

***Alabama Public Radio Newsroom
Public File
July 3rd through September 29, 2017***

Topics Covered

***Access to Rural Healthcare
Prenatal/Postnatal care in Rural Areas
State policy on Rural Healthcare
Race Relations
Campus Sexual Assault
Sexual issues on-campus
Education***

RURAL HEALTH

9/26/2017—"The Hospital on Life Support." All year long on Alabama Public Radio, we've been looking at rural healthcare. Advocates of rural healthcare in Alabama say a critical element is how to pay for treatment. Today's failed effort by Republican Senators to repeal the Affordable Care Act only serves to punctuate these concerns. Alabamians already face the fourth highest health insurance rates in the nation and rural hospitals here receive among the lowest reimbursements from Medicare. APR's Pat Duggins has more on what this means for rural healthcare providers, and the people who need that help. 7:45, 4:44 (6:00)

9/6/2017—"Being Jolted Around in an Ambulance in Full Blown Labor is not fun..." All year long, the Alabama Public Radio news team has been investigating rural healthcare in the state. Studies often list Alabama as having the worst infant mortality rate in the nation. One factor is the lack of maternity units in rural hospitals in Alabama. This can lead to premature births or delayed care, which are often blamed for early infant death. APR's Pat Duggins has more on a hospital business model that could help, but possible changes to the Affordable Care Act might make matters worse... 7:45, 4:44 (7:00)

8/24/ 2017 "Rural Health: Scars of Tuskegee" All year long at Alabama Public Radio, we've been looking at rural health. Many of the challenges residents of these communities face are a lack of doctors and hospitals, and the money to pay for care. For many African-Americans in Alabama, a lack of trust of outsiders and the government. This issue can be traced back to a study conducted by the U.S. government on black men living around Tuskegee. This year marks a twenty year milestone in a federal study of syphilis which still resonates across the country. 7:45, 4:44 (6:23)

8/17/2017 "Think Small—Rural Hospitals." All year long, the Alabama Public Radio news team has been investigating the state's rural healthcare system. One issue is hospitals. Seven rural counties in Alabama don't have one, and one more county may be added to that list by the end of the month. John Paul Jones hospital in Wilcox County says it will close after sixty years. Five other rural hospitals have closed since the year 2010. APR's Pat Duggins reports eighty percent of those that are left are operating in the red, in part due to Medicare which pays less in rural Alabama than almost anywhere else in the nation. 7:45, 4:44 (7:00)

8/3/2017—"Help Wanted: Alabama's Rural Health Care Crisis." Advocates working to fix problems with rural health care say Alabama is ground zero nationally. Studies say Alabama has the highest infant mortality rate in the U.S. The state also leads the nation for diabetes. Alabama is also home to Gadsden which had the lowest life expectancy in the nation in 2016. Despite all this, rural

hospitals in the state receive among the lowest reimbursements nationally from Medicare. APR's Pat Duggins reports that's blamed for eighty percent of Alabama's hospitals that are operating in the red. 7:45, 4:44 (7:00)

CURRENT EVENTS

07/26/2017- "Sexual Assault Nurse Program Planned For Tuscaloosa" A national news story may help to spark change in Tuscaloosa. Work is underway to offer a new service following the suicide of former University of Alabama student Megan Rondini. APR Student reporter Katie Willem has more on the program called SANE...7:45,4:44 (6:46)

08/30/2017- "The High Cost of Sugar" Paying for college is an on-going problem in the U.S. The website studentloanhero.com says the average graduate ends up with \$37,000 worth of debt along with their diploma. That's almost one and a half trillion dollars overall -- more than what U.S. households owe on their credit cards. APR student reporter Miranda Fulmore reports there's a growing trend on college campuses to address this money crunch, and it's raising eyebrows. 7:45, 4:44 (7:15)

9/22/17 – "Schoolyard Roots Director on Garden Party" APR's Alex AuBuchon talks with Schoolyard Roots Interim Director Eric Courchesne about the nonprofit's mission of building and maintaining teaching gardens in area elementary schools, and about the organization's upcoming Garden Party fundraiser. 7:45 (4:39)

7/6/17 – "Druid City Garden Project is Now Schoolyard Roots" APR's Alex AuBuchon talks with Schoolyard Roots Director Lindsay Turner Trammell about Schoolyard Roots' new efforts to expand the program's curriculum of teaching gardens in elementary schools outside the Tuscaloosa city and county school systems. 7:45 (4:28)