

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 20, 2025

Dr. Mehmet Oz
CMS Administrator
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244

Dear Administrator Oz,

As members of Iowa's Congressional Delegation, we are pleased to write in strong support of Iowa's application for the Rural Health Transformation (RHT) Program. (CMS-RHT-26-001).

Iowa's application for the RHT Program, *Healthy Hometowns*, aligns directly with the strategic priorities established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS): Make Rural America Healthy Again, Sustainable Access, Workforce Development, Innovative Care, and Tech Innovation.

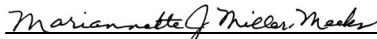
Healthy Hometowns comprises initiatives that collaborate to support rural hospitals and their partners, foster long-term systemic sustainability of rural healthcare, prevent and treat chronic diseases, combat cancer, and invest in equipment and technology upgrades. The initiative includes six key components:

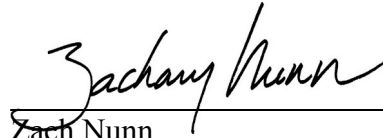
- **Hometown Connections:** Expanding Centers of Excellence and developing Health Hubs with investments in telehealth, medical equipment, and care for uninsured Iowans.
- **Best and Brightest:** Recruiting and retaining top-tier health professionals in rural communities through targeted incentives.
- **Combat Cancer – Prevent and Treat:** Increasing access to cancer screening and treatment, forming cancer-specific hubs, and supporting families and research.
- **Communities of Care:** Co-locating providers for coordinated multidisciplinary care supported by community health workers.
- **Health Information Exchange:** Ensuring seamless access to health records across the state to support continuity of care.
- **EMS Community Care Mobile:** Bringing care directly to rural residents through mobile health services and high-risk transport support.

As we've said, Iowa embodies the purpose of the RHT Program and our shared effort to make sure rural Americans have the tools they need to keep pace with today's health system.

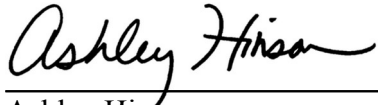
We urge you to give the State of Iowa's application full and fair consideration. We appreciate your leadership and partnership in this effort and stand ready to assist or answer questions.

Sincerely,

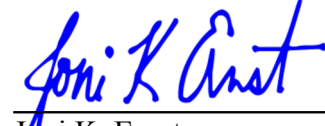

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