENT). ASCENT works to create science-based solutions for the aviation industry's biggest challenges. A coalition of 16 leading US research universities and over 60 private sector stakeholders committed to reducing the environmental impact of aviation, ASCENT also works in partnership with international research programs, federal agencies and national laboratories to create an all-inclusive research capability for whatever environmental impact obstacle the aviation industry faces. ASCENT has several health-related projects, including for example "Health Impacts Quantification for Aviation Air Quality Tools", "Cardiovascular Disease and Aircraft Noise Exposure", and Pilot Study on Aircraft Noise and Sleep Disturbance".
- FHWA HEPH solicited applications to award funding to six to ten regional and local transportation agencies for pilot projects using the <u>Guidebook for Measuring Multimodal</u> Network Connectivity.

CONFERENCES RELATED TO HEALTH IN TRANSPORTATION THAT WORKING GROUP MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN

• OST: Organized a Safety Data Forum on June 14, 2018, which convened diverse stakeholders from Federal, State, and local government, national nonprofit organizations

focused on safety, educational institutions, and the private sector. The Forum provided an opportunity to share information about the USDOT Safety Data Initiative (SDI) and to solicit input from stakeholders about opportunities to leverage data and tools to predict, mitigate, and prevent traffic crashes.

- FHWA: Presented at the <u>6th International Transportation and Economic Development (I-TED)</u> Conference on the benefits of road diets.
- FHWA: Attended the 2018 <u>AARP Livable Communities National Conference</u> in Charlotte, NC in November, which focused on public engagement, livable communities in rural America, mobility, and autonomous vehicles with an aging population.
- FTA: Presented at the <u>Federal Government and Philanthropy: Addressing Substance Use Disorder in Rural Communities</u> Forum on December 5, 2018 to support more collaborative responses to the ongoing opioid epidemic and the widespread collateral damage to families and communities in rural America.
- FTA: Attended the <u>Annual HHS-HUD-USDA Central Office Meeting on Health</u>, <u>Housing and Community Living for People with Disabilities and Older Adults Living in Rural America</u> on October 11, 2018 at U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- FTA: Presented at the Opioids Misuse: Increasing Access to Transportation in Rural Communities Forum on September 20, 2018, with partners from USDA Rural Development, the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration, and the National Rural Transit Assistance Program. The forum took place at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, with stakeholders from across West Virginia to discuss increasing transportation in rural areas to improve access to treatment and services.
- FAA, FTA: arranged and participated the TRB 97th Annual Meeting Session 766: "Health Impacts of Transportation Noise", which discussed ongoing research and need in noise and health impact areas.

5. PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVING 2018 GOALS

In the 2017 Annual Report and 2018 Work Plan, the HinT Working Group set four goals for its activities for 2018. These goals are listed below, along with progress that the Working Group made towards achieving them.

Goal 1: Promote Working Group member activities on safety, multimodal connectivity, innovation, and other health-related topics within USDOT and to external audiences.

- The Working Group developed a spreadsheet of outreach and educational opportunities, including existing USDOT newsletters, email lists, and webinars (Appendix B).
- Working Group members presented about health-related topics at transportation conferences and events, including the 6th International Transportation and Economic Development (I-TED) Conference, the USDOT Safety Data Forum, and a CDC-BEWG meeting.

• *Ongoing:* The Working Group continues to promote members' activities and publications through existing channels identified in the outreach spreadsheet (see Appendix B).

Goal 2: Expand Working Group engagement on USDOT priorities such as multimodal connectivity, safety, and innovative technology.

- Working Group meetings in 2018 included presentations on the USDOT Strategic Plan, USDOT Safety Data Initiative, Every Day Counts 5: Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian, and FHWA publications on multimodal connectivity.
- The Working Group collaborated with other organizations on health and transportation, including ITE and TRB on the topics such as safety and multimodal connections.
- *Ongoing:* Working Group members serve as resources within USDOT on the connections between health and USDOT's Strategic Goals.

Goal 3: Build upon previous collaboration with CDC to advance joint projects and research related to health in transportation.

- Subgroups on State and Local Coordination, Data Linkages, and Active Transportation and Physical Activity met to plan and move forward with joint projects.
- A BEWG representative began attending HinT Working Group meetings and giving updates on CDC work on health in transportation.
- Three HinT Working Group members presented at a CDC-BEWG meeting focused on transportation in November 2018.

Goal 4: Serve as a resource to Working Group members and other interested parties about emerging trends and technologies.

- A working group member presented on the USDOT Safety Data Initiative that encourages the use of innovative data tools and advanced analytics to improve safety.
- A working group member provided a number of technical assistance guidance and information for topics related to obesity, environmental justice and others.

6. 2019 WORKING GROUP GOALS

The Working Group offers the following goals and related activities for 2019. Some of these goals are carried forward from 2018, while others are new for 2019. The goals and activities to support them will be laid out in more detail in the 2019 HinT Work Plan.

Goal 1: Promote Working Group member activities on safety, multimodal connectivity, innovation, and other health-related topics within USDOT and to external audiences.

The Working Group will use existing newsletters and channels identified in the outreach spreadsheet that was developed in 2018 to share information on members' activities and publications. The Working Group will also update the HinT website (https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/health in transportation/) to reflect recent activities, resources, and priorities of the Working Group.

Goal 2: Conduct research on emerging trends and technologies related to health and transportation, and serve as a resource to Working Group members and other interested parties about these topics.

The Working Group will develop a white paper on an emerging topic related to health in transportation, such as rural transportation and access to healthcare. It will then share information on this topic through presentations and other outreach within the USDOT and to external stakeholders. Working Group members will also share their expertise on the connections between health and other transportation trends and technologies with the Working Group and other USDOT staff.

