# 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: Loebsack, 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.

## *2010 Grant Awards*

**Burlington Area Catholic Schools, Inc.**
$179,731
Iowa and Missouri
Counties: IA: Wright, Fremont, Page, and Union. MO: Harrison, Christian and Carter.
Contact: Mr. Richard Dunshee, (319) 470-3422
IA: Loebsack - 2nd Dist.; Latham - 4th Dist.; King - 5th Dist. MO: Graves - 6th Dist.; Long - 7th Dist. and Emerson - 8th Dist.

RUS funds will be used by Burlington Notre Dame Language Center to connect through Distance Learning to rural communities in Iowa and Missouri. The goal of the project is to extend the reach of their foreign language program to develop fluency in 7 seven rural high schools and 1 elementary school. Specialized language classes will consist of Chinese, Arabic, and Farsi, plus the traditional languages such as Spanish, French, German and Italian.

## *2009 Grant Awards*

**Mercy Foundation of Des Moines, Iowa**
$380,908
Iowa
Counties Served: Polk, Davis, Hancock, Carroll, Appanoose, Wayne, Franklin, Monona
Contact: Mr. Bob Ravenscroft
Telephone: 515-643-8030
Congressional Congressman, District: IA-3, Leonard Boswell; IA-2, David Loebsack; IA-4, Tom Latham; IA-5, Steve King

This project will fund digital monitoring equipment for their intensive care program linking seven rural hospitals with the central hospital in Des Moines. Residents of the communities in this eight-county service area will benefit by this new level of local care as it will also reduce the need to transfer patients to the urban hospital.

**Clarke County Public Hospital**
$356,243
Iowa
Counties Served: Clarke, Decatur
Contact: Mrs. Vicki K. Irvin
Telephone: 641-342-5334
Congressional District: Steve King, IA-5

This project will fund video conferencing and related devices that will connect the county hospital to other local sites, such as the senior center, a public health center, three schools and the public library, and that will connect these sites to specialty physicians in Des Moines for virtual office visits, emergency room support, as well as health-related education and health care training.

# DLT Awards - Iowa

## *2005 Grant Awards:*

### University of Iowa

Iowa City, IA
$198,000
Areas Served: Johnson, Dallas, Appanoose, Keokuk, Louisa, Tama, Benton, Cedar, Iowa Counties
Contact: Michael D. Abramoff, MD
Telephone: 319-356-3938
Fax: 319-356-0363
Congressional District: IA-02, IA-03, IA-04

Nine University of Iowa Community Medical Services primary care clinics will link to the Department of Ophthalmology at the University over the Internet. Pictures taken with special digital cameras capable of photographing the retina and optic disc of the eye will be transmitted to the central hub for examination by ophthalmologists. Over 4,000 patients are expected to benefit each year from this program.

## *2004 Grant Awards*

### Wayne County Hospital

Corydon, Iowa
$422,278
Areas served: Adair, Decatur, Ringgold, and Wayne Counties
Contact: Joyce E. McDanel, 641-872-2260
Congressional District(s): IA-02, IA-05

Wayne County Hospital will utilize RUS funding to establish a Rural Telehealth Network in a four-county region of southwest Iowa. The project will provide both distance learning and telehealth services including health education and prevention classes to end-user communities, professional health education classes for physicians, nurses, and EMS volunteers, and radiologic consults and diagnostic examinations through the use of video conferencing and digital diagnostic imaging between the hub site (Wayne County Hospital) and local physicians at the other three end-user sites. This project will provide these benefits to 28,729 rural residents in the four-county area.

## *2003 Grant Awards:*

### Mercy Medical Center; Mason City, IA

$287,362
Area(s) Served: Counties of Butler, Chickasaw, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Hardin, Howard, Kossuth, Mitchell, Palo Alto, Winnebago, and Wright
Contact: Doug Morse (641) 422-7007; Fax: (641) 422-6383
Congressional District(s): 1st and 4th

Mercy Medical Center will utilize RUS grant funds to acquire teleradiology equipment, film digitizers and related hardware and software at nine rural primary care and emergency access hospitals serving a 12 county area. The project will enable the remote reading of radiology records allowing quicker treatment, better care, less out-migration from rural hospitals and less travel/expense for rural residents.

