Driving Health *Forward*

Volume 6 Fall 2026

Driving Health *Forward* Digest

The Moment for Mobile Healthcare is NOW.

Launched in February 2025, Driving Health *Forward* is a fast-growing national campaign comprising more than 510 individuals and more than 300 organizations all dedicated to promoting healthcare system change. The campaign advocates the expansion of mobile healthcare as an essential, high-quality, and cost-effective approach to improve access to care, reduce health disparities, and build a more resilient healthcare system.

Join Us, Follow, Comment, and Share!

To join us, learn more about and support Driving Health *Forward*, visit our website.
Follow us on Bluesky, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn!

Don't forget to follow Driving Health *Forward*, comment on and share our posts!

Driving Health *Forward*: Everything's Up to Date in Kansas City*

Convening Highlights and Survey Results!

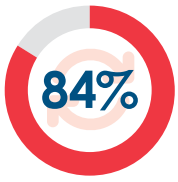


Despite the Nor'easter creating difficult travel conditions, approximately 45 campaign participants and sector leaders gathered in Kansas City, alongside the 2026 Annual Mobile Healthcare Conference, for the third Driving Health *Forward* convening. Nicky Goren and Don Blanchon opened by reflecting on the campaign's journey and thanking the participants, whose expertise and work drove its progress. They then shared results of the stakeholder survey many of you completed this summer.

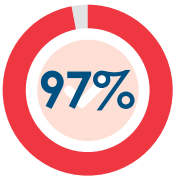
Highlights

84% of respondents would recommend that a colleague or peer organization engage with the campaign, about half said it created significant or transformational impact, and 97% found the policy briefs useful to extremely useful. Respondents named the campaign's Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) advocacy as its most

Highlights continued on next page →



Recommend that a colleague or peer organization engage with the campaign



Found the policy briefs useful to extremely useful

* *An explanation of the reference for those of us who are not Rodgers & Hammerstein fans*

significant accomplishment and pointed to convening a fragmented sector and advancing policy advocacy as its most important contributions. Respondents were equally clear about where work remains. Reimbursement that fits the mobile model, proof of return on investment, and sustainability beyond grant funding topped the list of gaps, and there was strong support for unfinished initiatives including Making the Case, a multi-state learning collaborative, a Certificate of Excellence, and a strategic business roadmap.

Following table discussions and report-outs, we convened the *Future of Mobile Healthcare* panel featuring sector leaders Mary Ellen Beliveau, M.Ed., CEO of the Mobile Healthcare Association (MHA); Mary Kathryn Fallon, Director of Mobile Health Map (MHM); Gina Capra, Chief Education Officer of the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC); Travis LeFever, Board Director of the Global Mobile Medical Association (GMMA); and Victoria Reinhartz, PharmD, CPh, Executive Director of the National Association of Mobile Integrated Healthcare Providers (NAMIHP). They looked ahead to how their organizations, individually and in partnership, can support the sector's expansion.

Nicky and Don closed with two takeaways from the survey: the sector needs more partnership and collaboration than exists today, and it needs significantly more investment, from more sources, in the infrastructure organizations that help support and grow the field.

A big thank you to all of you who attended and made this campaign possible!

ICYMI: Panel discussion on *Policy Change and Advocacy– The Road to Financial Sustainability for Mobile*

At the Mobile Healthcare Association's 2026 Annual Mobile Healthcare Conference, Nicky Goren, Don Blanchon, and Krista Drobac of Sirona Strategies led



a session, *Policy Change and Advocacy—The Road to Financial Sustainability for Mobile*. Nicky introduced Driving Health *Forward* and its key initiatives and explained why the campaign sees advocacy and financial sustainability as closely linked. Don walked through the campaign's policy agenda and its series of seven policy briefs, which address barriers, including payment models and payment barriers to team-based care, scope of practice and licensure, access to lower-cost capital for new vehicles, and designation of mobile programs as Essential Community Providers, along with the case for dedicating a portion of RHTP funding to mobile healthcare. He also shared how participants can put the briefs to work in their own communities and states.

Krista addressed the advocacy gap in the mobile healthcare sector and what the field can learn from telehealth's policy experience. She and Don then discussed current federal and state policy opportunities for engaging policymakers and advancing sustainable financing pathways for mobile healthcare, including those created by RHTP. The session closed by inviting participants to weigh in on which advocacy and policy issues are missing and how they can help advance policy work across the sector.

