



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

October 22, 2021

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Kushunamit School District	\$322,266	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund the Kushunamit School District distance learning project. The project will serve Chevak Village, an extremely remote Alaskan village of 938 people, most of whom are Cup'ik Alaska Natives. The grant will connect the students, faculty, and staff of Chevak School with each other, their classrooms, and outside resources. The results will minimize disruptions to education, increase collaboration, and expand educational, professional, and vocational options. This is a Title One school serving pre-k through 12th grade.
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Lake and Peninsula School District	\$565,409	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide distance learning opportunities to several students located in the Lake and Peninsula School District. The total population that will benefit is 1,550. This project will be able to provide educational programs to students and teachers who are located in rural areas.
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Lower Kuskokwim School District	\$784,818	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Lower Kuskokwim School District install new video conferencing equipment to support K-12 students with a focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) courses, as well as student activities, such as the Spelling Bee and Battle of the Books. Moreover, Project Achieve also will allow for the continuous teaching of tribal languages, traditions and customs; the use of the equipment for Parent Advisory Committees, local School Board meetings and trainings; and will provide teachers with the necessary resources to attend in-service webinars on specific subjects and provide necessary training. Due to COVID-19, the district expanded distance learning to all grades, prior to the pandemic distance learning technology was reserved for students in the higher grades (seven-12). Increased technology will assist LKSD in meeting all the needs of the students, allowing for the creation of a blended learning environment where education may be done in-person or via distance learning if the need arises. The total population that will utilize the technology will be approximately 4,000 students, teachers, staff and family members in the Bethel Census Area.
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	North Slope Borough School District	\$999,500	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase access to virtual instruction, specifically science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) courses, as well as career and technical education courses, including simulation. Through Project Ignite, the North Slope Borough School District will use videoconferencing technology, which will allow increased student and staff interactions, such as trainings, in-services, and labs. Project Ignite will also allow the North Slope Borough School District to implement two learning labs at rural sites. These labs will create and share real-time content, classes, and activities. Project Ignite will help provide the school district's extremely rural villages access to additional education resources and allow for continuous teaching of tribal languages, traditions, and customs. More than 2,000 residents are expected to benefit from this project.
AL	Richard Shelby, Tommy Tuberville	Barry Moore (02), Mike Rogers (03), Robert Aderholt (04), Mo Brooks (05), Gary Palmer (06), Terri Sewell (07)	Alabama Department of Mental Health	\$156,183	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring telehealth to rural Alabama through the Alabama Department of Mental Health Telehealth Rural Expansion Experiment. The funds will be used to achieve the following: 1) address and reduce the challenging barriers to accessing treatment services for residents in rural communities; 2) increase and improve access to healthcare education and behavioral healthcare treatment including treatment for Substance Use Disorders and Opioid Use Disorders for rural residents of Alabama; and, 3) utilize telehealth to bridge the gaps in treatment and healthcare services caused by provider shortages in rural areas of the state. Through placing adequate telehealth equipment in the proposed project end-user sites, the department will provide the treatment and services necessary to combat the growing epidemic of Substance Use Disorders, including Opioid Use Disorder, and mental health disorders in some of the most rural and poor communities in Alabama. More than 40,500 residents will be helped.



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AL	Richard Shelby, Tommy Tuberville	Jerry Carl (01), Barry Moore (02), Mike Rogers (03), Terri Sewell (07)	AltaPointe Health Systems, Inc.	\$259,750	This Rural Development investment will be used by AltaPointe Health Systems, Inc. to provide telehealth equipment to rural hospital emergency departments, to help increase access to psychiatric care for adults and children. The total population impacted is over 861,000 people. The site for the project is located in ten Alabama counties, including Mobile, Baldwin, Washington, Clarke, Monroe, Conecuh, Escambia, Randolph, Clay, and Talladega.
AL	Richard Shelby, Tommy Tuberville	Gary Palmer (06)	Bibb County Board of Education	\$650,465	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase access to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) opportunities for students using distance learning at Bibb County School District. Students in 41 classrooms at 10 school sites will participate in expanded and enhanced education. Students will have expanded capacity to participate in dual credit college courses and other learning opportunities. The project will alleviate barriers caused by inadequate funding and a shortage of specialized education teachers. Outcomes will include an increased number of students who graduate college and career ready, an increase in the number of students enrolled in dual credit college classes, improved performance in math and science on standardized tests, and enhanced school readiness for a pandemic or other emergency necessitating virtual learning. More than 22,000 area residents will benefit from the project.
AL	Richard Shelby, Tommy Tuberville	Terri Sewell (07)	Sumter County School System	\$334,317	This Rural Development investment will be used by Sumter County School System to equip interactive distance learning rooms to provide shared teacher resources via interactive videoconferencing. This technology will provide more professional development opportunities to teachers and reduce overall travel cost for students, teachers, and administrators. The project will serve six end user sites in Sumter County in Alabama, bringing benefits to the 12,800 residents in the county.
AL	Richard Shelby, Tommy Tuberville	Jerry Carl (01), Barry Moore (02), Mike Rogers (03), Terri Sewell (07)	University of Alabama	\$951,886	This Rural Development investment will create a network of tele medically equipped ambulances that can easily and immediately relay real-time patient data to emergency physicians. The project will consist of 26 ambulances across eleven rural hubs. The proposed ambulance-based systems will have the capability to directly connect to one of the rural hubs (rural hospitals in the proposed counties). By connecting ambulances to multiple hospitals through telemedicine, emergency medical services (EMS) personnel can transmit patient data and communicate with hospital-based emergency department physicians to help determine how best to maximize patient care and reduce cost at the site of the initial patient encounter as well as during EMS transport. The population served is 260,062 for the counties included in this proposed project. In 2020, these rural counties had a total of 36,933 EMS calls and 15,318 individuals were transported to a hospital emergency department.
AR	John Boozman, Tom Cotton	French Hill (02), Steve Womack (03), Bruce Westerman (04)	Dardanelle Regional LLC	\$305,113	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telehealth services from one hub site to six rural hub/end-user sites. Specialists from Conway Regional Medical Center will connect on consults with outreach sites in Telehealth Huddle Rooms which are equipped with video-conferencing equipment that will allow them to work with a patient on a remote site, review images accessed and sent from a remote site. The proposed project seeks to address these challenges by increasing the capability of the Conway Regional Medical Center to focus on providing faster and more targeted Pain Management, Cardiology, Orthopedics, General Surgery and OB/Gyn services. This project provides six rural Central Arkansas communities with telehealth services, that would serve 25,473 rural residents.
AR	John Boozman, Tom Cotton	Rick Crawford (01), French Hill (02), Steve Womack (03), Bruce Westerman (04)	Division of Agriculture of the University of Arkansas	\$571,456	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment that would allow Division of Agriculture of the University of Arkansas (UADA) Cooperative Extension Service (CES) to install cellular routers with WIFI to 51 geographic locations throughout Arkansas. These devices will improve internet connectivity and provide an internet access point "parking lot hotspot" for clientele to access research-based training. The proposal would also allow UADA to install video conferencing hardware in these locations to reach an estimated minimum audience of 9,000 per year.



