



## **DLT Awards - Colorado**

### ***2007 Grant Awards***

#### **Southeastern Colorado Board of Cooperative Educational Services**

Colorado

\$355,924

Areas Served: Las Animas, Baca, Bent, Kiowa, Prowers

Contact: Ms. Loraine Saffer

Telephone: 719-336-9046 x20

Fax: 719-336-9679

Congressional District: 03 Salazar, CO – 04 Musgrave

This video distance learning network will link 12 school districts in rural parts of southeastern Colorado with several local colleges and other providers. It will provide college preparatory, advanced placement and vocational courses for nearly 1000 students.

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

#### **Northeast Colorado Board of Cooperative Educational Services (NE BOCES)**

Haxtun, Colorado

\$240,997

Areas Served: Logan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, Yuma

Contact: Ms. Arlene Salyards

Telephone: 970-774-6152

Fax: 970-774-6157

Congressional District: CO-04

Rural Development funds will be used to establish a wide area network (WAN) linking eleven member school districts in exceptionally rural communities of Colorado for distance learning. The network will extend the existing WAN connectivity of the Haxtun and Holyoke districts to nine additional districts in the Northeast Colorado BOCES. The new network would provide video distance learning to more than 900 high school students who are currently without access to such services.

#### **Unlimited Learning Center**

Cortez, Colorado

\$430,271

Areas Served: Colorado: Montezuma County; Arizona: Apache County

Contact: Ms. Ann E. Miller

Telephone: 970-565-1602

Fax: 970-565-1605

Congressional District: CO-03; AZ-01



Rural Development funds will be used to bring improvement to the economic outlook for rural communities through vocational education and training which will be delivered by interactive and streaming distance learning equipment along with computer end-points that allow students to view streamed and web-based content.



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

### **Mesa State College**

Grand Junction, CO

\$338,892

Areas Served: Eagle, Garfield, Mesa, Moffat, Montrose, Rio Blanco, Routt Counties

Contact: Cindy Lueb

Telephone: 970-248-1424

Fax: 970-248-1076

Congressional District: CO-02, CO-03

The current distance learning system will be replaced with a new IP-based videoconferencing system connecting the hub site in Grand Junction with 7 end-user sites. The project will deliver teacher education, and business programs to students and residents in the 14 county area. Two hospitals will also link to the system for a 2-year nursing program and dental hygiene program. Over 9,000 citizens in a 28,535 square mile area of rural western Colorado will be served through this distance education system.

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

### **East Central BOCES**

Limon, Colorado

\$452,154

Area(s) served: Lincoln, Washington, Kit Carson, Adams, Arapahoe, Elbert, Cheyenne, Yuma Counties

Contact: Dr. David Van Sant, 719-775-2342; Fax: 719-775-9714

Congressional District(s): Applicant -- CO-04; Project -- CO-03 and CO-04

The East Central BOCES project will upgrade a distance learning system benefiting eight counties, eighteen school districts, and 6,110 students. RUS funds will be used for network improvements that will provide a threefold increase in instructional content, technical performance and critical long-term costs. The equipment will provide two interfaces - one serving existing video equipment and the second for data. Partnering organizations include The School of Education at Colorado State University, Morgan County Community College, and the Colorado Department of Transportation.



## **2003 Grant Awards:**

### **Haxtun/Holyoke Distance Learning Consortium; Holyoke, CO**

\$145,914

Area(s) Served: Cities of Haxtun and Holyoke

Contact: Joan Price (970) 854-3634; Fax: (970) 854-4049

Congressional District(s): 4th

Haxtun/Holyoke Distance Learning Consortium will utilize RUS grant funding for a multi-school distance learning project to share teachers and offer advanced courses to 960 students in two extremely rural areas of Colorado. The Consortium will offer a combination of advance and core curriculum including math, foreign languages, English for the Hispanic population, and advance placement. Benefits to the local community will include a competitive education that will prepare students for careers and enable the communities to better compete and attract new residents.

## **2002 Grant Awards**

### **Grand River Hospital District; Rifle, Colorado**

\$500,000 Grant

Area(s) Served: Rifle, Parachute and New Castle in Garfield County

Contact: Cindy George (970) 285-7046; Fax: (970) 285-6064

Congressional District(s): Applicant and Project: 3rd The Grand River Hospital District (District) will use RUS grant funds to assist in the purchase of teleradiology equipment, including a Picture Archive and Communications System (PACS) unit and Radiology Information System (RIS). Both systems are to be used in the new hospital Radiology Department. This equipment will assist the District to assuage problems associated with the primary issue of timely readings of radiology files; as well as migration of patients to urban medical facilities; difficulty in attracting physicians to the rural District; expense of film, developing & storage; and incomplete and location of patient information; thus leading to enhanced opportunities to rural residents to receive better quality of healthcare in their own locale and increased quality of life. Currently, it can take up to 4 days for a patient to receive the results of a radiological report. The installation of the Teleradiology/PACAS/RIS System will alleviate this time delay. The project will allow referring physicians with Internet access to "log on" from their remote location and view and review primary diagnosis results. As a benefit of the immediate review of radiographs, rural patients will receive immediate, appropriate, cost-effective health care at local hospitals. The addition of the RIS project will provide seamless integration with all District (PACS, HIS.RIS and teleradiology) databases, by providing transcription narrative and digitized radiographs to be input directly into patient records. The new system will allow for specialized review of radiographs and the ability to view test results and provide primary diagnoses within hours of the procedure. Approximately 11,000 rural residents could benefit from this project.