## *2001 Grant Awards:*

### Corning Community School District; Corning, Iowa

$494,289 Grant
Area(s) Served: Corning, Bedford, Greenfield, Lenox, Corydon, Truro, Martensdale, Liberty Center, and Pleasantville
Contact: Mr. Gregg Fuerstenau; (641) 322-4242; FAX: (641) 322-5149
Congressional District: 3rd & 4th

RUS funds will be used to connect twelve school districts in south central Iowa to provide classes over the existing fiber optic video system in all the schools. The school districts involved are: Corning Community School District located in Corning; Bedford Community School District, Bedford; Nodaway Valley Community School District, Greenfield; Lenox Community School District, Lenox; East Union Community School District, Afton; Mount Ayr Community School District, Mount Ayr; Central Decatur Community School District, Leon; Wayne Community School District, Corydon; Interstate Community School District, Truro; Martensdale-St. Mary's Community School District, Martensdale; Southeast Warren Community School District, Liberty Center; and, Pleasantville Community School District, Pleasantville. These school districts comprise the Pride of Iowa Conference. All of the schools in the project are rural schools faced with declining enrollment and a teacher shortage, particularly in math, science, and advanced courses. This project will allow the school districts in the Pride of Iowa Conference to provide math, science, and other advanced courses by combining resources and providing these classes over the fiber optic system via the Iowa Communications Network. This system will serve the patrons of the twelve districts that include approximately 38,959 rural residents and 7,241 students.

## Indian Hills Community College; Ottumwa, Iowa

$94,028 Grant
Area(s) Served: Wapello, Mahaska and Monroe Counties
Contact: Tim Wynes; Phone: (641) 683-5230
Congressional District: 3rd

RUS funds will be used to equip the Iowa Bioprocessing Training Center located in Eddyville, Iowa, with the Iowa Communications Network (ICN). The goal of this project is to provide continuous educational and skill training for area residents to have the opportunity to enroll in higher education courses from 4-year institutions; for approximately 1,000 employees from four manufacturers and numerous contractors working in biotechnology processes; and, as an outreach capacity to K-12 schools throughout the state. This project is to primarily benefit the 1,000 manufacturing employees and contractors in the biotechnology field, but can also benefit approximately 1,600 students.

## Lamoni Community School District; Lamoni, Iowa

$249,380 Grant
Area(s) Served: Decatur, Wayne, Ringgold, and Clarke Counties
Contact: Joan Bolon; Phone: (641) 784-3342
Congressional District: 3rd

Lamoni Community School District was selected as the legal entity to receive the RUS grant on behalf of the Decatur County Regional Academy Consortium. The consortium consists of Lamoni Community School District (Lamoni), Central Decatur Community School District (Leon), Lineville-Clio Community School District (Lineville), and Mormon Trail Community School District (Garden Grove). All of these schools are rural and face declining enrollment and a teacher shortage, particularly in math, science, and advanced courses. These four high schools in collaboration with Graceland University will form a regional high school academy to use distance learning to provide high school students with advanced level courses and technical courses not currently available within the curriculum of the local school district. RUS funds will be used to upgrade technology for the schools and connect via the Iowa Communications Network. This project will benefit 1,557 students.

## *2000 Grant Awards:*

### BUENA VISTA UNIVERSITY, Storm Lake, Iowa

$223,255 Grant
Area(s) served; Plymouth County
Contact: Dr. John Phillips, (712) 749-2250; FAX: (712) 749-1470
Congressional District(s): 5th

This grant will enable Buena Vista University to establish distance learning and telemedicine facilities in the town of Le Mars, Iowa. This project will enable Buena Vista University and Western Iowa Tech Community College to offer degree programs to the residents of Plymouth County. In addition, the proposed telemedicine facilities at Floyd Valley Hospital will provide the delivery of teleradiology services as well as health related courses and training for patients and medical personnel. Plymouth County has been identified as a medically under-served area.

