2010 Grant Awards

Gallup-McKinley County School District
$499,486
New Mexico
County served: McKinley
Contact: Mr. Bart Stanley, (505)-721-2200
NM-3 Ben Ray Lujan

In this project RUS-funded project 18 schools will connect to each other and to hubs at the Educational Development Center and at Gallup-McKinley central office to create a 1st time video teleconferencing system for those schools. The schools will be connecting teachers and students in 10 communities to share courses, initiate new courses and to offer professional development for faculty. Gallup is the hub of the Four Corners’ region, the largest Indian center in the Southwest and ceremonial capitol of Native America. The school district will also develop collaborative programs to capture, preserve and build upon the rich Native American history and culture.

Jemez Valley Public Schools
475,145
New Mexico
Counties served: Sandoval, Taos, Torrance
Contact: Mr. Emmanuel David Atencio, 575-834-7391
NM 1 - Martin Heinrich; NM 3 - Ben R. Lujan

This project serves over 1,000 square miles of rural northern New Mexico. Distance learning equipment will connect 8 schools in this region, where Native American and Hispanic populations are predominant. Advanced placement courses, language classes, continuing education/ certification courses for teachers are only a few of the offerings which will enable the schools to make an enormous leap in the educational opportunities for these communities. Furthermore, the system will link to Jemez Valley Medical Clinic proving medical support and training to the very small health staff which is shared amongst all schools in the project area.
2009 Grant Awards

Western New Mexico University
$267,331
New Mexico
Counties Served: Grant, Luna, McKinley, Sierra, Socorro, Hidalgo, Catron
Contact: Dr. John Counts
Telephone: 575-538-3227
Congressional District: NM-2 Harry Teague, NM-3 Ben Lujan

This project will supply videoconferencing equipment which will deliver distance learning services to 20 isolated communities. Existing hubs at central campuses will be able to extend their system throughout this 7-county area offering high school and dual credit courses, teacher training and workforce development.

Region IX Education Cooperative
$499,361
New Mexico
Counties Served: Lincoln, Chaves, Otero
Contact: Ms. Cathy Jones
Telephone: 575-257-2368
Congressional District: NM-2 Harry Teague

This project will expand into the second phase of its distance learning system, connecting 2 high schools and 5 middle schools with Eastern New Mexico University and extending video-conferencing and high definition technology into this remote 3-county region.

Nizhoni Smiles, Inc.
$247,278
New Mexico, Arizona
Counties Served: NM: San Juan, AZ: Apache
Contact: Mr. James Tutt
Telephone: 505-368-5626
Congressional District: NM-3 Ben Ray Lujan, Jr.; AZ-1 Ann Kirkpatrick, UT-1 Rob Bishop

DLT project will connect High Schools and Native American Chapter Houses to various health providers. The focus of the project is to use teledermatology for delivering dental services to Native American patients.
2008 Grant Awards

Northeast Regional Education Cooperative (REC # 4)
New Mexico
$435,778
Areas Served: Sandoval, 1st & 3rd Dists.; Guadalupe, 2nd Dist., Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Mora, Taos, 3rd Dist.
Contact: Mr. Glenn Damian
Telephone: (505) 426-2265
Congressional District: Wilson, 1st; Pearce, 2nd; Udall, 3rd

Rural Development funds will be used to extend opportunities for interactive distance learning in twenty rural end-user sites. These schools are located in five counties throughout rural New Mexico. The distance learning project will provide expanded course offerings that provide access to higher education opportunities in the school and community and addresses the need for support and training based on best practices. The project will also engage remote teachers and students with access to engaging content experiences through virtual field trips and other opportunities.

2007 Grant Awards

Southwestern Regional Education Center
New Mexico
$265,348
Areas Served: Sierra, Luna, Hidalgo, Dona Ana, Catron, Valencia
Contact: Dr. Bruce Brewer
Telephone: 505-894-7589
Fax: 505-894-7584
Congressional District: NM – 02 Pearce

This project will provide much needed distance learning facilities to this rural area of Southwestern New Mexico. The project will utilize state-of-the-art videoconferencing equipment to facilitate collaborations between local secondary schools, colleges and universities and providing opportunities for local residents to pursue college degrees and job training. It will also reduce the difficulty related to travel and time to professional development for teachers and other professionals.

