



Rural Development • Rural Housing Service • Community Facilities

Ward County Receives Grant for Hospital Equipment

Ward Memorial Hospital is a 25 bed Critical Access Hospital which provides inpatient and swing bed services, as well as, outpatient lab, radiology, CT, ultrasound, mobile MRI, ER, physical therapy, sleep wellness center and surgery. The providers include two Physicians, one Nurse Practitioner and a Physician’s Assistant. Ward Memorial Hospital is a component of Ward County.

A number of procedures conducted at the hospital require the use of a scope system. However, the scope system that the hospital currently uses is 15 years old and near the end of its useful life.

In March 2016, USDA Rural Development approved a Community Facilities grant in the amount of \$18,900 to assist in the purchase of a reconditioned Olympus Flexible Scope System Model 180 Series which includes a video processor, light source, colonoscopy, gastroscopy, system cart, 19” flat screen monitor, and suction pump. Ward Memorial Hospital will contribute \$35,100. The equipment will allow Ward Memorial Hospital to better serve the medical needs of the community.

Ward County has received a designation as a health professional shortage area for primary care, as well as, a designation as a medically underserved area by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration. It is important that rural healthcare facilities such as Ward Memorial Hospital have the necessary tools needed to allow residents the opportunity to seek medical diagnosis and treatment closer to home.

USDA Rural Development Community Programs enhance the quality of life for rural Texans by providing funds to governmental entities, nonprofit organizations and Indian Tribes for essential community facilities and services. Funds may be used for a variety of community projects. Previous funds have been used to enlarge, improve or construct schools, libraries, farmers markets, medical clinics, assisted living centers, public buildings, community centers or fund new and improved water and wastewater facilities. Funds are also available to purchase public safety equipment such as ambulances, firefighting equipment and other required emergency service gear.



Ward Memorial Hospital was approved for a Community Facilities Grant to help purchase much needed hospital equipment.

Obligation Amount: \$18,900 grant

Date of Obligation: March 23, 2016

Congressional District: Representative Hurd, District 23; Senators Cornyn and Cruz

Partners: Ward County

Demographics: Ward County Population—10,658

Impact: The funding allowed Ward County to replace a 15 year old scope system that was near the end of its useful life and better serve the health care needs of the area.