



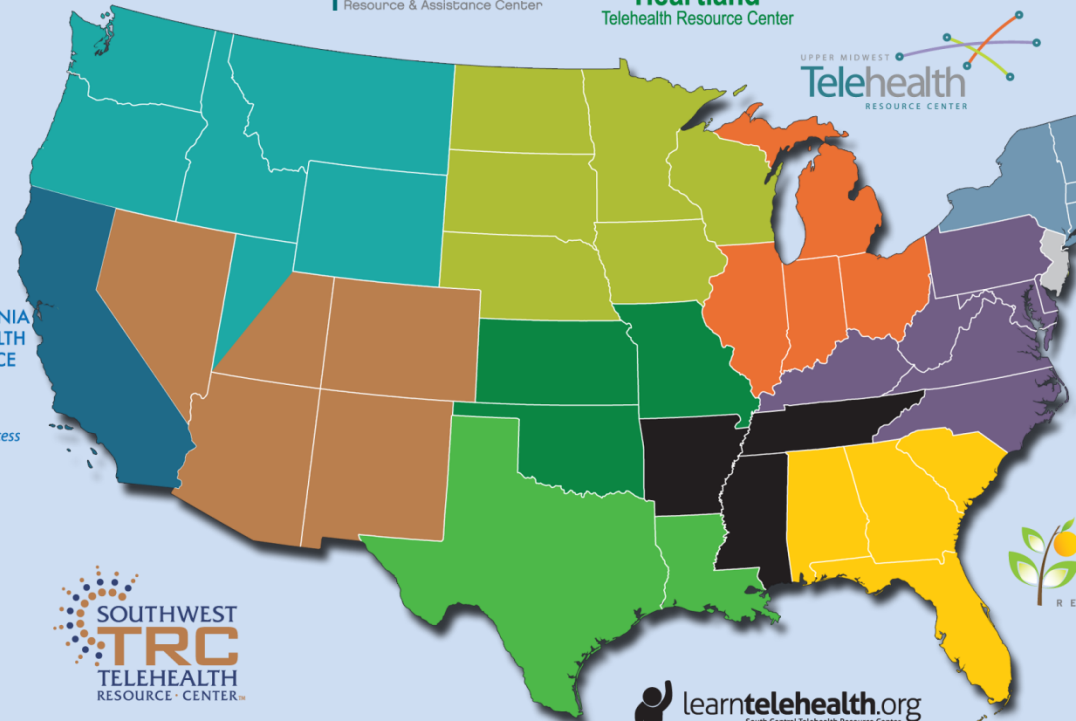
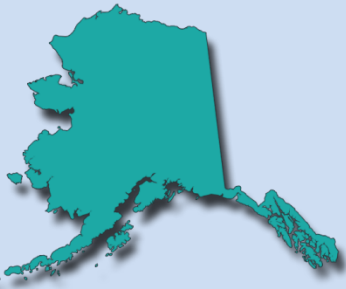
Telehealth
Resource Centers



The National Telehealth Webinar Series

Presented by
The National Network of
Telehealth Resource Centers

TelehealthResourceCenters.org



NRTRC	gpTRAC	NETRC
CTRC	HTRC	UMTRC
SWTRC	SCTRC	MATRC
PBTRC	TexLa	SETRC

2 National Resource Centers

12 Regional Resource Centers



Telehealth
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Becoming a Telehealth Patient Site for the VA: One step on the Path to Sustainability

Presented by:



Heartland

Telehealth Resource Center



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



The Rural Focus

- ✓ Total Veterans – 22.7 million
- ✓ VA Health Care System – 8.8 million (39%)
- ✓ Rural Veterans represent - 3.4 million (41%)

2010, Source: www.va.gov/vetdata

HTRC

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U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



Bricks
&
Mortar



- ✓ Community-Based Outpatient Clinics – 821
- ✓ Vet Centers – 300
- ✓ Hospitals – 152
- ✓ Benefits Admin Regional Offices - 56

HTRC

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Office of Rural Health

- Over the past several years, we've seen a 15 percent jump in rural Veteran health care enrollment—a trend we expect to continue.
- “ORH is committed to engaging in studies and analyses that identify best practices, and translating those best practices into policy and measurable impacts for rural Veterans,”



Byron Bair, M.D., Acting Director, ORH. 2012



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Office of Rural Health

- The geographic isolation of rural areas creates different circumstances and challenges for people who live in these communities.
- Rural communities differ from urban communities in four distinct ways:
 - demographic composition
 - social ties and social capital
 - culture
 - infrastructure and institutional support



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Office of Rural Health

- The Office hopes to improve access to care for rural women Veterans through provider education and telehealth technologies.



What does this mean at the local level?



The Department of Veterans Affairs has identified rural Veterans as a current population of interest



What does this mean at the local level?

- “With such a large percentage of enrolled Veterans residing in rural and highly rural areas, we celebrate the great strides VA has made to improve access to care and focus on this significant population.”



Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. 2012



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In addition. . . HHS & VA

- “The Obama administration is committed to doing all that we can to provide rural veterans the care they need closer to home,”
- “As more combat veterans return home, HHS and VA are partnering to provide vital health care and treatment to reduce the distance some veterans have to travel.”



HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

9/12/12



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In addition. . . HHS & VA

- “The joint effort between HHS and VA is a result of the ongoing work of the White House Rural Council, established by Executive Order last year (2011).
- The White House Rural Council aims to address challenges in Rural America by streamlining and improving the effectiveness of federal programs serving rural America and coordinating private sector partnerships .”

HTRC

What does this mean in the HTRC Service Area (KS, MO, OK)?

