



Nevada's Rural Health Transformation Project: Executive Summary

With Nevada's vast geography and sparsely populated rural counties, rural Nevadans often struggle to access reliable, timely health care. This is primarily due to the challenges rural communities face in achieving the economies of scale needed to build and sustain a full continuum of care.

Through this new infusion of federal funds, Nevada intends to deploy four strategic initiatives to improve health outcomes in rural areas of the state:



- 1. Rural Health Outcomes Accelerator Program** to invest **\$30 million** in efforts that promote value-based and innovative care models that prevent and manage chronic disease. This includes (but not limited to) new online collaborative care strategies, remote and/or hybrid approaches to care, online patient health management tools, and virtual provider mentorship programs.



- 2. Flex Fund for Rural Providers** to bolster and modernize the state's rural health care infrastructure with a total of **\$40 million** in new investments in items like technology, equipment, supplies, mobile units, emergency services, etc. State will encourage rural providers to leverage their regional buying power through regional purchasing strategies and sharing arrangements.



- 3. Workforce Recruitment and Rural Access Program** to address historic gaps in the state's rural workforce. Multiple strategies will be employed with the support of **\$80 million** to address immediate and long-term provider gaps, including new incentives for providers to live and serve in rural areas of the state, tuition aid with commitments to serve rural Nevada, and a rural physician residency program.



- 4. Rural Health Innovation and Technology Grant** of **\$30 million** for innovative technologies and modernization of health data and records systems with a focus on alignment with the CMS Digital Health Ecosystem and addressing cybersecurity needs for rural health systems. These funds can also be used by recipients to bolster the state's rural telehealth infrastructure.

Through these four initiatives, Nevada will make the necessary investment to strengthen its rural care health system and address the historic gaps in access to care and poorer health outcomes facing rural communities through more reliable, innovative, and sustainable care.