



DLT Grant Awards – Maine

2012 Grant Awards

Central Maine Healthcare Corporation

\$309,619

Maine

Areas Served: Cumberland, Androscoggin, Franklin, Oxford and Somerset Counties

Contact: Susan A. Smith

Telephone: (207) 795-2954

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used by Central Maine Healthcare to purchase video conferencing and related equipment for a telemedicine project that covers 5 counties in Western, Central and coastal Maine. This service area has significantly high rates of chronic disease among its residents. Maine's geographical barriers and weather conditions ramp up the need for telemedicine, and this project brings those capabilities to the rural residents of Fryeburg, Rumford, Bridgton, Farmington, and Skowhegan, where the equipment will be used to better manage and treat chronic disease. The same telemedicine system will be used to offer courses that lead to degree programs in Nursing and Radiologic Technology, and to support a Family Medicine Residency program.

Regional School Unit 24/Ellsworth School District

\$499,967

Maine and Vermont

Areas Served: Cumberland, Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Washington, Windham, and Windsor Counties

Contact: Suzanne Lukas

Telephone: (207) 667-8136

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. (ME); Michaud, 2nd Dist. (ME); and Welch, At-Large (VT)

Rural Development funds will be used to purchase an assortment of distance learning equipment, including video conferencing units, cameras, monitors, bridging equipment, computers and video enabling software – all used in a vast distance learning network designed to engage students in five counties in Maine and two counties in Vermont. Both adult learners and school age children will participate in the comprehensive educational network, including medical courses for health care and non health care students. 11,000 rural residents of Maine's Piscataquis, Aroostook, Washington and Hancock counties, and Vermont's Winsor and Windham counties will stand to benefit from the educational and professional training opportunities with this enormous array of courses and access to live and re-broadcasted instruction.



2011 Grant Awards

Maine School Administrative District No. 75

\$467,873

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Cumberland, Penobscot, Sagadahoc, Waldo, and Washington Counties

Contact: J. Michael Wilhelm

Telephone: (207) 729-9961

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Desktop video systems mounted on carts and controlled by laptops will be installed at twenty six sites, including five community learning centers and 21 public schools, including elementary, middle and high schools. Funding from USDA Rural Development will make possible this system, which will bring collaborative education across six Maine counties and offer virtual field trips, vocational instruction, dual credit and advanced placement courses. Once established into the larger video networks available in Maine, this particular arrangement of schools will be able to link with institutions such as the University of Maine and the Cobscook Community Learning Center – which will also provide tutoring for all grade levels in all subjects. Part of the distance learning network is the Maine Indian Education School District encompassing two tribal reservations, which will offer cultural programs unique to their cultures, such as the Passamaquoddy language. The administrative district will match grant funds with \$140,779 of local funding.

Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice

\$325,000

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Cumberland, Franklin, Kennebec, Oxford, Sagadahoc, and Somerset Counties

Contact: Theresa Blaschke

Telephone: (207) 795-9428

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st, Michaud, 2nd

Androscoggin's home health service territory encompasses 113 communities in Central, Western and mid-coastal Maine. With this grant, they will expand to cover more patients and their families. USDA Rural Development funds will allow Androscoggin to purchase two hundred more monitors and install those at patients' homes, along with extra supplies of blood pressure cuffs and various computer components essential to the expansion. The additional monitors will help to alleviate the waiting list of home health patients who have been approved to receive home health care by their physicians. As resources become available, Androscoggin emphasizes care for patients with congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, diabetes and other cardiac conditions where



close monitoring of vital signs is essential. Androscoggin will match grant funds with \$335,000 of local funding.

Maine Sea Coast Missionary Society

\$108,820

Maine

Areas Served: Hancock, Knox, and Lincoln Counties

Contact: Rev. Scott Planting

Telephone: (207) 288-5097

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

For over 100 years, the Maine Sea Coast Mission has been providing health care services to island communities via the “Sunbeam,” a large ship that carries a nurse and medical exam room with a video conferencing unit. With the help of USDA Rural Development funds the Sunbeam will upgrade its capacity to provide services to these and expand to new remote island communities where healthcare was previously not available. The new configuration of stops will include Vinalhaven, Swan’s Island, Monhegan, Matinicus, Isle au Haut, Frenchboro and Islesford. This project will also fund equipment for two mainland hospital and recipient hub sites and four hub end-user sites at Bar Harbor, Southwest Harbor, Hallowell and Camden. Equipment includes sophisticated and specialized cameras, scopes, monitors, and advanced diagnostic software. New teleconferencing units and bridging equipment will be installed at the video end points and control center in the mainland towns. The expansion will allow the Sea Coast Mission to initiate a training program to emergency medical technicians throughout their network. Sea Coast Mission will match grant funds with \$109,802 of local funding.

Eastern Maine HomeCare

\$50,000

Maine

Areas Served: Hancock and Knox Counties

Contact: Lisa Harvey-McPherson

Telephone: (207) 973-7060

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Eastern Maine HomeCare serves elderly, chronically ill and coastal populations of Hancock County, Northeastern Maine with state-of-the-art telemonitoring homecare. USDA Rural Development will help provide funding for home telestations and attached peripheral devices, such as pulse oximeters and blood pressure cuffs, so that the patients’ health status can be better monitored and evaluated. Funds will also provide for laptops to be used as point-of-service computers home care clinicians use to connect with primary care physicians, to order medications for home patients and access a multitude of clinical procedures. Eastern Maine will match grant funds with \$51,935 of local funding.



Maine School Administrative District 3

\$492,200

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Cumberland, Kennebec, and Waldo Counties

Contact: Heather Perry

Telephone: (207) 948-6136

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

USDA Rural Development funds will assist Administrative District 3 in assembling a distance learning system that will connect 21 of Northeastern Maine's high schools, middle schools and elementary schools with each other and with higher education institutions to deliver classes, training and mentoring. To accompany the new technology, new curricula and programs in wind and solar energy and green agriculture will be featured, as well as a general emphasis on science, technology, engineering and math. Mobile carts equipped with video teleconferencing units and will allow flexibility at each site, including the Thomas College and Unity College locations, which will facilitate the offering of advanced placement courses, dual enrollment options and a wider array of foreign languages. Students and teachers at each site will also be able tap into the educational software and video platforms at the University of Maine Orono. Hub equipment will facilitate learning throughout the entire network with firewall transversal, content management, video bridging and scheduling. The Administrative District will match grant funds with \$149,251 of local funding.