Region IX Education Cooperative
New Mexico
$462,981
Areas Serving: Bernalillo (part); Bernalillo (part), Chaves, Lincoln, Otero
Contact: Mr. Gary Cozzens
Telephone: 505-630-8181
Fax: 505-630-8185
Congressional District: NM – 01 Wilson; NM – 02 Pearce

This project will deliver distance learning services over a wireless network infrastructure to seven school districts in southern New Mexico. The program will provide advanced mathematics and science programs to students and will assist teaching staff by providing professional development opportunities for them that would otherwise be unaffordable in times of tight operating budgets.

2006 Grant Awards

Health Centers of Northern New Mexico
Espanola, NM
$130,505
Areas Served: Colfax, Guadalupe, Harding, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Taos
Contact: Ms. Juliana Anastasoff
Telephone: 505-747-5922
Fax: 505-753-8717
Congressional District: NM-03

Rural Development funds will be used to reduce the marked health disparities in the region by increasing access to necessary preventive and specialist healthcare and to improve healthcare outcomes through clinical innovation, particularly for residents who suffer a disproportionate rate of preventable and chronic conditions due to the intersections of poverty, race and rurality. The project will allow access to prevention and disease management education, access to specialist consultation, population-based clinical management, and development of distance learning communities designed to expand primary care provider capacity and expertise.

Southwest Regional Education Center
Truth or Consequences, NM
$154,939
Areas Served: Cantron, Dona Ana, Hidalgo, Luna, Sierra
Contact: Dr. Bruce Hegwer
Telephone: 505-894-7589
Fax: 505-894-7589
Congressional District: NM
Rural Development funds will be used to extend distance learning opportunities and provide expanded course offerings in the schools and communities of rural New Mexico. The project will utilize interactive distance learning studio equipment to also provide professional development content for faculty and staff.

2005 Grant Awards:

High Plains Regional Education Cooperative
Raton, NM
$454,668
Areas Served: Colfax, Union, Mora, Harding Counties
Contact: R. Stephen Aguirre
Telephone: 505-445-7090
Fax: 505-445-7663
Congressional District: NM-03

The project will provide a distance learning network to enhance educational offerings and opportunities for teacher training for serve 3,786 students and their teachers.

Northwest Regional Education Center #2
Gallina, NM
$486,100
Areas Served: Rio Arriba, Taos, Sundoval Counties
Contact: Dr. Danny Trujillo
Telephone: 505-638-5419
Fax: 505-638-0131
Congressional District: NM-03

The grant will fund state-of-the-art distance learning equipment in multi-media computer labs located in 4 rural high schools and 11 other schools in rural New Mexico. The project will serve over 5,000 students in 3 counties.

2004 Grant Awards:

Central Consolidated School District #22
Shiprock, New Mexico
$490,910
Area(s) served: Cities of Shiprock, Kirtland, Fruitland, Newcomb, and Naschitti
Contact: Chuck Culpepper, 505-368-4984; Fax: 505-368-5232
Congressional District(s): NM-03
Central Consolidated School District #22 is located in San Juan County, New Mexico, an area which covers 5,514 square miles. With RUS funding, the School District will provide expanded course offerings, provide higher education opportunities in the schools and communities, and provide professional development for students and residents. Seven schools with 3,229 students will benefit from the program. Shiprock High School will house the hub site. The end-user sites are located at Kirtland Central High School, Ojo Elementary, Newcomb High, Newcomb Middle School, Newcomb Elementary, and Naschitti Elementary.

Northeast Regional Education Cooperative
Las Vegas, New Mexico
$398,936
Area(s) served: Guadalupe, Mora, San Miguel, and Sandoval Counties
Contact: Mary S. Schutz, 505-426-2085
Congressional District(s): NM-02, NM-03

The grant will provide interactive video equipment to help establish distance learning classrooms in two middle schools and five high schools in five rural communities in New Mexico. The schools will all be connected to a hub located at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Using the new equipment and existing T-1 connections, the schools will be able to offer additional educational opportunities to the 2,956 students who attend these schools. Teachers will use the equipment to obtain additional training and expertise by participating in university classes and professional development programs via distance learning. Adult educational services will also be enhanced through the new distance learning classrooms, affording opportunities for local residents to acquire additional skills and certifications which will open up new career paths and employment possibilities.