CBS affiliate KCTV5 Kansas City spoke with Driving Health *Forward*'s Don Blanchon during the Annual Mobile Healthcare Conference in Kansas City about the growing role of mobile healthcare. Don emphasized that mobile care is not limited to one population, condition, or type of community. In many places, it may be the only available source of healthcare. The segment examines how mobile clinics are expanding access as rural hospitals face increasing pressure and communities continue navigating barriers to care. It also features perspectives from Mobile Healthcare Association CEO Mary Ellen Beliveau and Dr. Arturo Brito of Children's Health Fund on the growth of the field and its impact on children and families. The full clip is available here!



Don Blanchon was also featured in the Mobile Healthcare Association podcast, *Care In Motion: On The Road*. In Episode 6, "The Road Ahead," Don joins Dr. Nancy Oriol of Mobile Health Map to discuss what comes next for mobile healthcare. Listen to the full series here.

State of Mobile Healthcare–RHTP Awards and Funding Opportunities

Charting Mobile Around the Country: 49 states prioritized mobile healthcare in their RHTP applications. Now most of the first-year awards have been released. We have the resource to help you identify where that funding is going – right on the homepage of our website! Click on the state of your choice on our map to get the details. Coming soon: state-by-state lists of mobile programs that were awarded funds.

States in the Spotlight: Here are a few of the recent highlights.

Arkansas awarded $1.5 million to NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine at Arkansas State University for a rural maternal health initiative. A portion of the funding will support the purchase of a second mobile health unit dedicated to maternal care.

Alabama announced two investments focused specifically on mobile healthcare: Faulkner University received $2.08 million to establish the Eagle Care Mobile Health Network and East Alabama Health Care Authority received $1.29 million to acquire a mobile outreach bus that will connect residents in Chambers, Macon, and Tallapoosa counties with primary care resources and preventive health screenings.

Colorado announced nearly $170 million in funding across the state. This includes expanding mobile and community-based health care services through new vehicles and mobile clinics, community paramedicine, Mobile Integrated Healthcare, and home-based services that bring care directly to rural communities.

Delaware is directing nearly $23 million to its three Federally Qualified Health Centers. The investments explicitly include two new mobile health units and a passenger van, along with remote patient monitoring, expanded care teams, electronic medical record upgrades, cybersecurity, and stronger chronic disease management.

Florida has announced nearly $188 million in RHTP awards. The state's announcement highlights mobile clinics as part of its broader rural healthcare strategy.

CMS has announced $120 million to strengthen rural healthcare across **Indiana**, with funding supporting locally driven strategies in eight state regions. Planned investments include new mobile medical and dental services designed to create additional access points for rural communities.

Maryland has announced $80 million in first-round RHTP awards, including several initiatives that support mobile healthcare and other innovative approaches to improving rural access to care.

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Mississippi announced 167 awards totaling more than $104 million. Six mobile-focused projects direct more than $4.1 million toward mobile clinics, mobile MRI services, telehealth, remote patient monitoring, and mobile Community Health Workers.

Missouri allocated more than $45 million for rural healthcare capacity, including EMS.

Nebraska announced $177 million in RHTP funding, which includes mobile services. This includes three maternal and family health mobile units in development to serve the Panhandle Public Health District, Public Health Solutions, and East Central District Health Department regions, helping ensure mothers and families in maternity-care deserts can access essential services close to home and improve health outcomes in rural communities

More than $11 million in funding will strengthen emergency medical services and expand Mobile Integrated Health across rural **New Hampshire**.

In **New Jersey**, the first round of RHTP awards will invest more than $83 million across 103 projects, including multiple mobile healthcare initiatives that expand access to care in rural communities.

North Carolina announced that the state will allocate $4 million to expand Mobile Outreach, Response, Engagement and Stabilization (MORES) teams to Beaufort, Edgecombe, Greene, Polk, Transylvania and Wilkes counties while strengthening existing teams in numerous counties. MORES is a team-based crisis response intervention for children and adolescents ages 3 to 21 experiencing escalating emotional and/or behavioral needs.

