



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

# **NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD**

**STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH**

**FY17 RURAL HOSPITAL STABILIZATION PROJECT GRANT**

**Upson Regional Medical Center**

**Habersham Medical Center**

**Miller County Hospital**

**POSTING DATE: MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2016**

**INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2016**

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# **DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION**

## **RURAL HOSPITAL STABILIZATION PROJECT GRANT**

### **Upson Regional Medical Center, Habersham Medical Center, Miller County Hospital**

#### **AGENCY BACKGROUND**

The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) was created in 1999 by Senate Bill 241 and has the responsibility for insuring over two million people in the State of Georgia, maximizing the State's health care purchasing power, coordinating health planning for State agencies and proposing cost-effective solutions for reducing the number of uninsured. Within DCH, the State Office of Rural Health (SORH) serves Georgians by improving access to health care in rural and underserved areas to improve health status and reduce health disparities.

#### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Department of Community Health, State Office of Rural Health works to improve access to health care in rural and underserved areas and to reduce health status disparities. SORH provides funding for institutional framework that links small rural communities with State & Federal resources to help develop long-term solutions to rural health problems.

The primary objectives include the following:

- Empower communities to strengthen and maintain the best possible health care using existing resources;
- Provide up-to-date health systems information and technical assistance;
- Build strong partnerships to meet local and regional needs;
- Provide incentives to local areas to implement integrated service delivery systems; and
- Be the single point of contact for all regional issues related to health care.

The purpose of the FY17 Rural Hospital Stabilization Project Grant is to provide funding to three rural community hospitals for the development of community specific projects based on the identified "Hub and Spoke" model adopted by the Georgia Rural Hospital Stabilization Committee.

**AWARD  
JUSTIFICATION**

The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award the identified FY17 Rural Hospital Stabilization Project eligible organizations below in the amount of \$1,000,000 per organization to:

1. Provide \$100,000 in local matching funds remitted to:  
Department of Community Health  
State Office of Rural Health  
ATTN: Patsy Whaley, Executive Director.  
502 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cordele, Georgia 31015
2. Identify physician champion and other key medical and business community stakeholders to be included in, and/or effected by, the project;
3. Coordinate Community Stakeholder Group work sessions & meetings with the intent of clearly identifying project goals and objectives, requesting input, determining available resources, and identifying possible challenges or obstacles that may decrease effectiveness or benefit of project;
4. Coordinate community awareness events regarding the Grant and new programs and services including individually and collectively representing the project to various audiences at the local, state and national levels as requested;
5. Develop a written project plan that fully demonstrates a commitment to a data driven model to support the Governor’s Rural Hospital Stabilization Program:
  - a. The GRANTEE must provide a written plan to address:
    - i. Building an integrated Hub & Spoke model;
    - ii. Reducing and/or eliminating potentially preventable readmissions to reduce fines and penalties;
    - iii. Reducing non-emergent Emergency Room utilization;
    - iv. Establishing a mechanism to guide patients based upon the principle of the delivery of “the right care, at the right time and in the right setting”; and
    - v. Maximizing new or existing technology including telemedicine, information technology.
6. Develop and provide Performance Measure Dashboards for quarterly reporting of data demonstrating progress and impact;
  - a. Local program specific Performance Measure Dashboard (within work plan template); and
  - b. RHSC Standardized Performance Measure Dashboard.
7. Maintain appropriate staff responsible for the management and daily operations of the grant;
  - a. Assign a dedicated Project Manager to be responsible and accountable for the work plan, budget, invoicing & reporting in a timely manner; and be available to travel for collaborative meetings/trainings and regional/statewide project presentations.
8. Ensure appropriate documentation is maintained for all deliverables and expenditures related to the Agreement;
9. Submit detailed quarterly reports using the project Work Plan template and an accompanying narrative document describing progress to include;
  - a. Description of project progress, impact, and effectiveness to date;
  - b. Quarterly data collected to include the local program specific Performance Measures;
  - c. Financial progress report and supporting documentation; and
  - d. Successes, barriers and lessons learned.
10. Provide a comprehensive final report to SORH no later than July 15, 2018 following the expiration of the Agreement Term. The final report should include a summary of all activities conducted by GRANTEE, to include data analysis, financial reports reflecting programmatic revenue and expenses as well as grant fund reconciliation, a summary of the overall results and impact of the GRANTEE’s services. GRANTEE shall also use the results and findings of the project to include an opinion of the feasibility of replicating the model throughout rural Georgia and determine the financial viability of sustaining the program locally;
11. Adhere to other instructions that may be periodically required of the SORH.

	DCH presents this funding as direct awards to Upson Regional Medical Center, Habersham Medical Center, and Miller County Hospital to prevent over-utilization of emergency departments as a primary care access point, monitor chronically ill patients, to reduce the number of unnecessary readmissions, to ensure patients are being transported to the appropriate facilities, to use existing and new technology to ensure that patients are being treated in the most appropriate setting, and to direct all patients within the community to a medical home for their healthcare needs.
<b>AWARD(S)</b>	<b>TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$3,000,000.00</b>
<b><u>TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION</u></b>	
Joanne Mitchell, Grants Manager at <a href="mailto:jmitchell@dch.ga.gov">jmitchell@dch.ga.gov</a> no later than 2:00 PM on Wednesday, August 10, 2016.	