



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH

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

**GEORGIA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION
(GHAREF)**

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

**JOANNE D. MITCHELL, GRANTS MANAGER
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DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION

GEORGIA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION

AGENCY BACKGROUND	<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>
PROGRAM OVERVIEW	<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 & 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">• 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.• Be the single point of contact for all regional issues related to health care.
AWARD JUSTIFICATION	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Georgia Hospital Association Research and Education Foundation (GHAREF) in the amount of \$86,103 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 provide a subscription to web-based data analytic quality modules, onsite consultative services, and a selection of education/training services. Members of this consortium will have easy access for quality and safety improvement to reduce penalties associated with various CMS penalty programs; including Value Based Purchasing, Readmissions, and Hospital Acquired Conditions.</p> <p>DCH presents this funding as a direct award to the members of the GHAREF “Value Based Purchasing Quality Improvement” Consortium - Crisp Regional Hospital, Effingham Health System, Medical Center of Peach, Navicent, Memorial Hospital and Manor, Southeast Georgia Health System-Camden Campus, Stephens County Hospital, University Hospital-McDuffie, Upson Regional Medical Center, and Washington County Regional Medical Center 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>
AWARD(S)	TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$86,103.00

TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

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