



DLT Grant Awards - Alaska

2011 Grant Awards

Yukon-Koyukuk School District

Alaska

\$454,938

Areas Served: Yukon-Koyukak

Contact: Ms. Gina Hrinko, (907) 374-9419

Congressional District: Young, At-Large

USDA Rural Development funds will be used to help extend and improve a distance learning system that serves nine schools in Yukon River valley, one of the most remote areas of the U.S. in the Alaska interior. The project will add additional endpoints extending their current distance learning services to seven schools of Yukon Flats, including a vocational education center. Most of the schools can only be reached by plane. Almost all of the students are Alaskan natives. Outdated equipment will be updated. Mobile video carts with video-equipped netbooks in some locations will be paired with fixed video equipment at corresponding locations. A video control server will help manage video traffic and better facilitate connections through the netbooks. The new system will bring access to a wider range of teachers for the two school districts and will offer career-oriented, continuing education, dual credit, traditional courses, and teacher development and support. The school district will match grant funds with \$140,000 of local funding.

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Alaska

\$201,650

Areas Served: Aleutians East, Aleutians West, Kenai Peninsula, Lake and Peninsula, Nome, North Slope Borough, Prince of Wales Outer Ketchikan, Sitka City, Skagway Hoonah Angoon, Wrangell Petersburg, Yukon-Koyukak

Contact: Mr. David Peters

Telephone: (907) 729-4488

Congressional District: Young, At-Large

Older Alaskan Natives who suffer with diabetes and other chronic diseases benefit immensely from telemedical services such as home monitoring, especially those who reside in some the most remote areas of the state. USDA Rural Development funds will assist Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium in expanding the Home Telehealth Monitoring of Native Alaskans, purchasing 220 new devices capable of transmitting blood glucose, blood pressure, pulse, weight and other vital signs and monitored by a 24/7 call center. Distribution of devices will be managed by a host of health clinics throughout Alaska, such as the Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital in Barrow, the Dena'ina Health Clinic in



Kenai, the Iliamna Clinic, the Hydaburg Health Clinic, the Kake Health Clinic and many others. The Consortium will match grant funds with \$203,350 of local funding.

Yakutat School District City / Borough of Yakutat

Alaska, Washington

\$499,635

Areas Served: Yakutat

Contact: Mr. Rodney Wayne Schug

Telephone: (907) 784-3317 x 226

Congressional District: Young, At-Large. Hastings, WA 4th, Dicks, WA-6th

This distance learning project, assisted with USDA Rural Development funding, spans six school districts in Alaska, Washington State and Colorado. School districts will link with two content-providing hub sites, an administrative hub, and 515 home schooled students. The project will tap into the Unlimited Learning Center in Cortez, Colorado, an organization that will provide vocational training in healthcare, hospitality, culinary arts and office administration. The range of courses offered include core curriculum for high school, dual credit and AP coursework, and a variety of vocational courses from Unlimited Learning that lead to certifications. End-user equipment will mainly consist of laptops. Yakutat will match grant funds with \$162,230 of local funding.

Lower Kuskokwim School District

Alaska

\$500,000

Areas Served: Bethel

Contact: Mr. Gary Baldwin

Telephone: (907) 543-4912

Congressional District: Young, At-Large

This school district serves twenty-eight schools in the Kuskokwim River Delta region of Southwest Alaska. Twenty-two of these are located in remote Eskimo villages where Yup'ik Eskimo language is still the primary language of many students. Villages are accessible only by air, boat (in the summer) and some by ice roads in the winter. The school district has an existing 2-way video system, but it is technically outdated and limited in the number of simultaneous sessions that can be linked. USDA Rural Development funds will assist the district with replacing this equipment with new technology, which will double the availability of courses, and introduce enhanced functionality such as media capture, streaming and video management. Professional teacher development will increase the effectiveness of a limited pool of teaching staff. The school sites will install media carts for portability within each school, while the central office will deploy a wall-mounted video unit, as well as a new video recording unit. The distance learning system will be available for all residents, serving as a community resource



integrated with their economic survival. The school district will match grant funds with \$458,451 of local funding.

Kodiak Island Borough School District

Alaska

Amount: \$294,958

Areas Served: Kodiak Island

Contact: Mr. Scott Edward Williams

Telephone: (907) 481-6215

Congressional District: Young, At-Large

This project, with the help of USDA Rural Development funds will be a first distance learning system that will link two distance learning studios in Kodiak with eight schools along the coastal villages in the Kodiak Archipelago, some only accessible by plane or boat. The students, mostly Alaskan Natives, will for the first time have direct educational access to the world outside of their villages. Educators will be acquiring the means to deliver core subjects, adopt science technology, engineering and mathematics, provide virtual field trips, and engage in professional teacher development. The distance learning system will be a combination of media carts equipped with desktop video teleconferencing equipment, and smart boards. The introduction of post secondary education for high school students, special education, and foreign languages will open doors of opportunity, especially with an enriched focus on career readiness in science and engineering that the system will bring. The school district will match grant funds with \$148,000 of local funding.

Northwest Arctic Borough School District

Alaska

\$315,160:

Areas Served: Northwest Arctic

Contact: Ms. Judy Richards

Telephone: (907) 442-3472 x 223

Congressional District: Young, At-Large

USDA Rural Development funds will make it possible for the school district to purchase video conferencing equipment to equip their schools serving eleven villages in the Northwest Arctic. This system will replace a limited and outdated distance learning system in this remote region, where two of the schools reside at the Arctic Circle, and the other nine reside 30-80 miles above the Arctic Circle. Distance learning and telecommuting are the methods by which these residents can continue to thrive in this area where the only transportation is bush plane, or barge when the ice allows. The proposed equipment is a mixture of wall-mounted video conferencing units and cart-based video units. With a hub site in Kotzebue, teachers throughout the system will be better equipped to help their schools meet Alaska curriculum standards, and increase their class offerings in



the area of AP Math, English, Organic Chemistry, Biology and Foreign Languages. The school district will also work with Alaska Technical Center to extend vocational classes and certifications. The school district will match grant funds with \$99,907 of local funding.

DLT Awards - Alabama

2011 Grant Awards:

Cheaha Regional Mental Health & Mental Retardation Board, Inc

Alabama

Amount: \$105,040

Areas Served: Clay, Randolph, & Talladega Counties

Contact: Ms. Cynthia L. Atkinson

Telephone: (256) 245-1340

Congressional District: Rogers, 3rd

Cheaha provides mental health services in an underserved rural, four-county region of East-Central Alabama. USDA Rural Development funds will make it possible for Cheaha to obtain videoconferencing technology which will connect their outpatient clinics and facilitate access to counseling and psychiatric practices and primary care. The new system will extend the reach and effectiveness of Cheaha's staff in mental health crisis intervention, psychiatric evaluations/consultations, and other services. The video connectivity will also allow for mental health training so that field staff can apply the latest research and treatment techniques specific to topics such as anxiety, schizophrenia-psychotic disorders and substance abuse. Desktop video conferencing systems will be installed and managed by a video control system and firewall transversal. Cheaha will match grant funds with \$52,520 of local funding.

Southwest Alabama Behavioral Health Care Systems

Alabama

Amount: \$101,440

Areas Served: Butler, Choctaw, Clarke, Coffee, Covington, Hale, Monroe, & Pike Counties

Contact: Ms. Candace Harden

Telephone: (251) 575-4203

Congressional District: Bonner, 1st, Roby, 2nd, Sewell, 7th

USDA Rural Development funds will assist with the purchase of video conferencing equipment to connect nine new mental health care sites and a child care center to a community mental health agency network in Southwest Alabama. This will allow sites to share treatment personnel, to connect patients at one location to health care specialists at another, and to generally improve mental health services and make services available for underserved patients for



some of the most impoverished and medically underserved counties in the U.S. The system will be designed to better treat patients who need services for mental illness, substance abuse, mental retardation and early intervention-by setting up direct video connections at their local mental health office to counselors, case managers, nurses, psychiatrists, and qualified mental retardation professionals in a number of regional locations. The system will also offer sustained professional development for mental health providers and assist them in gearing-up resources to handle crisis situations. Southwest Alabama will match grant funds with \$31,447 of local funding.

Bullock County Board of Education

Alabama

\$342,350

Areas Served: Bullock County

Contact: Ms. Alexis Smith

Telephone: (334) 738-2164

Congressional District: Roby, 2nd

Bullock County in Southeast Alabama faces its own unique challenges of extreme poverty and isolation. USDA Rural Development funds will assist Bullock County Schools in a distance learning project to purchase video teleconferencing equipment and peripherals for all four district school sites in a community which is more than 70 percent African American. The program that educators have designed will address the educational needs of their students, and also provide them with much-needed guidance outside the classroom. Teachers will have access to professional development opportunities. The new system will allow Bullock County to partner with resources outside of the county to address its challenges, such as the drug abuse awareness and education program in partnership with the Drug Council, Inc., Wallace Community College, Central Alabama Community College and the University of Alabama will all assist county educators in providing new educational opportunities via the distance learning system. Advanced placement courses, dual enrollment, new electives and virtual field trips will add to the richness of offerings to the students and their families. Bullock County will match grant funds with \$139,970 of local funding.

DLT Awards - Arkansas

2011 Grant Awards

White River Health System, Inc.

Arkansas

Amount: \$56,608

Areas Served: Stone



Contact: Ms. Angela Dugger
Telephone: (870) 262-1927
Congressional District: Crawford, 1st

Stone County Medical Center is a critical access hospital located in the rugged Ozark Mountains of North Central Arkansas. There are no specialists at Stone County, so with the help of USDA Rural Development funding this telemedicine project will deploy two desktop video teleconferencing units in the emergency and nursing departments. This will open up direct access to specialists at the larger White River Medical Center and also to medical personnel and training resources at the University of Arkansas Medical Center. Treating patients of stroke, cardiac or other trauma-related emergencies is of special concern to medical staff at Stone County, and the new system will provide an essential link for consultation, diagnostic review, treatment strategies, and a limitless venue of specialized training to enhance the quality of care provided at the rural hospital. White River will match grant funds with \$17,039 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Arizona

2011 Grant Awards

Flagstaff Medical Center

Arizona

Amount: \$124,769

Areas Served: Coconino, Mohave, & Navajo Counties

Contact: Ms. Natalie Harlan

Telephone: (928) 773-2158

Congressional District: Gosar, 1st, Franks, 2nd

USDA Rural Development funds will help purchase equipment such as telemedicine carts and laptops as part of a comprehensive video network connecting seven rural hospitals in Coconino, Navaho and Mohave Counties to cardiopulmonary specialists at Flagstaff Medical Center. This will enable Flagstaff's professional staff to provide face-to-face patient consultations, referral services, and continuing medical education to rural health care providers and their patients within a vast coverage area, which includes the tribal areas of Havasupai, Navaho and Hopi. The newly deployed system will support an emerging collaboration between Flagstaff Medical Center, the Indian Health Service and other tribal health programs in Northern Arizona. Flagstaff will match grant funds with \$47,500 of local funding.

Chinle Unified School District #24

Arizona

Amount: \$439,794

Areas Served: Apache County



Contact: Ms. Sheila Rae Betz
Telephone: (928) 674-9742
Congressional District: Gosar, 1st

Located in the center of the Navajo Nation, the Chinle Unified School District—spanning over 4,000 square miles—will bring a comprehensive distance learning video network system to its seven schools. Ninety percent of the students are Navajo, and the purpose of the project is to propel Native learners toward high academic achievement and lifelong learning success. Made possible with funds from USDA Rural Development each school will receive mobile carts outfitted with video conferencing equipment for adaptable use, and a desktop telepresence system for in-class learning activities. School administration computer services will be equipped with video control equipment such as the MCU bridge, a content server and firewall transversal. All locations will participate in a new learning environment of shared courses and content, including accelerated high school college prep, high school completion for all ages, associate and bachelor degrees, vocational courses and certificate programs, professional teacher development, and expert teacher exchanges and workshops. Chinle will match grant funds with \$131,939 of local funding.

DLT Awards - Florida

2011 Grant Awards

Meridan Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.

