



## **DLT Awards - Idaho**

### ***2006 Grant Awards***

#### **Franklin County Medical Center**

Preston, Idaho

\$143,860

Areas Served: Franklin

Contact: Ms. Trish Checketts

Telephone: 208-852-4132

Fax: 208-852-3812

Congressional District: ID-02

Rural Development funds will be used to purchase equipment that provides computerized radiography to the patients served at this rural hospital in Preston, Idaho. The project will include a Picture Archive and Communication System (PACS). Instead of using a courier, X-rays taken at the rural hospital will be electronically transmitted to Logan Regional Hospital in Utah, where radiologists will determine results and communicate these to the rural hospital by phone or e-mail. Doctors providing emergency as well as non-emergency medical services will be able to get radiology readings in minutes instead of several hours. As a result, rural patients will receive faster and more accurate diagnostic services.

### ***2005 Grant Awards:***

#### **St. Mary's Hospital, Inc.**

Cottonwood, ID

\$289,369

Areas Served: Idaho, Lewis, Clearwater Counties

Contact: Pamela G. McBride

Telephone: 208-289-5509

Fax: 208-289-2437

Congressional District: ID-01

Two frontier area critical access hospitals and 11 associated primary care and physical therapy clinics will establish a teleradiology network. The project will serve over 30,000 residents in this rural area of Idaho.

### ***2004 Grant Awards:***

#### **St. Mary's Hospital**

Cottonwood, Idaho

\$500,000



Areas served: Idaho, Clearwater, Lewis Counties  
Contact: Pamela G. McBride, 208-289-5509  
Congressional District(s): ID-01

St. Mary's Hospital will use RUS funds to implement a regional electronic medical records and informatics system. Partners in the project include Clearwater Valley Hospital, Kamiah Medical Clinic, seven satellite medical clinics, and 3 rural physical therapy clinics. The project will improve primary patient care, safety and access to care, and provide practitioners with immediate patient information, regardless of location. The system will serve over 28,000 residents in an area that covers over 12,000 square miles in central Idaho.



## **2003 Grant Awards:**

### **Idaho State University; Pocatello, ID**

\$403,500

Area(s) Served: Counties of Butte, Caribou, Franklin, Lemhi, Oneida, Power, and Teton  
Contact: Randy Gaines (208) 282-3212; Fax: (208) 282-3300

Congressional District(s): 2nd

Idaho State University presently operates a distance education system within the state and, with this RUS grant, will expand the existing equipment at three locations and add 4 communities in Eastern Idaho to the network. Rural communities include Preston, Driggs, Malad, American Falls, Arco, Soda Springs, and Salmon. The completed system will provide distance learning classrooms to enable high school students to receive high school and college-level courses, medical facilities to receive additional training resources, and the implementation of telemental health services to the communities.

### **Lemhi County Economic Development Corporation; Salmon, ID**

\$82,866

Area(s) Served: Counties of Custer and Lemhi

Contact: Gynii A. Gilliam (208) 756-3214; Fax: (208) 756-4840

Congressional District(s): 2nd

Lemhi County Economic Development Corporation will utilize RUS grant funds to provide a distance learning program via video teleconferencing that will meet the educational needs of the area by enabling schools to share resources which will better serve the educational and professional needs of the area. Approximately 12,000 students, teachers, parents, nurses, coaches faculty, and community members will benefit from the project.

## **2002 Award:**

### **North Idaho Rural Health Consortium; Coeur d'Alene, Idaho**

\$500,000 Grant

Area(s) Served: Bonners Ferry in Boundary County; Kellogg in Shoshone County; St. Maries in Benewah County; and, Sandpoint in Bonner County

Contact: Craig A. Johnson (208) 267-3141; Fax: (208) 267-2202

Congressional Districts: Applicant and Project: 1st

North Idaho Rural Health Consortium will use RUS grant funds to develop a teleradiology/telemedicine network that will connect three Critical Access Hospitals (CAH), that currently do not have consistent radiology coverage, to a larger rural facility with radiologists. A radiologist will travel to each of the smaller facilities to do on-site procedures as a "circuit rider. Utilizing the advanced telecommunications and digital



