

Statement of Work (SOW)

Initiative 10 - Clinical Training and Readiness - OB FMP Fellowships for Family Medicine Physicians

I. Initiative Overview:

On Dec. 29, 2025, Indiana was awarded a grant of nearly \$207 million for the first year of a five-year federal Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) to address health outcomes in the State's rural communities. This grant will provide funding for an Indiana institution to establish an OB Fellowship for Family Medicine Physicians in the initial year of award and fund the salaries of OB fellows in the following 4 years, with a focus on serving rural areas.

Indiana faces a growing shortage of maternity care providers, particularly in rural areas, that has contributed to the closure of maternity units and increased travel distances for pregnant women. When applying criteria for Maternity Care Health Professional Target Areas for population-to-provider ratios, only 14 Indiana counties have a sufficient maternity care professional capacity.

Family medicine physicians (FMPs) are uniquely positioned to close this gap with advanced training to provide comprehensive obstetric care safely and effectively. Obstetric Fellowship training provides an effective and fiscally prudent path to excellent maternity care. The scope and practice philosophy of FMP is well suited to address the comprehensive needs of maternal and child health.

The yearlong curriculum would include prenatal care of low-risk and high-risk pregnancies, inpatient labor and delivery, surgical obstetrics (including C-sections, D&Cs, tubal ligations and more), contraception management, obstetric ultrasound training and experience in case management opportunities, with rotations in NICU as well as Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM).

Fellows will complete rural rotations to gain broad experience in managing a wide range of obstetric care in rural settings. This exposure will help develop clinical confidence, adaptability, and procedural skills, while fostering an understanding of the unique health care challenges of rural communities. These rotations will emphasize continuity of care and patient-centered approaches, which are core to family medicine, inspiring fellows to pursue careers in rural or underserved areas.

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II. Goals and Objectives

The initiative aligns with the RHTP's strategic goal of workforce development and training.

- The State of Indiana is seeking competitive grant proposals from accredited institutions, health systems, or collaborative partnerships to design and implement an Obstetric Fellowship program for family medicine physicians (OB FMP) within/by 7/01/27 and continue to sustain the program following implementation.
- The fellowship should expand Indiana's maternal health workforce by increasing the number of family medicine physicians trained to provide high-quality obstetric care, with prioritized retention in rural communities.

III. Scope of Work

- Curriculum and Program Development
 - Develop and deliver an obstetric fellowship curriculum tailored to family medicine physicians.
 - Incorporate substantial rural clinical rotations, including longitudinal experiences with rural hospitals and clinics
- Faculty and Staff
 - Recruit faculty and staff as needed to support program development and execution.
- Clinical Site Agreements:
 - Formalize partnerships with healthcare organizations for student placements.
 - Execute clinical site agreements for student placements, inclusive of rural and underserved locations
 - Establish clinical training sites in hospitals, birth centers, and community health settings to provide hands-on experience.

- Establish clinical placements across inpatient and outpatient settings, including underserved and rural areas.
- Student Support Services
 - Implement recruitment and retention strategies designed to place graduating fellows in Indiana's rural communities.
- Evaluation and Quality Improvement
 - Collect and report required data on training activities, clinical encounters, maternal health outcomes, and post-graduation placement.
 - Demonstrate long term sustainability beyond the grant period.
 - Graduate at least four FM OB annually with 80% rural placements in Indiana.

Stakeholder Engagement

- Engage with medical schools and current medical residents to promote the OB FMP opportunity
- Consult with other institutions nationwide which currently provide OB FMP fellowships, to collect best practices on program development and implementation
- Following initial program launch, collect feedback from OB FMP fellows on program experience and improvement opportunities

IV. Outcomes & Metrics

- Program creation within the first year of grant award
- Demonstrate long term sustainability beyond the grant period
- Graduate at least four FM OB annually with 80% rural placements
- Monthly, quarterly, and annual reports regarding applications, enrollment, fellowship completion, and fellow success, inclusive of long-term rural placement, board certification exam success rates, if applicable

V. Staffing & Governance

- **Program Administrator** - Oversees initiative implementation, reporting, and coordination across all locations

- **Mentors** - To be assigned for each fellow, to provide professional support over the course of the fellowship
- **Senior Physicians** - To serve as direct supervisors to the fellows, and who will oversee all work for which the fellows are engaged

VI. Conclusion

This initiative provides an opportunity to expand long-term access to maternal healthcare in rural Indiana by creating a workforce pathway for clinicians to specialize in obstetric training within their family medicine focus, while prioritizing rural rotations and rural placement.

To apply for this grant opportunity, please complete the REDCap survey linked below by **July 06, 2026, at 5:00 PM EST:** [RHTP Initiative 10 - OB Fellowship for Family Medicine Physicians RFA Questions](#)

The REDCap survey will serve as the official grant application for this opportunity and will collect information related to institutional background, existing infrastructure and readiness, program implementation approach, staffing and partnership plans, rural workforce strategies, evaluation and sustainability planning, and anticipated budget needs.