



## Grant Provides Rural Hospital With Cutting Edge Technology

A \$300,000 Distance and Learning Telemedicine Grant from USDA Rural Development has provided a rural Gonzales hospital with cutting edge radiology technology not usually available in rural Texas hospitals.

With the equipment upgrade, the Gonzales Hospital becomes the only rural community hospital in the State of Texas to offer 3D Mammography. The upgraded technology now allows the hospital to have highly advanced capabilities in X-Rays, CT Scans and MRI's.

With the upgrade, it is now possible for radiologist located several hours from the hospital to have immediate access to imaging sent from the Gonzales Hospital. This will provide for faster collaboration and diagnosis between the local hospital and Radiology Partners-Houston, a practice highly specialized in every facet of radiology.



*Rural Development State Director Paco Valentin, Gonzales Mayor Robert Logan and others view equipment purchased with USDA grant.*

Connie Kacir, Director of the Gonzales Healthcare Systems Foundation said, “The new technology is truly a lifesaving technology for our patient base. The ability to ensure the delivery of all patient imaging for expedited diagnosis results from radiologists with sub-specialty training and credentialing from Radiology Partners-Houston will save lives in Gonzales. Our hospital is supported with 24/7 access to the same team of radiology specialists serving Memorial Hermann Hospital System in Houston, rated in the top 1% among hospitals in the nation. We are honored by USDA providing us funding to serve our patients with the gold standard in healthcare.”

Rural Development had previously awarded the hospital a \$28,800 Community Facilities Grant to assist in the purchase of a new mammography machine.

Gonzales County has been designated a Strike Force County by USDA due to the persistent poverty in the area.

---

**Obligation Amount:** \$300,000 Grant

**Date of Obligation:** April 2014

**Congressional District:** Representative Blake Farenthold, Texas 27th Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz.

**Partners:** Gonzales Hospital, Gonzales Healthcare Systems Foundation

**Demographics:** Gonzales County and adjacent counties

**Impact:** Cutting edge radiology technology is being made available in a Rural Texas County. Gonzales County is a designated Strike Force County.

---