



DLT Awards - Wisconsin

2012 Grant Awards

Dean Health Systems, Inc.

\$446,735

Wisconsin

Areas Served: Columbia, Dane, Sauk, Grant, Iowa, Richland, and Dodge Counties

Contact: Todd Burchill

Telephone: (608) 250-1055

Congressional District: Baldwin, 2nd Dist.; Kind, 3rd Dist.; and Petri, 6th Dist.

Rural Development funds will be used to establish a comprehensive telemedicine system serving 12 end user sites connected to 4 hub sites in Dean's 7-county service area of rural, south-central Wisconsin. Residents in these rural communities will benefit from quick access to the critical specialty care they need, including telestroke services and cardiology, pharmacy services, dermatology, and more. The new equipment will also put into place a video communications system to better coordinate disaster response in case of emergency or natural catastrophe. The project will save an estimated 12,750 hours of travel time and \$302,940 in travel costs during the first year of implementation. It is expected to save patients \$448,272 in lost wages for those who have to take a day off to seek specialty care because of time and distance.

Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative

\$91,881

Wisconsin

Areas Served: Rock, Columbia, Dane, Green, Sauk, Jefferson, Crawford, Grant, Iowa, Jackson, Juneau, Lafayette, Monroe, Richland, St. Croix, Trempealeau, Vernon, Clark, Adams, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Chippewa, Taylor, Washburn, Langlade, Door, Oconto, and Shawano Counties

Contact: Darrell Statz

Telephone: (608) 644-3226

Congressional District: Ryan, 1st Dist.; Baldwin, 2nd Dist.; Kind, 3rd Dist.; Sensenbrenner, 5th Dist.; Petri, 6th Dist.; Duffy, 7th Dist.; and Ribble, 8th Dist.

Rural Development funds will purchase the video teleconferencing and related equipment that will enable the Cooperative to extend its training services and coordinate a program of shared medical services among its membership of 35 rural hospitals throughout Wisconsin. The headquarters and training center is located in Sauk City, where equipment will be installed to manage and coordinate the array of medical resources that will soon become available in many parts of rural Wisconsin as a result of the grant.



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.

2010 Grant Awards

Cooperative Education Services Agency Number 5

\$176,877

Wisconsin

Counties: Columbia, Juneau, Adams, Marquette, and Portage,

Contact: Ms. Maureen Egan, (608) 742-8814

Baldwin, 2nd Dist.; Kind, 3rd Dist.; Petri, 6th Dist.; and Duffy, 7th Dist.

RUS funds will be used to provide distance learning to Adams-Friendship High School, Almond Schools, Necedah Schools, Royall Schools, and Westfield Area High School located in rural South Central Wisconsin. The video conferencing



equipment will help expand course offerings, such as core curriculum, language, and advanced placement classes. In addition, other elective high school courses and dual credit college courses can be offered.

The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System

\$255,597

Wisconsin

Counties: Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Eau Claire, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Rock, Sauk

Contact: Ms. Cheryl Gest, (608)-262-4880

WI 1 - Paul Ryan, WI 2 - Tammy Baldwin, WI 3 - Ron Kind, WI 5 - Jim Sensenbrenner, WI 6 - Thomas E. Petri

This RUS-funded project will equip a van provided by the applicant outside of the grant process with mobile mammography and video conferencing capability. The van will provide mammograms at 10 rural University of Wisconsin Health Clinics and 8 rural public library sites. The experience of others who have offered only screening exams via a mobile system is that it has been difficult to provide follow-up. This project will provide both screening and diagnostic mammograms. In addition, health information will be provided through the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

2009 Grant Awards

Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10

\$362,784

Wisconsin

Counties Served: Barron, Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, Marathon, Pepin, Rush, Trempealeau

Contact: Dr. Larry Annett

Telephone: 715-720-2079

Congressional District: Ron Kind, WI-3; David Obey, WI-7

This project will fund video-conferencing equipment at 44 schools that will allow them to share resources among schools. The specific goals of the project are to increase student achievement in mathematics and reading literacy as well as to provide professional development for teachers.

Gunderson Clinic, LTD

\$104,593

Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa

Counties Served: Vernon-WI, Houston-MN, Allamakee-IA, Fayette-IA

Contact: Dr. Jeffrey Thompson

Telephone: 608-775-6334



Congressional District: MN-1, Tim Walz; Ron Kind, WI-3; Tom Latham, IA -4, Bruce Braley, IA-1

This grant will fund computed radiography equipment at five remote, rural sites so that readings can be made at the Gunderson Clinic in La Crosse.