Northwest Regional Education Center #2
Gallina, New Mexico
$500,000
Area(s) served: Rio Arriba County
Contact: Dr. Danny Trujillo, 505-638-5491
Congressional District(s): NM-03

The Northwest Regional Education Center #2 has collaborated with Mesa Vista Consolidated Schools, Jemez Mountain Schools, Dulce Independent Schools, and Chama Valley Independent Schools to form the Northern New Mexico Distance Learning Cooperative. The distance learning project will include increased instruction, expanded course offerings, and instruction in on-line research. On-line and videoconference adult education courses will also be offered from colleges and universities throughout New Mexico. Over 2,500
students as well as the residents of Rio Arriba County will benefit from this program.

2003 Grant Awards:

University of New Mexico; Gallup, NM
$478,555
Area(s) Served: McKinley County
Contact: Robin Tice (505) 863-7603; Fax: (505) 863-7739
Congressional District(s): 3rd

The University of New Mexico will utilize RUS grant funding to provide distance learning opportunities for 7 schools and teleradiology equipment for two end-user sites in rural communities located in Northwestern New Mexico. Goals of the project include providing greater access to adult basic education courses, access to developmental education, access to community and continuing education and college courses for high school students in rural communities. Additionally, the project will provide teleradiology services for rural health care providers, telemedicine services to dialysis patients. The project will expand the distance education and telemedicine network in McKinley County serving over 75,000 residents.

2002 Award:

University of New Mexico; Gallup, NM
$432,536 Grant
Area(s) Served: County of McKinley
Contact: Robin Tice (505) 863-7603; Fax: (505) 863-7739
Congressional District(s): Applicant 3rd / Project 3rd

The University of New Mexico will use RUS funds to add four new telemedicine sites and one new distance learning site to an existing network in rural New Mexico. The telemedicine part of the project will fund a telepathology system, as well as a cardiac rehabilitation and prevention program. The distance learning part of the project will fund network upgrades for the hub site, graphic design software, computer hardware for wireless computer labs, network printers and other components. Social, economic and geographic challenges are a part of life in this area of the country. Those challenges include language barriers in the Native American population, high unemployment and poverty rates, and roads that are often impassable due to weather conditions. Over 40 percent of the adult population have not graduated from high school. This project will provide many opportunities for the residents of this area to improve their health, education and, over time their entire standard of living. Approximately 875 students and many other rural residents will benefit from this project.
2001 Grant Awards:

Clayton Municipal School District No. 1; Clayton, New Mexico
$163,100 Grant
Area(s) served: Union County
Contact: Mr. Jack Wiley, Superintendent; (505) 374-9611, Fax: (505) 374-9881
Congressional District(s): 3rd.

Clayton Municipal Schools are located in rural Union County in the northeast corner of New Mexico. The school district will use RUS grant funds to bring asynchronous distance education to the entire population of the Clayton Public Schools District, from school students to adults of any age. Distance learning capabilities will be brought to all four schools in the district, including the creation of the El Llano Estacado Distance Education Laboratory that will be housed on the Clayton High School campus. This laboratory will be accessible to all members of the community. Approximately 700 K-12 students and an additional 700 adults will benefit from this project.

University of New Mexico B Gallup; Gallup, New Mexico
$482,420 Grant
Area(s) served: McKinley County
Contact: Ms. Robin Tice; (505) 863-7603; FAX (505) 863-7739
Congressional District: 3rd.

The University of New Mexico (UNM) B Gallup ALINK@ project will use RUS grant funds to bring distance learning technology to McKinley County, New Mexico. Gallup, a town of 19,157 residents, is rural and isolated, as it is 135 miles from the nearest metropolitan community, Albuquerque. Seventy percent of the residents of this area are Native Americans. UNM-Gallup will create a broadcast center hub and enable two newly constructed "Smart" classrooms with this same technology. The other end-user sites include three UNM-Gallup Adult Basic Education satellite sites (UNM-Gallup North Campus, Gallup; UNM-Gallup South Campus, Zuni; and Tohatchi ABE, Tohatchi), one healthcare facility (Rehoboth McKinley Christian Hospital, Gallup), one at the Mega Central E-commerce Center (Gallup), and four Gallup-McKinley public school district sites (Gallup High School, Navajo Pine High School, Crownpoint High School, and Thoreau High School). This project will provide for both synchronous (class sessions) and asynchronous (Internet) learning modalities. The goal of the project is to provide easily accessible health, education, and economic opportunities via telecommunication technologies. In addition, students will be able to access the Libros system, a web-based library resources catalog utilized by colleges and universities throughout New Mexico. This project will benefit approximately 70,000 residents of McKinley County.
2000 Awards:

WESTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY, Silver City, New Mexico