State	Total Number of Rural Veterans	Rural Veterans as % of State's Population
Kansas	76,000	33.3%
Missouri	190,000	37.4%
Oklahoma	131,000	39.9%
Total HTRC	397,000	

National Security and Veterans Affairs (www.va.gov/vetdata), 2012



Local Impact

- VA outreach can be delivered locally



Pilot programs test feasibility




Pilot programs can evolve to full-time activity

Additional activity contributes to sustainability

HTRC

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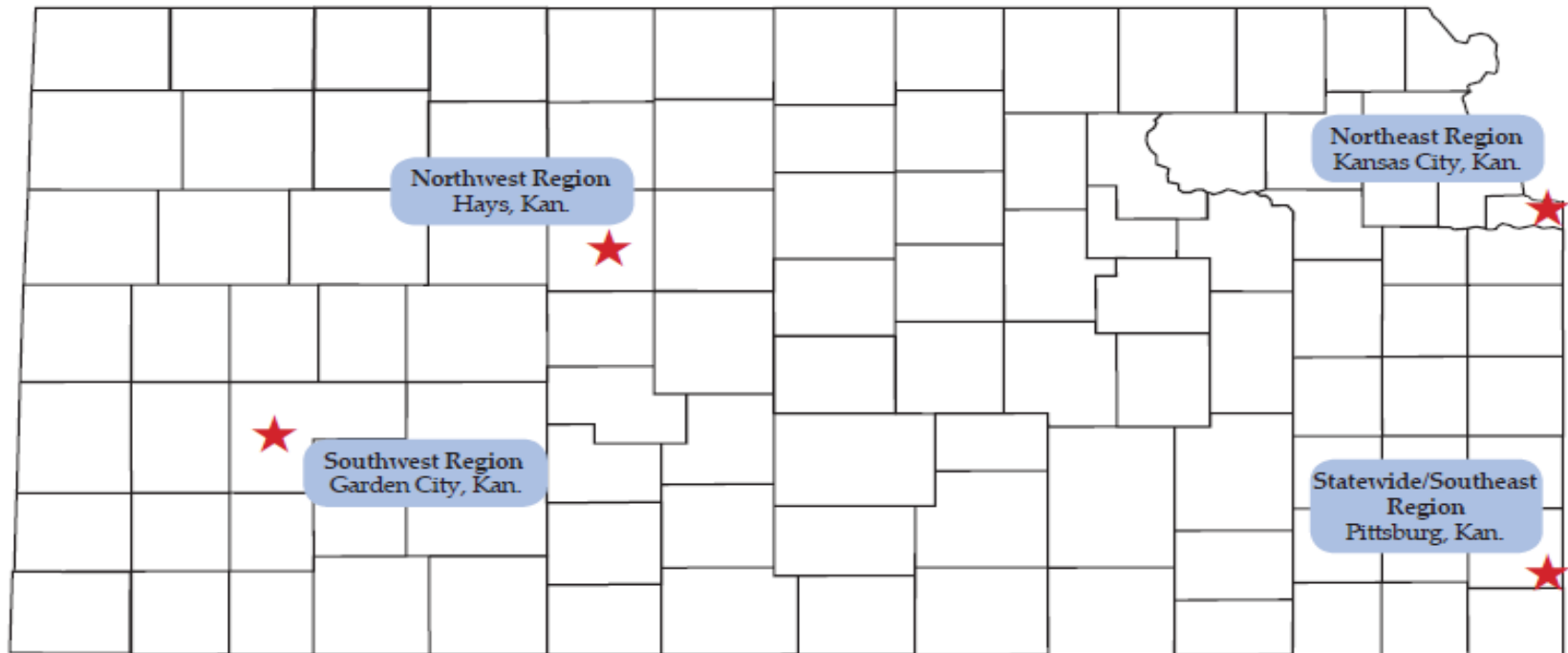
The background of the slide features a dark, almost black, field with several bright, white, diagonal light rays or beams of light that originate from the right side and fan out towards the left, creating a sense of depth and focus.

Partnering with the VA to Provide Televideo Consultations—Our Experience

University of Kansas Medical Center

Area Health Education Centers

AHEC REGIONAL OFFICES



Journey began in 2010

Pilot Project for Mental Health Consultations

- *University of Kansas Medical Center's Area Health Education Center located in Pittsburg*
- *Sedan City Hospital*

**Between late 2010 and
early 2011 conducted 10
consultations**

Early 2011 to Fall 2012 for VA to develop and approve a contract

*.....only with University of Kansas
Medical Center Area Health
Education Center located in Garden
City*

Between fall 2012 to mid-March 2013 conducted 25 mental health consultations

Lessons Learned

- *Very slow process*
- *Review proposed VA contract very carefully*
- *Include VA clinical provider in all discussions with VA regarding actual consultation*
- *Obtain list of VA staff involved with consultation process and make contact with them*
- *Determine fee (if any) for clients that do not keep appointment*
- *Determine invoicing and reimbursement process prior to initiating consultations*

Benefits

- *Provides a much needed service*
- *Partnership between federal agency and a state agency*
- *Leverages an infrastructure that already exists*
- *Revenue generating*

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The National Telehealth Resource Center Webinar Series

3rd Thursday of every month

Next Webinar:

Telehealth Topic: Indiana Veterans Behavioral Health Network
Extends Services to Rural Indiana Veterans

Presenter: The Upper Peninsula Telehealth Resource Center

Date: Thursday, April 18, 2013

Times: 8:00AM HST, 10:00AM AKDT, 11:00AM PDT, 12:00PM MDT, 1:00PM CDT, 2:00PM EDT



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Please participate in this brief perception survey:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NationalTRCWebinarSeries>

TRC activity is supported by grants from the Office for the Advancement of Telehealth, Office of Health Information Technology, Health Resources and Services Administration, DHHS