

# CRPH PHARMACY PROGRAMS



The Center recognizes how vital pharmacists are to the rural healthcare team and the need to increase the accessibility of pharmacy services to rural residents. The CRPH supports several initiatives that work to expand capacity by providing additional pharmacy training and delivery in rural practices as well as increasing the interest of pharmacy students in rural practice.

## IMPROVING ACCESS TO IMMUNIZATIONS IN UNDERSERVED RURAL SOUTH CAROLINA COMMUNITIES

Pharmacies remain one main source for immunizations within South Carolina. Yet, immunization deserts threaten to delay access to preventative care for underserved rural communities. This program identifies these deserts and works to improve access and delivery of immunizations by training pharmacy students through expanding the role of clinical pharmacists. In addition to reducing immunization deserts in our state, this will also facilitate vaccinations as part of the fight against COVID-19.



## TANDEM RURAL PHARMACY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

In partnership with Tandem Health-University of South Carolina College of Pharmacy, we support the postgraduate year 1 outpatient pharmacy residency program which develops pharmacist leaders in rural and underserved settings. This interdisciplinary education program merges pharmacy students and residents into a family medicine program, providing intentional training and exposure to rural healthcare.

## PAIRED TO EXCEL

**(Pharmacy Advancement In Rural Experiential Development to Expand, Collaboration, Entrepreneurship and Leadership in Rural Communities)**

To advance healthcare and pharmacist career opportunities in rural areas, students need enhanced core skills to include leadership development, creativity, entrepreneurship, and collaboration. The PAIRED to ExCEL program at the University of South Carolina College of Pharmacy provides interactive didactic and experiential opportunities for third and fourth year pharmacy students to learn more about rural practice and build their capacity to work in rural communities.

## RURAL INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The United States has seen a significant increase in antimicrobial resistance and multi-drug resistant pathogens, highlighting the need for education on the appropriate use of antibiotic treatment. To meet the demand within South Carolina, the Center has partnered with the University of South Carolina College of Pharmacy to expand post-graduate training programs for infectious diseases, with a focus on rural health. This includes providing learning experiences through antimicrobial stewardship (inpatient and outpatient), infectious diseases consultation, travel medicine, HIV/HCV ambulatory clinic, and research.