



Rural Healthcare Workforce Development Programs

Date

Louisiana's Health Initiative

Speakers

- **Nicole Peace Coarsey, MPA**

- State Office of Rural Health (SORH) Officer
- Well-Ahead Louisiana



- **Darmyra Perry, MPH**

- Primary Care Officer
- Well-Ahead Louisiana





By the end of this session, you will...

- Be able to describe how Well-Ahead Louisiana increases access to rural healthcare
- Have enhanced knowledge of Well-Ahead Louisiana's Rural Healthcare Workforce Development Programs
- Discover how to apply for Well-Ahead Louisiana's Rural Healthcare Workforce Development Programs



About Well-Ahead Louisiana

- Well-Ahead Louisiana is the chronic disease prevention and healthcare access arm of the Louisiana Department of Health.
- Vision: To reduce the burden of chronic disease and assure access to quality healthcare for all Louisiana residents.
- Mission: Connect Louisiana Communities to a Healthier Future
- Program Areas:
 - Heart Disease Prevention and Management
 - Diabetes Disease Prevention and Management
 - Oral Health Promotion
 - Obesity Prevention
 - Early Childhood Education
 - Tobacco Cessation and Prevention
 - School Health Promotion
 - State Office of Rural Health
 - **Louisiana Primary Care Office**
 - Healthy Communities
 - WellSpot Designation
 - Provider Education Network

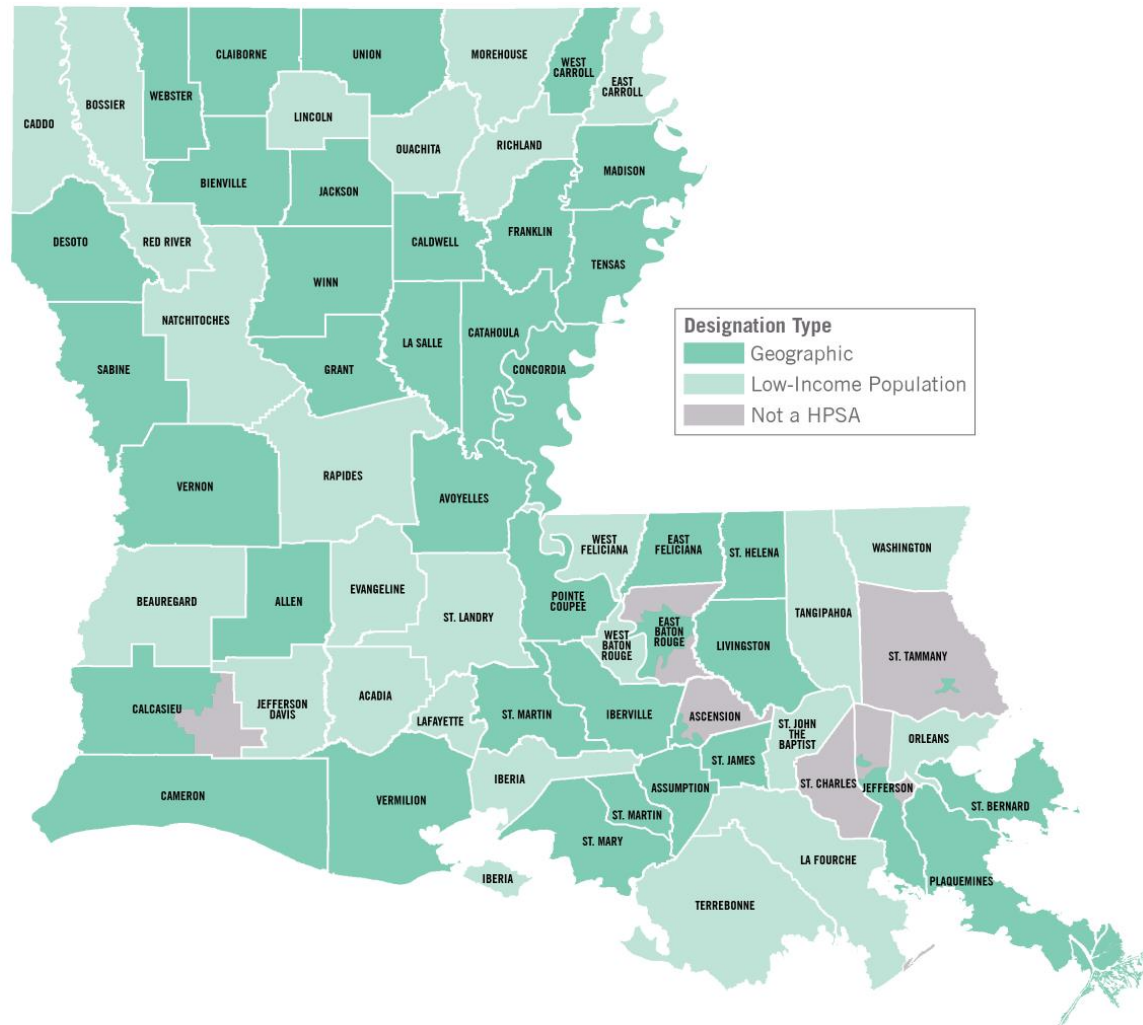
Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)