Florida

\$122,894

Areas Served: Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Levy, Suwannee, & Union Counties

Contact: Mr. Richard Anderson

Telephone: (352) 374-5600 x 8232

Congressional District: Southerland, 2nd, Crenshaw, 4th, Nugent, 5th, Stearns, 6th

USDA Rural Development funds will help purchase equipment to provide a video link connecting behavioral health patients in rural North Florida to the counselors and psychiatrists of Meridian Behavioral Healthcare. Meridian's physicians currently rotate among seven rural clinics. Demand for their services outpaces the ability to meet that demand. With the Gainesville and Lake City Clinics as hubs, video conferencing equipment will be installed at the hub with corresponding equipment at seven small clinics. Patients no longer will have limited access to Meridian psychiatric care, health management and counseling services. For psychiatric emergencies involving law enforcement, the new system will facilitate the evaluation and screening process allowing for a more



efficient and less stressful use of time for law enforcers. Meridan will match grant funds with \$122,980 of local funding.

DLT Awards - Georgia

2011 Grant Awards

Georgia Partnership for Telehealth, Inc.

Georgia

\$342,378

Areas Served: Cook, Decatur, Elbert, Fannin, Floyd, Franklin, Fulton, Gordon, Monroe, Morgan, and Tattnall Counties

Contact: Ms. Paula Guy

Telephone: (912) 285-0902

Congressional District: Kingston, 1st, Bishop, Jr., 2nd, Lewis, 5th, Scott, 8th , Graves, 9th, Broun, 10th , Gingrey, 11th , Barrow, 12th

Like many rural areas, Georgia has a critical shortage of health professionals in rural counties. Strokes exact a disproportionate health and economic toll in Georgia in the form of increased death rates, higher rates of hospitalization and rising health care costs. Also, trauma injuries are the leading cause of death for individuals under age 45 in the U.S. With funding assistance from USDA Rural Development, the Georgia Partnership will expand the availability of care in these two specialty areas by installing video conferencing units, computers and peripheral clinical diagnostic devices at nine rural hospitals and linking them to hub sites at Floyd Medical Center in Rome, and another at Grady Health Center in Atlanta. Professional staff in trauma and stroke will extend their services and expertise for clinical consultations to the nine rural hospitals, also providing distance mentoring and learning opportunities for the rural hospital emergency department staff and EMS personnel on clinical best practices for stroke and trauma patient stabilization and transport. Georgia Partnership will match grant funds with \$171,190 of local funding.

Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

Georgia

\$497,306

Areas Served: Atkinson, Brooks, Cook, Echols, Lanier, Lowndes, Wilcox

Contact: Dr. Bonnie Davis Kelly

Telephone: (229) 468-2091

Congressional District: Kingston, 1st, Bishop, Jr., 2nd, Scott, 8th



Wiregrass is the largest technical college in South Georgia, with an eleven-county service area. Valdosta State University, within a coinciding service area, is part of the Georgia regional university system. Both institutions will serve as hubs in this educational video network, which – with funding assistance from USDA Rural Development - will connect with ten video end points, located in six high schools, three adult education centers and a workforce development center. This arrangement will allow more students-including those in participating high schools or attending the adult education center-to pursue technical, two-year, and/or four-year diplomas or degrees. Valdosta offers classes on a pre-engineering track. Wiregrass has over one hundred certificate, diploma and degree options. Students in the area high schools may take pre-approved joint credit courses toward any number of these. The equipment is a mixture of fixed video conferencing units and upgraded bridging equipment (at the hubs) and mobile media carts for the end user sites. Wiregrass will match grant funds with \$160,000 of local funding.

DLT Awards - Iowa

2011 Grant Awards

Iowa Lakes Community College

Iowa

\$498,695

Areas Served: Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Kossuth, and Palo Alto Counties

Contact: Mr. Mark Gruwell

Telephone: (712) 362-0439

Congressional District: Latham, 4th , King, 5th

USDA Rural Development will provide funding necessary for Iowa Lakes to put together a distance learning video-conferencing system in 14 sites, including five community college campuses and nine high schools. One campus will receive the system's management and communications equipment, plus firewall transversal and each school will receive video-equipped media carts. The new distance learning system enables the teaching staff at the high schools to expand classes, such as Introduction to Accounting, previously only offered to a few sites, to all sites. Project leaders will establish a community education program, both in technology literacy and also workforce readiness, offering courses that lead to credentials, certificates and diplomas through the Community College. Iowa Lakes will match grant funds with \$500,418 of local funding.

Loring Hospital

Iowa

\$262,742

Areas Served: Sac County

Contact: Ms. Nancy Gail Houska



Telephone: (712) 662-7105 x 6421
Congressional District: King, 5th

USDA Rural Development funds will purchase video conferencing equipment to be placed and connected to key sites in their hospital network; their emergency room, their outpatient and inpatient centers, and at two area nursing homes. Public schools in the East Sac County School District Equipment will also be brought into the video network as the grant also provides for video equipment and exam devices placed and connected at medical offices at several schools. Telemedical equipment such as digital stethoscopes will be connected to the video network as well as other computers to help bring about this wide ranging video network—the first telehealth project in Northwest Iowa. Sac County is characterized by an older population, and because of the long distances, driving to the nearest specialty doctor for an appointment can also become a safety issue. By providing this kind of access to specialty medical care, residents of all ages needing medical treatment or consultation will save time, costs - and in some cases - their lives. Loring will match grant funds with \$265,000 of local funding.

Van Buren County Hospital

Iowa

\$107,493

Areas Served: Van Buren County

Contact: Ms. Lisa Wagner Schnedler

Telephone: (319) 293-3171

Congressional District: Loeb sack, 2nd

Radiologists are only on-site an hour each day at the Van Buren County Hospital, a hospital in Southeastern Iowa. USDA Rural Development funds will assist Van Buren in the purchase and installation of a picture archiving communications system (PACS). Van Buren will use the PACS to send their radiological images electronically to radiologists at Ottumwa Regional Health Center, for immediate interpretation. If additional diagnostic expertise is needed for complex medical cases, the new PACS will make it possible for Van Buren Hospital to forward patient images to institutions with more specialized expertise, such as the Mayo Clinic or other university hospitals. Van Buren will match grant funds with \$80,631 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Indiana

2011 Grant Awards

Reid Hospital & Health Care Services, Inc.



Indiana, Ohio

\$361,787

Areas Served: IN: Fayette, Randolph, Union, & Wayne Counties.

OH: Preble County

Contact: Ms. Melissa Vance

Telephone: (765) 983-3102

Congressional District: Pence, 6th

USDA Rural Development funds will assist Reid Hospital in assembling a telemedicine network in Southeastern Indiana in communities along the Ohio border. With Reid Hospital serving as hub and end-user site, the project will join together five rural clinics with Reid in a video conferencing network covering five counties. The rural hospitals will receive video conferencing desktop units, exam cameras, and telephonic stethoscopes that will connect with specialists at Reid in the areas of cardiovascular care, infectious diseases, orthopedic, pulmonary, and diabetes. Reid will receive a multi-point bridge and management servers to operate and coordinate the video network. When said and done, video and virtual access to specialists from the outlying rural clinics will save patients countless hours of travel and hundreds of miles in transportation, improving the timeliness and quality of care in their communities. Reid will match grant funds with \$271,515 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Kentucky

2011 Grant Awards

Pendleton County School District

Kentucky

\$498,546

Areas Served: Gallatin, Grant, & Pendleton Counties

Contact: Mrs. Michele Crowley

Telephone: (859) 654-6911 x 2200

Congressional District: Davis, 4th

Three school districts partnering in Northern Kentucky will be putting in place a distance learning system to help surmount a mountain of challenges caused by dwindling educational resources. New and ambitious curriculum requirements issued by the state and budget cuts throughout the school districts have reduced the numbers of teachers. School officials are turning to technology to meet these educational challenges. With the help of USDA Rural Development funds Pendleton will purchase and put into place a distance learning system with mobile media carts decked with video conferencing, and other equipment such as white boards, media servers and monitors that will allow teachers to share classes as one large virtual school. By way of connecting to colleges in their region, these twelve schools can leverage a greater teaching staff so the widest



selection is available at all video end points in the system. The school district and its partners have designed their program with community participation in mind – offering it as a community platform for resident to improve his or her job prospects and repertoire of skills. Pendleton will match grant funds with \$250,220 of local funding.

Grace Community Health Center, Inc.

Kentucky

\$79,826

Areas Served: Clay & Knox Counties

Contact: Dr. David Worthy

Telephone: (606) 526-9005

Congressional District: Rogers, 5th

With a project hub site at its Health Center in Gray, Southeast Kentucky, Grace will link up with its partner office in nearby Manchester, with rural hospitals in the region, and also stretch its video reach further into the mountains with a link at nearby Knox County Hospital. USDA Rural Development will provide the essential funding that will put in place a telemedicine system that will increase the availability of specialty care for patients in these two counties, and give health providers, including first responders, a source line of continuing education for certificates, degrees and other qualifications. The hub site will have a line connect to the Kentucky Tele-health Network, accessing more than 250 of its health care sites across the state. Distributed throughout the three participating hospitals in this project, the network will put patients and their rural doctors in video contact with specialists such as ENT doctors, neurologists, pediatric and diabetic physicians and many others. Mobile medical carts with video conferencing equipment will be installed at the rural hospitals for medical staff to conduct patient assessment, and occasionally home visits for post-surgery patients. Grace will match grant funds with \$11,975 of local funding.

Bath County School District

Kentucky

\$462,157

Areas Served: Bath & Menifee Counties

Contact: Mrs. Brenda Holder

Telephone: (606) 674-6314 x 602

Congressional District: Davis, 4th, Rogers, 5th

With the help of USDA Rural Development funding Bath and Menifee Counties will team-up and establish a distance learning system in their school districts to improve academic excellence and to help address many of today's community concerns through education. In a spirit of collaboration, the project will enhance curriculum offerings by sharing classes, creating specialized learning situations for each student, expanding foreign languages at all grade levels, and offering



dual credit to increase college attendance. Thirteen sites, including elementary, middle and high schools, academies and adult learning centers will receive portable media carts and desktop video systems to deliver the shared content. They will also deploy a management server, a content server, and a multi-point bridge as part of the system knowledge/control center. The two school systems are united in their goals to assist teachers in gaining National Board Certified status, start training high school students in first responder skills, and establish specialized programs and seminars to address a growing prescription drug abuse problem. Bath County will match grant funds with \$12,933 cash of local funding and a substantial in kind equipment match.

Norton Healthcare Foundation

Kentucky, Indiana

\$238,398

Areas Served: KY: Carroll and Grayson Counties; IN: Harrison County

Contact: Ms. Linnie Meyer

Telephone: (502) 629-8064

Congressional District: Guthrie, 2nd , Davis, 4th ; Ind.: Young, 9th

With the assistance USDA Rural Development funding Norton Healthcare Foundation will purchase and put into place telemedicine equipment at three rural hospitals - two in counties at the Kentucky/Indiana border counties along the Ohio River and the other in West Central Kentucky. Medical carts outfitted with video conferencing equipment and peripheral devices such as digital stethoscopes will connect to specialists operating laptop control stations at Norton's six hospitals in Louisville. The medical carts provide a way for the large hospital specialists to be at the patient's bedside for examination, consultation, referrals and prescriptions. Through the video connection, the physicians can also access the patient's medical record and document their notes in the system. With an emphasis on pulmonary, cardiology, neurology, and critical care, this project plans to reduce the number of patient transfers, reduce the outmigration of patients outside of their communities and the risk of transferring critically ill patients. It will decrease the overall cost of patient care while increasing the quality of personalized care. Norton will match grant funds with \$120,000 of local funding.

Kentucky River Community Care, Inc.

Kentucky

\$117,560

Areas Served: Breathitt, Knott, Letcher, & Perry

Contact: Ms. Ernestine Howard

Telephone: (606) 666-9006

Congressional District: Rogers, 5th

Kentucky River Community Health Care is a multi-site behavioral health center serving eight isolated counties in rural Southeast Kentucky, and providing professional services, development and training for fourteen community mental



health centers and hospitals in the Kentucky Behavioral Telehealth Network. USDA Rural Development funds will be applied to equipment purchases which will further enhance Kentucky River's existing system-extending it to four new end-user mental health crisis centers where a psychiatrist or physician is not present daily. Exam room video equipment will be installed at these clinics and video connections will be established to link them with physical and behavioral health physicians in distant locations, such as the St. Joseph Hospital or the University of Kentucky. Funds will also be used to assist Kentucky River in acquiring a multi-point bridge to replace older technology, and to deploy video management software, which will include scheduling and firewall transversal functions. Kentucky River will match grant funds with \$35,385 of local funding.