Region Two School of Applied Technology

\$498,249

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Aroostook, Franklin, Hancock, Kennebec, Lincoln, Piscataquis, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Somerset, Waldo, Washington, and York Counties

Contact: Michael Patrick Howard

Telephone: (207) 532-9541

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Region Two and the Maine Adult Education Consortium have designed this proposal as one-of-three related applications addressing one statewide project-to provide access for adult learners in rural Maine to improve their employability and obtain marketable technical skills. Each wing of this network introduces a new configuration of rural end-users and content providers who will add value to the education network. In this wing, USDA Rural Development funds bring together University of Maine Cooperative Extension and United Technologies Center in a video conferencing system that will deliver professional development to educators at Cooperative Extension in 16 local program offices. These educators are key players in educating adults in their rural communities. There is an enormous need for basic reading comprehensive and numeracy skills necessary



to function in our literate community, especially with a growing immigrant population. Computer tablets installed with video client software will be installed at the extension offices, bringing them into the loop with collaborative-based teacher training. Region Two will match grant funds with \$154,151 of local funding.

Region Two School of Applied Technology

\$492,004

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Aroostook, Cumberland, Franklin, Hancock, Lincoln, Piscataquis, Penobscot, Somerset, Washington, and York Counties

Contact: Michael Patrick Howard

Telephone: (207) 532-9541

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Region Two and the Maine Adult Education Consortium have designed this proposal as one-of-three related applications addressing one statewide project-to provide access for adult learners in rural Maine to improve their employability and obtain marketable technical skills. Each wing of this network introduces a new configuration of rural end-users and content providers who will add value to the education network. In this wing, the consortium adds Eastern Maine Community College with its array of technical and skill-building classes. Another resource is the Maine College Transitions program, a high quality, cost-effective and accessible pathway to post-secondary education. Up until now it was previously available only to areas with higher populations. USDA Rural Development funds make it possible in this distance learning project to add eighteen more rural adult educational centers in this wing of the overall project as video end-points. The York County Jail and Somerset County Jail will also be included in the project and fitted with video conferencing equipment. As a solution for training and educating incarcerated persons, distance learning offers increased security all around-for law enforcement, for the public, and for the institutions that are involved in providing that educational venue. Region Two will match grant funds for this project with \$152,286 of local funding

Region Two School of Applied Technology

\$487,693

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Aroostook, Cumberland, Hancock, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Piscataquis, Somerset, Washington, and York Counties

Contact: Michael Patrick Howard

Telephone: (207) 532-9541

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Region Two and the Maine Adult Education Consortium have designed this proposal as one-of-three related applications addressing one statewide project, to provide access for adult learners in rural Maine to improve their employability



and obtain marketable technical skills. Each wing of this network introduces a new configuration of rural end users and content providers who will add value to the education network. In this wing, USDA Rural Development will fund 21 adult education centers to acquire desktop video conferencing equipment and computer tablets running video client-based software. The University of Maine at Orono will serve as the hub, and their distance learning network will acquire a new multi-point bridge and additional server licenses to support the new sites with a multitude of classes and programs geared toward job readiness skills. Region Two will match grant funds with \$168,686 of local funding.

Learning Disabilities Association of Maine

\$490,132

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Aroostook, Cumberland, Hancock, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Sagadahoc, Waldo, Somerset, Washington, and York Counties

Contact: Bruce Cort

Telephone: (207) 892-5224

Congressional District: Pingree 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Six to 10 percent of students suffer with specific learning disabilities (SLD). Their ability to read, write, comprehend and reason is compromised. Each disability type requires highly specialized treatment and learning methods. This distance learning project is designed to connect these students at 148 rural project sites in fifteen counties with educators and other specialists, many of whom will be available at the video endpoint which will be located at the Learning Disabilities Association of Maine. The system, funded by USDA Rural Development's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will allow the educators and specialists to form a collaborative and professional training video conferencing platform that will facilitate their capacity and effectiveness in addressing the challenges that their SLD students and families face. Using existing network infrastructure at the University of Maine Orono, the project will use a variety of equipment, including a multi-point conferencing bridge, and control equipment such as a video communications server, management server, and firewall transversal. Video equipment at the school sites will be a combination of desktop video conferencing units and standard laptops that will run client software which connects to the host video server. The Association will match grant funds with \$490,543 of local funding.

2010 Grant Awards

University of Maine System / University of Maine at Augusta

\$284,666

Maine



Areas Served: Androscoggin, Aroostook, Franklin, Hancock, Oxford, Penobscot, Piscataquis, and Washington Counties

Contact: John Forker

Telephone: (207) 621-3372

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This project will upgrade and expand the video conferencing system at the University of Maine at Augusta (UMA). It calls for a new bridge at UMA and the construction of eight large classrooms and ten small classrooms at the satellites' campuses. The updated network will supply a broader availability of classes for satellite campuses, increased efficiency to the University system as a whole, and greater linkages to professional development networks for teachers.

Eastern Maine Medical Center

\$152,095

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Hancock, Kennebec, Somerset, Waldo, and Washington Counties

Contact: Jean Mellett

Telephone: (207) 973-7443

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

RUS DLT funds will be used to expand the telemedicine systems already in place in rural Eastern Maine, and to further their connectivity to each other, and to outside medical resources. The network will reach six end-user site hospitals and includes two hub hospitals. The project will also expand access to critical care for patients in rural hospitals in order to provide real time monitoring of the patients, and extend the availability of tele-oncology to rural oncology clinics.

Kno-Wal-Lin Home Care and Hospice, Inc.

\$146,903

Maine

Areas Served: Knox, Lincoln, and Waldo Counties

Contact: Ms. Virginia Peckham

Telephone: (207) 594-6706

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This project will connect Knox, Lincoln, and Waldo Counties in Maine and several island communities with telemedicine technology. Tele-homecare and Tele-video units are the two essential parts of the project which will monitor patients' vital signs and allow interaction with care providers in addressing for chronic medical conditions.

Regional School Department / Regional School Unit # 78

\$441,841

Maine



Areas Served: Androscoggin, Cumberland, Franklin, and Oxford Counties
Contact: Brian Foster
Telephone: (207) 864-3311
Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

RUS DLT funds will provide 23 schools with video conferencing equipment to aid their special education program. Eighteen percent of Maine's K-12 students require special education. A distance learning program will provide new access for these schools to assist their special-needs students to assistance from physiologists, physicians, physical therapists, occupational therapists, nurses, audiologists, and other disability specialists – regardless of geographic restraints.

Maine School Administration District #52

\$471,646

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Aroostook, Kennebec, and Somerset Counties
Contact: Darlene Alice Burdin
Telephone: (207) 225-3795
Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This RUS-funded project extends an existing distance learning system to 10 rural schools, supplying them with interactive video technology and access to web-based content. Schools participating in this larger video-networked system benefit from the addition of more shared resources to draw from, and more collaborative possibilities. The newly connected schools will be able to participate for the first time in higher education courses, to gain degrees at a distance, and to better prepare for the modern workforce.