technology proposed in this project, diagnostic images could be transmitted to the radiologists anywhere on the network. This will provide expedient interpretation required to diagnose a rural patient and potentially treat them in the rural facility, no matter where the radiologist may be working on a particular day. In addition, a digital archive of images will be created and stored in a central data repository at a hospital. This archive will be available for diagnostic comparisons and trending from anywhere on the network. If, for example, a patient has had an X-ray or CT-Scan at any one of the participating Critical Access Hospitals, the earlier images can be compared to assist in diagnosis and care. This increases the number of patients that can be treated in the rural facility and also improve the fiscal health of these hospitals. The benefit to the rural residents of these communities is having high-quality healthcare close to home and near the support of friends and family. This project will enhance an existing distance learning and telemedicine network. The network is being upgraded from a fractional dedicated ISDN network to a full Internet Protocol (IP) H.323 standard compatible system. Full T-1 broadband dedicated lines will connect the hospitals. The existing high-speed broadband infrastructure will be enhanced with high security routers and firewall software to ensure requirements are met for patient identifiable information transmitted over the system. Based on current demand, it is estimated that the project could benefit 1,695 patients per month (20,340 annually).

### ***2000 Award:***

#### **PUBLIC HOSPITAL COOPERATIVE OF SOUTHEAST IDAHO, Pocatello, Idaho**

\$322,400 Grant

Area(s) served: Counties of Power, Butte, Bingham, Teton, Oneida, Bear Lake ,  
Bannock, Franklin, Madison, Minidoka, Lemhi, and Caribou

Contact: Brenda Rees, (801) 281-4907; FAX: (801) 281-0863

Congressional District: 2nd

The Public Hospital Cooperative of Southeast Idaho (PHCSI) is an organization of twelve non-profit county and district hospitals all located in southeastern Idaho. The overall goal of PHCSI is to improve the healthcare of each community through increased access to health care services and a reduction in cost of these services. Eleven of the communities involved are considered rural or frontier in nature. This grant will help fund a teleconferencing system between and among the hospitals in order to share resources and reduce costs. In the future PHCSI intends to expand the system to encompass teleradiology.



### ***1999 Award:***

#### **Steele Memorial Hospital; Salmon, Idaho**

\$72,962 Grant

Counties Served: Lemhi, Custer, and Missoula, Montana

Contact: Mr. Roger Rife, (208) 756-4291; Fax (208) 756-4169

Steele Memorial Hospital (Steele) is a 35-bed general medicine and surgical facility located in Salmon, Idaho, an exceptionally rural community. The medical staff is currently comprised of three family practice physicians and four assistants. The closest tertiary and trauma care center is 160 miles to the north in Missoula, Montana. Local access to advanced emergency/trauma care and specialty care is extremely limited. Travel for the growing number of elderly residents in both rugged counties is often dangerous or impossible during winter. The solution is to establish a telemedicine link with wide area networks of the regional tertiary care facilities such as St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula. The grant will provide the funds necessary for interactive video and teleradiology equipment. The benefits afforded by such a link with St. Patrick include reduced travel time and enhanced educational opportunities for area healthcare providers.

### ***1996 Grant Award:***

#### **Boise State University**

\$310,000

Boise, Idaho

Contact Person: Dr. Sharon Cook

Phone Number: 208-385-3015

FAX: 208-385-4081

Boise State University has proposed a project that will focus on the acquisition, development, and redesign of instructional programming to be used in providing distance learning to one of the most rural areas of Idaho. An RUS grant has been awarded to BSU to purchase and install state-of-the-art teleconferencing equipment for delivery of job specific vocational and applied technology education programs. The proposed project will link ten remote school districts located in seven counties using a real-time interactive instructional telecommunications system. Specifically, the project will enable BSU to acquire, develop, and redesign instructional programs and courses in providing distance learning for: Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, Academic core courses, Allied Health program/courses, Tech Prep core courses, Teacher Education, In-service/Certification courses, Farm Business Management Program and Electrical Apprenticeship Program.



***1995 Grant Award:***

**North Idaho Rural Health Consortium**

Coeur d' Alene

Using interactive video technology, NIRHC will link five rural health care centers and a community college. It will enable the linked sites to transmit digitized x-rays and other patient information, including laboratory tests, provide access to the Internet and offer nursing and medical classes.

***1993 Grant Award:***

**College of South Idaho - Twin Falls**

A dual education and medical system, linking schools in eight counties radius for educational needs and permitting the exchange of medical information to improve health care within the eight county service area.