HPSAs in Louisiana

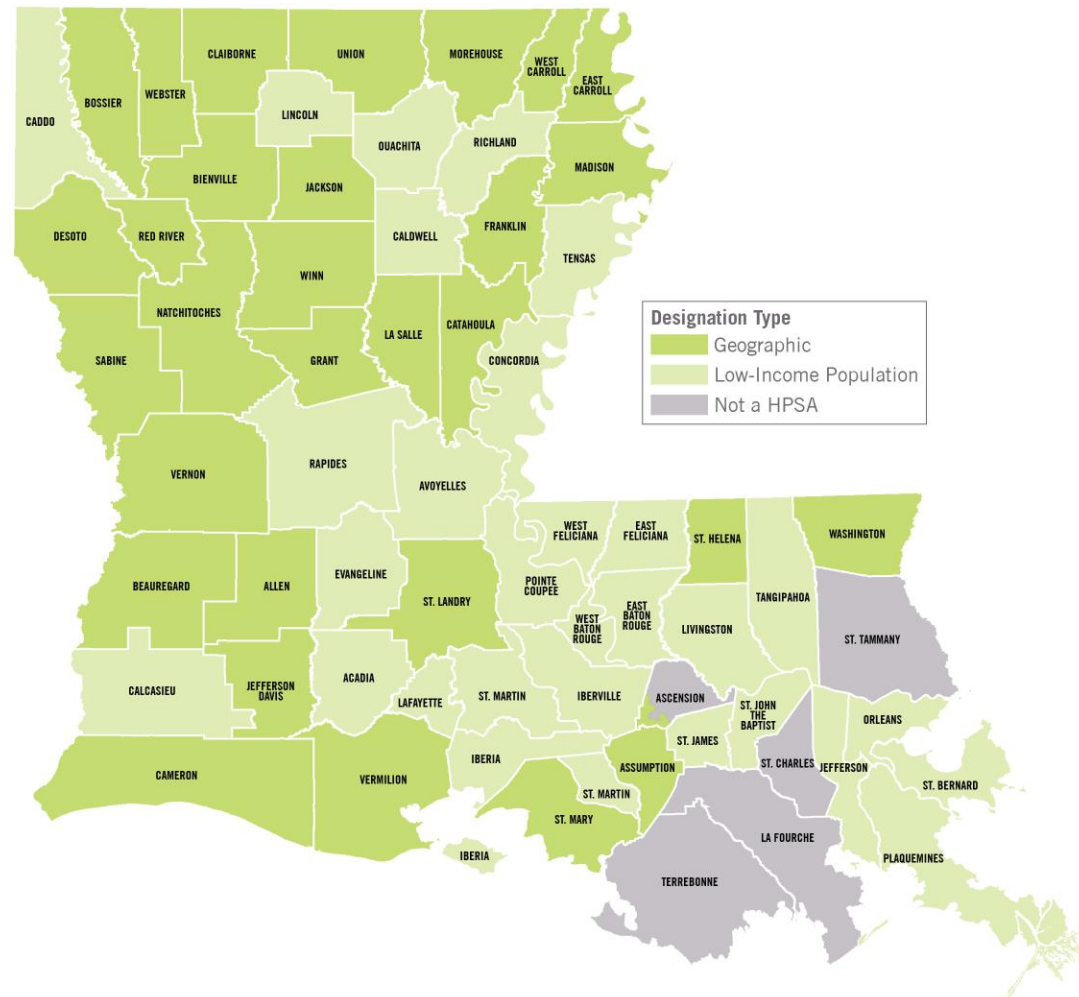
- Louisiana Department of Health and the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration work together to determine if a defined area has an adequate number of healthcare providers
- Louisiana uses parishes as our defined areas
- Designation given to an area that is considered underserved with health providers compared to the population
- Preliminary approved and submitted by this office to the Federal Office of Shortage Designation, who gives final approval
- Multiple programs use HPSA designations as a requirement (grants, loan repayment, J-1 Visa waiver, etc.)