Regional School Unit #12

\$359,997

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Kennebec, and Waldo Counties
Contact: Diana Sommers
Telephone: (207) 549-3261
Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This distance learning project plans to integrate each students' academic life more closely with his and her personal digital interaction with the world, incorporating a wider level of interaction than a traditional classroom would provide. By using a web based course management system called Moodle, the hub site at the University of Maine Fort Kent will provide a platform of blogs, forums, podcasts and streaming videos so students can participate in many familiar electronic formats to enhance their learning experience, accomplish their course work and prepare for college and beyond.

School Administrative District #31



\$433,436

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Cumberland, Franklin, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Sagadahoc, Somerset, Waldo, Washington, and York Counties

Contact: Tricia Davis

Telephone: (207) 732-3112

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Maine Administrative District #31 will link libraries, schools and communities through distance learning. Video conferencing systems will bridge the gap between sites in fifteen libraries and nine schools. The system has a wide geographic base, and promises to create a public learning environment for many of Maine's rural communities opening up opportunities for job retraining and lifetime learning.

Maine Education Center for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

\$476,336

Maine, Massachusetts, New York

Areas Served: Aroostook, Cumberland, Hancock, Sagadahoc, Washington, York, Essex, Hampshire, Middlesex, Norfolk, and Monroe Counties

Contact: Barbara Keefe

Telephone: 207-781-6209

The technology from this distance learning project and its accompanying educational programming will help enable deaf and hearing impaired students to overcome geographical barriers in order to obtain an education not otherwise possible within their rural community. In particular this project will allow students to collaborate on methods to learn American Sign Language. The project also serves as a platform with which to connect these students with hearing students, teachers and parents in underserved areas.

Katahdin Valley Health Center

\$148,440

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook and Penobscot Counties

Contact: Lori A. Donley

Telephone: (207) 528-2285

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This is a telemedicine project which will use multipurpose video teleconferencing and health management software to targeted rural areas in Northern and Central Maine which are medically underserved, and which suffer from a shortage of health professionals. The equipment will bridge the gap and bring sub-specialty clinics, providing better coverage in behavioral health, oncology, dermatology, internal medicine and dental care.



MaineHealth

\$268,113

Maine

Contact: Dr. Jacquelyn Crawley

Telephone: (207) 541-7521

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

MaineHealth will be linking 33 rural municipalities specialists at urban hubs for stroke, trauma, and psychiatric care 24/7, and installing videoconferencing equipment in five outpatient facilities, many of which are located in counties which are exceptionally rural and designated medically underserved. The system accommodates integrated training and supervision for midlevel physicians and care providers at all locations, and provides enhanced continuing medical education throughout.

2009 Grant Awards

Eastern Maine Medical Center

\$371,563

Maine

Areas Served: Penobscot, Washington, Piscataquis, Somerset, Hancock, and Aroostook Counties

Contact: Deborah Johnson

Telephone: (207) 973-7862

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

DLT project will fund video conferencing and telemedicine technology that will link specialists in nine locations and other specialized medical departments at the recipient's facility. This will expand their 24/7 services, including critical and emergency care, to ten rural hospitals and nursing homes throughout Maine.

Maine School Administrative District No. 64

\$ 427,514

Maine

Areas Served: Penobscot, Waldo, Piscataquis, Aroostook, Washington, and Somerset Counties

Contact: Daniel Higgins

Telephone: (207) 285-3334

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This project will fund video teleconferencing equipment and desktop systems to link twenty one K-12 schools in a six-county area to share courses and collaborate, and to offer specialized and otherwise unavailable curriculum, such



as AP courses, vocational training in technology skills, and professional development for teachers.

Association of Computer Technology Educators of Maine (1)

\$498,494

Maine

Areas Served: York, Kennebec, Penobscot, Aroostok, and Hancock Counties

Contact: Crystal Priest

Telephone: (207) 646-2918

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This project will fund video conferencing equipment to link twenty five K-12 schools and a university campus with computer-based resources and institutions to expand course offerings and professional training in this large rural three-county area.

Association of Computer Technology Educators of Maine (2)

\$498,222

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostok, York, Cumberland, Oxford, Lincoln, Piscataquis, Knox, and Sagadahoc Counties

Contact: Crystal Priest

Telephone: (207) 646-2918

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This project will fund video conferencing equipment to link twenty two schools in an eight-county area, including K-12 schools, a university campus, and a school for the deaf, with four designated hub sites, including a library, a university, and the applicant – a computer-based learning institution.

Gorham School Department

\$498,701

Maine

Contact: Dennis P. Crowe

Telephone: (207) 222-1005

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This project will link twenty eight elementary, middle and high schools in six school districts including a vocational school with a model school-to-work transition program. This interactive classroom network greatly increases the offerings of courses, counseling and vocational training options over the entire service area.

Caribou School Department

\$498,943

Maine



Areas Served: Aroostook County
Contact: Frank McElwain
Telephone: (207) 496-6311
Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This project will provide interactive videoconferencing equipment for schools in eight towns in Aroostook County plus an employment center. These new facilities will enable those communities to gain access to a statewide educational network, providing new educational opportunities for students of all ages.

Region 2 School of Applied Technology

\$473,741

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Penobscot, Washington, Franklin, Hancock, Cumberland, Aroostook, York, Waldo, Knox, and Oxford Counties

Contact: Michael P. Howard

Telephone: (207) 532-9541

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This project will use video-conferencing to connect four central hubs with twelve vocational and technical centers over eleven counties to provide technical skills for post-secondary students, and opportunities for instructor-created online curriculum.

Island Institute

\$499,908

Maine

Areas Served: Knox, Cumberland, Waldo, Lincoln, and Aroostook Counties

Contact: Philip Conkling

Telephone: (207) 594-9209

Congressional District: Pingree, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This project will fund video conferencing equipment to twenty four rural, coastal island schools and two community resource centers which will open opportunities, not only linking the schools to each other, but also offering college courses, certification classes and post-secondary education for adults.

2008 Grant Awards

Association of Computer Technology Educators of Maine

\$373,823

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Aroostook, Cumberland, Franklin, Hancock, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Penobscot, and Piscataquis Counties

Contact: Vincent Emile Vanier



Telephone: (207) 646-2918
Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development grant funds will be used for an educational distance learning project between Association of Computer Technology Educators of Maine and partner K-12 schools in the entire state of Maine. The project will provide interactive distance learning studio equipment, equipment which will allow connectivity to the end user sites, connectivity to educational resources outside the consortium, and teacher and technician training

Franklin Memorial Hospital

\$100,000
Maine
Areas Served: Franklins County
Contact: Ralph Johnson
Telephone: (207) 779-3154
Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development grant funding will support the FMH Franklin Virtual ICU. The ICU will allow 24/7 electronic monitoring of patient conditions, patients will receive constant surveillance by specialists who will have access to patient information needed to intervene quickly and accurately. The Franklin Virtual ICU is a collaborative model using technology to link FMH patients with MaineHealth VitaNetwork's existing critical care team of intensivists, critical care nurses and support staff.