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AR	John Boozman, Tom Cotton	Rick Crawford (01)	Lyon College	\$298,004	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Lyon College to purchase interactive video conferencing equipment that will provide distance learning services for approximately 3,200 rural high school and middle school students. This project will provide expanded educational opportunities to include science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for rural Arkansas high schools, expanded post-secondary readiness, transition, and enrollment programs, substance abuse educational and counseling support for students, health education, and professional development and instructional resources for teachers and school leaders through distance learning.
AR	John Boozman, Tom Cotton	Rick Crawford (01), French Hill (02), Steve Womack (03), Bruce Westerman (04)	University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences	\$737,882	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring telemedicine across rural Arkansas through the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. This project will place new telemedicine carts at rural hospitals, rural health clinics, and rural penitentiaries through Arkansas for the purposes of clinical care. Most sites are current telemedicine users with outdated equipment at risk of technical failure and require replacement for continued program operation. With 36 sites around the state, this project will benefit over 811,000 residents.
AZ	Mark Kelly, Kyrsten Sinema	Tom O'Halleran (01)	Navajo County Community College District	\$715,890	This Rural Development investment will be used to acquire high-quality video conferencing equipment for 22 rural schools throughout eastern Arizona. The program will enable expanded access to college coursework as project sites commit to supplying and offering access to dual enrollment coursework to high school students during the day. Funded equipment will also be used for college and career prep for adult learners, taught during evenings, and courses leading to degrees in Early Childhood Education (ECD) and Education (EDU) taught on weekends. The project will serve over 1,100 rural residents at across a 21,158 square-mile area, that includes the tribal lands of the Navajo, Hopi and White Mountain Apache people.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Alex Padilla	Doug LaMalfa (01), John Garamendi (03), Mike Thompson (05), David Valadao (21)	California Rural Water Association	\$151,300	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase equipment to be used to implement a centralized remote distance learning model for California Rural Water Association to teach students participating in an Apprenticeship Program in four different locations in California. The end-user sites are in the city of Corning, city of Montague, Golden Hills Community Services District, and Lake County Special Districts and will benefit approximately 28,000 residents. The program provides a pathway for employed utility workers to upgrade and enhance their Technical, Managerial, and Financial understanding and skills in the operation and management of their local utilities.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Alex Padilla	Devin Nunes (22)	Kaweah Delta Health Care District	\$246,965	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect the Visalia hospital, General Medical Education, and Kaweah Health Mental Hospital with Exeter, Woodlake and Lindsay clinics and patients across Tulare county in California. Using a robust telehealth and updated communications network, this project will focus on treating those with substance and opioid use disorders, as well as other chronic diseases and general health issues can be treated with telehealth visits. The project will connect 40 doctors, including specialists with 200,000 people in Tulare county.
FL	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott	Neal Dunn (02), Kat Cammack (03), Daniel Webster (11)	Ocala Behavioral Health, LLC	\$160,611	This Rural Development investment will be used to fund the Tele-Behavioral Health Project of North Central Florida (Tele-NCF). The Tele-NCF Project will help The Vines Hospital to develop a telemedicine network of six rural communities in Florida to better serve the healthcare needs of approximately 40,000 residents. The network will enable The Vines Hospital to maximize scarce health care resources available in this rural service region to deliver high quality mental/behavioral health and substance/opioid use disorder treatment.



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GA	Jon Ossoff, Raphael Warnock	Sanford D. Bishop Jr. (02), Marjorie Taylor Greene (14)	Crisp Regional Hospital, Inc.	\$56,574	This Rural Development investment will be used to improve medical services to students, and significantly improve the overall health of the community by addressing long-term physical, mental, and behavioral health issues in the Crisp County School District. Through the Crisp Regional in Schools Program project, Crisp Regional Hospital will place telemedicine carts in the county's schools and provide needed telemedicine services to the students at those schools. This proposal will greatly reduce the burdens (costs, transportation and time) on these students and families seeking more direct and previously inaccessible health care services by meeting students where they are, and in the most convenient manner possible. The total population impacted will be an estimated 3,800 students annually.
GA	Jon Ossoff, Raphael Warnock	Andrew Clyde (09), Jody Hice (10)	Foothills Education Center, Inc.	\$86,475	This Rural Development investment will be used to combat the shortage of health professionals in rural counties. The Foothills Education Charter High School plans to launch a Telehealth Outreach Program to remove barriers to access and increase the availability of health, mental health, and substance abuse care to over 700 students in nine different rural school locations throughout Northeast Georgia. The Telehealth Outreach Program is part of the Foothills plan to re-engage students following the Covid-19 pandemic.
GA	Jon Ossoff, Raphael Warnock	Sanford D. Bishop Jr. (02) Drew Ferguson (03)	New Horizons Community Service Board	\$51,230	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide a telemedicine and distance learning network for New Horizons Behavioral Health in west central Georgia. These counties experienced a 245 percent increase in opioid-related overdose deaths from 2010 to 2017. By placing end-user equipment in Randolph, Stewart, Talbot and Harris counties and making mobile equipment available for case managers in Clay, Quitman and Chattahoochee, this Integrated Telehealth Network Project will provide approximately 55,000 residents with treatment for substance use disorders, mental health issues and chronic physical conditions such as hypertension and diabetes.
GA	Jon Ossoff, Raphael Warnock	Rick Allen (12)	Wheeler County School District	\$607,900	This Rural Development investment will be used to build a telemedicine and distance learning network in Wheeler County, Georgia. As one of the poorest counties in Georgia, its high poverty rate and remote location pose challenges for its citizens who seek opportunities to improve their health, further their education, and improve their quality of life. Substance abuse is on the rise and its effects are evident in the increase of students with special needs entering Wheeler County Schools. This network will provide mental health services and substance abuse education and counseling to 900 Wheeler County District students, as well as inmates and former inmates at the Wheeler County Law Enforcement Office and Center, for a total population served of approximately 2,800. Though the predominate focus of this grant will be on telemedicine, distance learning activities will provide equitable access to high-quality education and mental health services, improved school readiness, and increased awareness of career and education opportunities for all Wheeler County School District students.
HI	Brian Schatz, Mazie Hirono	Kaiali'i Kahele (02)	Big Island Substance Abuse Council	\$124,730	This Rural Development investment will be used to fund the Rural Wellness Hubs program that mobilizes services in rural areas that offer in-person and telehealth services, through the development of links between community needs, services, and resources. This program also provides in-person and telehealth case management, and behavioral health services. The estimated population impacted by this project is 29,000.
IA	Joni Ernst, Chuck Grassley	Cynthia Axne (03)	Greater Regional Medical Center	\$700,296	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand Greater Regional Medical Center's telemedicine services as part of its continuing effort to improve health care services to the communities they serve. Greater Regional Medical Center, Greater Regional Medical Center Clinic's and Specialty Clinics, and Southwestern Community College will provide three hub/end user sites coupled with their three rural clinics, seven local skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facility, daycare, three local schools, community college, and hospice home for a total of 15 end-user sites. This project focuses on patient needs removing barriers to patient health and wellness and ensuring access to health care services regardless of physical location or needed services. Additionally, this platform provides a distance learning space in rural facilities to offer educational learning and training opportunities. This project will provide telemedicine access to the 27,000 residents living in the area.



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ID	Mike Crapo, James Risch	Russ Fulcher (01), Mike Simpson (02)	Idaho State University	\$751,020	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring telemedicine to rural Idaho through Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho. The university intends to use telehealth to address the current disparity of access between rural and urban students by bringing mental and physical health services and care to high school students and educators through INCLUDE 2: Idaho Needs Connectivity Leading University Distance MED & Ed, too. In addition to health care services, INCLUDE 2 will provide health education to parents, students, and the community, focusing on opioid and substance use, and suicide. Approximately 10,000 students will be served by the project.
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Rodney Davis (13), Mary Miller (15)	Carle Foundation	\$544,034	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment to virtually connect Carle Richland Memorial Hospital (CRMH) in Olney, Illinois with Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana. This equipment will improve rural community access to specialized health care services for acute cases. It will also allow patients to have the option of receiving care locally and avoiding transferring to another health care facility for vital health care services. The community hospital serves eight southeastern Illinois counties, with a combined population of approximately 200,000.
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Jan Schakowsky (09), Rodney Davis (13)	Community Unit School District #100	\$378,754	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand the Community Unit School District #100's Rural Illinois Shared Education (RISE) Network to eight additional schools in rural Illinois. Poverty and no population growth have factored into the participating counties being Health Professional Shortage Areas for mental health care. The project is focused on opioid and substance abuse prevention and education; suicide prevention education; and expanding educational opportunities. The expansion of the Shared Education network will also provide opportunities for workforce development, including training of first responders. This highly collaborative teaching and communication tool will benefit approximately 3,600 residents of rural Illinois.
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Mike Bost (12), Rodney Davis (13), Mary Miller (15)	Dieterich Community Unit School District	\$840,776	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand the Dieterich Community Unit School District #30's Rural Illinois Shared Education (RISE) Network to 12 additional schools in rural Illinois. Poverty and out-migration have factored into half of the participating counties of Health Professional Shortage Areas for mental health care. The project is focused on opioid and substance abuse prevention and education; suicide prevention education; and expanding educational opportunities. The expansion of the Shared Education network will also provide opportunities for workforce development, including training of first responders. This highly collaborative teaching and communication tool will benefit approximately 3,200 residents of rural Illinois.
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Adam Kinzinger (16), Cheri Bustos (17)	OSF Healthcare System	\$387,092	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide synchronous distance learning for nurses and healthcare professionals with the goal of improving their knowledge and improving health related outcomes, including management of opioid and substance abuse disorders. These programs will reduce the inequity of educational experiences and resources overcoming the barriers of rural residents in the project area. The total estimate of the population benefited from this project is 107,000 rural residents.
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Adam Kinzinger (16), Cheri Bustos (17), Darin LaHood (18)	Regional Office of Education #17	\$651,596	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment that will provide real-time, interactive, telecommunications link between and among hub and end-users. This network will promote the availability of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) courses and provide dual enrollment credit to high school students located in central Illinois. This project connects rural school districts and career centers with one another allowing them to share resources, classes, and professional development by using video conferencing. It will serve a student population of over 7,900 students.