Primary Care HPSAs in Louisiana: 73%



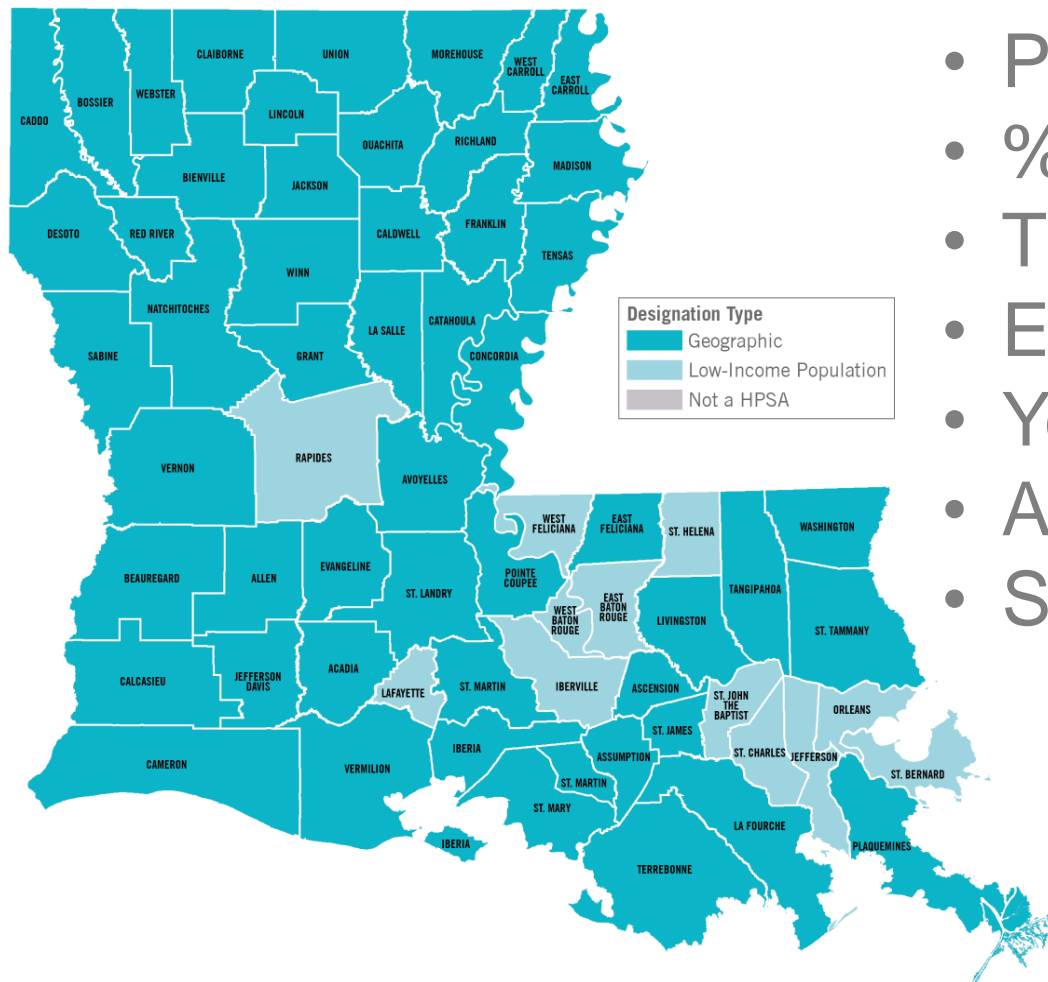
- Population to Provider Ratio
- % Pop below 100% FPL
- Travel time to Nearest Source of Care
- Infant Health Index