## **2001 Grant Awards:**

### **High Plains Rural Health Network; Brush, Colorado**

\$292,900 Grant

Area(s) Served: Yuma, Phillips, Sedgwick and Morgan Counties in Colorado and Keith County in Nebraska

Contact: Ms. Kay Thiel; (970) 842-2227; FAX: (970) 842-2228

Congressional Districts: Colorado - 4th and Nebraska - 3rd

The High Plains Rural Health Network intends to use RUS grant funds for a telemedicine project providing a direct link between the rural hospitals= emergency room staff and board certified emergency room specialists at the two urban facilities that currently support them. The overall goal of this project is to improve the coordination and delivery of emergency care in seven rural communities located in the High Plains of Colorado and Nebraska. This goal will be achieved by providing emergency room staff in seven rural hospitals with direct access to emergency room specialists at Level II Trauma facilities through telemedicine. The seven participating rural hospitals are: East Morgan County Hospital in Brush, Colorado; Haxtun Hospital District in Haxtun, Colorado; Melissa Memorial Hospital in Holyoke, Colorado; Sedgwick County Hospital in Julesburg, Colorado; Wray Community Hospital in Wray, Colorado; Yuma District Hospital in Yuma, Colorado; and Ogallala Community Hospital in Ogallala, Nebraska. With the ability to consult with these specialists, the local ER staff will be able to determine whether the patient needs to be transported or whether the patient can be treated locally. When it is determined that a transport is not medically needed, the telemedicine linkage will help the ER specialists direct the local practitioners in providing the necessary care locally. Each rural site will be equipped with a Polycom videoconferencing system. The six rural Colorado sites will be configured with edge devices that connect to the T1 circuit in place to provide dial in and dial out capability to each site. Ogallala will not need ATM edge devices since the facility is connected to an ISDN line. The core ATM device will connect the rural T1 sites to the video bridge that allows up to 16 simultaneous conferences. This project will benefit over 18,150 rural residents.

### **Montrose Memorial Hospital, Montrose, Colorado**

\$418,000 Grant

Area(s) Served: Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel Counties

Contact: Ms. Paula Kogle, (970) 240-7138 FAX : (970) 240-7745

Congressional District: 3rd

Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH) is a regional health care facility that provides services to a population of approximately 42,000 people in a 4,000 square mile area that covers three counties. Due to the high rurality of the area and the ruggedness of the terrain that makes travel difficult, many of these people receive their medical services in one of five (5) small community clinics. During the past year, these clinics have experienced more than 36,000 patient visits. Through the use of the RUS grant funds, along with matching funds, by partnering with the medical clinics, the applicant will



serve these rural residents via the rural clinics by providing teleradiology and interactive video conferencing services. MMH will also serve as host of a data repository of patient-specific clinical information. Once implemented, the project will enable MMH and the clinics to communicate more effectively with larger hospitals.

### ***2000 Grant Awards:***

#### **VALLEY-WIDE HEALTH SERVICES, INC., Alamosa, Colorado**

\$184,380 Grant

Area(s) served: Costilla, Conejos, Otero, Alamosa, ,Huerfano, ,Rio Grande, and Lake Counties

Contact: Ms. Konnie Martin, (719) 589-5161, FAX: (719) 589-5722

Congressional District: 3rd and 4th

Valley-Wide Health Services, Inc., a private non-profit corporation, in partnership with SyCare, LLC proposes to use RUS grant funds to purchase televideo and supporting equipment for seven rural Colorado sites: San Luis, Antonio, La Junta, Alamosa, Walsenburg, Monte Vista, and Leadville. The proposed project enhances and utilizes current televideo systems implemented by Sycare and its four member health centers already in place at nine other sites. These grant funds will also allow SyCare to expand its current televideo services into additional areas. The proposed network will integrate primary healthcare and mental healthcare services, making specialty care available to small communities (i.e. dermatology, oncology, hematology, mental health services, etc.), enhance professional relationships among administration and provider staff, reduce travel expenditures for both patient and staff, and provide consultation support for outlying clinicians. This project will serve approximately 30,000 rural residents.

