



DLT Awards - Vermont

2006 Grant Awards

Northern Counties Health Care, Inc.

St. Johnsbury, VT

\$73,000

Areas Served: Caledonia, Essex, Orleans

Contact: Mrs. Rita H. Laferriere

Telephone: 802-748-8116

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Congressional District: VT – At large

Rural Development funds will be used to develop an in-home telemedicine program that will improve client care, improve client outcomes and contribute to enhanced quality and efficiency for the staff and clients. The project will utilize portable telehealth home monitoring equipment, wireless medical device videophones, electronic stethoscopes, portable ECG machines and telephone enhancements for documentation of critical assessments. Care Companion Nurse Stations will be utilized to gather and interpret data while also permitting live video interactions with clients.

2004 Grant Awards:

Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice

Rutland, Vermont

\$238,250

Area(s) served: Rutland County

Contact: Bernadette C. Robin, 802-770-1541; Fax: 802-775-2304

Congressional District(s): VT-At Large

Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice (RAVNAH) provides quality, comprehensive care to the residents of Rutland County by digitizing clinical records and providing point-of-care laptop computers to field clinicians, integrating patient care management, personnel scheduling, financial management, and physicians' access. With the establishment of a single database, patient information will be available for all disciplines. Over 70,000 residents in Rutland County will benefit from this technology.

2003 Grant Awards:

Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice, Inc.

Barre, VT

\$314,000

Area(s) Served: Counties of Orange and Washington



Contact: Eileen Blake (802) 223-1878; Fax: (802) 223-2861
Congressional District(s): At Large

Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice, Inc. will use RUS grant funds to provide 25 telemedicine home monitoring units and 55 laptops and software for point of care patient records. The software will integrate all agency departments resulting in reduced paperwork and filing, and will provide caregiver up-to-date information at the patients home. The service will benefit 8,420 patients in the 23 town service area.

Dorset Nursing Association, Inc.

Dorset, VT
\$254,650

Area(s) Served: Cities of Dorset, Rupert, Danby, and Pawlet
Contact: Phyllis Tarbell (802) 867-5922; Fax: (802) 867-0115
Congressional District(s): At Large

Dorset Nursing Association will utilize RUS grant funding to install home telemonitors and point of care/electronic patient charts to respond more quickly to patient needs, ensure better flow of patient information to physicians, and prevent unnecessary hospitalizations. Using home telemonitors patients will be able to monitor their own vital signs. Efficient use of an electronic charting system will improve patient medical and social outcomes for all 150 patients and their families which will reduce hospitalizations through closer daily monitoring of patient indicators. The system will also increase access for primary physicians who will also be able to access current patient information.

2002 Award:

Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont and New Hampshire, Inc.

White River Junction, Vermont
\$400,000 Grant

Area(s) Served: Counties of Windsor, Windham, Orange, Addison, Rutland, Bennington in Vermont; Counties of Sullivan, Grafton, Cheshire in New Hampshire
Contact: Patricia Whitney, (802) 295-2604; Fax: (802) 295-6896
Congressional District(s): VT At-Large & NH 2nd

The Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont and New Hampshire, Inc. will use RUS grant funds for a telemedicine project that will improve the quality of life for rural Vermont and New Hampshire patients. The project will provide point-of-care laptop or pen-based computers for all VNA and Hospice clinicians in the field and would computerize the clinical record, linking charting, scheduling, billing, payroll and reimbursement through a new software system. This "connectivity" will ensure the means for a daily record of vital signs rather than a once or twice a week assessment of a patient. This activity coupled with a telephone interview and personal visit will provide a more comprehensive picture of the patient's day-to-day condition, alerting the provider of changes that could be



missed by a once or twice weekly assessment. The project benefits include: (1) an increase of individual patient coverage; (2) nurses being enabled to monitor more patients, more effectively; (2) reduction in the amount of time currently spent on paperwork; (3) reduction in the time clinicians spend traveling; and, (4) an increase the accuracy of the reimbursement process. The number of rural residents that will benefit is approximately 165,000 people. There ninety-five (95) end-user locations throughout the six (6) Vermont Counties and three (3) New Hampshire Counties.

2000 Award:

Vermont Center For the Deaf & Hard of Hearing, Inc.

Brattleboro, Vermont

\$98,900 Grant

Area(s) served: Windham, Williston, Chittenden and Orleans Counties

Contact: Dr. Janet Dickinson, (802) 258-9521; FAX: (802) 258-9539

1st Congressional District

The goal of this program is to improve the quality of educational services provided to deaf and hard of hearing students in Vermont with the use of interactive television (ITV). The Vermont Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. (Vermont Center), located in Brattleboro, Vermont, is the applicant agency and will develop and implement the program. The Vermont Center operates the Austine School for the Deaf which provides day and residential education programs for 56 deaf and hard of hearing students ages 3 to 22. Austine will serve as the hub of the program. The partnering programs (end user sites) include the Regional Day Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students at the Williston Central School and the Regional Day Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students at North Country Union High School. The services provided to students will include American Sign Language (ASL) instruction twice a week to each end user site, joint ITV lessons and activities with students at the other participating sites, and career exploration via ITV taught by the Career Center at Austine. Additionally, professional development for 130 staff members at the three sites will include participation in biweekly training sessions provided at Austine, workshops for staff at all sites provided by the School for International Training and Northwestern Connecticut Community Technical College, and mentoring meetings for the sign language interpreters at all sites.

1994 Grant Award:

Grand Isle Supervisory Union

Grand Isle County

This project is a partnership between a rural school district and the local cable company both located on an island in Lake Champlain, Northwestern Vermont. The two-way interactive analog system will be a hybrid of optic fiber-based transport and coaxial cable distribution. Teachers, courses, and computer-based educational materials will be shared



by five K-12 schools. Interest from other local organizations indicate that a wider use of the system will be developed. The system is designed to interconnect with other statewide educational video-based system and commercial CATV-based educational programming.