Dental HPSAs in Louisiana: 86%



- Population to Provider Ratio
- % Pop below 100% FPL
- Travel time to Nearest Source of Care
- Water fluoridation status

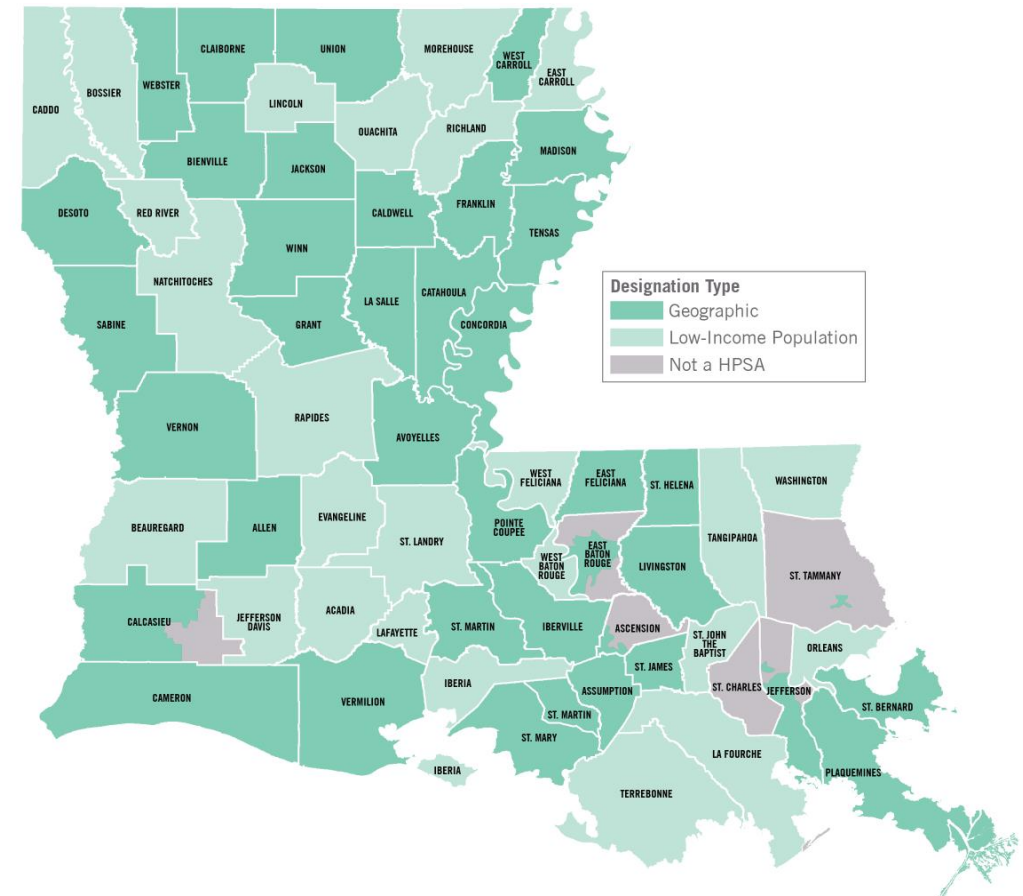
Mental Health HPSAs in Louisiana: 93%



- Population to Provider Ratio
- % Pop below 100% FPL
- Travel time to Nearest Source of Care
- Elderly Ratio (% Pop over age 65)
- Youth Ratio (% Pop under age 18)
- Alcohol Abuse Prevalence
- Substance Abuse Prevalence

Maternity Care Target Areas (MCTA)

- New sub-category of the Primary Care HPSA
 - Maternity Health Care Professional Target Areas (MCTAs).
- Better able to assess the need/shortages of maternity health





Data used to determine MCTAs

Scoring Criteria

1. Ratio of females ages 15-44 to full time equivalent maternity care health professional ratio; which includes only OB/GYN and certified nursing midwives;
2. Percentage of females 15-44 with income at or below 200% FPL;
3. Travel time and distance to the nearest provider trained and licensed to provide the necessary care;
4. Fertility rate;
5. The SVI;
6. Maternal Health Index which contains the following six indicators: Pre-pregnancy obesity, pre-pregnancy diabetes, pre-pregnancy hypertension, prenatal care initiation in the first trimester, cigarette smoking, and the behavioral health factor.