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IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Rodney Davis (13), Mary Miller (15), Adam Kinzinger (16), Cheri Bustos (17), Darin LaHood (18)	Streator Township High School District #40	\$669,676	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand the Streator Township High School Rural Illinois Shared Education (RISE) Network to 12 additional junior high and high schools in rural Illinois. Poverty and out- migration have factored into the participating counties of Health Professional Shortage Areas for mental health care. The project is focused on opioid and substance abuse prevention and education; suicide prevention education; and expanding educational opportunities. The expansion of the Shared Education network will also provide opportunities for workforce development, including training of first responders. This highly collaborative teaching and communication tool will benefit approximately 74,000 residents of rural Illinois.
IL, IA, MO	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin (IL), Joni Ernst, Chuck Grassley (IA), Roy Blunt, Josh Hawley (MO)	Mariannette Miller-Meeks (IA-02), Darin LaHood (IL-18), Vicky Hartzler (MO-04), Sam Graves (MO-06)	Blessing Hospital	\$932,540	This Rural Development investment will be used to build four hubs for the proposed Blessing Hospital Telemedicine Program, which will include both inpatient and outpatient facilities. The hubs will provide services to end user sites. The four hubs for the proposed program are Blessing Physician Services Quincy, Illinois locations (2 locations), Blessing Hospital and Hannibal Clinic. Three additional hospitals will participate in the program as end users, which include Illini Community Hospital and Keokuk Hospital that are both owned by Blessing Health System, and also Scotland County Hospital which is not owned by Blessing Health System. The total estimated population that are served by the collaborative entities participating in the project is 291,000 and the anticipated number of visits that will be provided by telehealth providers is 46,000.
IN	Mike Braun, Todd Young	Jim Banks (03), James Baird (04), Victoria Spartz (05), André Carson (07), Trey Hollingsworth (09)	Indiana University Health, Inc.	\$847,013	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase and install telemedicine equipment at eight Indiana University Health rural critical access hospitals. Indiana University Health will utilize the telehealth equipment to expand access to around the clock behavioral health services, that include peer recovery coaching and psychiatric assessments virtually, to the rural facilities that participate. Several needs will be addressed through this project, which will help create more timely, co-located, high-quality behavioral health treatment for local residents. This project will enhance care in 217 additional rooms system-wide for approximately 56,000 patients annually.
KS	Roger Marshall, Jerry Moran	Tracey Mann (01)	Diocese of Dodge City	\$824,630	This Rural Development investment will be used to focus on three schools located in frontier communities to deliver high-quality distant learning services. The three schools are Holy Family School, St. Joseph Catholic School, and Sacred Heart School, which together serve approximately 300 students. This project provides real-time, interactive telecommunication distance learning equipment, to deliver educational instruction and substance use prevention training to students living in Great Bend, Ellinwood, and Ness City, Kansas. This project will also help connect rural schools to support rural residents throughout Southwest Kansas.
KS	Roger Marshall, Jerry Moran	Tracey Mann (01), Jake LaTurner (02), Ron Estes (04)	Kansas Department of Corrections	\$858,650	This Rural Development investment will be used to build a telemedicine and distance learning network between 19 counties in Kansas. This project will improve our core infrastructure by expanding access points to internet / Wi-Fi connectivity and introduce state of the art dual-purpose equipment for distance education programs and behavior health services at our adult correctional facilities located in the rural areas of Winfield, Norton, Stockton, El Dorado, Oswego, Ellsworth, Learned and Lansing, Kansas. Through connections between the hub site and end-user sites, the project will provide 7,600 residents of the correctional facilities with the opportunity to access education programs, teacher resources, and secondary and post-secondary level instruction, while also expanding access to therapeutic services for residents in restrictive housing settings to engage in the full range of necessary treatment and support services to aide in their recovery process.
KS	Roger Marshall, Jerry Moran	Tracey Mann (01)	Pawnee Mental Health Services, Inc.	\$579,186	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand Hub/End-User and End-User sites located in counties designated as rural. This project will enhance existing telehealth technology infrastructure and create new partnerships with rural hospitals, jails, and the Pottawatomie Health Department, in order to improve access to mental health care for 70,000 residents of Clay, Cloud, Jewell, Marshall, Mitchell, Pottawatomie, Republic and Washington counties.



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KS, OK	Roger Marshall, Jerry Moran (KS), James Inhofe, James Lankford (OK)	Tracey Mann (KS-01), Frank Lucas (OK-03)	Morton County Health System	\$426,102	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist the Morton County Health System to purchase and install stationary and portable medical examination equipment to serve rural residents in Morton County, Kansas and Cimarron and Texas Counties in Oklahoma. The project will provide state of the art diagnosis and care to patients, in addition to opioid and substance abuse education. The total number of rural residents who will benefit from the project is estimated to be 144,000.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Thomas Massie (04), Harold Rogers (05)	Boyd County Public Schools	\$427,157	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Boyd County Public Schools with their distance learning project using interactive video conferencing. The project will develop distance learning, counseling and telecommunications capacity between schools and community partners, with a focus on students with substance abuse disorders. The project will impact more than 3,000 rural residents from Cannonsburg, Catlettsburg, Rush, and Summit in Boyd County.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	S. Brett Guthrie (02)	Caverna Independent Schools	\$534,106	This Rural Development investment will be used to acquire state of the art video conferencing equipment for drug abuse awareness programs, virtual enrichment programs, and distance learning for dual credit classes. Classroom equipment will be used to showcase virtual guest speakers, provide access to visual and performing arts programs and activities to students. This project will benefit approximately 700 students across the school district in both Hart and Barren counties in rural Kentucky.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	S. Brett Guthrie (02)	Elizabethtown Community and Technical College	\$648,867	This Rural Development investment will be used to launch the ECTC LIVE: Linking Innovative Virtual Education. The ECTC LIVE aims to provide distance learning opportunities to four rural areas in the ECTC service area. This project will equip classrooms with state-of-art technology at the ECTC-Main Campus site and in the remote sites of Leitchfield, Springfield, Meade County, and Green County. The technology provided through this grant program will enable the ECTC-Main Campus to offer more dual credit classes, more general education class offerings and community education classes via distance learning in a synchronized "real-time" classroom. The equipped classrooms will allow ECTC-Main Campus instructors to teach in a classroom in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, and have students attend the same course from all four remote rural classroom sites. An estimated 3,000 students will benefit from this project.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	S. Brett Guthrie (02)	Green County Board of Education	\$983,108	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide distance learning through the Green County Schools PreK-12 Educational Enhancement and Expansion program. This educational technology will equip students with the skills, knowledge and experiences needed to thrive as members of tomorrow's workforce. The project will provide 82 dual camera/dual panel distance learning solutions within classrooms across the school district that will give students the ability to access curriculum and program offerings from across the state and country. This project will have an immediate impact on 1,600 students and approximately 100 adult evening learners within the first year. In addition, the distance learning solutions are expected to continue providing service for a 10-year period bringing an extended impact that could reach tens of thousands of rural residents over the course of the distance learning equipment's useful life.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	James Comer (01)	Marion County School District	\$244,763	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish technological support for distance learning at the Marion County School District's (MCSD) Career Academy, in order to help meet teacher shortage needs and increase access to behavioral health services for students and families. The project will benefit 3,400 students from preschool through grade 12. Over the course of the 3-year project, Marion County School District's will advance the technology at nine school sites by adding interactive distance learning systems to support virtual learning, increased STEM collaboration between middle and high schools, and to support efforts to fill teacher shortages by sharing teachers across sites as needed for subject matter content. Five community-based business partners will receive interactive distance learning systems to expand collaboration for the Career Academy. School sites will be equipped with tele-counseling/tele-medicine carts to support an increase in behavioral health services.



