



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Summit Pacific Awarded Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Planning Grant

(ELMA, WA) – Summit Pacific Medical Center has received a \$200,000 grant through the through the Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA) Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Planning Grant (RCORP-Planning).

The funds will allow Summit Pacific to develop plans to implement evidence-based opioid use disorder prevention, treatment and recovery interventions. This funding is a key part the \$396 million awarded by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to support the [HHS Five-Point Opioid Strategy](#), which includes: (1) prevention, treatment, and recovery services, (2) data on the epidemic, (3) pain management, (4) targeting of overdose-reversing drugs, (5) research on pain and addiction.

Overdose death rates from Grays Harbor from 2012-16 show a progressive increase over Washington rates. According to the 2017 Washington State Syringe Exchange Health Survey data, 62% of local respondents indicated that they had witnessed an overdose in the previous 12-month period.

Dr. Shawn Andrews, Primary Care Provider at Elma Family Medicine and Primary Care Medical Director stated, “Our goal is to prevent opioid use disorder through innovative pain management strategies, standardized adherence to opioid prescribing guidelines, and use care coordination for chronic pain management. In addition, we will expand our medication assisted treatment for opioid use disorder program, integrating care across our ED, inpatient, urgent care and primary care settings.”

“I commend the selection of Grays Harbor County Public Hospital District 1 to receive an award of \$200,000 through the HRSA’s Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Planning Grant (RCORP-Planning). This award supports Grays Harbor County Public Hospital District 1 in their exceptional level of care that their organization provides to individuals struggling with substance use disorders. We hope that this additional funding will allow Grays Harbor County Public Hospital District 1 to develop plans to implement evidence-based opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery interventions. This funding is a key part the \$396 million awarded by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to support the HHS Five-Point Opioid Strategy,” stated Sharon Turner, HRSA Region 10 Regional Administrator.

Nationally, HRSA is awarding a total of \$19 million of RCORP-Planning grants to assist rural organizations like yours in reducing opioid overdoses among rural populations at the highest risk for substance use disorders. For a complete list of Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Planning Awardees please visit the [HRSA](#) website.

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Summit Pacific Medical Center's vision is "Through Summit Care, we will build the healthiest community in the Nation." We passionately provide essential healthcare to all individuals of our community with an emphasis on quality, access and compassion. We are a Level IV Critical access Hospital with 24-hour emergency services. We also operate three rural healthcare clinics, an urgent care clinic and a virtual care clinic. To learn more about Summit Pacific, visit www.sp-mc.org.