HPSA REVIEW FORM

WELL-AHEAD  
MOVING LOUISIANA'S HEALTH FORWARD

_____ Parish

Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) Review Form
Time Sensitive. Please return as soon as possible.
Email: beth.butler@la.gov
Fax: 225-376-4624

Please read the guidelines for completing this form on the back side prior to answering the questions. We appreciate your time in helping us to assist your parish/area in continuing to receive this designation. *If you are not a physician, please send this back with your name so we can correct our records.*

Date Completed: _____ Completed by: _____

1a. Physician Name (First, Last, Suffix, MD or DO): _____
1b. EMAIL: _____
1c. Person to Contact and PHONE NUMBER: _____

2. Specialty (% of practice): _____
Subspecialty (% of practice): _____

3. Primary Practice Location (Street, City, State, Zip): _____
Other Practice Location(s)(Street, City, State, Zip): _____

4a. How many hours per week does the physician spend seeing patients in an outpatient setting? (This counts only time the physician is actually with the patient-not lunch, administrative or down time) _____
4b. How many hours per week completing Hospital Rounds? _____
4c. On an average day, how many outpatients does the physician see? _____

5a. How many patients are in the physician's practice? _____
5b. How many of those patients use Medicaid? _____
5c. How many of these patients use the sliding fee scale? _____

6. Is the physician:
❖ A National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Recipient or Scholar? YES NO
❖ Participating in the *J-1 Visa Waiver/H-1B Visa* program? YES NO



Healthcare Workforce Development Programs



Louisiana Primary Care Office

- Dedicated to improving the health of Louisiana residents in rural and underserved areas
- The Primary Care Office serves
 - Healthcare professionals
 - Healthcare facilities
 - State and local agencies
 - Organizations that provide services in a HPSA
 - Organizations that accept Medicaid, Medicare, and all patients regardless of their ability to pay

Healthcare Workforce Development Programs

- National Health Service Corp (NHSC)
- Louisiana State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)
- Rural Health Scholars Program (RHSP)
- Healthcare Recruitment and Retention Support



Learn More:
wellaheadla.com/LPCO

National Health Service Corps

National Health Service Corp Programs: Loan Repayment

• Award Amount

- Sites with HPSA Score of 14-26
 - Two years, full-time: up to \$50,000
 - Two years, half-time: up to \$25,000
- Sites with HPSA Score of 0-13:
 - Two years, full-time: up to \$30,000
 - Two years, half-time: up to \$15,000

• Service Commitment

- Full-Time and Half-Time options

Eligible Disciplines

- Physicians
- Nurse Practitioners
- Physician Assistants
- Certified Nurse Midwives
- Health Service Psychologists
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers
- Psychiatric Nurse Specialists
- Marriage and Family Therapist
- Licenses Professional Counselors

Service Site Requirement

- NHSC Approved Site located within a HPSA

National Health Service Corp Programs

Program Type	Participants
Loan Repayment Participants	255
Scholarship Program Participants	6
Student to Service Participants	6
Total Number of Sites	160
Total Number of NHSC Participants	267



Learn More:
wellaheadla.com/NHSC



Louisiana State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)



State Loan Repayment Program

- Goal: to increase the availability of primary healthcare in HPSAs by assisting in the repayment of educational loans
- Qualifications:
 - Physicians and dentists: \$30,000 annually for a 3-year commitment
 - Other Professionals: up to \$15,000 annually for a 3-year commitment
 - Work in a federally-designated HPSA
 - Work for a public or non-profit private entity
 - Work full-time (40 hours per week) in an outpatient capacity
 - Accept assignments of Medicare and Medicaid patients
 - Must work in a clinic with a posted sliding-fee scale for low-income and uninsured patients

State Loan Repayment Program Recipients

Healthcare Provider Type	Participants
Nurse Practitioner	23
Family Practitioner, Internal Medicine	11
Dentist	8
Licensed Clinical Social Worker	4
Licensed Professional Counselor	2
Psychiatrist	2
Certified Nurse Midwife	1
Licensed Professional Counselor (PhD)	1
Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor	1
Total	53

State Loan Repayment Program Details

- Application Opens: January 2023
- Application Closes: March 2023
- Approximate Number of Participants: 50