Maine School Administration District No. 19

\$385,165
Maine
Areas Served York and Sagadahoc, Somerset, Washington, Aroostook, Piscataquis, and Penobscot Counties
Contact: Michael J. Buckley
Telephone: (207) 733-5573
Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development grant funds will be used to install high definition interactive IP-based video conferencing for classroom environment. The project will integrate technology throughout the curriculum to enhance instruction and enable teachers to share course content. Cultural and educational experiences for students will also be provided via videoconferencing. Twenty-one schools will participate as hub/end-user sites.

Maine School Admin. District 52

\$425,118
Maine



Areas Served: Kennebec, Androscoggin, Aroostook, Somerset, and Washington Counties

Contact: Deborah Lynn Holland

Telephone: (207) 225-3406

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development grant funds will be used by MSAD 52 for a distance learning project that will utilize videoconferencing to bring enriching, horizon-expanding experiences for young children through virtual field trips, collaborative learning exercises, and other activities via this technology. The grant will fund equipment for three integrated distance learning classrooms, plus a portable unit and equipment at the NMCC campus. NMCC will provide extensive programming for adults in the 16 participating schools.

Rangley School Department

\$349,330

Maine

Areas Served: Franklin and Aroostook Counties

Contact: Phillip Richardson

Telephone: (207) 864-3311 x 130

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used by Rangley School Department in collaboration with other Maine School Administrative Districts to establish a distance learning teleconferencing system. This system will provide high quality advanced coursework as well as technical training for students and offer teachers expanded professional development options. Additionally, community programming will be enhanced, offering greater vocational and other enrichment opportunities for community members.

Regional School Unit One

\$420,548

Maine

Areas Served: Sagadahoc and York, Somerset, Aroostook, Washington, Piscataquis, and Penobscot Counties

Contact: Lawrence Bean

Telephone: (207) 443-6601

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development grant funds will be used for advanced distance learning technology to achieve academic goals and improve student achievement in alignment with the State of Maine Learning Results. RSU One will facilitate the development of an environment in which students will thrive, increasing their access to the information age. Content resources will be offered in college level advanced placement, faculty development, professional and continuing education, conferencing ability, and consulting services to partner districts. There



is also a provision for Supplemental Educational Services for all K-12 subjects with emphasis on math, reading and language arts.

Regional School Unit One

\$420,548

Maine

Areas Served: Sagadahoc, York, Somerset, Aroostook, Washington, Piscataquis, Penobscot Counties

Contact: Lawrence Bean

Telephone: (207) 443-6601

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development grant funds will be used for advanced distance learning technology to achieve academic goals and improve student achievement in alignment with the State of Maine Learning Results. RSU One will facilitate the development of an environment in which students will thrive, increasing their access to the information age. Content resources will be offered in college level advanced placement, faculty development, professional and continuing education, conferencing ability, and consulting services to partner districts. There is also a provision for Supplemental Educational Services for all K-12 subjects with emphasis on math, reading and language arts.

Spring Harbor Hospital

\$51,850

Maine

Areas Served: Cumberland, Lincoln, and Oxford Counties

Contact: Gail J. Wilkerson

Telephone: (207) 761-2292

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development grant funds will be used by Spring Harbor Hospital to establish a telepsychiatry project in rural Maine. The project will provide residents having a primary or secondary diagnosis of mental illness access to mental health care that is currently not available in rural areas. Services which will be provided include a one-time, one hour evaluation by a psychiatrist or a psychiatric nurse practitioner, followed by ongoing medication management and referral to local counseling resources.

2007 Grant Awards

Penobscot Bay Medical Center

\$183,003

Maine

Areas Served: Cumberland and Knox Counties

Contact: Dr. Dana Goldsmith



Telephone: (207) 596-8207
Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist.

USDA funds will be utilized to implement a system that uses telemedicine technology to connect off-site critical care specialist to ICU patients at Penobscot Bay Medical Center. The system will permit physicians and nurses to have access to qualified intensivists 24 hours a day, seven days a week, from MaineHealth in Portland, ME.

HealthReach HomeCare & Hospice

\$176,570

Maine

Areas Served: Kennebec County

Contact: Rebecca Colwell

Telephone: (207) 861-6200

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist.

This project will expand an existing “telehomehealth” system which monitors the condition of patients via telemedicine technology. Monitoring devices that will be placed in patient’s homes will track vital signs and some critically ill patients will receive video hook ups that will allow face-to-face consultations.

Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems

\$148,519

Maine and Massachusetts

Areas Serving: Knox, Aroostook, Hancock, Kennebec, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Somerset, and Norfolk Counties

Contact: Jean Mellett

Telephone: (207) 973-7443

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. (ME); Michaud, 2nd Dist. (ME); and Frank, 4th Dist. (MA)

This telemedicine project will expand existing services such as tele-psychiatry, tele-trauma, tele-genetics, tele-rehabilitation and distance education to additional rural healthcare patients and providers. New telemedicine services will include a thoracic clinic, nuero-psychology services and cancer counseling.

Maine General Medical Center

\$211,476

Maine

Areas Serving: Cumberland and Kennebec Counties

Contact: Michael Ennis

Telephone: (207) 624-4393

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist.



This project will equip two small rural hospitals with the equipment needed to communicate directly with a large state-wide health network which provides specialized remote consultations for critically ill patients. The command center will provide board certified intensive care specialists to consult with local doctors to meet the emergency and critical care needs of patients.

Maine School Administrative District # 59

\$465,848

Maine

Areas Serving: Kennebec, Aroostook, Franklin, Kennebec, and Somerset Counties

Contact: Sandra MacArthur

Telephone: (207) 696-3323

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

The Maine Rural Education Enhancement Project is a consortium of five rural school districts. The five districts will use video-conferencing equipment to share resources and expand educational offerings, using some traditional distance learning methods such as shared live and archived classes and a new group project involving students across sites and of different ages. In addition to the students and teachers, the project will impact adults through continuing and adult education courses.

Southern Aroostook Community School District No. 9

\$393,761

Maine

Areas Serving: Aroostook and Penobscot

Contact: Terry Comeau

Telephone: (207) 757-8223

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funding will place videoconferencing equipment in 15 sites which will enable the schools to connect to one another to share content, expertise, and staff to expand upon our students' learning opportunities. Additional courses and access to a wide-ranging education standard in urban areas will be offered. Students will benefit by being better prepared for state and college entrance exams, the demands of higher education, and the job market

Maine School Administration District No. 27

\$267,341

Maine

Areas Serving: Aroostook County

Contact: James Grandmaison

Telephone: (207) 834-3189

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.