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KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Thomas Massie (04)	Northern Kentucky University	\$182,792	This Rural Development investment will be used to help NorthKey Community Care and Northern Kentucky University social work offer virtual treatment for Substance Use Disorder at all of its' offices. This project will help offer virtual school-based care programs in all schools in Carroll, Gallatin, Owen, and Pendleton Counties. This project will also address the medical and behavioral needs for residents, especially those with Substance Use Disorder. This project will further solve multiple specific community challenges, including a dearth of medical and behavioral health practitioners who can treat Substance Use Disorder, the absence of medication for Opioid Use Disorder, overburdened primary care providers, inaccessible specialty care, a lack of transportation, hesitancy in leaving their county and significant underserved at-risk populations, including youth and the justice-involved. This telemedicine effort is projected to provide services to 14,500 area residents.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	S. Brett Guthrie (02), James Comer (01)	Ohio County Hospital Corporation	\$200,387	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable Ohio County Healthcare to install a telehealth platform to provide needed healthcare to six rural locations in Ohio and Butler counties. Funds will be used to equip sites with mobile telehealth carts to be used on sites. This provides quality care and more access to specialist for patients in rural health clinics. This project will improve quality of care and reduce the travel burden for an estimated 13,000 rural residents in Kentucky.
KY, WV	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul (KY), Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin (WV)	Harold Rogers (KY-05), Andy Barr (KY-06), Miller (WV-03)	Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Inc.	\$570,211	This Rural Development investment will be used to enhance the Appalachian Regional Healthcare's (ARH) current telemedicine program by adding 33 telemedicine carts to 29 ARH hospital or outpatient clinic locations throughout Eastern Kentucky and Western West Virginia. Nineteen of these telemedicine carts will serve 17 outpatient clinic locations. Through the use of portable telemedicine units, patients at these rural clinics will be able to visit with a variety of specialists via video conferencing. The project will also fund the purchase of 14 inpatient carts for 12 hospital locations to assist with inpatient telemedicine consultations by various specialists including cardiology, pulmonology, and a telemedicine hospitalist program for some of ARH's Critical Access Hospitals. Six inpatient carts will also be purchased to provide telemedicine services between the six obstetrics units across the ARH system. These units will be utilized specifically for ARH's only level two NICU in Hazard to provide consultative services to the other five obstetric units especially regarding Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome infants born to mothers with substance use disorder. An estimated 350,000 rural residents will have access to improved medical care through this project.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Kennedy	Mike Johnson (04)	Homer Memorial Hospital	\$707,306	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide a telemedicine and distance learning network for Claiborne Memorial Medical Center located in the northwest Louisiana. Claiborne Parish is an extremely rural area with a 34 percent poverty rate and a median income of \$27,303. The entire Parish is a designated Mental Health Provider Shortage. This network will provide interactive real time telemedicine at clinics for the schools and nursing homes. Approximately 5,500 rural residents will benefit by the reduced absenteeism by both students, faculty, and staff; improved overall health and wellbeing to area children; identification and early treatment for students needing psychiatric treatment; and a reduction in nursing home residents' admissions to the hospital.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Kennedy	Mike Johnson (04)	North Caddo Hospital Service District	\$141,225	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telemedicine to 1,200 students in five local, rural schools through North Caddo Medical Center. The Louisiana schools are North Caddo High School, North Caddo Elementary School, Plain Dealing High School, Mooringsport Elementary School, and Herndon Magnet School. A registered nurse will be staffed at each school location with a telemedicine cart. A medical provider will evaluate students seeking care while off site. The Telemedicine carts are equipped with a stethoscope that will allow the medical provider to listen to the child's heart and lungs. The carts also have an otoscope and ophthalmoscope to examine the child's ears, nose, throat, and eyes. Each cart will also have a derma probe attached to give the physician an up-close look at any skin complaints. Also available on the carts are dental probes to evaluate oral health. The nurse can perform an electrocardiogram (EKG), vital signs (temperature, heart rate, oxygen level, blood pressure, height, and weight), and a breathing treatment from the cart. The results will be sent directly to the medical provider.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

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State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Kennedy	Clay Higgins (03), Mike Johnson (04), Julia Letlow (05)	Oceans Acquisition, Inc.	\$418,379	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment that will connect rural nursing facilities and the rural Coshatta Tribe of Louisiana Public Health Department (end-user sites) with Oceans medical facilities (hub sites) to provide mental health services through this telemedicine program. These services will include intake/assessment, individual therapy, group therapy and other services to 1,800 residents.
LA, NC	Bill Cassidy, John Kennedy (LA), Richard Burr, Thom Tillis (NC)	Tory Carter (LA-02), Julia Letlow (LA-05), Mike Johnson (LA-04), Garrett Graves (LA-06), G. K. Butterfield (NC-01)	Southern University and A&M College	\$502,836	This Rural Development investment will be used to engage rural Louisiana in distance learning through the Southern University Law Center. The center, along with its partnering end-user sites, aim to tackle several issues experienced in their communities due to extreme rurality. The center will engage these communities in opioid abuse community counseling and educational programming, legal literacy clinics and programming, and business education and programming for small businesses, cottage industries and entrepreneurs hoping to boost their local economy. The courses and clinics offered are designed to specifically address the issues encountered by the communities in this project and are expected to positively impact 46,000 residents.
MD	Benjamin Cardin, Chris Van Hollen	Andy Harris (01)	Chesapeake College	\$57,041	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand its synchronous distance learning opportunities by purchasing distance learning technologies, specifically video endpoints and display systems that will broadcast the class and enable interactivity. An advisory council of Chesapeake College academic and enrollment administrators, library directors, and a representative from the Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board will meet prior to each academic year to assess the education and training needs within each community served by the above sites. That assessment will drive the synchronous distance learning opportunities that will be available at each site. The project is projected to reach 42,000 rural residents.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Chellie Pingree (01), Jared Golden (02)	Medical Care Development, Inc.	\$254,192	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring Medical Care Development, Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare, Aroostook Mental Health Services (AMHC), and the National Digital Equity Center together, to improve access to telehealth, specifically in Aroostook and Washington counties, with the primary focus being to treat individuals who live in these two counties that suffer from a substance and opioid use disorder. Services are projected to be provided to over 2,200 residents.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Chellie Pingree (01), Jared Golden (02)	Unity College	\$363,310	This Rural Development investment will be used to support the Unity College Hyflex Classroom Project, which is an initiative of the college's newest sustainable education business unit (the Technical Institute for Environmental Professions). Students will have opportunities to build in-demand professional skills and earn Associate's degrees, or professional certifications. The project will help integrate virtual reality technology and help students in rural areas interact with diverse colleagues all across the globe. The project will enhance educational opportunities for an estimated 172,000 residents in the rural towns near the two project sites.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Jared Golden (02)	University of Maine System	\$113,008	This Rural Development investment will be used to develop and connect the University of Maine's Aquaculture Teaching Lab to K-12 schools, a community college and technical training centers throughout the state of Maine. It will also establish a distance learning connection with the University of Maine's main campus. The lab is located at the Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research in Franklin, Maine. Funds will enable the center to purchase video telecommunications hardware, software, and related equipment, as well as outfitting the lab with state-of-the-art sensors and controls allowing over 200 students per year to remotely access and interact with the lab, expanding the reach of UMaine's aquaculture programming.
MN	Amy Klobuchar, Tina Smith	Tom Emmer (06), Michelle Fischbach (07)	CentraCare Health System	\$236,214	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist CentraCare and affiliate Carris Health expand access to new services at primary clinic sites and expand telehealth services in underserved communities. An estimated 22,000 rural residents will have enhanced access to medical services through the project.