DLT Awards - Massachusetts

2011 Grant Awards

Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative

Massachusetts and Maine

\$499,970

Areas Served: MA: Barnstable, Bristol, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Plymouth, & Worcester Counties. ME: Aroostook County

Contact: Dr. Anne McKenzie

Telephone: (413) 735-2200

Congressional District: MA: Olver, 1st, Neal, 2nd, Lynch, 9th, Keating, 10th; ME: Michaud, 2nd

This project will bring distance learning to twenty four schools in rural Western Massachusetts and one school in Maine. USDA Rural Development funds will be applied to equip schools, including elementary, middle and high schools, academies and vocational technology centers, with mobile video conferencing media carts. The grant will also assist in the funding of desktop video consoles for service-provider hub sites, with specialists in professional teacher development, special education and behavioral health services. To leverage low-cost and personal video solutions for learners, sites will also incorporate PC-based video clients connected that operate through a central video server. This approach will support flexible and individualized learning programs. Schools and vocational centers will exchange instruction within and among districts. Higher education institutions will offer courses for dual-enrollment. Lower Pioneer Valley will match grant funds with \$251,042 of local funding.



DLT Grant Awards – Maine

2011 Grant Awards

Maine School Administrative District No. 75

Maine

\$467,873

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

Contact: Mr. J. Michael Wilhelm

Telephone: (207) 729-9961

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

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

Maine

\$325,000

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

Contact: Ms. 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

Maine

\$108,820

Areas Served: Hancock, Knox, & Lincoln Counties

Contact: Rev. Scott Planting

Telephone: (207) 288-5097

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

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

Maine

\$50,000

Areas Served: Hancock and Knox Counties

Contact: Ms. Lisa Harvey-McPherson

Telephone: (207) 973-7060

Congressional District: Michaud, 2nd

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

Maine

\$492,200

Areas Served: Aroostook, Cumberland, Kennebec, and Waldo

Contact: Ms. Heather Perry

Telephone: 207) 948-6136

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

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

Maine

\$498,249

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

Contact: Mr. Michael Patrick Howard

Telephone: (207) 532-9541

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

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

Maine

\$492,004

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

Contact: Mr. Michael Patrick Howard

Telephone: (207) 532-9541

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

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

Maine

\$487,693

Areas Served:

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

Contact: Mr. Michael Patrick Howard



Telephone: (207) 532-9541
Congressional District: Pingree, 1st, Michaud, 2nd

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

Maine

\$490,132

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

Contact: Bruce Cort

Telephone: (207) 892-5224

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

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.



DLT Awards - Michigan

2011 Grant Awards

Munising Memorial Hospital Association
Michigan
\$92,912
Areas Served: Alger County
Contact: Mr. Jessie Lynn Webster
Telephone: (906) 387-4110
Congressional District: Benishek, 1st

Munising Memorial Hospital is a critical access hospital in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, serving a population of 2,500 residents. Munising does not have an on-site radiologist to interpret radiological images from mammography, so they must transport images physically as developed film. This antiquated procedure prolongs precious time that could be critical in detecting and treating cancers. USDA Rural Development funds will assist Munising in acquiring a Full-Field Digital Mammography system to replace the current analog mammography unit that produces only film. After its installation, Munising will be able to link to radiologists when needed, regardless of distance, and electronically transport images for quick and accurate interpretation and diagnosis. If further evaluation is needed on a particular case or image, the electronic file can be transported just as quickly to another remote specialist. The project also serves as an important step in the hospital's initiative to eventually migrate medical records to be fully digital and electronic. Munising will match grant funds with \$139,369 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Minnesota

2011 Grant Awards

Little Crow Telemedia Network
Minnesota
\$117,820
Areas Served: Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Renville, Stearns, Swift, and Yellow Medicine Counties
Contact: Mr. Pete Paul Royer
Telephone: (320) 295-7411
Congressional District: Peterson, 7th

Little Crow is a consortium which provides a distance learning video network across nine rural counties in Central Southern Minnesota. USDA Rural



Development funds will help Little Crow expand their existing network by placing mobile carts fitted with video conferencing equipment at 14 public schools and the hub site at Little Crow. The network is geared toward elementary and middle school students, parents and teachers. Interactive video courses connecting to a multitude of colleges and universities will offer the users a smorgasbord of new classes and robust learning opportunities, particularly in math, sciences, literacy and cultural programs. Teachers will be able to access professional development classes, and also to better collaborate using video conferencing arrangements such as team teaching and teacher to teacher mentoring. Adult education classes will be offered, such as finance, real estate licensing, and nursing. Little Crow will match grant funds with \$119,000 of local funding.

National Joint Powers Alliance

Minnesota

\$405,991

Areas Served: Cass, Crow Wing, Otter Tail, Todd, and Wadena Counties

Contact: Mr. Todd Lyscio

Telephone: (218) 894-5463

Congressional District: Peterson, 7th, Cravaack, 8th

NJPA is a multi-service cooperative. Their specialists are exploring and pursuing collaborative ways to save money in providing services, such as education, needed in the communities they serve. USDA Rural Development will assist NJPA in funding a distance learning and video conferencing system which will optimize teaching and learning resources in their service territory. The system will include a mixture of equipment types serving 16 sites in Central Minnesota, including the NJPA offices. Video classrooms will be the norm while client-based software running on regular laptops will be deployed in situations where classrooms aren't necessary or feasible. That will be the case with teleconferenced meetings between students, parents and the coop specialist to work out customized learning plans. Coursework of all kinds will be offered, mostly through the Central Lakes College node, which can also access the St. Cloud and Pine Technical colleges. The video end point of Lakewood Health Systems will make health occupation courses available at all sites. NJPA will match grant funds with \$204,788 of local funding.

ITASCA Area Schools Collaborative

Minnesota

\$497,378

Areas Served: Aitkin, Cass, Itasca, and St. Louis Counties

Contact: Mr. Lora R. Mathison

Telephone: (218) 327-5887

Congressional District: Cravaack, 8th



In the first of two related projects, 10 schools will connect through video conferencing to Itasca Community College (ITC), opening up new educational horizons in North Central Minnesota, and preparing students for college and professional careers. Building on the Itasca Area Schools Collaborate, which is a nationally recognized pre-kindergarten school readiness program, local educators will use the new system, funded with the assistance of the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, to conduct video conferences between parents, teachers and young students. Then, at the middle and high school level teachers and administrators will use new teaching resources made available by the distance learning connecting to ITC. In addition to offering core curriculum and advance placement courses, new classes will feature an Ojibway teacher, who will teach Native American language and culture to all video end-point schools. ITC will offer classes for students going into technical fields and local teachers will be offered classes for advanced degree programs. ITASCA will match grant funds with \$249,475 of local funding.

ITASCA Area Schools Collaborative

Minnesota

\$494,767

Areas Served: Aitkin, Cass, Itasca, and St. Louis Counties

Contact: Mr. Lora R. Mathison

Telephone: (218) 327-5887

Congressional District: Cravaack, 8th

In the second of two related projects, USDA Rural Development will assist ITASCA with funding video conferencing equipment for 11 public schools to connect to Itasca Community College (ITC), opening up new educational horizons in North Central Minnesota, and preparing students for college and professional careers. Building on the Itasca Area Schools Collaborate, which is a nationally recognized pre-kindergarten school readiness program, local educators will use the new system to conduct video conferences between parents, teachers and young students. Then, at the middle and high school level teachers and administrators will use new teaching resources made available by the distance learning connecting to ITC. Gaps caused by layoffs and budget cuts will be offset by distributing live classroom sessions out to multiple sites. Cuts in foreign language in public schools will be offset by video classes conducted by ITC teachers. Distance tutoring and remediation courses will be available for students struggling with coursework. In addition to deploying video conferencing systems in participating classrooms, the network will install a content server for recording and streaming. ITASCA will match grant funds with \$256,294 of local funding.



DLT Awards – Missouri

2011 Grant Awards

Sisters of Mercy Health Systems

Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma

\$500,000

Areas Served: MO: Barry & Howell Counties; AR: Carroll, Franklin & Scott; KS: Cherokee County; OK: Carter, Johnston, Kingfisher, Love, & Murray

Contact: Dr. Christopher Veremakis

Telephone: (314) 628-3778

Congressional District: MO: Long, 7th, Emerson, 8th ; AR: Womack, 3rd, Ross, 4th; KS: Jenkins, 2nd; OK.: Boren, 2nd, Lucas, 3rd, Cole, 4th

With St. Johns Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis as the central hub, 12 rural hospitals in Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas and Oklahoma will receive telemedical equipment with the funds provided by USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program. Equipment includes mobile medical carts each equipped with a video teleconferencing unit, an exam camera and a telephonic stethoscope, together creating a telemedicine network able to link rural patients and medical staff to specialists and training resources at St. Johns. Other equipment, such as fixed teleconferencing units and laptops will augment the mobile carts and provide further opportunities in continuing medical education for rural health care providers. Through these connections St. Johns' goal is to help fill-in the various gaps in medical care at each participating rural site, such as emergency services. Sisters of Mercy Health Systems will match grant funds with \$500,352 of local funding.

Education Plus Network, Inc.

Missouri

\$195,487

Areas Served: Adair, Putnam & Sullivan Counties

Contact: Mrs. Mary Comstock

Telephone: (660) 947-3361 x 303

Congressional District: Graves, 6th, Luetkemeyer, 9th

Four public schools in rural Northern Missouri will upgrade their distance learning network with assistance from USDA Rural Development's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program. The project will replace decades-old failing distance learning systems with state of the art technology, which includes video conferencing equipment, laptops, document cameras and interactive white boards, along with a multi-point bridge and content server. The recording and playback of courses and educational events will allow students to optimize their time trying to balance class schedules and other learning initiatives. Students will be able to complete necessary coursework to prepare for post-secondary education, and community members will gain much needed adult education. For



example, classes in Spanish language and culture will be offered to educate persons in the community interested in better communications with the newer residents and workers. Education Plus will match grant funds with \$203,466 of local funding.

St. Clair County Hospital District No. 1

Missouri

\$132,515

Areas Served: Hickory & St. Clair Counties

Contact: *currently vacant*

Telephone: (417) 646-5050

Congressional District: Hartzler, 4th

Situated in the middle of Western Missouri the Sac-Osage Hospital and its two smaller clinics serves residents of eight rural counties. USDA Rural Development's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will assist St. Clair build a telemedicine system connecting the three medical facilities, and a direct video connection that Sac-Osage has to the Missouri Telehealth Network. With this link Sac Osage and its clinics will gain access to a vast array of medical resources and specialists. For many people in this eight county area, they will no longer need to make a 200-mile round trip to see a doctor. Medical carts equipped with exam camera, digital stethoscope, and digital otoscope will be placed in the emergency room and conference room at the Sac-Osage. Corresponding carts will be deployed at each of the two satellite clinics. St. Clair will match grant funds with \$67,000 of local funding.

SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital

Missouri, Illinois

\$143,750

Areas Served: MO: Butler, Perry, Saint Francois, & Ste. Genevieve Counties; IL: Jersey County

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kühlenbeck

Telephone: (314) 577-5384

Congressional District: MO: Womack, 3rd, Emerson, 8th; IL: Shimkus, 19th

The grant project seeks to serve patients in medically underserved communities and provide access to specialists for especially vulnerable populations - pregnant women and children. With assistance from USDA Rural Development's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program the hospital will be expanding its existing maternal/fetal medicine and pediatric sub specialty services to cover five new rural hospital sites in Southeast Missouri. Children's Hospital will integrate new telemedical carts equipped with video conferencing into its hub configuration, making use of existing video bridging and other centralized equipment. Once in place, the new medical carts can be moved around to any location within the rural hospital. Data input from patients derived through echocardiograms, digital



stethoscope and ultrasound readings can be transported to pediatric cardiologists or other physicians at the hospitals in the St. Louis area. Local medical staff and parents can consult face-to-face with specialists. Children's Hospital will match grant funds with \$76,000 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

2011 Grant Awards

Marianas Eye Institute

Northern Marianas

\$231,366

Areas Served: Rota, Tinian

Contact: Mr. Russell David Quinn

Telephone: (670) 235-9090

Delegate: Sablan

Tinian and Rota are small rural isolated populations of the islands in the U.S. commonwealth of Northern Marianas. The people on the islands have very limited access to health care, with no significant eye care equipment or professionals available without traveling by air to Saipan, which is costly and time consuming. Diabetes is a rising problem, and diabetic retinopathy is a leading cause of blindness in the archipelago. Population studies of the indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian populations have identified prevalence of diabetes as high as 50 percent in some subgroups. This project, funded by the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will help clinics both at Tinian and Rota acquire and install the essential diagnostic equipment consisting of a retinal camera, an ocular coherence tomographer, and related computer devices that will connect the equipment telephonically to Marianas Eye Institute on Saipan. Once installed with staff trained in its usage the equipment will be able to transmit images from clinics at the remote sites to specialists at Saipan where the images can be analyzed and interpreted. The designed results are improved vision, reduction of vision loss, reduction in the need to travel for the islanders.

