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ANNOUNCING FAITH IN ACTION

A Congregation-based Community Health Worker and Civic Engagement Initiative in Southeast Arkansas

Arkansas Rural Health Partnership, in partnership with Town Square Collaborative, is launching Faith in Action, a pilot initiative in rural Southeast Arkansas that equips faith-based organizations to improve community health and civic engagement. Congregations will identify trusted members to become Community Health Workers through the Arkansas Rural Health Academy, where they will receive training in community health, Mental Health First Aid, Basic Life Support, Narcan response, and program development.

These congregation-based Community Health Workers will serve as trusted connectors, helping community members navigate health and social resources, identify local needs, and strengthen collaboration between churches, healthcare providers, and community organizations. The initiative will conclude with a community-driven action plan and create a sustainable, scalable model for improving health, expanding civic participation, and strengthening rural communities across Arkansas.



► **COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER (CHW) TRAINING**

ARHP's Community Health Worker Training Institute prepares local residents to serve as trusted links between rural communities and health and social services. The blended program combines in-person, virtual, and hands-on training.

► **MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING**

This evidence-based, 8-hour course teaches participants to recognize and respond to mental health and substance use challenges. Graduates earn a three-year certification and learn how to connect others with appropriate resources.

► **HEARTSAVER CPR AND FIRST AID TRAINING**

Participants learn CPR, first aid, and AED skills through American Heart Association training and receive an AHA Course Completion Card. (cpr.heart.org)

► **NARCAN ADMINISTRATION AND OPIOID OVERDOSE RESPONSE TRAINING**

Participants learn to recognize opioid overdoses, administer Naloxone (NARCAN), and understand strategies for addressing the opioid crisis.

► **HEALTHY EATING AND NUTRITION SEMINAR**

Designed by an Arkansas dietitian, this rural-focused seminar provides nutrition and cooking education to help seniors prevent chronic disease through healthy eating.

► **CONGREGATION-LEVEL NEEDS IDENTIFICATION**

Representatives work with their congregations to identify community strengths, challenges, and priorities, using the findings to guide planning and develop a community action plan.

► **COHORT CONVENINGS AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR**

Participants meet regularly for training, collaboration, and action planning. The program concludes with a seminar focused on developing a shared community action plan.



— **Roots & Remedies** —
Delta-Inspired, Nutritional Recipes
 *Inspired by The Good Food Rx*



WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

Cecilia Trotter, Project Director | cecilia@arruralhealth.org | 662-820-6398
arruralhealth.org | **FACEBOOK:** Arkansas Rural Health Partnership
INSTAGRAM: @arkansasruralhealthpartnership