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State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
MN	Amy Klobuchar, Tina Smith	Jim Hagedorn (01)	Riverland Community College	\$137,331	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase interactive videoconferencing technology to deliver and receive distance education. Riverland Community College will be able to deliver on-campus courses synchronously to students in rural locations across southern Minnesota. The new technology will have the ability to benefit approximately 9,300 residents.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	Lawrence County School District	\$600,742	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide a telemedicine and distance learning network for the Lawrence County School District in Southwest Mississippi. The area is rural and does not have enough tax base to provide funding for the equipment to meet the needs of the students, school staff and community. Educational services will include access to college courses, dual credit classes, teacher sharing among the various school sites, and professional development. Though the focus of this project is to benefit the students, adult education classes will provide community members with access to workforce training. Across the district, more than 10,000 students, school staff, parents, businesses and community members will benefit from this project.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	Scott County School District	\$466,043	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide a telemedicine and distance learning network for the Scott County School District (SCSD) in Mississippi. The district serves the communities of Lake, Morton, and Sebastopol, along with the surrounding rural areas of the county. The concentrated poverty in Scott County is evident in the SCSD's ranking 122 out of 142 of the lowest expenditure per pupil in the state. This network will provide 3,800 students basic learning and educational services, language services, access to math, science and advanced classes (dual enrollment), reduce need for busing, and improve the overall graduation rate in this high poverty Mississippi Delta area.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Trent Kelly (01)	West Point Consolidated School District	\$804,379	This Rural Development investment will be used to implement a technology solution to address the need for telemedicine, classroom overcrowding/lack of courses, and certified teacher shortage; particularly advanced-level secondary teachers. This project will enable the West Point Consolidated School District to purchase needed equipment so that all students have access to accelerated courses and Fine Art classes. The upgraded classrooms will feature state-of-the-art video conferencing equipment, interactive boards, teacher technology lecterns that supports mobile technology that will help teachers create an online learning environment. Students enrolled in distance learning will have an updated environment designed to offer access to their teachers during class and a supportive environment to ensure academic success. This project will impact over 19,000 students.
MT	Jon Tester, Steve Daines	Matthew Rosendale (At Large)	Pryor Public Schools	\$152,699	This Rural Development investment will be used to support a distance learning and telemedicine initiative, and also help set up the project as a hybrid of non-fixed and fixed end-user sites. The project will also help remove geographical barriers for students and teachers. This project will also aim to offer school-based health care to students in the future. All of the project sites are located on the Crow Nation Reservation, federally recognized as the Crow Tribe of Montana. An estimated 2,500 residents will be served by this project.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	Gregory Francis Murphy (03)	Carteret Community College	\$508,751	This Rural Development investment will be used by Carteret Community College to enhance the distance learning program to expand course offerings to include live, interactive synchronous continuing education courses, certifications, Peer Recovery Support Specialist training, substance abuse certificate programs, suicide prevention and opioid awareness training, and increased professional development opportunities to the geographically isolated communities of the North Carolina coast. Carteret Community college will also use equipment purchased through this grant to teach virtual classes in other subject areas such as Information Technology and Photography. Students who are unable to attend classes on the college's main campus due to incarceration, substance abuse treatment, works schedules or transportation issues, as well as those who cannot take online courses due to lack of internet connection or appropriate devices, will be able to further their training and education at a site more convenient. This project will directly impact the lives of every resident in Carteret County, which is approximately 70,000 people.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

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State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	David Rouzer (07)	Columbus County Schools	\$682,829	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect all member schools and key educational partners Southeastern Community College, Columbus Regional Healthcare System, The North Carolina Museum of Natural Science at Whiteville and others. Utilizing state of the art technology to benefit students from real time interaction from the partners. Students and staff will also benefit from the project via the Career Technical Education Program, school-based telemedicine services from contracted providers including opiate abuse prevention programming. This project will benefit 5,000 rural students in the county.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	Gregory Francis Murphy (03), David Rouzer (07)	Johnston County Public Schools	\$982,445	This Rural Development investment will be used to bolster students' ability to learn and achieve by addressing the Opioid crisis that has negatively impacted the educational environment. Specifically, the local educational agencies will use technology and telecommunications equipment to implement professional development that will help educators respond more effectively to students and families in crisis, as well as provide a means for students to attend virtual support, counseling, and/or therapy sessions. The project will benefit an estimated 14,000 students in the Johnston County Public Schools and Tyrell County Public Schools in North Carolina.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01), Gregory Francis Murphy (03), David Price (04), Virginia Foxx (05), David Rouzer (07), Richard Hudson (08), Dan Bishop (09), Madison Cawthorn (11), Ted Budd (13)	North Carolina Department of Public Safety	\$936,368	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring telehealth technology to 25 rural correctional institutions in 19 counties through the North Carolina Department of Public Safety. This project will increase access and equity in healthcare, opioid and substance use disorder treatment, and mental health care. The health of approximately 15,000 incarcerated persons will be positively impacted by this project.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01), Gregory Francis Murphy (03)	Pitt County Public Schools	\$166,672	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Pitt County School District, located in North Carolina, provide equitable education to all students in its district. Pitt County School District has a need to install and/or update distance learning in 11 schools (three hub, eight end user) to include stationary and mobile units. There is a specific need to establish hub-to-site, site-to-site, and site-to-student connections for delivery of core subjects. There is also a need to provide math, science, computer/technology classes to all schools in the district. There is also a need to establish dual enrollment, advanced placement, and advanced math and science courses for college-bound students. There is also a need to provide and expand career and technical courses through distance learning instruction. The Pitt is Innovating Education (PIE) project also includes power supply and necessary supporting equipment and software for all students in the district. The estimated population impacted by the proposed Pitt County PIE project is 9,000 residents.
NE	Deb Fischer, Ben Sasse	Adrian Smith (03)	Mid-Plains Community College	\$139,042	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase and install strategically placed distance learning equipment that will provide access to dual credit course offerings, prerequisite courses in health science occupations, required post-secondary courses leading to acquisition of certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees, continuing education classes, workforce trainings, and community education classes. Mid-Plains Community will service the project which will link eight schools in rural Nebraska and will benefit an estimated 77,000 rural residents.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