DLT Awards – Mississippi

2011 Grant Awards

The University of Southern Mississippi

Mississippi



\$482,162

Areas Served: Jefferson & Lamar Counties

Contact: Ms. Stacy Tucker

Telephone: (601) 266-4190

Congressional District: Harper, 3rd, Palazzo, 4th

By implementing this distance learning project the University of Southern Mississippi will strive to improve student achievement, job readiness and teacher quality at 27 public schools, including elementary, middle and high schools in three counties in South Central Mississippi. USDA Rural Development funds from the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will be applied to fund each site with video conferencing equipment, and the University of South Mississippi with a multi-point bridge, content server and other system control equipment. The project will bring a wide range of classes previously unavailable to these rural schools, including professional development, dual enrollment, and access to more rigorous class work. Special focus will be directed to: (1) K-5 grades in reading and literacy; (2) grades 6-12 where students will be participating in the United Nations Global Classroom program; and (3) high school students in the Model UN program, which involves more advanced work and interactive participation in virtual committees, improving foreign language skills, problem solving and analyzing current issues. The University will match grant funds with \$267,000 of local funding.

Mississippi Authority for Educational Television

Mississippi

\$259,553

Areas Served: Entire State

Contact: Mrs. Nikki K. McCelleis

Telephone: (601) 432-6259

Congressional District: Nunnelee, 1st, Thompson, 2nd, Harper, 3rd, Palazzo, 4th

The USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will provide funding to help expand the Mississippi Interactive Video Network (MIVN) further into schools located in Mississippi's most rural and impoverished communities. The expansion will acquire video conferencing equipment for classrooms, and upgrade the capacity of the video network with multi-point bridge equipment, a content server, firewall transversal gear, and other control components. With connections to many institutions of higher learning, the project is geared to facilitate the transition from high school to college for rural students. There will be 24/7 availability of courses, either live classroom situations or through streamed media. A vast array of courses, including dual enrollment and advanced placement will be offered to rural students, with a special emphasis in special education, math, sciences, and foreign languages. Because of the lack of highly qualified teachers throughout these sparsely populated regions, the network will develop an aggressive teacher training program, with a strong peer



collaboration approach to professional development. The Mississippi Authority will match federal grant funds with \$130,036 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Montana

2010 Grant Awards

Anderson Public Schools

Montana

\$496,780

Areas Served: Big Horn, Gallatin, Roosevelt, Valley, & Yellowstone Counties

Contact: Mr. Jeffrey Gordon Blessum

Telephone: (406) 587-1305

Congressional District: Rehberg, 1st

With the help of funding from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, Anderson Public Schools will connect 10 rural schools in this mountainous five-county area with each other in a distance learning network, and with the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman. The project will fund a variety of video conferencing equipment, document cameras, and white boards, includes fixed installations in distance learning classrooms -and mobile media equipment for rural schools with exceptional demand. Also, PC-based video clients will be deployed, so that teacher-to-student video instruction can be used by independently connected students. The system will enable the schools to connect to University of Montana web course work, offer dual enrollment, collaborative projects, math and science. The museum as hub will provide a unique educational opportunity, incorporating museum artifacts and learning tools for K-12 students to explore their own environment, geology and cultural history. With a substantial American Indian population, the communities involved can share in their cultural heritage through specialized programs. Project leaders will provide a venue for mentoring programs, a method of instruction which shows positive results in rural education, and one which will be facilitated by video conferencing. Anderson will match federal grant funds with \$166,400 of local funding.

DLT Awards – North Carolina

2011 Grant Awards

East Carolina University

North Carolina

\$392,748

Areas Served: Chowan, Jackson, Pasquotank, & Sampson Counties



Contact: Dr. Robert Todd Watkins
Telephone: (252) 737-7015
Congressional District: Butterfield, 1st, McIntyre, 7th, Shuler, 11th

The East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine is expanding their rural residency program by implementing a telemedicine system which will link their dental program with clinics in Eastern North Carolina. USDA Rural Development will provide Distance Learning and Telemedicine funds to enable the four rural participating dental clinics and their hub sites to purchase video conferencing systems. Ross Hall, their hub site in Greenville, will deploy the necessary control equipment, such as video management server, video control server, and content server, so that dental students, instructors, dental assistants, and physicians can all connect and teleconference in any number of variations. The addition of the telemedicine to the residency program will be a welcome addition toward improving oral health care to the most underserved counties in rural North Carolina. East Carolina will match grant funds with \$200,725 of local funding.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

North Carolina

\$81,324

Areas Served: Chatham & Macon Counties

Contact: Mr. Michael Young

Telephone: (919) 357-5626

Congressional District: Ellmers, 2nd, Price, 4th, Shuler, 11th

With funding assistance from USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program the University of North Carolina will expand the statewide distance learning system of the UNC Cancer Network into two rural hospitals. This will be helpful in a number of ways; for physician-to-physician support in oncology, for patient-centric cancer awareness and educational programs and presentation, and to bring the rural doctors into teleconference at the statewide tumor boards. Chatham Hospital in Central North Carolina and Angel Medical Center in Western North Carolina will be linked to enable rural doctors to regularly consult with physicians at UNC regarding cancer treatment and care. The link will also further promote UNC's cancer survivorship support group and cancer transitions program for patients and their families. The University will match federal grant funds with \$42,000 of local funding.

Easter Seals UCP North Carolina & Virginia, Inc.

North Carolina

\$251,235

Areas Served: Alamance, Alleghany, Cabarrus, Caswell, Catawba, Franklin, Granville, Hamett, Lee, Nash, Pamilco, Sampson, Surry, & Wilkes Counties

Contact: Mr. Tony Real

Telephone: (919) 865-8622



Congressional District: Butterfield, 1st, Ellmers, 2nd, Jones, 3rd, Foxx, 5th, Coble, 6th, Kissell, 8th, McHenry, 10th, Miller, 13th

Easter Seals UCP is an organization which assists people managing disabilities and mental health challenges. Their Raleigh office will serve as hub for a video conferencing telehealth outreach project connecting 15 end-user sites in 14 North Carolina counties. The USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will fund desktop video conferencing systems and necessary hub equipment to make this system possible. Experts in mental health and developmental disabilities at the Raleigh office will be able to connect with clinicians located at rural mental health clinics throughout this large geographic area for face-to-face one-on-one sessions in consultation and training that will increase the effectiveness of the organization and their mission. It will also facilitate diagnostic screening, treatment planning, complex case review and care coordination. Easter Seals UCP will match federal grant funds with \$125,870 of local funding.

James Sprunt Community College

North Carolina

\$192,870

Areas Served: Duplin County

Contact: Mr. Robert Turner

Telephone: (910) 296-2416

Congressional District: McIntyre, 7th

James Sprunt Community College and the Duplin County Schools will partner in this project to bring college-level and Advanced Placement courses to high school students in Duplin County. The College will use both its main campus and the West Park Business Center to link with five high schools in a distance learning system funded by the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program. Instructors at the high school will be using media carts equipped with video conferencing units, laptops and document cameras, maximizing their connection to their instructor counterparts at the community college, who will also have video conferencing equipment. The project will not only use more effective methods of delivering college courses to high schools, but will also broaden the College's Continuing Education program for delivering industry training. The program will benefit staff and faculty, who currently have to travel to various, sometimes remote, training sites for professional development courses. The community college will match federal grant funds with \$75,000 of local funding..

Sampson Regional Medical Center, Inc.

North Carolina

\$169,852

Areas Served: Sampson County

Contact: Mr. David Masterson



Telephone: (910) 592-8716
Congressional District: McIntyre, 7th

USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program funds will assist the Sampson Regional Medical Center, a rural hospital in Southeastern North Carolina, in purchasing patient monitoring devices and related peripheral equipment that will connect to four metropolitan hub hospitals in Raleigh, Fayetteville, Chapel Hill and Wilmington. Sampson will be replacing its patient monitoring systems for ones that have more features and connectivity. Capable of standards-based medical imaging and accepting up to four tertiary hospital connections the monitors will connect to patients in Sampson's emergency department, telemetry unit and ICU. Vital signs and other real time data collected from those units will be transmitted to specialists in cardiology, neurology, and pulmonology at the four hub hospitals. The new monitors are useful in other hospital services, including surgical, recovery room, pediatrics and obstetrics/delivery. This distribution of care works well for both the rural and the urban hospital as patients who would otherwise be transported to over-crowded and distance medical centers can remain at their nearby hospital for monitoring and care. Sampson will match federal grant funds with \$169,853 of local funding.

Mission Healthcare Foundation, Inc.

North Carolina

\$419,351

Areas Served: Cherokee, Macon, Mitchell, Swain, & Transylvania Counties

Contact: Mr. Bruce Thorsen

Telephone: (828) 213-1020

Congressional District: McHenry, 10th, Shuler, 11th

With the assistance of USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program Mission Healthcare will place mobile robotic units into six rural hospitals in the mountain communities of Western North Carolina in a telemedicine program to extend Mission Hospital's Telestroke and telepsychiatry services. These remote presence endpoint devices can transmit video images and medical information back and forth from remote site to hub site. Western North Carolina is in the "Stroke Belt," and each end-user site is in a medically underserved area. Regarding mental health issues, access in this area to a psychiatrist is non-existent, and often rural emergency rooms are not prepared to deal with critical mental health issues. Mission hospital has over 750 physicians representing most specialties and sub-specialties. The mobile robotic device enables physicians from a distance to directly control and ambulate the device through any clinical process as though they were actually present at the end-user site. Laptops will be used at the hub site for the physician to control the movements and interact with the distant patient medical staff at the rural location. Video monitors on the robot unit will be used for consultation with the physician



or psychiatrist. Mission Healthcare will match federal grant funds with \$419,352 of local funding.

DLT Awards – North Dakota

2011 Grant Awards

North Dakota Educational Technology Council

North Dakota

\$392,277

Areas Served: Bottineau, Bowman, Burleigh, Cass, Dunn, Eddy, Foster, Grant, Griggs, Hettinger, Kidder, Logan, McHenry, McIntosh, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Mountrail, Oliver, Pembina, Renville, Rolette, Sheridan, Sioux, Steele, Walsh, Ward, & Wells Counties

Contact: Mr. Dan Pullen

Telephone: (701) 231-6032

Cong. District: Berg, 1st

The USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will assist the Educational Technology Council in the upgrade of their rural distance learning system, which will replace older video conferencing units at 46 K-12 schools. New equipment will be installed that is more compatible with state-of-the-art display capabilities, including high definition. Some of the display monitors will also be replaced, but most of the upgrades are the units that contain the codec (which controls video compression and decompression) and the processors analogous to a computer's central processing unit. The hub at Bismarck will upgrade whole system capacity with content archiving and streaming, and new content management tools to facilitate collaboration. Working with other educational partners, the upgrade will coincide with an expansion of class offerings, adding to its already large array of educational content. Such courses would include anatomy, foreign languages, career development, new sciences offerings, psychology and others. The Educational Technology Council will match federal grant funds with \$394,552 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Nebraska

2011 Grant Awards

Alegent Health

Nebraska, Iowa

\$500,000



Areas Served: NE: Burt, Colfax, & Washington Counties; IA: Adams, Harrison, & Taylor Counties

Contact: Mr. Rodney Triplett

Telephone: (402) 657-5223

Congressional District: NE: Fortenberry, 1st; IA: King, 5th

Three urban hospitals, two in Omaha, one in Papillion, Neb., will serve as hubs to support specialty services in cardiology, endocrinology and nephrology to 13 primary care centers at rural hospitals in Nebraska and southwestern Iowa, with funding assistance from the USDA Rural Development's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program. Each video end point location will have a medical cart with video conferencing equipment, a telephonic stethoscope, ENT otoscope, and exam camera so that rural medical staff can bring specialists into the rural exam room via the telemedicine equipment. The main hub sites will receive a video communications server to manage the video network and a content server, capable of archiving and streaming teaching events and courses for medical education. Having a robust venue for continuing medical education from large urban hospitals to rural clinics will help to reduce medical professional isolation at those locations. With this project Alegen hopes to eliminate 60 percent of patient travel to hospitals and specialty clinics, and decrease by 55 percent the number of patients with heart disease, diabetes or kidney disease by providing regular medical attention to those who otherwise would have had worsening symptoms. Alegen will match grant funds with \$411,446 of local funding.

