



GEORGIA RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

PRESENTATION BY: SHELLEY SPIRES

ASSOCIATE CEO OF ALBANY AREA PRIMARY HEALTH CARE, INC. & PRESIDENT ELECT OF GRHA

GRHA BACKGROUND

- ❖ OLDEST RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION IN THE COUNTRY
- ❖ COMMITTED TO IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES OF RURAL GEORGIANS
- ❖ COMPOSED OF A BOARD THAT THE INDIVIDUALS ARE COMMITTED TO THE HEALTH CARE FIELD



THINGS WE KNOW

ACP POSITION PAPER 9/2011

- “Systems dominated by primary care have better outcomes at lower cost. Yet the nation is facing a severe shortage of primary care physicians for adults...44,000-46,000 by 2025...this does not take into account 32 million uninsured who will obtain coverage in the ACA”

THINGS WE KNOW

GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE SENATE TESTIMONY 2/12/2008

- “Ample research in recent years concludes...reliance on specialty care services at the expense of primary care...is less efficient”
- HRSA estimates in 2020 a need for 337,400 PCPs and a supply of 271,440 shortage = 65,960



GEORGIA'S OVERALL PHYSICIAN SUPPLY

Georgia

200 docs per
100,000 pop.

National. Avg.

300 docs per
100,000 pop.

Georgia's *Primary Care* Physician Supply

Rate of primary care physicians per 100,000 population (*excludes Gen. Surgery in this calculation)

Georgia

82 docs per 100,000 pop.

National Average.

100 docs per 100,000 pop.

**using Kaiser Foundation study's definition, MS EC Health '04*

THINGS WE KNOW

GBPW 1/2012

<p>Physicians active in the U.S. who did both medical school and residency in Georgia Ranked 19th in Nation</p>	<p>71.8% Practice in Georgia 28.2% Practice Elsewhere</p>
<p>Physicians active in the U.S. who completed residency training in GA Ranked 17th in Nation</p>	<p>49.0% Practice in Georgia 51.0% Practice Elsewhere</p>
<p>Physicians active in the U.S. who graduated from medical school in GA Ranked 13th in Nation</p>	<p>46.3% Practice in Georgia 53.7% Practice Elsewhere</p>

PHYSICIAN

RETENTION

RATES BY

EDUCATION

LOCATION

WHAT IS GEORGIA DOING?

- Implemented the HB 922 Preceptor Tax Credit
- Sponsor the Medical Student Scholarship Program
 - Advantages
 - Disadvantages
- Sponsor the Physicians for Rural Areas Assistance Program
 - Advantages
 - Disadvantages



WHAT IS GRHA DOING?

- Participating annually in the Primary Care Summit to form an alliance to build a stronger voice
- Advocate for Primary Care from a Legislative perspective. We have presented our agenda for 2014 with R.A.I.S.E
- GRHA joined forces with Georgia Hospital Alliance to develop an annual recruitment fair for providers



WHAT CAN GEORGIA DO TO PREVENT THIS SHORTAGE?

- Provide more dollars for scholarships and increase the scholarship amount
- Provide more loan forgiveness dollars
- Increase the GME slots
- Be creative and develop perks that encourage students to stay in Georgia, train in Georgia, and provide services in Georgia





QUESTIONS?

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