



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

# **NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD**

**STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH**

**SMALL RURAL HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM  
(SHIP)**

**DRAFFIN AND TUCKER LLP**

**POSTING DATE: FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2016  
INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016**

**JOANNE D. MITCHELL, GRANTS MANAGER  
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH  
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION  
2 PEACHTREE STREET, NW, 35TH FLOOR  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-3159  
TEL: (404) 651-6183 E-MAIL: [jmitchell@dch.ga.gov](mailto:jmitchell@dch.ga.gov)**

# **DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION**

## **DRAFFIN AND TUCKER LLP**

<b>AGENCY BACKGROUND</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>PROGRAM OVERVIEW</b>	<p>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 &amp; Federal resources to help develop long-term solutions to rural health problems.</p> <p>The primary objectives include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Empower communities to strengthen and maintain the best possible health care using existing resources.</li><li>• Provide up-to-date health systems information and technical assistance.</li><li>• Build strong partnerships to meet local and regional needs.</li><li>• Provide incentives to local areas to implement integrated service delivery systems.</li><li>• Be the single point of contact for all regional issues related to health care.</li></ul>
<b>AWARD JUSTIFICATION</b>	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Draffin and Tucker LLP in the amount of \$66,969 to fund SHIP pre-approved activities. The SHIP grant provides funding to Georgia's small rural hospitals to assist them in defraying costs related to implementation of the Prospective Payment System (PPS), Accountable Care Organizations (ACO), Payment Bundling, and Value Based Purchasing (VBP). The purpose of this grant is to ensure each hospital is in compliance with Medicare guidelines related to proper filing and supporting documentation of bad debts.</p> <p>DCH presents this funding as a direct award to the members of the Draffin and Tucker LLP "The Bad Debt Project" Consortium - Bleckley Memorial Hospital, Donalsonville Hospital, Flint River Hospital, Habersham Medical Center, Miller County Hospital, Morgan Memorial Hospital, and Wills Memorial Hospital as components of the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program that meets the federal grant requirements and as such were named as recipients in the Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA) federal grant application.</p>
<b>AWARD(S)</b>	<b>TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$66,969.00</b>

### **TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION**

Joanne Mitchell, Grants Manager at [jmitchell@dch.ga.gov](mailto:jmitchell@dch.ga.gov) no later than 2:00 PM on Thursday, June 9, 2016.