

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
AND THE
NATIONAL AREA HEALTH EDUCATION
CENTERS ORGANIZATION

OCTOBER 28, 2010

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between the
National Rural Health Association
And the
National Area Health Education Centers Organization**

Whereas, the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) and the National Area Health Education Centers Organization (NAO) desire to maintain and improve the collaborative working relationship between their two organizations; and

Whereas, NRHA and NAO desire to work together to more effectively accomplish objectives that are of mutual interest and importance to their two organizations; and

Whereas, NRHA and NAO desire to maintain a formal liaison between their two organizations that will further the above-stated goals;


Now, therefore, the NRHA and NAO agree as follows:

1. NRHA and NAO will each:
 - a. Appoint a member of its organization who will be its principal liaison for issues related to this agreement and will communicate regularly with the other organization's liaison about such issues. The individuals appointed at the effective date of this MOU are identified in Attachment A. Each organization may change its liaison appointee at any time by notifying the other organization in writing of the new appointee;
 - b. Designate a staff contact person who will work with the designated liaisons to assure effective implementation of this agreement. The individuals appointed at the effective date of this MOU are identified in Attachment A. Each organization may change its staff appointee at any time by notifying the other organization in writing of the new appointee;
 - c. Engage in collaborative efforts to encourage expansion of membership in both NRHA and NAO;
 - d. Collaborate in the development of educational efforts that will advance the shared interests of NRHA and NAO, including
 - i. Inviting contributions of articles and other appropriate submissions from each organization to the other's educational publications;
 - ii. Jointly developing educational projects addressing issues of mutual interest; and,
 - iii. Jointly developing presentations on topics of mutual interest for delivery at appropriate national and regional conferences, including those sponsored by NRHA and NAO;
 - e. Publicize, in its organizational publications and other appropriate venues, the other organization's conferences and activities of general interest to members of both organizations; and

- f. Maintain on its web site a link to the other organization's site indicating the liaison affiliation.
2. In addition, NRHA and NAO will assure that representatives of the two organizations meet at least once each year, prior to the development of each organization's legislative, regulatory and policy agenda for the next year, to discuss issues of mutual interest and identify ways in which the two organizations can more effectively engage in collaborative advocacy on legislative, regulatory and public policy issues of mutual concern.
 3. In addition, NAO will:
 - a. Provide an opportunity during at least one NAO Board of Directors meeting each year for the CEO and/or President of NRHA to present an update on NRHA activities and bring to the Board's attention issues of interest to NRHA. NRHA will assure the participation of its CEO and/or President to present this update; and
 - b. Upon request of NRHA, designate NAO members in addition to the appointed liaison to work with NRHA on specific issues and activities of mutual interest to the two organizations.
 4. In addition, NRHA will:
 - a. Provide an opportunity during at least one NRHA Board of Trustees meeting each year for the President of NAO to present an update on NAO activities and bring to the Board's attention issues of interest to NAO. NAO will assure the participation of its President to present this update;
 - b. Include representation from NAO on the "NRHA-NACHC Joint Task Force";
 - c. Provide space for a meeting of NAO members at some point during each NRHA Annual Rural Health Conference; and
 - d. Upon request of NAO, designate NRHA members in addition to the appointed liaison to work with NAO on specific issues and activities of mutual interest to the two organizations.

This agreement is effective on the date the last required signature is affixed below and will remain in effect until canceled by either party or amended by mutual agreement of both parties.

Agreed to on behalf of the National Rural Health Association



 Chief Executive Officer, NRHA

10-28-10
 Date

Agreed to on behalf of the National Area Health Education Centers Organization



 President, NAO

10-28-10
 Date

Attachment A

As of the effective date of this Memorandum of Understanding, the following individuals are designated by the respective organizations under Section 1 a and b:

NRHA

Organizational Liaison: Michael F. French

NRHA Staff Contact: Gabriela Boscan

NAO

Organizational Liaison: Sandra Pope

NAO Staff Contact: Rob Trachtenberg