Aroostook County has historically been built upon the agriculture and foresting industries. Jobs in these fields do not require high levels of education and residents previously had found easy work as unskilled laborers. Telecommunications equipment would be placed in each of their sites, enabling them to expand course offerings by connecting their sites to share teachers and classes. Their schools are limited in their ability to provide large numbers of courses due to low student enrollment and limited finances. They will connect their schools to Aroostook Mental Health Center to provide improved services for our special needs students. Placing videoconferencing equipment at all sites will allow the streaming and archiving system to provide content creation and distribution and view content on demand.

Greenville School Department

\$428,474

Maine, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Vermont, and Virginia
Areas Serving: Kennebec, Piscataquis, Somerset, Chicksaw, Panola, Vance, Saluda, Washington, and Arlington Counties

Contact: Heather Perry

Telephone: (207) 695-3708

Congressional District: Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. (ME); Michaud, 2nd Dist. (ME); Wicker, 1st Dist. (MS); Butterfield, 1st Dist. (NC); Barret, 3rd Dist. (SC); Welch, At-Large (VT); and Moran, 8th Dist. (VA)

This multi-state project will utilize web-based and interactive video conferencing to strengthen academic achievement and provide professional development activities for students and educators in partner school districts.

Maine School Administrative District #54

\$486,410

Maine

Areas Serving: Aroostook and Somerset Counties

Contact: David Person

Telephone: (207) 858-5453

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

This project will provide enhanced educational opportunities for 10 school in one of the most rural areas of Maine. The project will support interactive videoconferencing, web-based learning, streaming and archiving and development of core network infrastructure.

Maine School Administrative District 21

\$378,661

Maine

Areas Serving: Androscoggin, Franklin, Oxford, Penobscot, and Somerset Counties

Contact: Katherine Harvey



Telephone: (207) 562-6075
Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

The TEC-NET project will provide students with an expanded curriculum, enhanced foreign language instruction, and increased achievement. Participants in the project will have a minimum of T-1 connections to the Internet. Ten sites will receive interactive videoconferencing equipment and one site will receive infrastructure equipment to allow them to expand their access to video conferencing to all of the classrooms.

Maine School Administrative District No. 48

\$399,817

Maine

Areas Serving: Penobscot, Piscataquis, and Somerset Counties

Contact: Kelly Carter

Telephone: (207) 368-5091

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

The project will use distance learning technologies to form a rural alliance focused on improvement of the quality of life in rural Maine communities. Twelve school campuses and seven communities will benefit from a diverse and competitive curriculum and extended learning opportunities. Residents will have access to unlimited learning resources, an opportunity to achieve important career skills, technology to inspire higher academic achievement and test scores, and equip rural life-saving personnel with up-to-date skills that urban areas already use.

2006 Grant Awards

Central Maine Medical Center

\$127,900

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Cumberland, Franklin, and Oxford Counties

Contact: Sharon L. Kuhrt

Telephone: (207) 795-2841

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used to expand its current distance learning program through equipment purchases for two more communities, adding sites in South Paris, at the Western Maine University and Community College Center and in Bridgeton, at Bridgeton Hospital. The project already serves two rural communities in Maine, and the expansion will double the number of students served by distance learning to a total of 24 (64 are served at the central location). Using a classic hub-and-spoke model, educational content will be disseminated



by the School of Nursing from its classrooms in Lewiston via compressed video at 256 kilobits/second.

Cobscook Community Learning Center

\$249,965

Maine

Areas Served: Cumberland, Knox, Lincoln, Penobscot, and Washington Counties

Contact: Kevin Thompson

Telephone: (207) 733-2233

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used to bridge project sites and cultures with distance learning technologies which will include web-based education, streaming/archiving/ interactive distance learning via videoconferencing, and the upgrade of network infrastructure where necessary to support the project.

Community Health and Counseling Services

\$434,409

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Washington

Contact: Helen Burlock

Telephone: (207) 947-0366

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used for a telehealth project that will provide monitoring and/or video encounters to homebound clients in rural Maine. Benefits will include reduced travel time, reduced emergency room visits, increased access to speech language services, and improved overall quality of life among participants. The services will be provided to 36 towns in Aroostook, Washington, Piscataquis and Northern Penobscot Counties.

Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems

\$259,857

Maine and Massachusetts

Areas Served: Aroostook, Hancock, Kennebec, Norfolk, Penobscot, Piscataquis, and Somerset Counties

Contact: Jean Mellett

Telephone: (207) 973-7443

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist. (ME) and Frank, 4th Dist. (MA)

Rural Development funds will be used to provide both distance learning and telemedicine to six counties in Maine. Services will include endocrinology services, tele-rehabilitation, tele-trauma, tele-dialysis, tele-genetics, and tele-psychology. Eastern Maine Medical Center and Acadia Hospital will install new equipment for improved educational programs.



Eastern Maine Medical Center

\$500,000

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Hancock, Kennebec, Penobscot, Piscataquis, and Somerset Counties

Contact: Deborah Sanford

Telephone: (207) 973-7903

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used to establish an electronic Intensive Care Unit and INET/IVIEW System in five of EMHS affiliate hospitals in rural northern and eastern Maine. The system will allow Intensivists in Bangor to provide specialty care to the rural hospitals 24 hours a day. The technology will allow Intensivists to view patients as well as access patient monitoring equipment and to participate in real time care of patients.

Jay School District

\$454,079

Maine

Areas Served: Anderson, Franklin, Penobscot, and Somerset Counties

Contact: Frank Williams

Telephone: (207) 897-4336

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used to provide an information highway to share knowledge, expertise, and resources among twelve schools in four rural and economically distressed counties of Maine. All sites will utilize computer-based videoconferencing for collaborations between individuals and groups. Collaboration between students and staff will be available on demand. Over 48,000 residents will receive enhanced educational opportunities in these communities.

Kno-Wal-Lin Home Care and Hospice, Inc.

\$60,000

Maine

Areas Served: Knox, Lincoln, and Waldo Counties

Contact: Donna DeBlois

Telephone: (207) 594-9561

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used to expand a home telehealth system which will utilize tele-video units which will assist rural patients with wound care, speech therapy and hospice. In-home monitors will also be utilized to track patient's vital signs and provide other important medical information and prompts to the patient. Additional objectives are improved patient safety, improved clinical outcomes, improved utilization of resources and nursing efficiency, and increased revenues.