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State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
NM	Martin Heinrich, Ben Ray Lujan	Yvette Herrell (02)	Ben Archer Health Center, Inc.	\$90,372	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist the Health Education and Access to Learning (HEAL) Project. The HEAL Project will deliver distance learning to rural and exceptionally rural individuals in Northern Dona Ana, Sierra, Otero and Luna Counties, New Mexico. The HEAL Project will affect an estimate 97,000 people directly or indirectly in southern New Mexico.
NV	Catherine Cortez Masto, Jacky Rosen	Mark Amodei (02), Steven Horsford (04)	BHC Health Services of Nevada, Inc.	\$177,644	This Rural Development investment will be used to offer remote tele-psychology and telepsychiatry healthcare to patients located in Battle Mountain city in Lander County, Ely city in White Pine County, Hawthorne Census-Designated Place (CDP) in Mineral County, Lovelock City in Pershing County, Panaca CDP in Lincoln County and Yerington city in Lyon County. Through the Northern Nevada TRON Project, the consortium will reach approximately 50,000 individuals and serve 5,000 patients in the seven (7) rural health clinics in Lander, Lincoln, Mineral, Pershing and White Pine County, Nevada and surrounding counties.
NV	Catherine Cortez Masto, Jacky Rosen	Steven Horsford (04)	DVH Hospital Alliance LLC	\$66,355	This Rural Development investment will be to purchase telemedicine equipment to expand healthcare services in rural Nevada. Desert View Hospital, has partnered with two rural communities in Southwestern Nevada, to expand access to specialty care, such as emergency, surgery, inpatient nursing care, radiology, laboratory, cardiopulmonary, physical therapy, wound care, and psychiatry services. This project will offer higher levels of care via telemedicine to over 20,000 individuals in Nye County, Nevada.
NY	Kirsten Gillibrand, Charles Schumer	Elise Stefanik (21), Claudia Tenney (22), Tom Reed (23)	Southern Tier Health Care System, Inc.	\$88,648	This Rural Development investment will be used to complete a 17-site project and provide training to at least 6,500 first responders. The project will benefit an estimated 97,000 rural residents of these small rural communities and serve three federally recognized tribal communities in the southern-tier and update region of New York State.
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	Joyce Beatty (03), Troy Balderson (12)	Cardington-Lincoln Local School District	\$887,907	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable students to connect through distance learning with courses in Ohio State University at Marion and Marion Technical College as well as real life learning experience instructions from staff and doctors at Morrow County Hospital. Namely, this project will upgrade Asynchronous Distance Learning system to a Synchronous Distance Learning which will enable the school district to offer adult education classes in off-hours to residents, workforce development courses. This video conferencing system will benefit over 2,000 residents in Morrow County, Ohio.
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	Bill Johnson (06)	East Guernsey Local School District	\$891,208	This Rural Development investment will be used to combat Opioid and other Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Services via education and telehealth services. The primary purpose of the project is to help the community through education services that strengthen the knowledge around the effects of substance abuse, mental health counseling, and accessing programs around the world. This project will also provide science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education within schools and telehealth solutions, so nurses can connect to doctors and professionals at partner locations. The project is projected to serve over 2,000 rural residents, both students and other members of the community.
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	David Joyce (14)	Kent State University	\$428,091	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable Kent State Geauga and Kent State Ashtabula to install advanced video conferencing equipment at four hub sites and eleven end-user sites spread throughout Geauga, Ashtabula and Summit Counties in Ohio. Distance learning education will be offered in the form of dual credit courses for 7th-12th graders, credit-bearing courses and degree programs for adult learners, workforce training programs for area employees, community health outreach initiatives for county residents, and experiential learning opportunities for Kent State allied health students. The project will benefit an estimated 73,000 rural residents.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

October 22, 2021

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	Jim Jordan (04), Bob Gibbs (07), Anthony Gonzalez (16)	New London Local School District	\$945,996	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide behavioral health resources, including substance use services and supports for students and families in the district through a partnership with the Huron County Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Additionally, through technology, the School District will seek to further its Substance Use – Community Youth Resiliency Project Work. This programming is a partnership with county and local organizations providing a wide variety of proven, successful enrichment programs that are offered to teens via the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Ohio (BGCNEO). The total population that will utilize the technology will be approximately 1,200 students in the school district.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02), Tom Cole (04)	Mid-America Christian University	\$451,769	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telecommunications equipment to connect Mid-America Christian University in Cleveland County, Oklahoma with rural high schools in Grady and Adair Counties. College-Level Education and Access for Rural Schools (CLEARS) is an expansion of a successful Mid-America Christian University (MACU) Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) grant project that is currently being implemented called ATOMS (Access to Online Math and Science). The overall goal for CLEARS is to increase concurrent college enrollment and to provide content support for students and teachers at the CLEARS school districts. The project will deliver subject matter content for teachers and students in grades 11-12 in two remote, rural school districts via synchronous distance learning. Over the course of the three year project period, approximately 800 students and residents will be served.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02), Tom Cole (04), Stephanie Bice (05)	Oklahoma Public School Resource Center	\$355,184	This USDA investment will be used to replace Oklahoma Public School Resource Center's aging videoconferencing equipment and introduce new videoconferencing equipment at the hub and end user sites. The project will use technology to connect students and teachers across long distances. Distance learning services will be offered via a fixed-site project and will provide approximately 700 students and 50 teachers with fixed site interactive video systems and touch panels to create an environment for sharing and collaboration between project sites. Distance learning capabilities for 2,000 rural citizens will be impacted by the enhancement.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02), Frank Lucas (03)	Southwestern Oklahoma State University	\$983,566	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) College of Pharmacy Rural Health Center buy equipment to implement telemedicine in LeFlore County and western Oklahoma counties over the next three years. In the first year of the grant, Southwestern Oklahoma State University will collaborate with Eastern Oklahoma Memorial Center (EOMC) in Poteau (LeFlore County), in order to put telemedicine equipment in six rural public-school locations in LeFlore County. In the second and third years of the grant, Southwestern Oklahoma State University goal is to serve 18 rural schools in western Oklahoma counties. Overall the project will bring telemedicine access to an estimated 50,000 residents and over 12,000 students.
OR	Jeff Merkley, Ron Wyden	Peter DeFazio (04)	Mercy Foundation, Inc.	\$107,478	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase access to health care in 22 rural Douglas County schools via school-based telehealth clinics. The project will create a virtual care system for 6,400 students that will close the gaps in access to rural care to improve health outcomes for low-income vulnerable youth.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Glenn Thompson (15)	Cen-Clear Child Services, Inc.	\$157,025	This Rural Development investment will be used by Cen-Clear Child Services Inc. to expand a telehealth project to those with substance use disorders in rural central Pennsylvania. Interactive telehealth equipment will be utilized for the provision of drug and alcohol outpatient services, including Medication Assisted Treatment to over 2,200 patients and their families. Additionally, interactive video equipment will be installed in group rooms at five drug and alcohol clinics in the Pennsylvania counties of Clearfield, Jefferson, and Clarion. This project will increase rural access to services, reduce travel and reduce drug related emergencies.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	John Joyce (13), Glenn Thompson (15)	Penn Highlands DuBois	\$791,474	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand its current telemedicine program and capability across rural northwestern and central Pennsylvania through its network of hospitals, outpatient clinics, pharmacies, and medical practices. The project will focus on behavioral health with an emphasis on addressing opioid and substance abuse patients. The project will enhance telemedicine opportunities for 79,000 residents in the served communities.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