Cooperative Education Service Agency 8

\$387,526

Wisconsin

Counties Served: Menominee, Portage, Shawano, Waupaca

Contact: Mr. Robert Kellogg

Telephone: 920-855-2114

Congressional District: David Obey, WI-7; Steve Kagan, WI-8

The project will fund video-conferencing equipment at 17 rural schools so that they can share resources. The goals of the project are to provide better quality instruction as well as greater instructional efficiency. In addition to academic courses, the system will be used to provide health and wellness education.

2008 Grant Awards

Gunderson Clinic, Ltd.

\$327,000

Wisconsin, Iowa

Counties Served: WI: La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau; IA: Fayette

Contact: Mr. Kraig Schuster

Telephone: (608)775-2155

Congressional District: WI-3 Kind, IA-1 Braley

Funds will be used by Gunderson Clinic to install computed radiography services at four additional end-user sites in their service area which will provide both general radiography and mammography to rural residents. The equipment will allow the radiographic images to be viewed and interpreted by radiologists at the hub site in La Crosse, Wisconsin. The digital images will be stored on a mass storage device at the hub site.

2007 Grant Awards

Gunderson Clinic, Ltd.

\$107,212

Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa

Counties Served: WI: La Crosse, Trempealeau, Crawford, Monroe; MN: Fillmore, Houston; IA Fayette; Allamakee, Winneshieck,



Contact: Mr. David Guggenbuehl

Telephone: 608-775-8734

Congressional District: WI – 3 Kind, MN – 1 Walz, IA – 1 Braley; IA – 4 Latham

This project will expand TeleMedLink, the existing regional telemedicine system, by providing oncology and cardiology services to patients in remote areas as well as allowing real-time, remote monitoring of vital signs. It will also provide for the opportunity to schedule virtual visits between nurse and patient when the patient is in a community facility such as a meal site or a remote health clinic.



DLT Awards - Wisconsin

2006 Grants Awards

Gunderson Clinic, Ltd

La Crosse, WI

\$119,270

Areas Served: Allamakee, Fillmore, Juneau, Lacrosse

Contact: Ms. Cathy S. Fischer

Telephone: 608-775-2358

Fax: 608-775-2358

Congressional District: WI-3, IA-4, MN-01

Rural Development funds will be used to install digital radiography services at 4 additional sites in the service area which will allow the radiographic images to be received and interpreted by radiologists at their hub site in La Crosse.

Ministry Health Care, Inc.

Stevens Point, WI

\$114,558

Areas Served: Calumet, Chippewa, Door, Lincoln, Oneida, Outagamie, Portage, Taylor, Vilas, Wood, Winnebago

Contact: Ms. Marie E. Janz

Telephone: 715-346-5090

Fax: 715-343-3246

Congressional Districts: WI-06, 07, 08

Rural Development funds will be used to offer educational opportunities to the Ministry Home Care professional clinical staff to utilize increased network bandwidth so as to provide access to the required educational content. Technology included in the project will include an application and content networking system (ACNS), a WebEx Training Center and a MPEG-4 encoder/decoder. The technology will give the telecommunications system the ability to web cast, multicast, transcode and use two-way interactive video education over the MHC network to six home health agencies and 5 home health work sites.



2005 Grant Awards:

Highland School District

\$303,064

Areas Served: Iowa, Crawford, Grant Counties

Contact: Barbara A. Hying

Telephone: 608-929-4525

Fax: 608-929-4527

Congressional District: WI-02, WI-03

Distance learning labs at schools in the project area will interact with the Wisconsin Department of Instruction Badgernet system which provides the connectivity umbrella that links hundreds of districts in Wisconsin to high quality distance learning programs. The project will wirelessly network stationary and mobile computers, providing greater flexibility for teachers and students. The project will serve 2,394 students at 10 end-user sites and will provide educational opportunities for over 6,000 residents in the area.

2004 Award:

Space Education Initiatives, Inc.

Green Bay, Wisconsin

\$218,400

Area(s) served: Schools in Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Ohio, and Tennessee

Contact: Tim Lewaren 920-339-4600; Fax: 920-339-4619

Congressional District(s): Applicant - WI-08; Project - AR-01, CA-14, FL-02, FL-12, FL-13, FL-14, FL-15, FL-16, GA-02, GA-03, IN-09, KY-01, KY-04, KY-05, MI-02, MN-01, ND-At Large, OH-02, OK-02, TN-04, TN-07, TN-08

With RUS funding, Space Education Initiatives will establish the Development and Advancement of Rural Education (DARE) project, specifically designed to provide access and educational content in the subject areas of math, science, and technology through the use of advanced telecommunications technology. The DARE project is a collaborative partnership of 42 rural school districts in 12 states, along with regional institutions of higher learning, private sector enterprise, and the Rural Community Empowerment Program. Through distance learning technology, students will receive standards-based programs in math and science, rural educators will be provided access to professional development and peer collaboration, and an interactive database of over 200 academic enrichment programs will be made available to educators, parents, and administrators. Over 51,000 students in 169 schools will benefit from this project.