Millinocket School Department

\$350,881

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Knox, Penobscot, and Washington Counties

Contact: Sara C. Alberts

Telephone: (207) 746-3500

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used to install interactive videoconferencing which will provide distance learning connectivity to 15 sites located in 4 counties as well as provide telemedicine opportunities to residents in the Millinocket and East Millinocket communities.

Regional Medical Center at Lubec, Inc.

\$461,369

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Aroostook, Cumberland, Kennebec, Knox, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Somerset, and York Counties

Contact: Carol M. Carew

Telephone: (207) 733-1090

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used to expand a telehealth project in Rural Maine with 14 partner agencies to provide high quality, comprehensive health services to patients and residents of rural Maine. Services provided by the project will include telepharmacy, home care patient video stations, clinical education for professional and paraprofessional staff, case management for the Department of Corrections and Grand Rounds to health care professionals from the organizations or locations of choice.

2005 Grant Awards

Central Maine Medical Center

\$500,000

Maine

Areas Served: Androscoggin, Cumberland, Franklin, Kennebec, Oxford, and Sagadahoc Counties

Contact: Charles M. Gill, Jr.

Telephone: (207) 795-2711

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Central Maine Medical Center, Rumford Hospital and Bridgton Hospital will undertake a teleradiology and PACS initiative will serve over 47,000 residents in a six-county area.



Northeast Health

\$107,450

Maine

Areas Served: Knox, Lincoln, and Waldo Counties

Contact: Donna DeBlois

Telephone: (207) 594-9561

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Northeast Health will deploy 35 tele-homecare units to improve clinical outcomes, nursing efficiency, and use of healthcare resources. Monitors will track patient vital signs and provide other medical information on a daily basis. This technology is fully integrated with the patient record. The program will impact residents of three rural counties in Maine.

2004 Awards

Visiting Nurses of Aroostook

\$264,448

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Kennebec, Somerset, and Waldo Counties

Contact: Sandra Scott-Adams

Telephone: (207) 498-2578

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

The Visiting Nurses of Aroostook project will target three opportunities to improve healthcare services. The project will provide upgrades for Point of Care Health Information Technology software, provide Telehomecare equipment and sharing; and establish Teleconferencing between the project agencies. The project is a collaboration of five home health agencies serving the northern, eastern, and central part of Maine. When fully implemented, this project will

2003 Awards

University of Maine System

\$296,364 Loan and \$29,636 Grant

Maine

Areas Served: Brunswick, Calais, Dover, Foxcroft, East Millinocket, Ellsworth, Houlton, Mexico, Saco, South Paris and Thomaston Counties

Contact: Cathy Ashland

Telephone: (207) 621-3396

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist.



The proposed system will establish interactive IP-based two-way compressed video links between the System's seven campuses and all eleven University College (UC) sites. All sites will utilize the existing DS-3 ATM circuits leased from Verizon to establish connectivity between them and the Augusta hub site. As a result, a compressed-video course-offering originating from a system will be available at the other six system campuses and at the UC's eleven center simultaneously. A Polycom Viewstation, two video monitors, a camera will be installed at the Augusta campus and will utilize the International Telecommunications Union's H.323 standard for video over IP technology. A Polycom Viewstation, two video monitors, a camera, a scan converter, a personal computer and a multipoint control unit commonly referred to as a "bridge," will be installed at each of the UC centers except Houlton and Sanford. The UC centers of Mexico, Saco, and Thomaston will undergo minor interior renovations for locating new video teleconferencing equipment.

Eastern Maine Healthcare

\$500,000

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Washington, Hancock, Somerset, and Waldo Counties

Contact: Devore Culver

Telephone: (207) 973-7058

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Eastern Maine Healthcare will utilize RUS grant funds in a telemedicine project designed to implement a Picture Archiving Communication System (PACS) for three hospitals in the northern and central region of Maine. Digitized radiological images will be stored and transmitted between sites, providing cost savings to the hospitals, immediate access to specialist, and more timely review and diagnoses for approximately 275,000 residents in the project service area.

Regional Medical Center at Lubec, Inc

\$221,620

Maine

Areas Served: Cumberland, Franklin, Oxford, Aroostook, Penobscot, and Washington Counties

Contact: Carol Carew

Telephone: (207) 733-1090

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Michaud, 2nd Dist.

Regional Medical Center at Lubec will utilize RUS grant funds to place teleconferencing equipment at nine hub sites and twelve end-user sites located in 10 of Maine's 16 counties. Through two major telemedicine networks, end-users will have access to almost 200 other telemedicine or videoconferencing sites in the state. Large numbers of rural residents will receive a variety of health care services and distance education opportunities through this technological



strategy, most located in small communities with less than 10,000 people. Services that will be available include wound care, psychiatry, mental health treatment, genetic counseling, women's health education, public access for business seminars and other community education uses.

St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation

\$500,000

Maine and New Hampshire

Areas Served: Aroostook, Penobscot, Somerset, Washington, and Peterborough Counties

Contact: Kenneth J. Huhn

Telephone: (207) 262-1161

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd Dist. (ME) and Bass, 2nd Dist. (NH)

The Rural New England Healthcare and Distance Learning Access Improvement Project will link four hubs and eight rural sites to the established St. Joseph Healthcare network at St. Joseph Hospital. The project will provide telemedicine to additional system sites in the project that was funded by RUS in 2000. This project will establish video conferencing systems with teleradiology equipment at the sites to make available to all connected, access to the medical care physicians, and provide continuing education for the physicians, patients and families. This project utilizes compatible equipment and software as the other networks in northern Maine.

2002 Awards

HealthReach Network

\$500,000

Maine

Areas Served: Somerset, Kennebec, Waldo, Lincoln, Piscataquis, Sagadahoc, and Penobscot Counties

Contact: Laurie J. Bourgoin

Telephone: (207) 873-1127

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. and Baldacci, 2nd Dist.

HealthReach Network will use RUS grant funds to purchase computer equipment that will be used to link rural residents with health care facilities. The project will provide registered and hospice nurses, therapists, social workers and other health care providers with laptop computers for home visits within rural and medically underserved areas of Maine. Approximately 75% of the patients served are homebound and 68% of the population is over 65 years of age. Most of these people are frail and have very little family or social support. Travel to distant health care clinics is very difficult if not impossible for many of these patients. The medical professionals will use the computer equipment to document each visit and transmit findings to their main office. The information will be downloaded



to the computers in the main office nightly so that up-to-date records are available to doctors, field staff and office staff within 24 hours. Utilizing portable computers for this project will allow medical staff more time with patients by decreasing the amount of time they spend on travel and administrative work such as billing and reconciling hard copy files. This project will decrease the cost and increase the quality of health care in rural Maine. Approximately 4,000 rural residents will benefit from this project.

