



MASSACHUSETTS
RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

July 2026 Update

A New Era for Rural Health in Massachusetts

Building Momentum for Rural Health Transformation

RHTP is moving full steam ahead—transitioning from planning to design while deepening engagement with partners across the Commonwealth. Recent stakeholder sessions and ongoing initiative workgroups are helping shape five-year plans and ensuring investments are grounded in community priorities.

[Visit our Website](#)



Announcing Membership of the RHTP Community Advisory Council

[Read the Press Release](#)

This council is part of an ongoing commitment to center community voices in the Rural Health Transformation Program by providing feedback, insights, and on the ground perspectives. Input from the council will help guide program implementation and support sound, community-informed decision-making.

Staff Spotlight

Kirby Lecy

Program Director, Rural Health Transformation

Kirby Lecy, MPH, brings over a decade of experience advancing rural health across the Commonwealth. Since 2014, she has served at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in various roles within the State Office of Rural Health (SORH), most recently providing oversight of the SORH and the Mass in Motion Program.



Her leadership extends nationally and regionally, serving as 2023 president of the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health and as a longtime leader with the New England Rural Health Association. A lifelong resident of rural Massachusetts, Lecy is known for her commitment to community engagement, cross-sector collaboration, and addressing health inequities, centering lived experience and fostering strong partnerships; now living in Ashburnham, she brings both personal and professional dedication to leading RHTP and elevating rural voices to drive meaningful systems change.

Engagement Opportunities



More opportunities to provide input and support RHTP Implementation will be coming later this year.

Since the fall of 2025, the RHTP team has collected input from over 250 rural organizations. This information helped support the development of our application and continues to help guide our planning of implementation strategies.

In June, the RHTP team hosted four engagement sessions with 81 healthcare, community prevention, and workforce development partners from across the Commonwealth to share updates and collect key insights.

Thank you to those who participated in a session or shared your thoughts via email! Your perspectives play a key role in guiding implementation of RHTP.

Timeline

Summer 2026:

Launch of the RHTP Community Advisory Council

We're Hiring!

and continued
planning through
our initiative
workgroups

Summer 2026:
Procurement
period for vendors
and rural health
providers begins
via COMMBUYS

Fall 2026:
Implementation of
RHTP activities
begins



Some of the posted positions include:

- RHTP Evaluation Program Manager (DPH)
- RHTP Evaluation Program Director (DPH)
- Healthy Rural Communities Manager (DPH)
- Rural Population Health Manager (DPH)
- Innovative Models for Rural Health Manager (DPH)
- RHTP Fiscal Manager (DPH)

[View Open Positions](#)

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