Educational Service Unit # 9

Nebraska

\$57,341

Areas Served: Adams, Clay, Douglas, Hamilton, Lancaster, Lincoln, & Nuckolls Counties

Contact: Mr. Chris Petroff

Telephone: (402) 463-7171

Congressional District: Smith, 3rd

USDA Rural Development funds will help ESU #9 to purchase and put into place distance learning equipment for their consortium of ten K-12 schools in South Central Nebraska. Nine are in exceptionally rural areas. As with many exceptionally rural areas, these communities have experienced a declining population, due to chronic out-migration and aging. These and other economic factors contribute to exact a multiplier effect, wiping out a school system's resources. The video conferencing equipment that will be installed at the hub and the end-user sites will provide a pathway for students to step into a rich academic experience, with virtual field trips and access to high demand classes that would otherwise be unavailable, such as advanced math, agriculture, foreign language, music theory, humanities, career development classes in harnessing educational technology. ESU #9 will match grant funds with \$60,304 of local funding.



DLT Awards – New Hampshire

2011 Grant Awards

North Country Education Services Agency, Inc.

New Hampshire and Maine

\$497,531

Areas Served: NH: Hillsborough, Coos, Grafton; ME: Aroostook

Contact: Mr. Matthew Treamer

Telephone: (603) 466-5437

Congressional District: NH: Guinta, 1st Dist.; and Bass, 2nd Dist.; ME: Michaud, 2nd Dist.

As with many rural areas in America, communities in rural New Hampshire face problems with low population density and small student population in the schools, which are isolated and struggling to cover curriculum requirements. To address this, North Country Education Services has teamed-up with the Granite State Distance Learning Network in Durham, ATECH services in Concord, and grant funds from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program to put together a distance learning system for 19 rural schools. The project will install portable video system in each school. Video systems will be a combination of video client-based software running on tablets or laptops, state-of-the-art desktop systems mounted on portable carts and interactive white boards. One site is a rehabilitation center where students will receive telemedicine benefits. Specialty providers will deliver services for students with disabilities. To help retain and rebuild their teaching force, North Country will deliver professional development to teaching staff at the participating schools, and will match the federal grant funds with \$150,453 of local funding.

DLT Awards – New York

2011 Grant Awards

Hillside Family of Agencies

New York

\$76,610

Areas Served: Seneca, Cayuga, Allegany, Steuben, and Yates

Contact: Mr. David James-Wilson

Telephone: (585) 256-7597



Congressional District: Hanna, 24th Dist.; Buerkle, 25th Dist.; and Reed, 29th Dist.

Hillside Family of Agencies is an organization that works with youth and families facing a wide range of behavioral and emotional challenges in Central New York State. With grant assistance from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program this project plans to broaden the telehealth services that Hillside currently provides with existing video teleconferencing at two of their campus schools, extending their telehealth service locations to two additional outpatient clinics in Central New York state. This system expansion is focused on telediagnosis, telemedication management and telemonitoring. The project is designed to expand the care capacity of Hillside's psychiatrists, pediatricians and nurse practitioners using new diagnostic software, computer equipment and peripheral devices, such as digital otoscopes, telephonic stethoscopes, and skin cameras. Hillside will match federal grant funds with \$76,612 of local funding.

Franklin - Essex - Hamilton BOCES

New York

\$142,162

Areas Served: Essex, Franklin, and Hamilton

Contact: Mr. Stephen Shafer

Telephone: (518) 483-6420

Congressional District: Gibson, 20th Dist.; and Owens, 23rd Dist.

Along the Canadian border in New York state USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will help to fund a partnership of 10 schools by installing a distance learning video conferencing network. The grant will purchase video conferencing equipment and bridging capabilities so that they can share classes, and boost the availability of technical education, dual enrollment and other courses that were previously unable to them. Sites include K-12 schools, high schools, a private academy and an education center. The system will bring in connections to St. Regis Mohawk Reservation through its local schools and provide health programs and other shared courses. The project will find collaborative ways to preserve and build upon tribal language and culture working with Mohawk Elders. Plans are to find multiple uses within the community, such as providing a training platform for local emergency services. Franklin-Essex-Hamilton will match federal grant funds with \$114,441 of local funding.

Otsego Northern Catskills BOCES

New York

\$220,339

Areas Served: Chenango and Otsego

Contact: Mr. Nicholas J. Savin

Telephone: (607) 652-1209



Congressional District: Gibson, 20th Dist.; and Hanna, 24th Dist.

USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will make it possible for Otsego Northern Catskills to expand their distance learning project from last year to include three new school sites, and adds an extra distance learning classroom to a school where demand has exceeded the school's capacity for classroom space. Four schools will receive video conferencing equipment that will enable the Otsego Northern Catskills BOCES distance learning system to reach further into Central New York State. Students, their parents and other community residents in these new communities will have access to the classes and other educational resources that are available from an existing network, such as dual enrollment classes, expanded career and adult education programs, and collaborative professional development. Otsego Northern Catskills will match federal grant funds with \$94,431 of local funding.

Wayne Finger Lakes Board of Cooperative Education Services

New York

\$311,337

Areas Served: Wayne

Contact: Mr. Christopher E. Semler

Telephone: (585) 200-2568

Congressional District: Buerkle, 25th Dist.

The USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will fund distance learning equipment for 14 rural public schools in Wayne County, and equipment for the hub site at the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES office to manage and participate in the video conferencing system. The schools will share classes among themselves, and in particular the high schools will function as course providers. Equipment includes both wall-mounted display units for distance learning classrooms and video systems mounted on mobile carts used for multiple locations within a school or facility. Client software will allow students access on their PCs or laptops so that materials presented will not be exclusively limited to videoconferencing locations. The BOCES office will originate classes for the public schools and also offer classes for teachers and school staff that could apply toward general equivalency diplomas and other professional certifications. The BOCES will make the system available for police, fire fighters, and emergency medical staff in their training initiatives. Wayne Finger Lakes will match federal grant funds with \$155,981 of local funding.

Elizabethtown Community Hospital

New York

\$134,931

Areas Served: Essex and Clinton

Contact: Mr. Brett Sicola

Telephone: (518) 873-3092



Congressional District: Gibson, 20th Dist.; and Owens, 23rd Dist.

The USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will fund six sites, including three community health centers, a county jail, and two hospital sites at Elizabethtown, one of those serving as the hub of this telemedicine network. The hub site will acquire a multi-point video bridge and firewall transversal, and the sites will be equipped with video conferencing units and peripheral devices for input, such as examination cameras, digital stethoscopes, and various other scoping devices. The end result being that residents throughout these Adirondack Mountain communities in and around Essex County will for the first time have local access to specialist physicians, particularly ENT physicians, dermatologists, and ophthalmologists. Elizabethtown will also extend its cardiac rehabilitation program through the video network. Elizabethtown will match federal grant funds with \$135,000 of local funding.

Cattaraugus Allegany Erie Wyoming BOCES

New York

\$375,717

Areas Served: Allegany and Cattaraugus

Contact: Ms. Laurie MacVittie

Telephone: (716) 376-8239

Congressional District: Reed, 29th Dist.

With grant assistance from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program eight schools and two BOCES offices in Southwestern New York State will be purchasing distance learning system components to access courses, teachers and services that are not currently available. Classes will also originate from the hub sites and outside-the-project sites newly made available by linking to New York's Regional Information Centers. Science, technology, engineering, math, dual credit, advanced placement, college and enrichment programs, career readiness courses and other adult education courses will all be offered to students and community members. Educators will be able to take professional development classes, as required for certification. The hub site at Olean is to get a multi-point bridge and recording/streaming equipment. All sites will receive video conferencing equipment, some with document cameras and related peripheral equipment. Cattaraugus Allegany Erie Wyoming will match federal grant funds with \$403,183 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Oklahoma

2011 Grant Awards

Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Oklahoma

\$264,895



Areas Served: Adair, Choctaw, Craig, Delaware, McCurtain, McIntosh, Nowata, Okfuskee, Ottawa, Pushmataha, Sequoyah, Logan, Major, Woodward, and Murray

Contact: Mr. Sean Couch

Telephone: (405)-522-3483

Congressional District: Boren, 2nd Dist.; Lucas, 3rd Dist.; and Cole, 4th Dist.

Oklahoma Department of Mental Health will expand access to treatment services in underserved areas by acquiring telemedicine equipment. The demand for public behavioral health services continues to exceed the capacity of the current treatment system, and especially in rural areas, where providers often lack the staff and resources to provide specialized services needed for behavioral health and substance abuse. USDA Rural Development will provide the necessary grants funds through the Distance Learning and Telemedicine to expanded video conferencing system and extend services and staff training to local mental health centers in 15 targeted communities. The video network will also facilitate new partnerships, especially between behavioral health and primary care providers. The mental health offices will receive wall-mounted video conferencing equipment. The hub will receive a communications server, firewall transversal equipment, a content server, video client management software, and its own video conferencing system. Distance learning classrooms, small group teleconferences, and one-to-one sessions will all be part of the various learning and consultative situations that the Department will use to accomplish their project mission. The Department will match federal grant funds with \$133,949 of local funding.

SSM Health Care of Oklahoma, Inc.

Oklahoma

\$270,000

Areas Served: Hughes, Beaver, Custer, Dewey, Roger Mills, Woods, and Jefferson

Contact: Mr. Kyle Stuart Nondorf

Telephone: (405) 272-6333

Congressional District: Boren, 2nd Dist.; Lucas, 3rd Dist.; and Cole, 4th Dist.

Demand for specialized mental healthcare and substance abuse services is high in rural areas, especially in recent years. This situation is exacerbated by the lack of access to specialized behavioral health professionals in rural areas. This grant, supplied by USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program places interactive videoconferencing systems at 15 sites in 15 counties along with a system-wide content server. The new video communications system will allow patients visiting clinical staff at their local rural mental health centers to connect with specialized behavioral health professionals at the Department Headquarters in Oklahoma City for consultations. The system will also facilitate physician to physician consultations system-wide, and allow for individual psychotherapy sessions and behavioral health and medication



assessments SSM Health Care will match federal grant funds with \$135,706 of local funding.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University

Oklahoma

\$366,359

Areas Served: Alfalfa, Dewey, Ellis, Grant, Harper, Kiowa, Major, Woodward, Pontotoc, and Tillman

Contact: Dr. Steve Lohmann

Telephone: (580) 327-8406

Congressional District: Lucas, 3rd Dist.; and Cole, 4th Dist.

Rural distance learning projects are designed to increase opportunities for students to learn skills associated with higher income positions. From this perspective, distance learning could be the facilitator that breaks a cycle of poverty, a cycle perpetuated in many rural areas by scarce opportunities and low academic achievement. This distance learning project in Northwestern Oklahoma adheres to this premise, and plans to use funds awarded by the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program to install distance learning equipment in 17 public schools connected to two Northwestern Oklahoma State University (NWOSU) campuses. Courses will range from core curriculum to advanced placement/dual enrollment to career seminars and interpersonal skills coaching. NWOSU will implement an innovative customized training program targeted to average or below-average students, where they are mentored on their transition into college. The hub site will acquire a communications server, multi-point bridge, management suite, and video equipment, while school sites will receive a combination of video conferencing platforms, including desktop systems, and video clients that run on standard PCs or laptops. The University will match federal grant funds with \$279,000 of local funding.

Buffalo Valley School District I-3

Oklahoma

\$239,476

Areas Served: Latimer, Le Flore, Muskogee, Okmulgee, and Sequoyah

Contact: Mr. Cary Ammons

Telephone: (918) 522-4426

Congressional District: Boren, 2nd Dist.