### HEALTH PARTNERS OF SOUTHWEST IOWA, Red Oak, Iowa

$63,000 Grant
Area(s) served: Cass, Montgomery, and Shelby
Contact Person: Ms. Karen Patterson, (712) 623-7129; FAX: (712) 623-6477
Congressional District(s): 4th Iowa

Health Partners of Southwest Iowa is a consortium of three rural hospitals in an isolated area of Southwest Iowa. These hospitals are Cass County Memorial Hospital, Montgomery County Memorial Hospital and Shelby County Health System. Three basic problems have been identified in these very rural areas of Southwest Iowa which prompted development of this telemedicine project: 1) an aging population (much higher than state or national averages) resulting in medical problems associated with chronic and acute illness, 2) lack of continuing education opportunities for the rural health care workers and 3) diminished health care dollars for patient care activities. While the project is mostly telemedicine, it will provide distance learning also. RUS funding will allow the project to provide video-teleconferencing capabilities that will allow patients access to consultation with specialists more frequently. In addition, this technology will allow timely interpretation of radiography films (MRI's, Cat Scans, Ultrasounds) at all times of the day or night. Employees' knowledge of the medical field will also be enhanced as a result of medical educational sessions that will be presented. The number of people who will be served include the population of the service area of each hospital (approximately 61,000 combined total of the three area hospitals).

## IOWA INTERACTIVE INSTRUCTION-LEARN (I-LEARN CONSORTIUM), West Bend, Iowa

$350,000 Grant
Area(s) served: Palo Alto
Contact: Mr. Peter Nessen, (515) 887-3264; FAX (515) 887-3266
Congressional Districts: 5th

This educational grant is a consortium of three exceptionally rural community school districts in Northwest Iowa requiring funds to construct a distance learning project. The grant funds are needed to proceed with the acquisition and installation of communications equipment required for implementing access to local, national, and international information sources and services. It will be connected to fiber optic telephone facilities that run near the consortium facilities. This project will help train teachers, students, staff, firefighters, and ambulance crews and nursing home caregivers.

# *1999 Grant Award:*

## Fayette Community Library; Fayette, Iowa

$50,425 Grant
Counties Served: Fayette
Contact: Ms. Christie V. Dennis, (319) 425-4316: Fax (319) 425-4316

The Fayette Community Library is approximately 50 miles away from the nearest large city. The library is building an addition that will contain a classroom and a fiber optics terminal to house technological equipment for providing interactive distance learning. This network will provide residents with nearby access to geographically distant resources such as education and training. This system will provide non-traditional courses, educational classes, and training seminars. In addition, health care professionals will utilize the facility for telemedicine education and training classes.

# *1996 Grant Awards:*

## Decatur County Hospital

$245,394
Leon, Iowa
Contact Person: Neil Davenport
Phone Number: 515-446-4871
FAX: 515-446-4130

An RUS grant award will be used by Decatur County Hospital to allow for the expansion of health care services and for strengthening the viability of the rural hospital. This project involves both distance learning and telemedicine components. The telemedicine component of this project will involve transmission of fiber optic signals to send and

receive general medical and psychiatric specialty services. The distance learning component will involve communication of mental health and other educational information between computers over the Internet. Specifically, the funds will be used to establish a fiber optic studio within the Family Oriented and Child Services ( FOCUS) unit to help complete work on studios in the other four primary hospitals that make up the Iowa catchment area. They will also be used to complete fiber optic studio links in those schools where the hospital works closely with. The overall result will be improved general medicine and mental health services to a seriously underserved and economically disadvantaged rural population.

## *1995 Grant Award:*

### Northwestern College

Orange City

The system will provide 37,000 rural residents, including students, patients and other residents, access to the Iowa Communications Network for educational and medical services. The sheriff s department will use the system to conduct distance parole hearings.

## *1994 Grant Award:*

### HLV Community School District

Iowa and Poweshiek Counties

This distance learning project will fund interactive video classroom equipment, a CODEC unit, and make classroom modifications in two East Central Illinois school districts. The HLV School District in Iowa County and BGM School District in Poweshiek County will interconnect with each other and with Kirkwood Community College (Kirkwood) , south of Cedar Rapids, Both fiber optic and copper "twisted pair" lines, will be utilized to transport compressed video interactively over a Tl circuit. This will allow both school districts to enhance their course offerings. Classes such as Math, Foreign Languages, Environmental Sciences and other curricula are planned for High School students. Also planned are special programs and courses for elementary school children.