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State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
PR	NA	Jennifer González-Colón (PR), Susan Wild (PA 07)	Universal Health Services, Inc.	\$92,752	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Universal Health Services, Inc. (UHS) purchase telemedicine equipment to offer behavioral and mental health care, including substance and opioid use disorder treatment. UHS owns and operates First Health Care of Puerto Rico, Inc., who will serve vulnerable populations in the underserved municipalities of Aguada and Guayama through its Puerto Rico Outreach Network for Tele-Behavioral Health Optimization (PRONTO) Project. The PRONTO Project will reach approximately 10,000 individuals and serve 1,000 patients in Puerto Rico.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Joe Wilson (02), James Clyburn (06), Tom Rice (07)	Medical University of South Carolina	\$365,443	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment that will expand school-based telehealth service to the medically underserved students in rural South Carolina. The Medical University of South Carolina will serve as a hub site and will serve 29 different rural schools, providing telehealth services to approximately 11,000 students.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Jeff Duncan (03), Ralph Norman (05)	Piedmont Technical College	\$688,500	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment that will connect Piedmont Technical College (PTC), hub site, to the rural community campuses throughout six counties in rural South Carolina. This distance learning project will overhaul and revitalize the current system and update its technology offerings to include a state-of-the-art video conferencing system, accommodating at least 10 additional broadcast locations, better technology, greater flexibility, and increased student learning capacity. An estimated 1,900 students and faculty will be directly affected by this project.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Jeff Duncan (03), William Timmons (04), Ralph Norman (05), James Clyburn (06), Tom Rice (07)	South Carolina Department of Corrections	\$723,276	This Rural Development investment will be used to support Reducing Recidivism through distance learning, an initiative that uses distance learning to address criminogenic risk factors for offenders in 14 rural correctional institutions. Distance learning technology will be placed in the space dedicated to Programs, Reentry, and Educational services. These criminogenic programs include educational programs, vocational programs, post-secondary enrollment, employability programs (and interviews), cognitive-based programs that target antisocial thinking and behaviors, life skills programs, and reentry services. Ultimate outcomes are reduced recidivism and reduced cost of incarceration for taxpayers. Each year, more than 11,000 offenders will have increased access to rehabilitative and educational services as a result of the project.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Joe Wilson (02), Jeff Duncan (03), William Timmons (04), Ralph Norman (05), James Clyburn (06), Tom Rice (07)	South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice	\$137,679	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide expanded services to the agency's rural end-user sites. South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) recognizes the need to provide justice involved youth with the consistent, high quality, timely, rehabilitative treatment services. Closing the digital divide within the agency's Rehabilitative Services Division will have a positive and direct impact on the quality of treatment services accessible to youth in rural facilities and/or communities. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated service gaps in rural areas increasing the urgency of need to expand telemedicine options in rural counties. The ability to offer digital conferencing across the state will enhance telemedicine services systemwide and increase access to care (primary health and behavioral health) for youth in DJJ secure facilities and those served in the community in alternative placements county offices. This project will serve an estimated 12,000 Department of Juvenile Justice youths in South Carolina.
TN	Marsha Blackburn, Bill Hagerty	Mark Green (07)	Benton County Board of Education	\$385,258	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist the Benton County School District to purchase interactive video conferencing equipment that will provide distance learning services for high school, middle school, and elementary school students in 9 rural schools. It will enable access to quality tele-education, dual enrollment college level access to courses, technology education services as it reduces the costs for transportation and other educational barriers for students throughout the district. Approximately 2,100 students will gain access to distance learning through this project.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

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State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
TN	Marsha Blackburn, Bill Hagerty	Diana Harshbarger (01), Tim Burchett (02), Chuck Fleischmann (03), John Rose (06)	University Health System, Inc.	\$534,334	This Rural Development investment will be used by University Health System, Inc. to enhance remote delivery of primary and specialty care, with special emphasis on mental health and substance abuse services by connecting 10 end-user sites, across seven rural counties of Eastern Tennessee, with the University of Tennessee Medical Center network based out of Knoxville. Funding will be used to purchase interactive telecommunication equipment and software designed to better service the surrounding rural residents of the Eastern Tennessee region. It is expected that over 14,000 rural residents will benefit from the increased access made available through this telehealth project.
TN	Marsha Blackburn, Bill Hagerty	Mark Green (07), David Kustoff (08), Steve Cohen (09)	University of Tennessee at Martin	\$278,831	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment that will connect the University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM) and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHC) to multiple sites throughout West Tennessee. This distance learning grant will cover a diverse array of health-related topics and experiences, including dual-enrollment programming, summer programs, professional and teacher development, telemedicine, and substance abuse education and treatment. The project will offer increased educational opportunities to the 26,000 residents of the communities that house the end-user sites.
TN	Marsha Blackburn, Bill Hagerty	David Kustoff (08)	Weakley County Schools	\$358,905	This Rural Development investment will be used by the Weakley County School District to provide distance learning in Weakley County, Tennessee. The project will provide over 2,700 students with access to quality tele-education, dual enrollment college level access to courses, technology education services, and will reduce the costs for transportation and other educational barriers for students throughout the district.
TN, FL, ID, MD, MO, WY	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott (FL), Mike Crapo, James Risch (ID), Benjamin Cardin, Chris Van Hollen (MD), Roy Blunt, Josh Hawley (MO), Marsha Blackburn, Bill Hagerty (TN), John Barrasso, Cynthia Lummis (WY)	C. Scott Franklin (FL-15), Russ Fulcher (ID- 01), Mike Simpson (ID-02), Andy Harris (MD-01), John P. Sarbanes (MD-03), Cori Bush (MO-01), Vicky Hartzler (MO-04), Sam Graves (MO-06), Jason T. Smith (MO-08), Mark Green (TN-07), Liz Cheney (WY-At Large)	Corizon Health, Inc.	\$967,356	This Rural Development investment will be used to facilitate the delivery of health services including substance abuse treatment and mental health treatment to prison inmate populations in Florida, Idaho, Maryland, Missouri, and Wyoming. An estimated 90,000 incarcerated individuals will be provided with point-of-care behavioral health services through video conferencing by psychiatric professionals and medical professionals at end-user sites.
TN, VA	Bill Hagerty, Marsha Blackburn (TN), Mark Warner, Tim Kaine (VA)	Diana Harshbarger (TN-01), Morgan Griffith (VA-09)	Mountain States Health Alliance	\$298,100	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand access to Behavioral Health, Urgent Care, and Specialty Care in Rural Appalachia through Mountain States Health Alliance. All telemedicine visits will be conducted on a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act compliant platform using VisuWell which is the approved telemedicine platform for the entire health system. The sites comprise 33 rural Primary Care Offices and Urgent Care locations throughout the Mountain States service area in Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia in southern and central Appalachia. An estimated 33,000 patients will benefit from the telemedical care available due to this project.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

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State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
TX	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz	Lizzie Fletcher (07), Kevin Brady (08), Michael T. McCaul (10), Randy Weber (14), Michael Cloud (27)	Behavioral Health Management, LLC	\$346,814	This Rural Development investment will be used by Behavioral Health Management, LLC to purchase and install telemedicine equipment to increase access to behavioral/mental health and substance/opioid use disorder services to patients located throughout rural Texas and improve the quality of life and the health of patients. Behavioral Hospital of Bellaire is the lead for a consortium of six rural Southeast Texas Health Clinics. The project will improve healthcare outcomes for consortium partners, patients, healthcare professionals, and communities. The project will reach approximately 60,000 individuals and serve 6,000 patients.
TX	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz	Ronny Jackson (13)	Clarendon College	\$670,423	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase state-of-the-art video communication systems located on the main campus of Clarendon College in Clarendon, Texas, as well as three branch locations in Childress, Pampa, and Shamrock. The college will use these systems to allow instructors on one campus to teach classes at other rural sites that lack the faculty for those subjects. Two specific areas where the distance learning technology will have an impact is in expanding the availability of nursing courses to address the healthcare worker shortage in rural Texas and in the delivery of ranch and feedlot operations courses to address workforce needs. The affected population is estimated at 29,000 residents.
TX	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz	Pat Fallon (04), Michael T. McCaul (10), August Pfluger (11), Ronny Jackson (13), Pete Sessions (17), Tony Gonzales (23), Roger Williams (25), Michael Cloud (27)	Eastland Memorial Hospital District	\$896,714	This Rural Development investment will be used by Eastland Memorial Hospital District to equip twenty-three sites with interactive telehealth equipment in 17 communities located in 14 Texas counties. The sites included in this project will be receiving live, interactive video conferencing technology for the purposes of connecting locations together and bringing health care and continuing medical education (CME) and tele-mental health resources to rural locations where these services are not locally available. This will provide 143,743 rural Texas residents with access to telehealth primary and specialty service as well as enable continuing medical education to the staff at participating project sites.
TX	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz	August Pfluger (11), Jodey Arrington (19)	Education Service Center Region XIV	\$322,568	This Rural Development investment will be used by ESC 14 to build a telemedicine and distance learning network to provide reliable mental health support in a largely rural area of Texas. This project will serve 18 independent school districts, within the Education Service Center Region XIV of rural west Texas. This project will virtually connect staff, students and families of students to mental health professionals in Abilene. It will also provide for virtual supervision of school nurses and help them identify signs of substance abuse. Though the predominant focus of this grant will be on telemedicine, students and staff will also benefit from virtual dual credit courses and state required training. More than 30,000 are likely to benefit from this investment.
TX, OK	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz (TX), James Inhofe, James Lankford (OK)	Markwayne Mullin (OK-02), Pat Fallon (TX-04)	UHS of Texoma, Inc.	\$199,015	This Rural Development investment will be used to leverage the capabilities of telehealth to address the persistent lack of mental health services in the region. This Psychiatric Access through Rural and Tribal Networks Engaging Remotely (PARTNER) Project will deliver real-time psychiatric care, addiction medicine and behavioral therapy for high-need patients at eight sites spanning seven rural counties in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nation jurisdictional areas, where an ongoing shortage of critical services continues to limit efforts to address the prevalence of serious mental health conditions in local communities. These rural communities include city of Atoka, the city of Broken Bow, the city of Coalgate, the city of Madill, the city of Stigler, the town of Talihina, and the city of Tishomingo, Oklahoma. The project expects to serve about 8,000 patients in its first three years - 4,900 at five facilities open to the general public and 3,100 at three Choctaw facilities exclusively for tribal members.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