### ***1998 Award:***

#### **Regents of the University of Colorado Body Corporate**

\$187,332 Grant

Location: Denver Colorado

Area(s) served: Shannon and Todd - South Dakota: and the county of Apache, Arizona;

Contact: Dr. Spero Manson

Phone Number: (303) 315-9230

Fax Number: (303) 315-9579

Congressional District: Applicant : 1st /Colorado; Project: At Large/ South Dakota and 6th/Arizona.

The Regents of the University of Colorado, Body Corporate's project addresses Health as a primary focus area and Education, Culture, and Lifelong Learning as a secondary focus area. The Rosebud Sioux Tribe in Mission, South Dakota, Veterans Center in Rosebud, South Dakota, and the CU(University of Colorado) Field Office in Pine Ridge, South Dakota and the Navajo Field Office in Tuba City, Arizona will join the Division of



American Indian and Alaska Native Programs and The Institute of TeleHealth at University of Colorado Health Sciences Center to develop telehealth and distance learning partnerships. The project's purpose is to deploy and use interactive educational resources, formal and informal clinical services using videoconferencing technology via Switched 56 Transmission, Internet services and local cable television to target major health care issues. This project will enhance awareness and quality of health care in these communities, which are the poorest and most medically underserved in the country.

### ***1995 Grant Awards:***

#### **High Plains Rural Health Network - Fort Morgan**

A network will link rural hospitals and health care clinics with urban tertiary care centers to provide rural residents continuous access to trauma and emergency care. In addition, the network will provide continuing education for physicians, nurses and other health care professionals.

#### **Rocky Mountain Adventist Healthcare - Denver**

The project will link hospitals in northwest and south-central Colorado to provide specialty medical and mental health consultative services to rural residents, continuing medical education for physicians, nurses, and other health care professionals, continuing non-medical education, and additional community development services.

### ***1994 Grant Awards:***

#### **Montrose School District**

Name of Project: Montrose-Ouray Counties Distance Learning Project  
Project Area: Montrose and Ouray Counties.

A consortium of 4 public school districts in Southwestern Colorado will share teachers and educational resources to enhance academic offerings in (1) advanced placement courses for high school students in Calculus, Chemistry, Accounting and Spanish; (2) teacher inservices which can be used for credit towards recertification; and (3) a continuing adult education course in demand by local residents. The network, consisting of a hub and 4 spokes, uses personal computers and an interactive communications software package. This system capitalizes on the existing analog system telephone system (typical to most rural areas) and modems to accomplish "desktop" learning, and features the instructional capability of the personal computer over regular phone lines.



## **Conejos County Hospital**

Project Area: Conejos and Huerfano Counties

This project will provide an advanced telecommunications link for two rural hospitals in mountainous South Central Colorado who share radiologist and medical information. Conejos County Hospital and Huerfano County Hospital will acquire PC computer technology and other digital medical telecommunications equipment to mitigate the distance, isolation and rough terrain which separates the two allied hospitals. The system will utilize existing copper telephone lines and modems to transport medical images and data at a speed of 19,200 bits per second.

### ***1993 Grant Award:***

## **East Central Board of Cooperative Educational Services**

Providing a quality education to students in east central Colorado that will prepare them for the challenges in the next millennium is not as simple as "ABC." East central Colorado is a very rural region. With only one percent of the population of Colorado residing in 8 thousand square miles of semi-arid grassland prairie spread out through 7 counties, geographic isolation, insufficient funding, limited course offerings (especially advanced courses) and shortages of qualified teachers are some of the barriers the East Central Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES ) school districts are confronted with when planning their course curriculums. This is the only region in Colorado that is not directly serviced by an institution of higher education or post secondary vocational education.

BOCES was created in 1972 by ten school districts along the Interstate 70 corridor. At present, there are 16 member school districts located from Aurora (Denver Metro area) to the Kansas border and approximately 70 miles to the north and south from Woodrow to Karval. With this kind of extensive geographic coverage, BOCES concluded that one of the most effective ways to broaden the range of class offerings and avenues for continuing education opportunities was through distance learning.

In 1993, BOCES applied and was chosen to receive a Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program for \$291,301 to fund the Interactive Learning Network (ILN) project. The two way audio and video telecommunications network is expected to serve more than 4000 students, 430 teachers and administrators in 16 rural communities with educational programs not presently available due to the small number of students or the availability of instructional personnel. Secondary education curriculum will focus on advanced placement classes and foreign languages presently not available to students. Courses such as college algebra, math and biology will be offered as well as secondary education courses in western civilization, and applied physics. It is projected that school districts sharing existing teaching personnel will save as much as seven new course offerings to each school at a cost of less than the salary of a first year teacher.





RUS funding assistance in the past has assisted small and rural telephone companies in East Central Colorado to upgrade their infrastructure to fiber optic cable in the area serviced by the BOCES project. RUS funds will continue to assist rural communities to build the kind of telecommunications infrastructure they need as their on ramp to the Information Superhighway to accommodate the demand for new services such as two-way interactive instruction.