With grant assistance from USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program six school districts in Eastern Oklahoma will be connecting to an educational hub at the University of Arkansas (UA) in a distance learning network hosted by Buffalo Valley School District. There will be 16 elementary, middle and high schools, many with a significant Choctaw and Cherokee student population. The schools will share classes and instructors,



including Native American language and culture. UA will provide advanced placement courses, dual enrollment, foreign languages, vocational training and professional development for teachers. UA will also provide preventative health instruction regarding obesity, diabetes and other health issues pertinent to rural families. Equipment will consist of video conferencing units, interactive white boards, tablets and laptops running video client software, and controlled by management software at the hub site at Fort Smith. Each grade level at each school will have its own video end point to ensure that distance learning is used at all levels. Buffalo Valley will match federal grant funds with \$41,616 of local funding.

Washita Valley Community Action Council, Inc.

Oklahoma

\$471,249

Areas Served: Caddo and Grady

Contact: Ms. Peggy N. Sayers

Telephone: (405) 224-5831 x 119

Congressional District: Lucas, 3rd Dist.; and Cole, 4th Dist.

Through its central office hub at Chickasha, Washita Valley Action Council will be using grant funds from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program to establish a video conferencing distance learning system in 12 Head Start rural facilities in Caddo and Grady Counties in South Central Oklahoma. The system will encompass 26 classrooms where Head Start programs teach literacy and other life skills to low income pre-school aged children and their families. Desktop video conferencing equipment installed at the rural facilities will connect to the Chickasha facility so that each remote site can tap the specialists and receive consultation in areas such as behavioral health and speech. Also, early education teachers at each site will be enabled to complete mandated hours of professional development toward academic degrees. The headquarters hub will acquire a multi-point bridge, video control server, and equipment with firewall transversal and scheduling functionality as well as its own video conferencing equipment to deliver classes and other content. Washita Valley will match federal grant funds with \$241,257 of local funding.

Kiamichi Technology Center

Oklahoma

\$405,998

Areas Served: Creek, Atoka, Bryan, Cherokee, Choctaw, Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore, McCurtain, Pittsburg, and Pushmataha

Contact: Ms. Gina Riggs

Telephone: (918) 647-4525

Congressional District: Sullivan, 1st Dist.; Boren, 2nd Dist.; and Lucas, 3rd Dist.



Kiamichi Technology Center will acquire video conferencing equipment to deliver and support emergency services training in 12 of their corresponding rural technology and vocational centers, located mostly in Southern Oklahoma. Ten of the counties in this service territory are designated as medically underserved. Those who will be trained consist of volunteer fire fighters, emergency medical technicians, and other community members that support ambulance service, first aid, life-saving training, fire service, and other first responder activities. USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program funds will outfit each site with a video conferencing system, including paramedic classrooms and a mobile trailer. A fire academy will provide instruction and certification. The hub site main office in Wilburton will provide most of the training professionals, and will receive a desktop video conferencing system, client-based video software to run on standard PCs or laptops, and a content server able to archive and stream classes and materials. Kiamichi will match federal grant funds with \$203,245 of local funding.

Oklahoma Department of Libraries (1)

Oklahoma

\$492,655

Areas Served: Adair, Beaver, Beckham, Bryan, Caddo, Canadian, Cherokee, Cimarron, Craig, Creek, Custer, Delaware, Ellis, Garvin, Grady, Harper, Hughes, Johnston, Kingfisher, Kiowa, LeFlore, Logan, Love, Major, Mayes, McClain, McCurtain, Murray, Noble, Okmulgee, Osage, Ottawa, Pawnee, Payne, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, Pushmataha, Roger Mills, Rogers, Sequoyah, Texas, Wagoner, Washita, Woods, and Woodward

Contact: Mrs. Vicki Mohr

Telephone: (405) 522-3293

Congressional District: Sullivan, 1st Dist.; Boren, 2nd Dist.; Lucas, 3rd Dist.; Cole, 4th Dist.; and Lankford, 5th Dist.

Libraries are community anchor organizations providing a wide variety of literary services for students, and any other community resident who use them. This project is one of two applications, both of which expand library services to rural libraries throughout Oklahoma and enrich the educational offerings with video-based content and classes. This part of the project will expand services to 48 rural library video end-points, with each rural library receiving a video conferencing system. Hub equipment, such as media servers and content servers will be placed at the Libraries Department in Oklahoma City. There will be a health education component, provided by Integris Health. With funding provided by the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program the Department of Libraries has teamed up with Hearts for Hearing, an organization specializing in comprehensive hearing health care and audiology. Workforce development will be another key feature of the newly implemented



system with support to both small businesses and job seekers. For this library system grant, the Department will match federal grant funds with \$493,855 of state funding.

Oklahoma Department of Libraries (2)

Oklahoma

\$499,665

Areas Served: Adair, Atoka, Coal, Craig, Delaware, Haskell, Le Flore, Latimer, McCurtain, McIntosh, Muskogee, Sequoyah, Beckham, Blaine, Custer, Dewey, Kay, Kingfisher, Kiowa, Woods, Carter, Grady, Murray, Marshall, McClain, Stephens, and Tillman

Contact: Mrs. Vicki Mohr

Telephone: (405) 522-3293

Congressional District: Boren, 2nd Dist.; Lucas, 3rd Dist.; and Cole, 4th Dist.

Libraries are community anchor organizations providing a wide variety of literary services for students, and any other community resident who uses them. This project is one of two applications, both of which expand library services to rural libraries throughout Oklahoma and enrich the educational offerings with video-based content and classes. This facet of the project is to connect to 30 rural library video end-points, with each rural library receiving a video conferencing system. Hub equipment, such as media servers and content servers will be placed at the Libraries Department in Oklahoma City. There will be a health education component, provided by Integris Health. With funding provided by the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program the Department of Libraries has teamed up with Hearts for Hearing, an organization specializing in comprehensive hearing health care and audiology. Workforce development will be another key feature of the newly implemented system with support to both small businesses and job seekers. For this library system grant the Department will match federal grant funds with \$508,433 of state funding.

DLT Awards – Oregon

2011 Grant Awards

Providence Health & Services-Oregon

Oregon

\$253,260

Areas Served: Grant, Harney, Lake, Morrow, & Wallowa Counties

Contact: Ms. Bonnie Smith

Telephone: (503)-216-5999

Congressional District: Walden, 2nd



USDA Rural Development funds will assist Providence Hospital in assembling a telestroke network connecting five end-user hospitals in five Eastern and Central Oregon counties to their hub hospital in Portland. Often when a stroke occurs for a patient in a rural area, practitioners are often untrained in evaluating and treating the stroke. Also, patients often have large distances to travel to get to experienced hospitals, or there is a lack of neurologists and/or inconsistent neurology support. When a stroke occurs, every second counts. Telestroke provides real-time health care, and enables stroke experts to assess, diagnose and make treatment recommendations for patients at distant locations. Medical carts will be deployed at the end-user hospitals which will allow for round the clock availability of stroke neurologists. A mobile platform robot device with human-like mobility will be controlled by the neurologist at a distance to perform examinations. The same teleconferencing system that is used for telestroke and consultations can also be used for training primary providers, nursing, and EMS staff. Providence will match grant funds with \$127,000 of local funding.

Coos County Airport District

Oregon

\$440,000

Areas Served: Coos, Curry, Douglas, Josephine, Klamath, & Lake Counties

Contact: Ms. Theresa Cook

Telephone: (541) 756-8531

Congressional District: Walden, 2nd, DeFazio, 4th

USDA Rural Development funds will enable the Airport District to establish a distance learning network across six counties in Southwestern Oregon to teach fire suppression science, search and rescue, and first responder training to rural fire departments and port districts. The Airport District will be equipped with a video conferencing package, including document scanner, smart board, and computer system. The participating 11 fire protection districts and three (shallow-draft) port districts will be supplied with video conferencing media carts endowed with laptops. The Airport District is able to leverage its teaching and content resources and draw from its local organizations, such as the North Bend Municipal Fire Service, Southwestern Oregon Community College (which offers certificate programs in fire science and emergency medical services), Ocean Air Aviation (which provides medical evacuation services), and the U.S. Coast Guard (well-known for over-water rescue). Coos County Airport District will match grant funds with \$135,000 of local funding.

North Central Educational Service District

Oregon

\$312,285



Areas Served: Gilliam, Sherman, & Wheeler Counties
Contact: Mrs. Rinda Mae Montgomery Conwell
Telephone: (541) 384-2732
Congressional District: Walden, 2nd

USDA Rural Development funds will be used by Region XV to expand an existing system, as two schools will be receiving video conferencing equipment and brought-in as new video endpoints. Region XV has a 2,500-mile service territory, larger than nine U.S. states. Region XV offices, as system hub, will receive a multi-point bridge, content server, and other control equipment allowing them to link the video network among 30 schools. Participating locations all contribute to provide classes to each other, sharing teachers, courses, and learning. The new curriculum presented will offset classes that are either not available, or are not robust or advanced enough for academic achievement. Those courses would include math and science, health, technology literacy and foreign languages for K-12 students, professional development and mentoring for teachers, and continuing education and workforce development for adult learners. North Central will match grant funds with \$156,455 of local funding.

DLT Awards – South Carolina

2011 Grant Awards

Agape Management Services, Inc.

South Carolina

\$196,378

Areas Served: Chesterfield, Colleton, Darlington, Hampton, Jasper, Laurens, Marlboro, & Williamsburg Counties

Contact: James Williamson

Telephone: (843) 910-1440

Congressional District: Wilson, 2nd, Duncan, 3rd, Mulvaney, 5th, Clyburn, 6th

With assistance from USDA Rural Development funds Agape Management will acquire and implement a telemedicine system to eight rural senior hospice centers located in counties throughout Eastern South Carolina. Telemedicine will include a range of consultation services between professional staff at the Agape main office in West Columbia and their counterparts at the hospices. Services include medication and pharmacy provisions, education programs for patients and their families as well as individual counseling. As a special feature, Agape will partner with several community colleges and the Apprenticeship Carolina program to provide distance training for hospice staff in a registered health care apprenticeship program. Funds will assist the hub site in acquiring a multipoint bridge, content server, video control and firewall transversal units, as well as a desktop video conferencing system for the main office. Each of the rural sites will



receive a video conferencing system mounted on a mobile cart with dual display monitors. Agape Management will match the federal grant funds with \$147,285 of local funding.

DLT Awards - South Dakota

2011 Grant Awards

Sanford Health

South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota

\$488,885

Areas Served: SD: Brule, Clay, Day, Duell, Gregory, Lincoln, & Tripp Counties; ND: Dickey, LaMoure, Ransom, & Traill Counties; IA: Lyon, O'Brien, & Sioux Counties; MN: Big Stone, Cottonwood, Jackson, Lyon, Mahnommen, Murray, Nobles, Otter Tail, Rock, & Traverse Counties.

Contact: Ms. Susan Berry

Telephone: (605) 328-6970

Congressional District: SD Noem, 1st; IA: King, 5th, MN: Walz, 1st, ND: Berg, 1st

USDA Rural Development funds will assist Sanford Health with assembling a large scale telemedicine system through the RUS Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program. Mobile medical carts equipped with examination cameras, digital stethoscopes, and video-teleconferencing units will be installed in 39 hospitals and clinics and linked together in a project covering the far flung, frontier reaches of four states. Over 5,000 Native Americans and other residents of this frontier will have direct access through local health care providers to specialists and other physicians at Sanford University hubs in Sioux Falls and Fargo. Hub control equipment, such as firewall transversal, video management and scheduling software will be installed to centrally manage and coordinate the video system. Sanford will match federal grant funds with \$490,845 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Tennessee

2011 Grant Awards

East Tennessee State University

Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia

\$191,601

Areas Served: TN: Hancock and Johnson; KY: Harlan; VA: Smyth and Tazewell

Contact: Ms. Louise Nuttle

Telephone: (423) 439-6000



Congressional District: TN: Roe, 1st Dist.; KY: Rogers, 5th Dist.; VA: Griffith, 9th Dist.

