INVEST IN RURAL HOSPITALS TODAY SO THEIR DOORS STAY OPEN TOMORROW

rural hospitals in Pennsylvania WITHOUT RURAL HOSPITALS 3.1 million Pennsylvanians

would not have to access to care in their counties



\$25 million STATE GENERAL FUND INVESTMENT **\$55 million** FEDERAL DOLLARS LEVERAGED

\$80 million support for rural hospitals

in the last two decades

33 hospitals REDUCED SERVICES OR CLOSED



Almost 1/2 of women in rural PA counties live more than

> minutes from a birthing hospital



\$47 million

TOP 10 **EMPLOYER** over **OF RURAL COUNTIES**

rural hospitals are trying to fill

26% **RN** positions 28% support staff charity care 69,500 direct & indirect jobs

\$14 billion economic impact

PA rural hospitals in 2022







INVEST IN RURAL HOSPITALS TODAY SO THEIR DOORS STAY OPEN TOMORROW

THE WHY

State government leaders, hospitals, payors, and other stakeholders are actively working together to identify a long-term, sustainable funding model to keep acute care hospitals in rural areas. The existing Pennsylvania Rural Health Model is set to expire at the end of this year.

Rural hospitals need your support today, so that their doors can stay open until tomorrow's sustainable solutions arrive.

THE SUM

The General Assembly can allocate \$25 million in state General Fund dollars in the FY 2024–25 state budget. The legislature can require that general funds be used to draw down federal matching dollars to help stabilize rural hospital finances.

In this way, a \$25 million General Fund investment can generate an estimated \$80 million to shore up Pennsylvania's struggling rural hospitals.

THE HOW

Through Medicaid, the federal government can increase certain payments to hospitals. The 'federal medical assistance percentage' (FMAP) enables states to maximize their own hospital allocations by 'drawing down' an enhanced federal match that ranges between 50% and 83%.

Seeking the federal match ensures that the commonwealth doesn't leave crucial health care funding on the table. Every available dollar should be captured to safeguard rural Pennsylvanians' access to care.

The Center for Rural Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council (PHC4) identify 48 counties in Pennsylvania as rural. These are counties of 4th through 8th classes.



PA'S RURAL COUNTIES 4th Class 5th Class 6th Class 7th Class 8th Class