Learn More:
[wellaheadla.com/
state-loan](https://wellaheadla.com/state-loan)



Louisiana Rural Health Scholars Program (RHSP)



Rural Health Scholars Program

- Eligible healthcare facilities partner with Well-Ahead Louisiana to host healthcare professional students for a short-term rotation (minimum of 180 service hours)
- Colleges and Universities work with Well-Ahead to recruit students committed to practicing in medicine in rural and underserved areas throughout Louisiana
- Students are connected with a rural healthcare facility located in a HPSA for their rotation
- Annually, Well-Ahead can support up to 23 students to participate in the program



Rural Health Scholars: Eligible Universities or Colleges

- Universities or colleges must offer one (or more) of the following programs:
 - Family or General Practice, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics/Gynecology and Pediatrics (MD/DO)
 - **General and Pediatric Dentistry (DDS/DMD)**
 - **Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH)**
 - Nurse Practitioner (NP)
 - Physician Assistant (PA)



Rural Health Scholars: Role of Colleges and Universities

- Work with Well-Ahead to recruit healthcare student participants
- Provide healthcare facility with preceptor roles, responsibilities and mandatory qualifications
- Review work plan developed by the healthcare facility for the student
 - Plan should include hours, patient volume expected, etc.
- Ensure that students meet standards for the following prior to beginning rotation
 - Immunizations
 - CPR
 - Liability Insurance
 - Background
 - Drug Testing

Rural Health Scholars Program

- **Hosting Healthcare Facility**
 - \$5,000 for each student participant hosted
- **Student Participant**
 - Stipend \$6,000 + Living expenses \$2,000 = \$8,000
- **University of Higher Education**
 - \$5,000 for each university of higher education



Learn More:
wellaheadla.com/RHSP



Louisiana Rural Physician Loan Repayment Program(LRPLRP)



RPLRP

- Physicians serving in health professional shortage areas (HPSA) across the state may be eligible for the Louisiana Rural Physician Loan Repayment Program.
- Physicians can receive up to \$30,000 annually for a five-year commitment.

RPLPR: Eligibility Requirements

- The Louisiana Rural Physician Loan Repayment Program utilizes the criteria described below to determine how individuals are selected to participate in the program.
 - Must have a current Louisiana license
 - Must agree to serve a minimum of 5 years in a HPSA
 - Must work full time per week with a minimum of 32 hours per week
 - Must not have a work week that is compressed into less than 4 days per week

The 2022 application period is now open from October 1, 2022 through November 30, 2022.



RPLRP: Practice Site Criteria

- For the purposes of this program, participants must be employed at a practice site located in a rural Primary Care HPSA.
- Public and nonprofit private entities located in and providing health care services in HPSAs.
- For-profit health facilities must accept reimbursement from Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program, utilize a sliding fee scale, and see all patients regardless of their ability to pay.

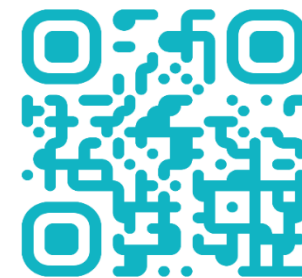
Recruitment and Retention Network: 3RNET

National Recruitment and Retention Network (3RNet)

- Supports rural healthcare employers in finding qualified job candidates through a nationwide online recruitment tool
- Well-Ahead Louisiana is an official member of 3RNet. This means we can:
 - Provide assistance in getting your open positions posted on the national job board
 - Help you find the right candidates to fill your open positions



Learn More:
wellaheadla.com/3RNet



Questions



Contact Information

- Darmyra Perry: Primary Care Officer
 - Darmyra.Perry@la.gov
- Beth Butler: HPSA, NHSC, and SLRP
 - Beth.Butler@la.gov
- Angela Vanveckhoven: Rural Health Scholars Program
 - Angela.Vanveckhoven@la.gov
- Yasmeen Mohammed: 3RNet
 - Yasmeen.Mohammed@la.gov



Join the Provider Education Network!

- The Provider Education Network provides tools, training and technical assistance opportunities that help you provide the best possible care to your patients and help make every angle of your facility more effective.
- Join today at www.wellaheadla.com/join-provider-education-network



Thank You for Joining Us!