USDA Rural Development funds will assist East Tennessee in establishing a telemedicine system connecting medical resources at the Quillen College of Medicine in Johnson City, Tenn., to medical centers in five counties of the Appalachian heartland in Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. Quillen will put together a video telemedicine system installing video control equipment at its hub, and placing mobile videoconferencing systems at each rural medical facility. Scoping devices and computers will be connected to the remote telemedicine mobile units allowing rural physicians to input and send various sources of patient data to the consulting site. The emphasis of the overall system will be to extend medical care in high risk obstetrics, gerontology, pediatrics, and infectious diseases to the rural facilities, and to offer continuing medical education for medical staff at those facilities. East Tennessee will match federal grant funds with \$95,922 of local funding

Carey Counseling Center, Inc.

Tennessee

\$195,000

Areas Served: Benton, Carroll, Gibson, Henry, Lake, and Obion

Contact: Mr. Richard French

Telephone: (731) 642-1753 x 156

Congressional District: Fincher, 8th Dist.

With funds from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program Carey Counseling Center acquire the equipment necessary to modernize and improve their home-based mental health services in six rural towns in Northwest Tennessee. Laptops with webcams will be provided to case managers, crisis workers, and school-based staff, and corresponding teleconferencing equipment will be supplied to psychiatrists, nurse practitioners and other medical professionals at Carey's offices. Medical staff working in the field will be able to access these psychiatrists and nurse practitioners from the patient's with immediate and personalized care, saving time and money – and providing the field staff with the ability to make decisions whether hospitalization is needed or not for any given case. Also, in cases that involve incarcerated patients, the system will improve the logistics and safety concerns, virtually eliminating the need for transporting high risk individuals out of secured environments. Carey Counseling will match federal grant funds with \$200,000 of local funding.

McMinn County Board of Education

Tennessee



\$250,214

Areas Served: McMinn

Contact: Dr. Ken Phillips

Telephone: (423) 596-4052

Congressional District: Duncan, 2nd Dist.

McMinn County will make use of USDA's Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program funds to install video conferencing equipment in each of the county's nine schools and connect them with county school's central office. A content server will be deployed with streaming capabilities to archive and collect classroom recordings and educational materials. The distance learning system will help to offset the shortage of qualified teachers by allowing local teachers to distribute classes among multiple locations, and by providing professional development for existing teachers. An expanded range of courses will help students in meeting state graduation requirements that involve upper level and specialized courses, which will also better prepare them for college and successful careers. McMinn County will match federal grant funds with \$125,200 of local funding.

Regional Obstetrical Consultants

Tennessee, Georgia

\$71,666

Areas Served: TN: Union; GA: Fannin and Pickens

Contact: Ms. Deborah Averitt Lance

Telephone: (423) 664-4460 x 237

Congressional District: TN: Fleischmann, 3rd Dist.; GA: Graves, 9th Dist.

A group of obstetricians and related healthcare professionals based in Chattanooga will be expanding their services through this telemedicine project to three hospitals in rural Northern Georgia to provide top quality obstetrical care. Funded through the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program mobile telemedicine carts equipped with video conferencing units will be deployed so that physicians, clinical staff and patients at the three rural hospitals can connect face-to-face with the urban hospital specialists in maternal-fetal care, sonograms, genetic counseling and diabetes. A video control system with firewall transversal functions will be installed at the hub to control the interplay of the multiple video endpoints. Obstetrical Consultants will match federal grant funds with \$35,833 of local funding.



DLT Grant Awards - Texas

2011 Grant Awards

Crane County Hospital District

Texas

\$101,500

Areas Served: Crane

Contact: Mrs. Leticia Cazares Rodriguez

Telephone: (432) 558-3555 x 148

Congressional District: Conaway, 11th Dist.

USDA's Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine funds will assist Crane County Hospital in this teleradiology project to replace an obsolete radiology system. The new digital radiology system will improve many aspects of care. The images will be displayed instantly on the monitor, reducing the patient's exposure to radiation. Images, along with consulting text, will be sent immediately to the radiologist at the medical center in Odessa, the hub site where Crane County equipment will be linked. Travel and other costs will be greatly reduced for patients in this vast rural country of Central and Western Texas as the digitization of medical records for portability and precision increase efficiencies at every point of the process. Crane County Hospital will match federal grant funds with \$43,500 of local funding.

Education Service Center Region XV

Texas

\$228,489

Areas Served: Brown, Coke, Coleman, Irion, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, San Saba, Schleicher, Sterling, Tom Green, Sutton, Crocket, and Edwards

Contact: Mr. Randon Lance

Telephone: (325) 481-4081

Congressional District: Conaway, 11th Dist.; and Canseco. 23rd Dist.

Region XV has a 2,500-mile service territory, larger than nine U.S. states. USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program funds will help Region XV build on an existing system, with two schools receiving video conferencing equipment and brought-in as new video endpoints. Region XV offices, as system hub, will receive a multi-point bridge, content server, and other control equipment allowing them to link the video network among 30 schools. Participating locations all contribute to provide classes to each other, sharing teachers, courses, and learning. The new curriculum presented will offset classes that are either not available, or are not robust or advanced enough for academic achievement. Those courses would include math and science, health, technology



literacy and foreign languages for K-12 students, professional development and mentoring for teachers, and continuing education and workforce development for adult learners. Region XV will match federal grant funds with \$112,700 of local funding.

Regional 4 Education Service Center

Texas

\$335,607

Areas Served: Liberty, Jasper, Fort Bend, Waller, Chambers, and Galveston

Contact: Ms. Diane V. Edgar

Telephone: (713) 744-6862

Congressional District: Poe, 2nd Dist.; Brady, 8th Dist.; Green, 9th Dist.; McCaul, 10th Dist.; Paul, 14th Dist.; and Olson, 22nd Dist.

USDA's Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will assist Region 4 in a distance learning project that that funding video conferencing media carts at 25 elementary, middle and high schools in five counties of East Texas, and a hub site at the Region 4 office in Houston. Several of these communities were affected by Tropical Storm Allison and Hurricanes Rita and Ike. The new equipment will enable each campus to link with educational opportunities previously unavailable to these schools. Funds will also support the purchase of new bridge equipment that will provide the multi-site connectivity for the video endpoints. The distance learning project will offer complete courses to address deficiencies in the local curriculum, and bring new courses to the community-at-large, such as information technology literacy, life skills and career development. Other courses include technical education, such as computer-assisted drawing for engineering studies, dual credit foreign language, math, sciences, ACT/SAT prep and many others. Regional 4 will match federal grant funds with \$172,500 of local funding.

12th Armored Division Memorial Museum Foundation, Inc

Texas, New York

\$238,633

Areas Served: TX: Hardeman, Eastland, Taylor, and Real; NY: Schoharie

Contact: Mr. Dale Ewing Cartee

Telephone: (325) 669-8855

Congressional District: TX: Thornberry, 13th Dist.; Neugebauer, 19th Dist.; and Smith, 21st Dist.; NY: Tonko, 21st Dist.

This distance learning project will unite three rural Texas school districts, a New York State school district, Cisco College in Cisco, Texas, and the 12th Armored Division Memorial Museum Foundation. The Museum uses the World War II and



Holocaust era as a watershed moment in human history and platform for developing students' learning skills, history and sense of human community. The museum has an extensive collection of artifacts, research, photographs, and oral history interviews that they are consolidating electronically into thematic interactive courses and projects. By linking to Cisco College, the participating rural schools can also receive distance learning courses, including dual enrollment, math, science and technology classes and can generally engage in more rigorous classes to offset the barriers of isolation and poverty. The college also offers vocational courses, and teaches a variety of health programs using their multidisciplinary simulation lab. USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will fund an assortment of equipment, such as mobile conferencing systems, document cameras, content server devices, client video software, video switches, and other support equipment that manages video traffic. The Foundation will match federal grant funds with \$75,034 of local funding.

Education Service Center, Region 20

Texas

\$318,000

Areas Served: Real, Zavala, Atascosa, and La Salle

Contact: Mrs. Harriett Jackson

Telephone: (210) 370-5713

Congressional District: Smith, 21st Dist.; Canseco, 23rd Dist.; and Cuellar, 28th Dist.

Educational Service Centers in Texas assist school districts with improving student performance and increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of school operations. ESC-20 has identified 10 schools in its consortium in South Central Texas with the greatest need for access to services, particularly in regards to the geographic isolation, poverty and low levels of education found in the schools' communities. The project will emphasize science and math instruction, but cover many other academic areas using video conferencing, and begin the process of integrating distance learning into the standard curricula for middle and high schools. The USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will fund laptops for the classrooms and assist the hub in acquiring a multi-point bridge and control systems for scheduling and firewall transversal functions. Because the project's purpose is at-the-root community-oriented, there will be a large offering of classes geared toward adults, such as basic skills, GED and high school diplomas, parenting classes, courses for non-English speakers and others. Teachers will receive professional development training and mentoring. Region 20 will match federal grant funds with \$95,718 of local funding.

Association Builders & Contractors Merit Shop Training Program, Inc.



Texas

\$375,769

Areas Served: Bee, Brooks, Jim Wells, San Patricio, and Nueces

Contact: Dr. Anne Jarvis Matula

Telephone: (361) 289-1636

Congressional District: Hinojosa, 15th Dist.; and Farenthold, 27th Dist.

This project connects teachers and students in 10 high schools in deep Southeast Texas. Three hubs, Craft Training Center, Goodwill of San Antonio, and ESC Region 2, will offer a wide variety of classes to high school students otherwise not available locally. In particular, Craft Training Center offers industrial arts classes such as welding, boiler making, electrical systems and plumbing. This program will work in association with the National Center for Construction Education and Research to ensure students who chose to can work toward certification in building/contracting. The project will connect schools to the Texas Education Telecommunications Network, which presents an even wider range of classes, including dual credit and advanced placement options and much more. USDA's Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will fund a mixture of mobile video conferencing units and laptops installed with connective video client software. A multi-point bridge and video control equipment will be installed at one of the hub sites. The Association will match federal grant funds with \$283,167 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Utah

2011 Grant Awards

Northeast Utah Educational Services

Utah

\$130,086

Areas Served: Morgan, Rich, Summit, Daggett, Duchesne, and Wasatch

Contact: Mr. Parker K. Mossman

Telephone: (435) 654-1921 x 101

Congressional District: Bishop, 1st Dist.; and Matheson, 2nd Dist.

As one of Utah's four Regional Education Service Centers, Northeast is assembling a distance learning network linking schools in its eight participating school districts at 14 locations into a cohesive educational video network. The USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will providing funding for a variety of distance learning equipment, such as mobile carts equipped with video conferencing units and video client software running on school computers. The service center will provide "a new menu" for teachers and students, drawing from the pool of educators within the system itself and from new teachers and resources available through the Utah Education Network. The



“new menu” will bring forth a cornucopia of courses, such as educator certifications and professional development, reading and language arts literacy, dual enrollment, virtual field trips, foreign languages, AP Math, career technical education, and technology integration training. Collaborative tools available in the technology will facilitate leadership development, bringing together farming and ranching organizations such as the FFA, Student Council and Native American leaders. Northeast Utah Educational Services will match federal grant funds with \$130,425 of local funding.

Utah State University

Utah

\$69,798

Areas Served: Box Elder, Cache, Davis, Grand, Sanpete, and Tooele

Contact: Mr. S. Corey Burger

Telephone: (435) 797-1661

Congressional District: Bishop, 1st Dist.; Matheson, 2nd Dist.; and Chaffetz, 3rd Dist.

Public educators must obtain a certification to teach mathematics in Utah. The percentage of math teachers in Utah State University’s (USU) partner districts with certification is low. With assistance from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program this project will purchase distance learning equipment for four rural communities so that math teachers at the elementary and middle school level can attend professional training classes toward certification. Equipment will also be provided at two professional development hub sites, including a multi-point bridge and content server which will be installed at the USU hub site at Logan. This equipment will allow the university to connect the six classrooms into a video conference and record classes and other teaching events for archiving and streaming. Along with math certifications, classes will include effective teaching methods for English Language students, and courses toward more advanced degrees for teachers. The University will match federal grant funds with \$70,000 of local funding.

San Juan County School District

Utah

\$495,322

Areas Served: San Juan

Contact: Mr. Virgie Ellis

Telephone: (435) 678-1242

Congressional District: Matheson, 2nd Dist.

