

Partnership Meeting 7/11/24

By Susan McGraw (info@SLOHealthcareWorkforce.org)



Summary of Recent Research

- Medical Service Study Areas (MSSAs)
- Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)



- Existing guidelines in existence since the early 1980s.
- Developed by OSHPD (predecessor to HCAI) to prioritize Song-Brown grant funding for nursing and primary care physicians.
- Recognized by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as California's Rational Service Areas (RSAs) for healthcare delivery since 1990s.
- Service area component of provider shortage area designations (including Health Professional Shortage Areas).
- Used by HCAI to prioritize workforce development efforts.
- Beginning with the 1990 census, the MSSA boundaries are reassessed by analyzing changes in population, demographics, socioeconomics, and census tracts.



Current MSSA Guidelines:

- One or more complete census tracts
- Cannot cross county boundaries
- All population centers in a MSSA are within 30 minutes travel time to the largest population center.
- MSSA aligns with "communities" in the sense of geographic, cultural, and sociodemographic similarities.
- Must be characterized as Urban, Rural, or Frontier (State Definition):
 - Urban MSSA:
 - Population range of 75,000-125,000
 - Reflect recognized community and neighborhood boundaries
 - Similar demographic and socio-economic characteristics
 - Rural MSSA:
 - Population density of less than 250 persons per square mile
 - Population center cannot exceed 50,000
 - Frontier MSSA:
 - Population density of 11 persons per square mile or less.



MSSA Redevelopment:

- Existing guidelines in existence since the early 1980s.
- Update guidelines to be data-driven, justifiable, automated, and scalable based on available data.
- Create MSSAs that better represent strong community identity.

Revisions to MSSA Guidelines:

- Identify communities:
 - Base them on census tracts and stay within county boundaries.
 - Use Census Places from the US Census Bureau to define communities (i.e., unincorporated communities that are locally recognized AND incorporated places, such as cities).
 - Combine Census Places that are within 30 minutes of drive time in urban areas and 60 minutes in rural areas.
 - For large urban areas, use the Economic Hardship Index (EHI) to identify smaller MSSAs with similar EHI values.
- Create rural MSSAs with larger populations to ensure meaningful analysis.
- Maximum population sizes remain the same (250,000/MSSA).



Next Steps by HCAI:

- Identify the appropriate definition for "Rural."
- Finalize the new guidelines and host regional webinars to discuss the new boundaries with the public, county offices, clinics, and other stakeholders.
- Post the data to the HCAI website for public access.
- Input the new boundaries into HRSA's system for use in HPSA designations.
- Update existing HCAI maps and data that use MSSAs as a layer.

The new MSSAs will go into effect in 2025 to align with HRSAs updating of HPSA designations.



- Designated by Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) as having shortages of primary care, dental care, or mental health providers:
 - Geographic (a county or Medical Service Study Area)
 - Population (e.g., low income or Medicaid eligible)
 - Facilities (e.g., federally qualified health centers, state or federal prisons)
- Scores are updated every 3 years.



Health Professions Shortage Area (HPSAs) Population to Provider Ratio Requirements					
3 Categories:	Primary Care	Mental Health	Dental		
1. Geographic	>3,500:1	>30,000:1	>5,000:1		
2. Geographic with high need	>3,000:1	>20,000:1	>4,000:1		
 Population Low-Income/ Medicaid Eligible/ Homeless/Migrant Farm- workers 	>3,000:1	>20,000:1	>4,000:1		



Category 2: MSSA Geographic with High Needs Population Designation Requirements

Н	igh Need Population Designation Requirements	Primary Care (must meet one of the "Xs" below)	Mental Health (must meet one of the "Xs" below)	Dental Health (must meet one of the "Xs" below)
1.	More than 20% of population must be at or below 100% Federal Poverty Level (FPL)	Х	Х	Х
2.	More than 100 births per year per 1,000 women ages 15-44	Х		
3.	More than 20 infant deaths per 1,000 live births	Х		
4.	More than 50% of the population has no fluoridated water			Х
5.	The youth ratio (# of person <18 to the # of adults ages 18 to 64) is greater than 0.6)		Х	
6.	The elderly ratio (# of person >65 to the # of adults ages 18-64) is greater than 0.25		Х	
7.	Alcohol or substance abuse prevalence data showing the area to be in the worst quartile nationally, state, region		Х	



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Category 3: MSSA Low Income/Medicaid Eligible Population Requirements			
Low Income Primary Care, Dental, and Mental Health	At least 30% of the population must be at or below the 200% FLP (before adding homeless and farmworkers)		
Primary Care and Dental Health	Medicaid Eligible Count: Medicaid Visits (5,000 visits = 1 FTE Provider)		

Contiguous Area (CA) Analysis and Nearest Source of Care (NSC) Requirements:

In addition to population demographics, an analysis of Contiguous Areas (the distance providers are from the population center in terms of travel time) and Nearest Source of Care (the travel time and distance the population in the MSSA would have to travel outside of their MSSA to seek care) is calculated to determine the final HPSA score.