October 22, 2021

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
UT	Mike Lee, Mitt Romney	Chris Stewart (02), John Curtis (03)	Central Utah Clinic, P.C.	\$90,137	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment and software, to provide real-time interactive video consultations, examinations, and diagnosis services to an estimated 11,300 residents in central Utah. By connecting specialists and patients virtually and removing access barriers and scheduling delays, Central Utah Clinic, P.C. dba Revere Health expects to see measurable improvement in healthcare outcomes for patients in these rural communities.
VA	Tim Kaine, Mark Warner	Morgan Griffith (09)	Bristol Virginia Public Schools	\$993,840	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist an informal consortium between Radford City Schools, Bristol Virginia Public Schools, and Wise County Schools to purchase interactive video conferencing equipment to deliver distance learning and telehealth services to 21 schools in eight rural Virginia communities. This project will serve an estimated 9,600 students and 700 teachers with fixed site interactive video systems and touch panels to create an environment for sharing and collaboration between project sites.
VA	Tim Kaine, Mark Warner	Bob Good (05), Morgan Griffith (09)	The Rector & Visitors of the University of Virginia	\$267,036	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment to serve a Tribal Nation, a Critical Access Hospital, a new Opioid Use Disorder and Substance Use Disorder clinic, and two federally qualified health centers serving the Appalachian region of Virginia. It will address urgent needs including the COVID-19 pandemic, the public health emergency of Opioid addiction in the coal-mining region, severe respiratory disease, and Type 2 diabetes. UVA Health will serve as the Hub site, providing access to clinical specialists across 60 clinical fields through synchronous video-conferencing systems deployed at the end-user sites. It is estimated that over 3,000 patients will receive treatment from this project.
WA	Maria Cantwell, Patty Murray	Dan Newhouse (04)	Centro De Servicios Comunitarios	\$524,514	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase equipment that will allow Centro De Servicios Comunitarios (CSC). CSC Yakima (the CSC Tech Hub) to provide support for both Telemedicine and Remote Learning services on the Yakima Reservation. Key among the telemedicine services will be referral to two Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinics (YVFW) treatment centers specializing in behavioral health including Substance Abuse and alcoholism with extended services provided for the families of those afflicted. Distance Learning opportunities will be provided across multiple communities from two end user locations to support enhanced English Language skills, computer literacy, remedial academic tutoring and educational enrichment courses of study in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. This project will reach approximately 9,700 community residents.
WA	Maria Cantwell, Patty Murray	Dan Newhouse (04), Cathy Rodgers McMorris (05)	Davenport School District	\$523,919	This Rural Development investment will be used to serve students and members of the Davenport, Hatton, Lind and Ritzville communities. Proposed hub/end-user sites for this project will be the Davenport High School, Davenport Elementary/Junior High, Lind Elementary School, Ritzville Grade School, Lind-Ritzville Middle School, and Lind-Ritzville High School. This project will bring telecommunications equipment into these schools and also allow the districts to expand College In the Classroom programs, share teacher resources, expand professional development, expand remote learning capabilities, and begin offering students and community members access to telemedicine opportunities. This project will impact an estimated 1,500 rural community members.
WA, MT	Steve Daines Jon Tester (MT), Maria Cantwell, Patty Murray (WA)	Matthew Rosendale (MT-At Large), Dan Newhouse (WA-04), Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-05), Derek Kilmer (WA-06), Pramila Jayapal (WA-07)	University of Washington	\$941,760	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect 12 rural dental clinics in the states of Washington and Montana through state-of-the-art tele-dentistry equipment to the University of Washington School of Dentistry. It will provide much greater access to instructors while caring for patients and expands the ability for teaching dentistry students to successfully learn oral health care while training at rural or underserved locations. The direct service area includes 57,000 residents, but the project is expected to have an impact on surrounding areas as well, with a total affected population of 890,000.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

October 22, 2021

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
WI	Tammy Baldwin, Ron Johnson	Glenn Grothman (06)	Waushara County	\$213,263	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telemedicine through the Waushara County Emergency Medical Services Department. The funding will connect seven fixed rural station locations (the main Waushara County location, four station locations and two posting locations) and outfit seven ambulance and truck vehicles with mobile hotspots and mobile telehealth video conferencing systems for emergency medical services (EMS) telemedicine services while in the field. The vehicles will be outfitted with telemedicine systems and mobile hot spot boosters for connectivity so that ambulances in the field can, in real time, respond to calls and incidents and then connect live with healthcare providers to improve efficiency and support services for patients. At each of these fixed sites, video conferencing technology solutions will be installed to enable real-time, live, interactive training and education initiatives via distance learning. The project will benefit approximately 25,000 rural residents.
WV	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin	Alex Mooney (02)	Clay County School District	\$464,614	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide distance learning technology and telemedicine stations for each of Clay County's six schools. Distance learning technology will be utilized to provide virtual learning experiences for students across all grade levels, as well as expand opportunities for students to participate in advanced and college level courses not available at their home schools. Telemedicine stations will permit students and their families to confer with medical and mental health professionals at each school-based wellness center. This project will benefit approximately 2,000 residents in Clay County, West Virginia.
WV	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin	Alex Mooney (02), Carol Miller (03)	Pocahontas County Board of Education	\$434,779	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning supplies that will connect students K-7 grade and teachers, K-12 grade with Microsoft Surface Go 2 and Microsoft Surface Pro 7 devices. Pocahontas County Board of Education will facilitate remote and blended learning, expand capacity of educators with technology to support their ability to teach across campuses and inter-classroom co-teaching efforts, provide remote options for professional development and training for educators, and expand student focused mental health telemedicine capabilities in partnership with Youth Health Services, Inc. The project will benefit approximately 3,000 residents in rural West Virginia.
WV	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin	Alex Mooney (02)	Shepherd University	\$96,891	This Rural Development investment will be used to fund the "Bridges to Degrees" project that creates pathways to postsecondary education for rural high school students by providing high-quality distance learning through live-streamed, synchronous dual enrollment courses offered at Shepherd University, located in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. Funding will outfit Jefferson High School in Shenandoah Junction, West Virginia and Martinsburg High School in Martinsburg, West Virginia with the technology needed to engage in these distance learning courses and equips the university campus with the hardware necessary to deliver these interactive courses. The university proposes to provide distance learning through synchronous live-streamed dual enrollment courses to over 400 eligible high school students per calendar year.
WV	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin	David McKinley (01), Alex Mooney (02), Carol Miller (03)	West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission	\$744,328	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment that will develop a state-wide network to provide an interactive telecommunications link between hub and end users. The project will increase the availability of opioid and substance abuse prevention programs, establish the base of a statewide synchronous interactive distance learning network, expand the availability of college courses to rural communities, improve retention and graduation rates of college students, expand educational opportunities for high schools, improve academic achievement and college readiness for high schools, and increase community resources. The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission will serve as the hub of the project and will serve approximately 5,600 residents in rural West Virginia.
			TOTAL	\$49,676,058	