$350,000 Grant
Area(s) served: Hidalgo, Grant, Catron, and Socorro Counties
Contact: Mr. Otto Khera; (505) 538-6360; FAX: (505) 538-6064
Congressional District: 2nd

Western New Mexico University (WNMU) will use RUS grant funds to connect four school districts located in Southwestern New Mexico to WNMU's existing network via a Wide Area Network. These four school districts, Lordsburg Public Schools, Reserve Public Schools, Quemado Public Schools, and Magdalena Public Schools, are geographically isolated and have limited educational resources. This project will provide these four school districts with two-way videoconferencing capabilities with every major university and college in New Mexico, including University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, Eastern New Mexico University, and Highland University. Approximately fifty students from each end user site will enroll in concurrent enrollment classes through these colleges and universities. In addition, teachers at each of the end user sites will be able to participate in professional development programs offered through these institutions of higher learning.

LAS CLINICAS DEL NORTE, El Rito, New Mexico

$257,800 Grant
Area(s) served: Rio Arriva County
Contact: Mr. John Ussery, (505) 581-4728, FAX: (505) 581-4789
Congressional District: 3rd

Las Clinicas del Norte (LCDN) is a not-for-profit organization which provides medical dental counseling and community services in a sparsely populated 2500 square mile area. LCDN plans to use RUS grant funds to provide high bandwidth wireless connectivity for community lay health workers, enabling in-home dental treatment through the use of two-way PC based teleconferencing and Internet based patient education. These connections to the Internet will also provide continuing education for the existing staff and communication with other health care organizations. LCDN has already been funded by the New Mexico legislature to install a x-ray system at its El Rito facility. RUS will provide the telemedicine link necessary so radiologists at another health care facility will be able to read the x-rays. The telecommunications system developed for the above will also support access to the Internet by patients in the community, for the purpose of education, telemedicine, and economic development. This project will serve approximately 10,415 rural residents.
1997 Awards:

Des Moines Municipal Schools
Award: $158,157 Grant / Loan: $91,920
Total: $250,077
Location: Des Moines, New Mexico
Area Served: Cities and Counties of Des Moines and Union
Contact Person: Midge Y. Graham
Telephone Number: 505-278-2611
Fax Number: 505-278-2617

The Des Moines Municipal Schools in collaboration with the Emergency Medical Service Region III and in cooperation with Baca Valley Telephone Company will use RUS funds to purchase the necessary equipment needed to create a two-way video, audio and data distance learning network. This network will connect the Des Moines schools with the Eastern New Mexico Rural Consortium of Schools, Clovis Community College, The University of New Mexico and other universities, colleges and training centers. A successful distance learning network will provide enhanced curriculum for K-12 students, concurrent enrollment for high schools students, higher education and continuing education opportunities, mentor support for students and teachers, technology training and recertification training for EMS personnel. They are estimating that 1,640 rural residents will benefit from this project.

Northern New Mexico Community College
Award: $300,000 Grant
Location: Espanola, New Mexico
Area(s) Served: Counties of Rio Arriba and Taos; Enterprise Communities: Lumberton, Embudo, La Bolsa, Rinconada, Dixon, El Bosque, Apodaca, Montecito, Canoncito, Truchas, Cordova, Rio Chiquito, Los Pachecos, Upper Chimayo, Cuestecitas, Ojo Sarco, Trampas, El Valle, Ojito, Llano, Rodarte, Llano Largo, Rio Pueblo, Las Mochas, Tres Ritos, Sipapu
Contact Person: Kathleen Gygi
Telephone Number: 505-747-2238
FAX Number: 505-747-2238

Northern New Mexico Community College will create a broadband, regional videoconferencing network serving the rural counties of Rio Arriba and Taos in north central New Mexico. Northern New Mexico Community College will use RUS grant funds to establish a two-way video system connecting itself with Chama Valley, Dulce, Espanola Valley, Mesa Vista, and Penasco High Schools. The system will be used to provide concurrent enrollment and professional development courses, locally, as well as skills training for microelectronics
manufacturing and other high technology fields, and public meetings for the county government. The schools involved serve 774 high school students, 2,200 credit-earning college students, and 3,000 continuing education students.

1995 Grant Award

Guadalupe County Hospital
$190,650
New Mexico
Santa Rosa

Located in a remote area in eastern New Mexico, the hospital will be linked to a medical center and university in Albuquerque. The system will provide teleradiology; emergency, primary, and secondary care consultation; and telecardiology. In addition, ongoing medical education will be available for doctors, nurses and other health care professionals.