Goal 3: Engage partner organizations to advance joint projects and research related to health in transportation.

The Working Group will continue to engage with CDC's BEWG, including completing joint projects that began in 2018, attending each other's meetings and giving updates, and identifying opportunities for further collaboration. The Working Group will also identify opportunities for collaborating with other organizations, such as:

- Engaging with TRB on the planning of its active transportation and health conference (being planned for December 2019).
- Providing input to ITE on its health and transportation activities, and identifying areas for further collaboration.
- Inviting other Federal agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to present at Working Group meetings.

APPENDIX A: WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES AND USDOT STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

This table describes how the activities from the HinT 2018 Annual Report support the goals in the USDOT Strategic Plan:

- **Safety:** Reduce transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries across the transportation system
- **Infrastructure:** Invest in infrastructure to ensure mobility and accessibility and to stimulate economic growth, productivity, and competitiveness for American workers and businesses.
- **Innovation:** Lead in the development and deployment of innovative practices and technologies that improve the safety and performance of the nation's transportation system.
- **Accountability:** Serve the nation with reduced regulatory burden and greater efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability.

	Safety	Infrastructure	Innovation	Accountability
Working Group Accomplishments				
Coordination with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
FHWA Multimodal Corridor Planning Framework Technical Assistance		Χ		
FHWA Every Day Counts (EDC) 5 - Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian (STEP)	Χ	Χ	Χ	
FHWA Guidebook for Measuring Multimodal Network Connectivity	Χ	Χ	Χ	
FTA Access Mobility Partnership Grants	Χ	Χ		
FTA Stakeholder Input from 11 Federal Agencies	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
Resources and Funding Programs				
FHWA HEPH Case Studies in Realizing Co-Benefits of Multimodal Roadway Design and Gray				
and Green Infrastructure	Χ	Χ		
OST Safety for All Users report	Χ	Χ	Χ	
FHWA HEPH Community Impact Assessment Guide			Χ	Χ
OST USDOT Safety Data Initiative	Χ		Χ	
FTA Access and Mobility Partnership Grants (formerly Rides to Wellness).			Χ	Χ
FTA TCRP Report: Handbook for Examining the Effects of Non-Emergency Medical				
Transportation (NEMT) Brokerages on Transportation Coordination.			Χ	Χ
FTA TCRP Report: Dialysis Transportation: Intersection of Transportation and Healthcare	Χ			
FTA NOFO: Access and Mobility Partnership Grants			Χ	Χ
FAA Aviation Sustainability Center of Excellence for Alternative Jet Fuels and Environment			Χ	

APPENDIX B: OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

The HinT Working Group developed the table below to identify existing channels where Working Group member reports and other resources on health and transportation could be promoted.

Publication/	Link	Agency/Office/	Frequency
Conference		Host	
Public Roads	https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/publicroads/	FHWA	Bi-monthly
Successes in Stewardship	https://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/str mlng/es4newsltrs.asp	FHWA HEPE	Monthly
Human Environment Digest	https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/livability/he_dig est/	FHWA HEPH	Biweekly
Fostering Multimodal Connectivity Newsletter	https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/livability/newsle tter/	FHWA HEPH	Quarterly
Research Quarterly Newsletter	https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/hep_resear ch/newsletter/	FHWA HEP	Quarterly
Transportation Planning Update Newsletter	https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/tpu/	FHWA HEPP	3x per year
Safety Compass Newsletter	https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/newsletter/safetycompass/	FHWA Office of Safety	3x per year
TRB Annual Meeting	http://www.trb.org/AnnualMeeting/Annual Meeting.aspx	TRB	Annual
AMPO Annual Conference	http://www.ampo.org/ai1ec_event/2017- ampo-annual-conference/?instance_id=	AMPO	Annual
AASHTO Annual Meeting	http://www.aashtoannualmeeting.org/	AASHTO	Annual
National Walking Summit	http://walkingsummit.org/	America Walks	Annual
American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference	https://www.apha.org/annualmeeting	АРНА	Annual
National Transit Institute	https://www.ntionline.com/	National Transit Institute	
ITE Newsletter	https://www.ite.org/	Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)	

Publication/ Conference	Link	Agency/Office/ Host	Frequency
CDC Built Environment Work Group Newsletter		CDC BEWG	Monthly
National Center for Mobility Management (NCMM):Newsletter	https://nationalcenterformobilitymanagement.org/sign-up/	FTA	Monthly
National Rural Transit Assistanc Program (RTAP) newsletter and annual conference	https://www.nationalrtap.org/News/eNews	FTA	monthly newsletter and annual conference
National Aging and Disability Transportation Center (NADTC) newsletter	https://www.nadtc.org/stay- connected/join-our-mailing-list/		quarterly
Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub) newsletter	https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/updates		weekly
AcademyHealth National Health Policy Conference (NHPC):	https://www.academyhealth.org/events/site/2019-national-health-policy-conference		
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) Quality Conference:	https://cmsqualityconference.com/		annual
American Public Health Services Association (APHSA) National Health and Human Services Summit:	https://www.aphsanationalsummit.com/		
Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Conference	https://www.hcbsconference.org/		
National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL):	http://www.ncsl.org/meetings-training/ncsl-legislative-summit-2019.aspx		

Publication/ Conference	Link	Agency/Office/ Host	Frequency
Annual Rural Health Conference	https://www.ruralhealthweb.org/events/event-details?eventId=18		
VA Healthcare	https://veteransaffairshealthcare.iqpc.com/		