2002 Award:

Space Education Initiatives, Inc.; Green Bay Wisconsin

\$350,000 Grant

Area(s) Served: Multi-sites in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Kentucky, Maine, Missouri, Mississippi, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin

Contact: Tim D. Lewaren, (920) 339-4600; Fax: (920) 339-4619

Congressional District(s): AL 4th, 5th,6th,7th; AR 1st, 3rd,4th; CO 3rd; FL 14th; KY 5th; ME 2nd; MO 8th; MS 2nd; OR 2nd, 4th; PA 4th, 5th, 12th, 14th; SC 2nd; TN 7th; TX 13th, 15th, 23rd; 28th; WA 5th; WV 2nd; WI 7th, 8th

Space Education Initiatives, Inc. will use RUS grant funds to provide a complete package of K-12 Internet programs to 325 rural end-user schools in sixteen states, serving approximately 165,173 students and 623,270 rural residents for the enhancement of reading, math, science and technology. The proposed distance learning program by Space Education Initiatives, Inc, the Rural Initiative for Math, Science and Technology Education (RIMSE), will use multidisciplinary curricula to improve the understanding and proficiency of rural students in reading, math, science and technology by using the subject of space exploration. Project participants will have access to Internet-based programming that covers grades K-12. Program participants will have the opportunity take part in an actual NASA mission, conduct live experiments along with the astronauts aboard the International Space Station and complete an Internet-based NASA mission simulation. These simulations and experiments are included programs such as: (1) K-3 Space; (2) Orbital Laboratory; (4) Space Explorers Mission-based Programs; and (5) NASA Quest Project. Teachers, parents, and administrators will have access to lesson plans, training, on-line chats, monthly classroom activities, and toll-free hot-line assistance

2001 Grant Awards:

Cooperative Educational Service Agency #7

Green Bay, Wisconsin

\$500,000 Grant

Area(s) Served: Counties of Dane, Richland, Iowa, Columbia, Wood, Dodge, Washington, Brown, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Kewaunee, Price, Oneida, Buffalo, Chippewa, St. Croix and Iron

Contact Mr. James S. Coles, Telephone (920) 492-5960, FAX (920) 492-2728

Congressional Districts: 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th, 8th, & 9th.

This project will provide rural middle and high school students, particularly grades 5-10, greater access to enrichment programming, virtual field trips, and other exciting interactive learning opportunities. The 20 end user sites will connect to existing regional distance networks that interconnect with one another to form the statewide BadgerNet



distance learning network. Enhanced learning opportunities in math and science are the goals of this project as well as afford greater opportunities to obtain and share the resources designed to improve lifestyles for the community at-large.

Spring Valley Health Care Center

Spring Valley, Wisconsin

\$70,257 Grant

Area(s) Served: Dunn, Pierce and St. Croix Counties

Contact: Mr. Kevin Larson; (715) 778-5545; FAX: (715) 778-5575

Congressional District: 3rd

The Spring Valley Health Care Center's Medical Information Automation and Access (MIAA) Project will provide for the development of an automated information system for patient care information and provide health care professionals the ability to communicate comprehensive information more efficiently. The project will: (1) maximize time efficiencies for professional medical staff which will provide better availability and access; (2) provide a comprehensive automated information system with immediate availability to medical information; and, (3) provide access to patient information and data by primary care medical staff at remote sites by means of a secured website. It is the Spring Valley Health Care Center's goal to provide advanced technologies that will allow nurses to improve time efficiencies while offering the highest quality of care and quality of life to patients. The MIAA project will assist physicians in making immediate diagnoses for 68 residents of the Spring Valley Health Care Center.

2000 Grant Award:

GUNDERSEN LUTHERAN MEDICAL CENTER, INC.

LaCrosse, Wisconsin

\$350,000 Grant

Area(s) served: Hillsboro, Prairie du Chien, Tomah, Viroqua, Whitehall and West Union Counties

Contact: Ms. Cathy Lechnir, (608) 782-7300 ext. 2358; FAX: (608) 791-4489

3rd and 6th Wisconsin Congressional Districts and 2nd Iowa Congressional District

The purpose of this project is to provide Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) deployment via teleradiology to rural Wisconsin and Iowa. When fully implemented, it will allow for the acquisition of radiology images and the interpretation and storage of each medical image in digital form without resorting to film. This will result in the ability to transport images via telephone links for radiology consultation; increasing productivity of staff; eliminating the need for radiographic film and record storage; enhancing the quality of services to physicians and patients; and reducing operating costs which optimizes resources.