Visiting Nurse Service of Southern Maine and Seacoast New Hampshire

\$214,956

Areas Served: York and Strafford Counties

Contact: Mia Millefogie

Telephone: (207) 284-4566

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist. (ME) and Sununu 1st Dist. (NH)

The Visiting Nurse Service (VNS) of Southern Maine and Seacoast New Hampshire will use RUS grant funds to expand access to health care, enhance the effectiveness of home health services, reduce costs associated with delivering care and expand educational opportunities. This project is an expansion of the previous grant awarded to VNS for the Southern Maine area which focused on patients with congestive heart failure and related complications. The grant will fund a new project that will expand the service area to include rural patients in New Hampshire and include other disease groups including diabetes and wound care. Large percentages of the elderly population in this service area live in the rural areas here. Many of them are extremely poor and have little physical access to health care services. These seniors are experiencing limited Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements at the same time the programs are limiting eligibility and restricting health care coverage for the population. This project will address the availability of care for rural patients, cost efficiencies and more effective utilization of scarce medical clinics and resources. Approximately 38,759 rural residents will benefit from this project.

St. Joseph's Health Care Foundation

\$494,750

Maine

Areas Served: Hancock, Penobscot, Washington, Piscataquis, Aroostook Counties

Contact: Kenneth J. Huhn

Telephone: (207) 262-1161

Congressional District: Baldacci, 2nd Dist.

St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation will use RUS grant funds to improve access to specialty care for under-served northern Maine patients and improve continuing medical education for rural health professionals. It will link six new rural sites to a previously established telemedicine system using a high-speed



broadband connection and provide greater access to specialty care including pulmonology, radiology, neurology, endocrinology, dermatology and mental health services. The upgrade to the new system will allow physicians to: review a patient's medical/diagnostic chart, hold a distance visit with the patient in real-time while explaining a treatment plan, and use a two-way white board to illustrate points to the patient. Residents of this extremely rural area of northern Maine suffer from geographic isolation, high poverty levels and lack of health insurance. High rates of chronic disease and high mortality rates are critical issues here as well. This project will benefit the area by reducing the costs associated with wage loss and travel for patients that need to visit distant providers, increasing access to specialty care for the poor, uninsured and unemployed, and providing health care workers with the opportunity to continue medical education courses. As many as 18,000 residents of rural Maine will benefit from this project.

The Aroostook Medical Center

\$162,543

Maine

Areas Served: Towns of Caribou, Fort Fairfield, Fort Kent, Houlton, Limestone, Madawaska, Mars Hill, Presque Isle and Washburn

Contact: Alexander Dragatsi, M.P.H.

Telephone: (207) 768-4009

Congressional District: Baldacci, 2nd Dist.

The Aroostook Medical Center (TAMC) has been awarded RUS grant funds for distance learning and telemedicine purposes. The predominant use of the system will be to deliver distance learning services. These improvements will be implemented at 12 sites including: (1) Continuing education through Husson College via interactive video; (2) Physical therapy services in partnership with Eastern Maine Medical Center; and, (3) Home health care telemedicine program service improvements provided through Aroostook Visiting Nurses. Continuing educational services will be delivered by using interactive video from the School of Health Professions located at Husson College in Bangor, Maine. Rural health care professionals will be able to access educational programs in undergraduate and graduate nursing (BSN and MSN), physical therapy (MPT) and occupational therapy (MOT). The expected expansion of the network will also encourage the already strong interest expressed across the Aroostook community in using telemedicine technology in ways that will improve healthcare services, solve staffing problems and enhance the overall quality of life. This project's network will use interactive video modality which will significantly decrease the access barriers for at least 230 nurses, 30 physical therapists and physical therapist assistants, 64 occupational therapists and an estimated 75 to 100 physician extenders located in rural northern Maine. To date, a total of 4,421 visits were made to 535 patients. It is projected that an additional 1,872 visits to 13 new patients will be made possible with the equipment funded by RUS. With telemedicine visits as additional interventions, patients will have reduced visits to



the emergency room and fewer re-hospitalizations. Patients will also require fewer in-person home care visits, there by reducing the cost of care and the amount of nursing time required to provide them with high quality care.

2001 Grant Awards

Penquis Community Action Program, Inc.

\$497,426

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Washington, Hancock, Knox, Lincoln, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Kennebec, Androscoggin, Oxford, and Cumberland Counties

Contact: Charles Newton

Telephone: (207) 973-3500

Congressional Districts: Allen, 1st Dist. and Baldacci, 2nd Dist.

Penquis Community Action Program, Inc., is partnering with the Maine Telemedicine Services (MTS) of the Regional Medical Center at Lubec (RMCL) to provide this project. The RMCL has been very successful in increasing access to health care, mental health, social services and schools throughout Maine using interactive video conferencing technology. This project will give rural Maine residents significantly increased access to high quality medical care by placing telemedicine equipment at 39 isolated rural end user locations. RUS grant funds will be used to: (1) place telemedicine equipment on seven outer islands off the Maine coast, none of which currently have health clinics or practitioners; (2) place peripheral telemedicine devices, such as electronic otoscopes, on the 72' ship of the Maine Sea Coast Missionary Society, which serves the islands (this will enhance certain basic telemedicine equipment being installed on the boat now by MTS); (3) include a telecommunications bridge to connect all the telemedicine and many of the ITV distance education sites in Maine; and (4) allow a purchase by Sunrise County HomeCare Services of two home telemedicine units to increase the number of patients in Washington County who can be served in their homes.

St. Andrews Hospital

\$115,000

Maine

Areas Served: Lincoln County

Contact: Margaret Pinkham

Telephone: (207) 633-2121

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist.

St. Andrews Hospital is a small, non-profit, community-centered Critical Access Hospital providing both inpatient and outpatient medical services. St. Andrews is an affiliate member of Maine Health that is comprised of a group of health care organizations working in concert under a single leadership structure. Organized



to provide central and southern Maine with an integrated health care delivery system, St. Andrews will utilize its affiliate membership status in the Maine Health system to implement the use of teleradiology. RUS grant funds will be used to purchase eligible equipment and initial installation and training. The project will also allow St. Andrews to provide inpatients, outpatients and the rural communities with confirmed primary readings through the technology of digitalized, uncompressed images. Digitalized images allow for a final interpretation without an on-site radiologist in an extremely short period of time. The project will allow both physicians and patients immediate access to specialist level, primary reads which will afford the 6,633 year round residents of the Boothbay Region with timely diagnostic results.

St. Joseph Healthcare

\$499,800

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis, and Washington Counties

Contact: Kenneth J. Huhn

Telephone: (207) 262-1161

Congressional Districts: Baldacci, 2nd Dist.

