

Essentia Institute of Rural Health

Rural health care innovation through research and education



Improving health care for rural communities

The Essentia Institute of Rural Health is a leader in rural health care innovation through research and education. It delivers research and education that are catalysts to continuous improvement in patient care and drives Essentia Health to be a learning organization, with a distinct focus on improving the health of rural communities.

Through rigorous research, the Essentia Institute of Rural Health identifies needs and deficiencies in rural healthcare and investigates innovative solutions to resolve disparities. Our focus is to improve our patients' health by engaging in studies of rural health care delivery, government and industry-based clinical trials, and disease-related issues.

As new information is gathered, that knowledge is adopted in practice through Continuing Medical Education and Continuing Professional Development. Working collaboratively with patients, providers and other stakeholders, we help to improve the patient experience of care, improve the health of our communities and reduce the cost of healthcare.

The learning organization model supports Essentia Health professionals to develop and prepare a collaborative rural-ready primary care team workforce, training within the innovation in practice for evidence-based medicine and evidence-based care. Each year Essentia Health provides clinical experience for education to more than 2,500 medical and health sciences students including family medicine residents, medical students, advance practice nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists and nurses. Extensive health sciences library and knowledge resources are available to all Essentia personnel who have requests related to their work.

Areas of Current Research

- Population health
- Rural health
- Health disparities
- Translational research
- Health care evaluation

Focus of Education

- Evidence-based learning
- Adoption and dissemination of new skills and behaviors associated with care management and coordination
- Interprofessional Education
- Preparation of a rural ready primary care workforce

Joint Research/ Education Activities:

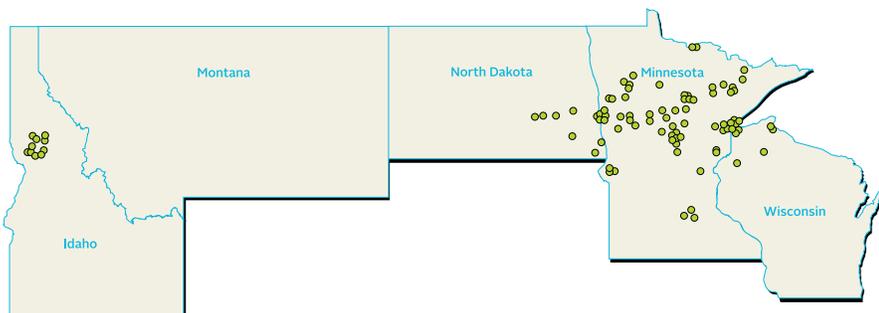
- Support for clinical initiatives, including primary care redesign
- QA/QI assessment
- Clinical program accreditation



**Essentia Institute
of Rural Health**

A Center for Research and Education

Through Essentia Health, a nonprofit integrated healthcare system, researchers at the Essentia Institute of Rural Health have access to a large rural patient population across four states. Its service area includes 2 million people, of which approximately 40 percent are Essentia Health affiliate patients.



Network of partners and collaborators INCLUDING

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Allina Health System | Kaiser Permanente-Colorado |
| Community Clinical Oncology Program (CCOP) | Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation |
| eMERGE network | Mayo Clinic |
| Fairview Health System | Midwest Research Network |
| Geisinger Health System | National Rural Resource Center |
| Group Health Research Institute | University of Illinois |
| Harvard Pilgrim Health Care | University of Minnesota |
| HealthPartners Research Foundation | University of North Dakota |
| HMO Research Network (HMORN) | University of Pennsylvania |
| Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI) | University of Wisconsin |

Key Demographics

- 83.8% of our geographic service area is classified rural
- 56.2% of our population lives in a rural area
- 66.2% of our clinics are in rural areas
- 45.2 % of our population lives in health professional shortage areas
- 41.5% of our population has a household income less than \$35,000

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EssentiaInstitute.org



Essentia Health
Here with you

What is Essentia Health?

WE ARE HERE WITH

Highly personalized, patient and family-centered care throughout our system of:

- 18 hospitals
- 68 clinics
- 1,500 physicians and credentialed practitioners
- 55 specialties
- 12,500 employees

Essentia Health
502 East Second Street
Duluth, MN 55805
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EssentiaHealth.org

Mission

The Essentia Institute of Rural Health exists to improve the health and health care for the rural population in the United States through research and education.

Vision

By 2018 we will be recognized as a national leader for research and education for the health and health care of patients in the rural United States.