



Quality Connect is a monthly newsletter from Stratis Health designed to support your critical access hospital (CAH), providing updates and resources related to quality reporting and improvement efforts. To share your feedback or request to have another team member added to the list, please contact Jodi Winters – jwinters@stratishealth.org.

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Reporting Reminders/Updates

Upcoming Reporting Deadlines

- HCAHPS Q1 2026 due by July 8, 2026 (via HQR)
- EDTC Q2 2026 due by July 31, 2026 (via MHA Portal)
- OP-18 Q1 2026 due by August 3, 2026 (via HQR)
- Population and Sampling is optional but encouraged

For more information on submitting MBQIP measures, refer to the [MBQIP Minnesota Quality Reporting Guide](#). Additionally, consult the [MBQIP Core Measure Set and Data Submission Deadlines](#) for upcoming submission deadlines, now updated to reflect reporting for Q1 2026 through Q4 2026.

Resources

Opportunity to Participate in National CAH Infrastructure Capital Readiness Survey

This information is shared on behalf of Stroudwater Capital Partners.

Critical access hospitals are vital to rural communities, but many face aging facilities and rising costs. To help rural health leaders plan for stronger infrastructure, Stroudwater Capital Partners, with support from the National Rural Health Association, has launched the [National Critical Access Hospital Infrastructure Capital Readiness Survey](#).

If you are a CAH CEO, CFO, financial leader, or decision-maker, your insight is incredibly valuable, regardless of where your hospital stands right now. By investing just five minutes in this survey, you'll help lift the entire rural health sector and unlock resources for your own facility.

Your hospital will receive:

- A copy of the national benchmark report – gain clear insights into how your capital plans compare with peers nationwide, helping you advocate for your facility.
- Complimentary debt capacity analysis (optional) – securely upload 2-3 years of audited financials for a free, customized roadmap showing the funding structures your organization can realistically support.

All responses are strictly confidential and only reported in aggregate.

Right now, no data like this exists, and we are working to change that by building tools and resources that provide CAHs with a clearer picture of CAH infrastructure.

[Take the 5-minute survey now](#) or [learn more about the initiative](#).

Minnesota Rural Health Transformation Program Funding Opportunities

The Minnesota Department of Health recently announced additional funding opportunities for rural health care providers across several topic areas, including:

- RHTP Statewide Tele-buprenorphine Access Line
- RHTP Child and Adolescent Mental Health Initiatives
- RHTP Healthcare Workforce Retention Program

For more information about these and other funding opportunities, check out the [Rural Health Transformation Program Funding webpage](#). All projects described are pending a fully approved budget.

Updated MBQIP Core Measures Set and Data Submission Deadlines

The update [MBQIP Core Measure Set and Data Submission Deadlines](#) resource includes an overview of the current MBQIP Core Measures by domain, as well as

detailed data submission deadlines for encounter periods from Q1 2026 through Q4 2026.

Upcoming Events

MBIQIP Open Call for MN CAHs | July 8, 2026, 1-2 p.m. CT

[Register](#)

Stratis Health hosts open discussion calls for Minnesota CAHs to support them in submitting data for core MBQIP measures, share promising practices with other CAHs, and ask questions of Stratis Health staff and each other. CAHs are encouraged to review their MBQIP reports before the calls and to come with questions.

Additional 2026 calls and registration [can be found on our website](#).

Contact

For support with your quality reporting and improvement needs, please contact Jodi Winters at jwinters@stratishealth.org.

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About Stratis Health

Stratis Health is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to collaborate and innovate to improve health. Stratis Health delivers data-driven insights, evidence-based interventions, and leading-edge improvement methodologies that inspire organizations and communities to achieve solutions to their most complex health improvement challenges. Visit the Stratis Health website at www.stratishealth.org for more information.



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