St. Joseph Healthcare is a secondary level hospital in Bangor, which has 100 beds as well as extensive outpatient services. This project seeks to capitalize on the previously installed base and provide a means of delivering the identified specialty services, as well as new services, to patient in their homes. It will provide a triaging system among agencies for patients throughout northern and eastern Maine and implement a computerized client point-of-service documentation and reporting system with modems as a precursor to electronic medical records. It will also put into operation a home-based telemedicine system for traditional home health as well as mental health services. St Joseph Healthcare is a member of the Maine Health Alliance, a consortium of 12 hospitals throughout northern and eastern Maine interconnected to telemedicine through the Downeast Telemedicine Network (DETNET). These 15 health care agencies are located in America's easternmost and some of its poorest and most isolated rural counties. The DownEast Telemedicine Network will significantly help to build a real care system based on the trust involved in management of a collaborative telemedicine network.

Visiting Nurse Service of Southern Maine and Seacoast New Hampshire

\$188,702

Maine

Areas Served: York County

Contact: Mia Millefogie

Telephone: (207) 284-4566

Congressional District: Allen, 1st Dist.



The Visiting Nurse Service (VNS) plans to implement a comprehensive telemedicine program comprised of two central components B Point of Service Technology (POS) and a Home Telehealth Project for patients who live in rural and exceptionally rural areas of Southern Maine. VNS will be the hub site for implementation of POS technology in 29 towns in Maine. This POS technology will utilize hand-held computers with custom software and hardware to integrate critical administrative and clinical processes associated with delivering home health care services. The Home Telehealth Project will incorporate remote patient monitoring with a central station, which will expand the scope of monitoring in telehealth visits. The overall goals of this project are to improve the health and quality of life for exceptionally rural patients, enhance the effectiveness of home health services and reduce costs associated with delivering care in rural areas of southern Maine. Success of this project will provide advanced accuracy and timeliness of documentation, improved workflow, more efficient use of health care resources, immediate access to information and ability to generate timely documentation. The implementation of this comprehensive telemedicine program is critical to enhancing both the quality and efficiency of home health care services.

2000 Awards

Aroostook Home Care Agency, Inc.

\$64,000

Area Served: Aroostook and Washington Counties

Contact: Sandra Scott-Adams

Telephone: (207) 498-2478

Congressional District: Baldacci, 2nd Dist.

Aroostook Home Care Agency, Inc., is the parent organization of Aroostook Visiting Nurses (AVN), and has developed into the largest home health care agency in northern Maine. It currently provides services for residents of Aroostook County and northern portions of Washington and Penobscot Counties from offices in Fort Kent, Madawaska, Caribou, Presque Isle, and Houlton. It is partnered with the Regional Medical Center at Lubec on planning and implementation of the Northeast Maine Telemedicine Network. The sole purpose of this project is to enhance and expand current telemedicine services provided by the Northeast Maine Telemedicine Network. The project will expand homecare telemedicine services to provide 24-hour monitoring of home care patients by providing triage nurse availability as well as providing in-home telemedicine monitoring 24 hours per day. The applicant serves the home care needs of the Passamaquoddy Tribe through contracts with the Pleasant Point Health Center which is located on the Pleasant Point Passamaquoddy Indian Reservation.



St. Joseph Healthcare

\$69,930

Maine

Areas Served: Hancock, Penobscot, Washington, Piscataquis and Waldo Counties

Contact: Mr. Ken Huhn

Telephone: (207) 262-1809

Congressional District: Baldacci, 2nd Dist.

St. Joseph Healthcare is a secondary level hospital in Bangor, which has 100 beds as well as extensive outpatient services. This project seeks to provide access to multiple, needed specialist services via telemedicine to an additional six rural areas; and to develop new specialist services for these proposed rural sites as well as for all the 15 current rural telemedicine sites in the DownEast Telemedicine Network (DETNET). It will also provide access through telemedicine technology to a specialist practice in Waterville, which will provide plastic surgery, vascular surgery and podiatry. These 15 health care agencies are located in America's easternmost and some of its poorest and most isolated rural Counties. St. Joseph Healthcare is partnering with the Regional Medical Center at Lubec (RMCL) to provide this project. RMCL is a non-profit agency which provides a wide range of outpatient health care services in a number of locations in the County including medical, dental, counseling, child care, home health care, telemedicine, patient education, substance abuse and many other community prevention and education programs. RMCL is developing telemedicine services and networks for Maine. It has already installed approximately 40 telemedicine sites in eastern and northern Maine and will shortly install another 30 units in schools for distance learning and in the Maine Department of Human Services. The DownEast Telemedicine Network will significantly help to build a real care system based on the trust involved in management of a collaborative telemedicine network.

1999 Awards

Franklin Memorial Hospital

\$342,148

Maine

Areas Served: Franklin and Androscoggin Counties

Contact: Betsy Kimball

Telephone: (207) 779-2471

Franklin Memorial Hospital (FMH) is a community general hospital that serves approximately 40,000 individuals. Poverty is a harsh reality throughout the region. RUS funding will be used to provide a distance learning and telemedicine network that will connect west central Maine to a statewide network and offer future expandability. Educational program for health care professionals,



Educational programs for the community and for patients, Videoconferencing facilities for health care providers, other non-profit organizations and the business community, Telemedicine - Franklin Memorial Hospital and Maine Medical Center will collaborate to offer the online services of a dermatologist. The specialties of cardiology, endocrinology and oncology are expected to follow quickly behind.

Regional Medical Center at Lubec

\$269,360

Maine

Areas Served: Washington County

Contact: Kenneth Schmidt

Telephone: (207) 733-5541

Regional Medical Center is a non-profit agency founded in 1971 which is the largest and most comprehensive of the more than 30 community health centers in Maine. It has 100 employees and a budget of over four million dollars. It is applying on behalf of eight community agencies that are incorporated as the DownEast Telecommunications System (an Indian health center, a community health center, a community hospital, a countywide home health care agency with three locations, two rural health clinics, a nursing home, and a secondary care hospital. The project will provide a long-term infrastructure to telemedicine for a telemedicine network.

1998 Awards

Regional Medical Center At Lubec, Inc.

\$108,467 Grant and \$157,533 Loan

Maine

Areas Served: Aroostock and Washington Counties

Contact: Kenneth Schmidt

Telephone: (207) 733-5541

Congressional District: Baldacci, 2nd Dist.

The Regional Medical Center At Lubec, Inc. will use home based cameras and TVs to monitor the elderly and save needless trips to the hospital. No other home care agency in Maine has adopted telemedicine technology. Home patients will have access to a nurse who will monitor them 24 hours a day to deal with immediate health problems. This will reduce costly trips to home by nurses and reduce unnecessary trips to hospitals by patients.