1998 Award:

Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10

\$172,807 Grant / \$442,193 Loan

Total: \$615,000

Location: Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

Area(s) served: Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Marathon, Pepin, Rusk

Contact Mr. Ross Wilson

Telephone Number: (715) 720-2029

Fax Number: (715) 720-2070

Congressional District: 3rd

This goal of this proposed project is to help create a regional distance learning network to serve the student, staff, and community needs of 21 school districts in rural west central Wisconsin. It is designed to enhance the current K-12 curriculum, expand opportunities for high school students; provide a method for training faculty and staff; and connect surrounding community members to each other and to institutions of higher education. CESA 10 intends to implement a regional video and data telecommunications network that interconnects its educational institutions and adult members of the communities in order to achieve equitable access to expanded curriculum.

1995 Grant Award:

Nicolet Distance Education Network

Vilas, Iron, Forest, Oneida, Florence, Lincoln, Marinette & Rusk counties

There is a 5,000 square mile area in rural northeastern Wisconsin that has one of the highest concentrations of lakes in the world. It is served by low quality two lane highways and two lane county roads. The harsh winter weather only adds to the trouble of traveling from place to place. The poverty rate in the area is 25 percent higher than the rest of the state, and the proportion of residents without high school diplomas is 15 percent greater than the state average. Dispersed throughout the area are 20 school districts located more than 30 miles apart from each other. Rurality has made these school districts' attempts to attract more qualified teachers futile.

In 1992, the Nicolet Distance Education Network (NDEN), a grassroots consortium of local school districts was formed to explore solutions for providing a cost effective, comprehensive curriculum for these low enrollment, rural school districts. NDEN membership includes sixteen K-12 districts, four K-8 districts, Nicolet Area Technical College, and the Stone Lake Native American Reservation. In the fall of 1994, after more than two years of meetings, developing strategies, and planning, NDEN concluded that distance learning technologies were the solution to their problems.



NDEN applied for and received an RUS Distance Learning grant in August 1995. The \$325 thousand grant allowed the NDEN to purchase a state-of-the-art digital two-way interactive audio/video system. Distance learning equipment placed at 22 educational institutions provides educational opportunities to consortium members and the community as well. The system enhances K-8 education through access to educational speakers and programs. High school courses required for graduation and personal enrichment which previously have been difficult to provide are now available, including Physics, Calculus, Analytical Geometry, and college and advanced level courses. Traditionally, the Native American population has been reluctant to leave the reservation for educational opportunities, resulting in most of their population not receiving an adequate curriculum. The system expands the educational opportunities on the Native American reservation by connecting their schools with other NDEN members and other tribes enabling them to receive the necessary educational skills to compete for area jobs. In addition to school district use, the community utilizes the network for higher education courses which provide baccalaureate and graduate school instruction. Workshops, seminars, and special employee training courses, which can be accessed before and after work and on weekends are also available. And, during the NDEN's first year of service, 2,500 residents had Internet access. The years spent by the NDEN planning and pursuing this grant have paid off for the 50,000 area residents who benefit from the advanced telecommunications technologies. The project demonstrates how small, rural, dispersed schools and communities can use new technologies to solve their most pressing problems.

A compressed video system will link 16 K-12 school districts, four K-8 districts, one public two-year college, and a native American tribe in northern Wisconsin. Students will benefit from having access to special education programs, college preparatory classes and vocational education. Continuing education classes will be available for teachers and adults.

1994 Grant Award:

Tri-County Memorial Hospital

Buffalo, Crawford, Jackson, Trempealeau and LaCrosse Counties
(In Iowa: Allamakee and Clayton Counties)

This project consists of two rural hospitals linking with a urban medical center, Tri-County Memorial Hospital and Nursing Home in Trempealeau County and Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital in Crawford County will be making room modifications and receiving interactive video equipment, including a CODEC, in order to connect with the project hub site at Lutheran Hospital in La Crosse, a site which will also acquire the telecommunications equipment. This medical link will allow the two rural hospitals and family practice physicians whose offices are located near the facilities to benefit from a host of medical and educational benefits. Medical-related symposiums and teaching conferences, multidisciplinary training and certification programs, and Continuing Medical Education programs are some of the educational offerings. Medical services will



include rural physician-to-metropolitan medical specialist consultation, diagnostic quality teleradiology, emergency, crisis and trauma care, and enhanced communications with Medical Air Transport. State-of-the-art DS3 transmission capabilities over fiber optic lines will be the "pipeline" for this system.

1993 Grant Award:

Western Wisconsin Instructional Network Group

Baldwin

A consortium of 11 small rural school districts, a four-year university and a two-year technical college, known as WESTWING, will share educational resources in a five-county area. Programming includes continuing education for adults.