Goal 5: Translate National Policy, Educational and Program Recommendations into Research and Public Health Care Actions

*Outline of United states with “rural” inside borders:* Transportation: Let’s get the care to patients

* Does it always have to be patients 🡪 care?
* Rural public transportation is the car and truck
* Differentiation: All rural is not the same

How do we put feet to our care and realize our goals?

How do we take what we know and translate it to rural care?

Rural doctors have a lot of knowledge to share

*Farm buildings and government buildings:* Make the flow bi-directional for greater innovation

* What are the impactful reports that need to be delivered to gain the attention needed?
* We need quality research on rural practices.
* We need science to back the savings

It takes a village to do this right!

Today – 410 people dies from COPD…We need to organize and build momentum

How can we better organize the activities of rural patient groups, government and municipal services, and payers at the state and federal level?

Do they even consider the people in rural communities as they develop policies?

Develop the community to support patients thru pulmonary rehab and local care givers

*Diverse group of patients:* Better Breathers Health Club “Join Us!”

* We have to support each other

Go to the Patients

*School bus with people inside:* Drive for COPD

*Baptist church with sign*: Get your COPD care today

*Signs that say:* Got to the patients, go to the students, go to the health practitioner

Involve all the pillars of the local communities

* Church
* Economic development authority
* Schools
* Respected leaders

It takes partnership across all parts of the care and policy continuum

Act locally…What happens at the local level can change lives. It can start with you.

What are the challenges?

* 670 rural hospitals are on the verge of closing
  + 140 closures last year
* 45% of deaths are more prevalent in rural areas
  + Opioids
  + Aging population
  + Suicide

This is a disease with the stigma of smoking and self-cause

*Sick patient with oxygen tank at clinic:* “I never smoked”

* Occupation
* Genetics (ATT)- Alpha-1 Antitrypsin
* Environment

We need to keep the science developing for understanding interoperability of care

Graphics by @StephScribes.