It is a five-hour drive in Southeast Utah from one end of the San Juan School District to the other. Much of this territory is in Navaho country, and the schools are extremely remote, many with only a handful of teachers. With assistance



from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program this project will outfit classrooms in the district's five high schools with desktop conferencing equipment, and place bridging equipment in the district's media center in Blanding. A wide array of courses and instruction will be offered, such as required core curriculum, vocational training and career readiness, dual credit courses and continuing education for teachers. A shared sense of isolation will be replaced with collaborative learning projects and cultural programs that bring students into the mainstream of electronic communications with their own sense of heritage. The School District will match federal grant funds with \$247,661 of local funding.

DLT Awards - Vermont

2011 Grant Awards

Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice, Inc.

Vermont

\$84,141

Areas Served: Essex and Orleans

Contact: Mrs. Nancy Warner

Telephone: (802) 334-5213

Congressional District: Welch, At Large

Serving home health patients in Vermont's Northeastern counties, the Orleans Essex VNA will expand its existing technology-upgrading the level of monitoring patients with high risk, chronic conditions, and wound care. With assistance from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program the grant will allow the home health provider to add video conferencing capabilities into select home equipment which will establish video links to the central office for transmitting data and health assessments for real-time monitoring, immediate feedback and intervention methods. Purchasing additional in-home telemonitors will expand the service coverage in this large rural area. An upgraded electronic nurse workstation at the central agency will improve communications between personal care attendants and professional staff. Orleans Essex VNA will match federal grant funds with \$33,707 of local funding.

North Country Supervisory Union

Vermont

\$499,870

Areas Served: VT: Essex, Orleans, and Washington; ME: Aroostook

Contact: Mr. Glenn A. Hankinson

Telephone: (802) 334-5847 x 13

Congressional District: VT: Welch, At Large; ME: Michaud, 2nd Dist.



This distance learning and career development project will link public schools in the northeast corner of Vermont and Aroostook County in Maine, known as the Northeast Kingdom, with Lyndon State College. With funding from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program 18 elementary, middle and high schools will be outfitted with mobile video conferencing carts, enabling them to connect with each other and with a multitude of educational and career development resources. Video bridging and control equipment will be installed to unite the various components into a unified network. North Country Career Center will offer vocational training and career workshops. Lyndon State College will offer dual enrollment classes and graduate-level classes. The College will also provide, through its Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, classes on planning, financing and sustaining a small business. The distance learning project will incorporate an eLearning software platform that facilitates educators in constructing interactive online courses with collaborate features which coordinates projects, review, remediation and credit recovery. North Country will match federal grant funds with \$152,557 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Washington State

2011 Grant Awards

Stevens County

Washington

\$314,910

Areas Served: Franklin, Grant, Adams, Ferry, Lincoln, and Stevens

Contact: Dr. David Michael Nielsen

Telephone: (509) 684-4597

Congressional District: Hastings, 4th Dist.; and Rodgers, 5th Dist.

Mental health professionals in rural areas who provide treatment and behavioral assessment or crisis intervention for law enforcement and prisons can save enormous amounts of time and money by providing those services via distance conferencing. At the same time it increases their productivity by providing a platform to conduct training sessions and collaborative team meetings, and also contributes the safety factor for all involved. In this project the Northeast Washington Alliance Counseling Service (NWACS) will link three county jails in Stevens, Ferry and Lincoln Counties to NWACS therapists via video conferencing so that they can provide round-the-clock crisis intervention, and other treatment and assessment. Hosted by Stevens County and funded by USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program the project will provide equipment to extend the system with video links into local



family practices. Also, a multi-point video bridge will be installed to facilitate multi-site meetings and group training. This technology will provide the necessary venue to allow the local practitioners to care for prisoners' medical problems with optimum public safety. Stevens County will match federal grant funds with \$157,770 of local funding.

Clallam County Hospital District 2

Washington

\$113,466

Areas Served: Clallam and Jefferson

Contact: Mrs. Rhonda Curry

Telephone: (360) 417-7340

Congressional District: Dicks, 6th Dist.

Clallam Hospital will develop a distance learning network to provide medical education to physicians and other healthcare providers located in three targeted rural communities on Washington State's Olympic Peninsula. Additionally, the network will support the offering of preventative health and chronic disease management education to individuals living in the targeted rural communities. USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will fund the video end point hospitals will for video conferencing systems mounted on mobile carts, while the hub hospital will receive bridging equipment, video control appliances and various video conferencing units placed in strategic medical departments. Examples of educational activities to be offered include: Tumor Boards; Grand Rounds; Pain Management; Pediatric Grand Rounds; Emergency Medical Technician Training and more. In addition, program sites will serve as locations for training seminars and preventative education for the community. Clallam Hospital will match federal grant funds with \$113,467 of local funding.

Seattle Science Foundation

Washington

\$215,025

Areas Served: King, Chelan, Grant, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Okanogan, Stevens, and Whitman

Contact: Ms. Joanie Block

Telephone: (206) 732-6501

Congressional District: Inslee, 1st Dist.; Larsen, 2nd Dist.; Hastings, 4th Dist.; Rodgers, 5th Dist., McDermott, 7th Dist.; Reichert, 8th Dist.; and Smith, 9th Dist.

With this grant 21 schools in rural Washington State will be brought into a distance learning network hosted by the Seattle Science Center, and funded by the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program.



Each participating school will receive video conferencing equipment so that students can participate in the many innovative and interactive programs in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. For elementary and middle school students there is course work in heart anatomy, anatomical models and other media. High school students engage in more rigorous programs, such as using math and deductive reasoning to solve a hypothetical missing person's case. Equipment includes wall-mounted monitors, a smart board system, various types of compact video conferencing systems for the school sites, and for the hub a digital recording/streaming auto-publishing unit, and management software with firewall transversal. The Foundation will match federal grant funds with \$215,027 of local funding.

DLT Awards - Wisconsin

2011 Grant Awards

Cooperative Educational Services Agency #7

Wisconsin

\$245,005

Areas Served: Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Calumet, Outagamie, Brown, Door, Kewaunee, and Shawano

Contact: Ms. Christine Rogers

Telephone: (920) 465-2744

Congressional District: Petri, 6th Dist.; and Ribble, 8th Dist.

With its hub office in Green Bay, ShoreNet connects over 23,500 students and over 3,200 teachers and staff members in 43 buildings reaching 16 school districts across Wisconsin's Northeast and East Central shore line. This project, with funds provided by USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, will update the video equipment for 18 of those public schools and bring into the system a video connection to Environmental Center at Black Creek. The new high definition format presents a major platform upgrade in the availability of courses with richer content and more intelligent features. The state's distance learning trunk line, BadgerNet, is migrating to high definition, so smaller regional video networks that upgrade video endpoints to the HD standard will be able to participate in new opportunities such as virtual field trips, advanced collaboration tools, and graphically-intensive courses and training. Educational Services Agency #7 will match federal grant funds with \$248,506 of local funding.

Cooperative Educational Services Agency #8

Wisconsin

\$500,000



Areas Served: Langlade, Florence, Forest, Marinette, and Oconto
Contact: Dr. Robert Kellogg
Telephone: (920) 855-2114
Congressional District: Duffy, 7th Dist.; and Ribble, 8th Dist.

An older distance learning system which serves 16 public schools in northeast Wisconsin will be replacing and upgrading video conferencing equipment (some components are failing). Several of the core sections of that network, such as Nicolet Distance Education Network, are venerable and pioneering for their day. The newer equipment, funded by USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program has better display performance, making intelligent use of how information is presented onscreen with touch monitor display features. This has an effective learning impact on individuals who are visually oriented. The teaching medium itself is becoming more effective promoting even wider use of the equipment into the community, such as a training venue for fire, EMT and police personnel and local businesses. Also, teacher training is accomplished locally, saving drive-time and classroom down time. The Educational Services Agency #8 will match federal grant funds with \$278,573 of local funding.

Aspirus Health Foundation, Inc.

Wisconsin and Michigan

\$53,000

Areas Served: WI: Iron; MI: Gogebic

Contact: Ms. Nancy Campbell-Kelz

Telephone: (715) 847-2600

Congressional District: WI: Duffy, 7th Dist.; MI: Benishek, 1st Dist.

USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will assist Aspirus in expanding on a DLT-funded telemedicine system from 2010, serving residents in Central Wisconsin. The expansion will bring the video medical network out to two sites in Michigan's Upper Peninsula (UP)-the Aspirus Grand View Hospital in Ironwood, and Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital in Laurium. In the same way, the newly equipped hospitals will connect rural patients and medical staff in the UP with specialty doctors in Wausau or other hospital locations on the network, thereby reducing the need for hospitalizations and the lengths of stay in hospitals. This is particularly beneficial for the aging populations of these communities. Video conferencing units, mounted on medical carts with digital stethoscopes, exam cameras and other telephonic equipment will be integrated into the medical care provided by the Michigan medical sites, including devices to monitor patient medical vitals in their home health program. The Foundation will match federal grant funds with \$54,080 of local funding.



DLT Awards – West Virginia

2011 Grant Awards

The Board of Education of the County of Roane

West Virginia

\$298,339

Areas Served: Ritchie and Roane

Contact: Ms. Doris L. Weekley

Telephone: (304) 927-6411

Congressional District: McKinley, 1st Dist.; and Capito, 2nd Dist.

USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will fund equipment for a distance learning network between 12 public school sites and West Virginia University in two counties of North central and Northwest West Virginia. Challenged by factors of isolation and poverty endemic to rural Appalachia, the two school districts have teamed up to address these and related issues of high dropout rates, obesity, lack of technical job skills and the need for professional development. Media carts equipped with desktop video units, PC tablets, and computer workstations will be deployed at each school location. West Virginia University at Parkersburg will serve as the academic hub, offering an array of classes, including advanced placement and college level classes and professional development for teachers. Roane County Board of Education offices will serve as the administrative hub and will house the control equipment of multi-point bridge, video communications server, other management equipment, including scheduling and firewall transversal functions. Nearby Roane General Hospital will link into the system and offer wellness programs and exercise classes. Roane will match federal grant funds with \$129,153 of local funding.

DLT Awards – Wyoming

2010 Grant Awards

Fremont County School District #2

Wyoming and Washington

\$473,905

Areas Served: WY: Fremont, Sheridan, and Washakie; WA: Jefferson

Contact: Ms. Lu A. Beecham

Telephone: (207) 455-5542

Congressional District: WY: Lummis, At Large; WA: Dicks, 6th Dist.

This project has a distinctive Western orientation in this 6,000 square mile area of ranching, mining, and farming in the Wyoming high desert, and its distance



learning partner in far flung and coastal Western Washington State on the Olympic Peninsula. Nine schools in all will contribute as end users and content providers with the Dubois, Wyoming site serving as the project hub. The two distant sites in Wyoming and Washington have in common two different Native American tribes that will be establishing a cross tribal/cross cultural exchange with each other for language, customs, arts and collaboration. By developing a video network that conveys to students and parents a sense of travel and of acquiring experiential knowledge, project leaders stress the importance of this project to provide students with an impetus to want to learn and continue learning. The key is to make the medium and its content interesting and provocative so that it draws students into the learning and collaborative process, and paves a pathway to college and advanced studies. Parents are equally inspired, and will have similar opportunities to pursue further education and vocational training. With funds provided by the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program the system will consist of video system-mounted media carts, video software clients, and electronic white boards. Classes will be shared to increase the availability for all in vocational training, foreign language, advanced placement, English, social studies and many others. The School District will match federal grant funds with \$197,200 of local funding.

Big Horn County School District #2

Wyoming and Washington

\$467,885

Areas Served: WY: Big Horn, Fremont, Sheridan, and Uinta; WA: Grays Harbor

Contact: Mr. Stan Hedges

Telephone: (307) 548-2259

Congressional District: WY: Lummis, At Large; WA: Dicks, 6th Dist.

This distance learning project links together 10 public schools located throughout Wyoming, bringing them a wide range of classes, study teams, and mentoring sessions that will open up a vast new horizon of learning with pathways to achievement. The project leaders place an emphasis on lifelong learning involving the whole community, and getting students of all ages to participate. Augmenting their computer lab facilities the schools will take a technological leap to mobile telepresence systems, smartboards, and other peripheral devices, purchased with funds from the USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program. These video end points will be unified into a regional video network with a multi-point bridge, communications server and other video management utilities. The project will also take another leap, a geographic leap, and connect to a school in the Quinault Indian Reservation, a community deep in the Olympic Peninsula in Western Washington State. Having these participants will provide a robust source of cultural grounding and exchange, and will present unique and rewarding collaborative opportunities. The School District will match federal grant funds with \$250,972 of local funding.