Primary Care Score Criteria (ranging from 0-25):

- Population to provider ratio
- Population below 100% federal poverty level
- Infant mortality or low birth weight
- Travel time or distance to nearest source of care

Mental Health Score Criteria (ranging from 0-25):

- Population to provider ratio
- Population below 100% Federal poverty level
- Elder/youth ratio
- Prevalence of substance/alcohol misuse
- Travel time or distance to nearest source of care

Dental Health Score Criteria (ranging from 0-26):

- Population to provider ratio
- Population below 100% federal poverty level
- Fluoridated water (50% or more of population lacking access)
- Travel time or distance to nearest source of care



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Benefits of Designation as a HPSA:

Recruitment & Retention Benefits:

- NHSC Loan Repayment and Scholar Placement
- State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)
- Nurse Corps Loan Repayment and Scholar Placement
- Office of Health Workforce Development Loan Repayment Scholarship Programs
- J-1 Visa Waiver Program
- Expedited Medical Licensure Medical Board of CA

Financial Benefits:

- Rural Health Clinic (RHC) Certification
- 10% Medicare Bonus Payment for geographic HPSAs only (does not apply to FQHCs or RHCs)
- Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice (RDHAP) Dental Board of CA



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SLO COUNTY HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS						
				Designation		
HPSA Name	Designation Type	Status	Rural Status	Date	Update Date	
	Primary Care, Mental H	lealth, Dent	al Health			
Community Health Centers						
Of The Central Coast, Inc.	Federally Qualified Health Center	Designated	Non-Rural	10/21/2003	09/10/2021	
	16 Sites / Cities					
	4 San Luis Obispo		Non-Rural			
	2 Paso Robles		Non-Rural			
	2 Templeton		Non-Rural			
	1 Atascadero		Non-Rural			
	1 San Miguel		Non-Rural			
	1 Cambria		Rural			
	3 Arroyo Grande		Non-Rural			
	1 Nipomo		Non-Rural			
	1 Oceano		Non-Rural			
	Mental Health					
MSSA 171/172 - Arroyo	High Needs Geographic HPSA (27					
Grande/San Luis Obispo	census tracts)	Designated	Non-Rural	03/07/2022	03/07/2022	
Dental Health						
ME-MSSA 173 - El Paso de						
Robles/Lake	Medicaid Eligible Population HPSA					
Nacimiento/San Miguel	(9 census tracts)	Designated	Partially Rural	10/24/2022	10/24/2022	
LI/MSSA 172 - San Luis	Low Income Population HPSA (14					
Obispo	census tracts)	Designated	Non-Rural	11/17/2022	11/17/2022	



Areas or Facilities Withdrawn from HPSA Designation						
HPSA Name	Designation Type	Status	Rural Status	Designation Date	Update Date	
California Men's Colony	Correctional Facility	Withdrawn	Non-Rural	03/08/2007	06/29/2012	
Atascadero State Hospital	State Mental Hospital	Withdrawn	Non-Rural	09/06/2018	01/02/2024	
Nipomo/Arroyo Grande	Geographic HPSA	Withdrawn	Non-Rural	04/12/1978	04/02/1984	
Low Income - PASO ROBLES (MSSA 173)	Low Income Population HPSA	Withdrawn	Partially Rural	05/21/2001	11/03/2011	
Low Income/MFW - ARROYO GRANDE (MSSA 171)	Low Income Migrant Farmworker Population HPSA	Withdrawn	Partially Rural	05/21/2001	11/03/2011	
Low Income/Migrant Farmworker/Homeless - Atascadero	Low Income Homeless Migrant Farmworker Population HPSA	Withdrawn	Partially Rural	11/19/2001	11/03/2011	
Low Income/MFW - MSSA 173/El Paso de Robles	·	Withdrawn	Partially Rural	05/04/2004	01/02/2024	
Low Income-MSSAs 171& 172/Arroyo Grande//San Luis Obispo	Low Income Population HPSA	Withdrawn	Non-Rural	08/12/2013	01/02/2024	



SLO Healthcare Workforce Partnership Community Forum



Community Forum Planning

Poll for Potential Dates:

- Check mark each date that you are available.
 - Tuesday, October 29, 2024
 - Wednesday, October 30, 2024
 - Tuesday, November 5, 2024
 - Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Invitees could include (target = 100 attendees?):

- HR representatives & other employees from healthcare organizations
- Healthcare practitioners (physical, behavioral, oral health)
- Chambers of Commerce (SLO Business & Economic Development Council)
- First 5, SLOCAP, and other community-based non-profits
- Legislative Leaders (local and state-level)
- General public



Community Forum Planning

Potential Framework for the Program:

• 11:00am to 12:00pm Registration, Lunch, Networking

12:00 to 12:15pm Welcome, Intros, Overview of the Partnership

• 12:15 to 12:30pm Problem Statement: Highlights of the Data

and Research (10-year trends, survey results,

HPSA designations, etc.)

12:30 to 1:20pm Recruitment & Retention Program (including

audience engagement segment)

• 1:20 to 1:30pm Break

1:30 to 2:20pm Healthcare Career Pathways Program

(including audience engagement segment)

• 2:20 to 2:30pm Break

2:30 to 3:20pm
 Funding & Advocacy Program (including)

audience engagement segment)

• 3:20 to 3:30pm Closing

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4:00 to 6:00pm

Career Exploration Program for Local Students



SLO Healthcare Workforce Partnership 2024 Community Forum #3: Funding & Advocacy Committee

You have approximately 50 minutes in the agenda to address specific topics relevant to your Committee's work and of interest to an audience of key SLO County stakeholders interested in addressing the critical shortage of health workers. You should allot at least 10 to 15 minutes of your 50 minutes to some type of audience interaction (e.g., Q&A, facilitated discussions with pre-planned questions, soliciting more data/information on the types of information included in the recent survey, etc.). Describe what your program will include:



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#3: Funding & Advocacy Committee

Action Plan					
What actions need to be taken to prepare for this program?	Who will do it?	When will each action be completed?			