

PROJECT ABSTRACT

Project Title: Idaho Frontiers of Family Medicine Project (ID FFMP)

Applicant Organization Name: Idaho State University

Address: Idaho State University Family Medicine Residency (ISU FMR)
465 Memorial Drive – Pocatello, ID 83201-4008

Project Director Name: William M. Woodhouse, MD, FAAFP

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Funds Requested: Y1: \$448,150 / Y2: \$462,900 / Y3: \$487,224 / Y4: \$476,956 / Y5: \$490,653

Project Overview: Eastern Idaho, where the ISU FMR is located, is a sparsely-populated, rural/frontier, agricultural region that is larger than the State of West Virginia. Like all Idaho, it is chronically underserved in primary care and mental health, with multiple barriers to access, poor health care outcomes and growing demand. In response to Idaho's need for rural family physicians, the ISU FMR has stepped forward with plans to establish rural training tracks and expand the base program. Achieving this expansion will require strengthening of infrastructure and development of targeted, inter-professional curricular elements that prepare family medicine residents for the demands of rural and underserved practice.

Objectives: Through the Idaho Frontiers of Family Medicine Project the ISU FMR will achieve the following two objectives:

1. Develop the academic, administrative, faculty and telecommunications infrastructure to support expanded training of family medicine residents destined for rural and underserved practice.
2. Develop inter-professional clinical, telehealth and didactic training opportunities in rural and community health center settings, with a focus on behavioral health and medically assisted therapy.

HHS Clinical Priorities: The ID FFMP will address the *combating the opioid crisis* priority through substance use disorder and opioid stewardship didactics, Medically-Assisted Therapy waiver training, MAT clinic, integrated MAT continuity care and tele-MAT. The *strengthen mental health service access* priority is addressed through psychopharmacology, behavioral health and family medicine / psychiatry inter-professional didactics, Inter-professional Treatment Team Rounds, Mental Health Integration and tele-psychiatry services.

Methodology: The ID FFMP will be administered by the Project Director and AA through the ID FFMP Team. An RTT faculty development curriculum will be developed and implemented. The telecommunications infrastructure will be upgraded for teleconferencing and telehealth uses. RTT #1 in Rexburg, ID will be expanded and RTT #2 will be developed and implemented. The ISU FMR base program will be expanded and rural training experiences increased. Rurally-oriented and URM medical student candidates will be recruited. The FFMP Curriculum Council will develop and implement a rural, inter-professional family medicine curriculum that, in addition to those components noted above, will include point-of-care ultrasound, wilderness medicine, quality, mental health integration and telehealth. Placement of FM residents in rural communities will be facilitated by an alumni network, rural recruitment activities, loan repayment program updates and rural practice didactics.

Funding Preference: The Medically Underserved Community Funding Preference is requested and met based on Qualification 1: High Rate, as evidenced by the fact that in the 17/18 and 18/19 academic years, **71.4 %** of ISU FMR graduates went on to practice in medically underserved communities.