In **North Dakota**, applications have opened for a new $50.5 million round of RHTP grants supporting initiatives such as rural ambulance technology, telehealth infrastructure, remote patient monitoring, childcare solutions for healthcare workers, and other efforts to strengthen rural healthcare systems.

Ohio has announced $92 million in RHTP funds, which includes mobile prenatal care services.

In **Oregon**, the Willamette Health Council was selected to receive up to $4.3 million across two budget periods to lead the Rural Marion–Polk Mobile Health Pilot, establishing new services across rural Polk County and the Santiam Canyon.

Rhode Island is allocating $7.2 million for mobile and community-based care, including medical, dental and behavioral health.

South Carolina is providing $167 million across 228 rural health grants which support mobile healthcare, telehealth and workforce development.

Virginia has opened a Community Paramedicine and Mobile Integrated Healthcare funding opportunity for community-driven projects that expand access to care and preserve emergency response resources in rural communities. Approximately $3.7 million is available, with awards of up to $400,000 per project.

West Virginia awarded more than $4 million to Minnie Hamilton Health Care Center for three rural healthcare projects. A $1.7 million award will support a mobile medical clinic providing primary care, chronic disease management, behavioral health services, wound care, diagnostic services, telehealth specialty consultations, and care coordination across rural communities.

Mobile Research, Events, News & Notes



A newly released March of Dimes report highlights the persistent barriers many families face when seeking maternity care. It recognizes mobile health centers as an important solution to expand access in underserved communities. Today, March of Dimes Mom & Baby Mobile Health Centers® are bringing prenatal care, education, and support directly to families in communities with limited access to maternity services, helping reduce barriers and improve continuity of care.

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Mobile Events

- That's a wrap on the Annual Mobile Healthcare Conference in Kansas City, which had 536 registered attendees and 34 exhibitors this year! FOX4 covered the event and captured key features. Other highlights included:
  - The program kicked off with Alan Morgan, MPA, CEO of the National Rural Health Association, delivering the opening keynote address on Rural Health Transformation and the Future of Access: Why Mobile Healthcare Matters Now. Throughout the keynote, Alan connected the data and policy landscape to the real work happening in communities — highlighting the power of partnerships, the importance of collaboration, and the role innovative care delivery models can play in expanding access. One key message that especially resonated with the audience, "Mobile health is necessary for the future of rural health."
  - Before a packed house, Eric Geis, FACHE, and Bob Robke of Oracle Health delivered a panel presentation on the digital backbone for mobile and rural healthcare. This is exactly the conversation the mobile healthcare sector needs. As care moves further from a fixed address, the infrastructure behind it- interoperable data, reliable connectivity, systems built for distributed environments- matters just as much as the provider or the vehicle delivering the care.
  - The Mobile Healthcare Association established the Nancy E. Oriol MD Leadership in Mobile Healthcare Award, recognizing Dr. Oriol's extraordinary and enduring contributions to the sector. This award will carry her legacy forward by recognizing leaders who go where people are, earn trust, listen for what is not said, and build with communities.
  - Attendees heard a poignant tribute for Tim Kitch, Founder of ADI Mobile Health, who passed away earlier this year. Alyson Farber of Farber Specialty Vehicles delivered opening remarks highlighting Tim's role and influence in the early years of the Association while Amy Kitch-Bowen, CEO of ADI Mobile Health and Tim's daughter, shared how much this work meant to her father and the communities they serve.

- The National Association of Mobile Integrated Healthcare Providers' (NAMIHP) commemorated its annual MIH Week the week of Oct. 4. This year, NAMIHP is naming daily champions, including programs in South Carolina, Kansas, Indiana, and Virginia, and encouraging states and organizations to recognize the week through proclamations.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS®

National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) took to Capitol Hill in September along with more than 100 Community Health Center (CHC) advocates representing more than 20 states for its latest fly-in, bringing the voice of community health directly to members of Congress and their staff. Advocates shared firsthand perspectives on key priorities—from protecting 340B and advancing Medicare payment reform to strengthening and expanding primary care. Additionally, Care in Motion: The CHC Mobile Health Experience welcomed congressional office visits representing 15 states, offering policymakers a firsthand look at how mobile health brings comprehensive care directly to communities.

Has your organization been featured in the news? We want to know!