

**UAMS News Bureau**

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**UAMS Launches Five Satellite Training Centers  
to Improve Digital Health in Arkansas, Tennessee**

LITTLE ROCK — [The South Central Telehealth Resource Center](#) at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) is opening five satellite training centers in Arkansas and Tennessee.

Part of the [UAMS Institute for Digital Health & Innovation](#), the South Central Telehealth Resource Center will use evidenced-based best practices to train health care professionals in the delivery of digital health services at four sites in Arkansas and one in Tennessee:

- UAMS Northwest Regional Campus – Fayetteville
- UAMS East Regional Campus – Helena-West Helena
- University of Tennessee Health Science Center – Memphis, Tennessee
- Arkansas Rural Health Partnership – Lake Village
- Jefferson Regional Medical Center School of Nursing – Pine Bluff

The satellite sites – and the South Central Telehealth Resource Center housed at the UAMS institute – are funded by a [two-year grant](#) from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a [one-year grant](#) from the Health Resources and Services Administration.

Totaling more than \$1.8 million, the two grants were awarded to expand and enhance digital health services nationwide and in rural communities.

“Through technology and innovation, UAMS has the opportunity to train more health care professionals who will provide our communities with quality health through digital health care across multiple states,” said [Joseph Sanford, M.D.](#), director of the institute.

[Hari Eswaran, Ph.D.](#), director of the South Central Telehealth Resource Center, will oversee the launch of the new satellite training centers, which will support the integration of digital health in educational and health care settings through in-person and virtual training.

“The satellite centers serve as a location where people can get training in digital health for all levels, ranging from high school students to clinicians,” said Eswaran, who is also the institute’s director of research.

“As we continue to integrate health care and technology to care for patients, the South Central Telehealth Resource Center allows us to develop more professionals who can deliver care through digital health and ultimately reduce barriers in accessing quality health care in our three-state region,” said Eswaran.

With satellite training centers opening on four educational campuses, the South Central Telehealth Resource Center will have direct access to train future health care professionals. The training centers are equipped with remote patient monitoring devices and digital health tools and resources.

“The Satellite Telehealth Training Centers will give students, faculty and partnering clinicians a centralized location to learn more about digital health,” said Sarah Rhoads, Ph.D., DNP, professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. “We are excited to partner with the South Central Telehealth Resource Center to provide telehealth technical assistance in our satellite training center equipped with a large selection of digital software and hardware.”

The South Center Telehealth Resource Center will also focus heavily on eliminating health disparities in the Arkansas Delta.

“Jefferson Regional School of Nursing is pleased to collaborate with UAMS to provide educational opportunities for southeast Arkansas,” said Michelle Newton, MSN, RN, director of the Jefferson Medical Center School of Nursing. “Our nursing students will have the opportunity to actively engage in community digital health that will significantly benefit their respective communities.”

The South Central Telehealth Resource Center serves rural communities in Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee and is part of the National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers. The consortium is comprised of 12 regional and two national telehealth resource centers.

To visit a training center, submit an IDHI Training Center [Interest](#) Form.

For more information about the South Central Telehealth Resource Center, visit [LearnTelehealth.org](#).

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; hospital; a main campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Translational Research Institute and Institute for Digital Health & Innovation. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise including its hospital, regional clinics and clinics it operates or staffs in cooperation with other providers. UAMS is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. *U.S. News & World Report* recognized UAMS Medical Center as a Best Hospital for 2021-22; ranked its ear, nose and throat program

among the top 50 nationwide for the third year; and named five areas as high performing — colon cancer surgery, diabetes, hip replacement, knee replacement and stroke. *Forbes* magazine ranked UAMS as seventh in the nation on its Best Employers for Diversity list. UAMS also ranked in the top 30% nationwide on *Forbes*' Best Employers for Women list and was the only Arkansas employer included. UAMS has 2,876 students, 898 medical residents and six dental residents. It is the state's largest public employer with more than 10,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses, Arkansas Children's, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit [www.uams.edu](http://www.uams.edu) or [www.uamshealth.com](http://www.uamshealth.com). Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).

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