



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

# **NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD**

**STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH**

**HOMETOWN HEALTH LLC  
RURAL SWING BED MANAGEMENT:  
BEST PRACTICES FOR COMPLIANCE  
& EFFICIENCY (BPCE) GRANT**

**POSTING DATE: FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2016  
INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2016**

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# **DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION**

## **HOMETOWN HEALTH LLC**

### **RURAL SWING BED MANAGEMENT:**

#### **BEST PRACTICES FOR COMPLIANCE & EFFICIENCY GRANT**

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| <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> <p>The purpose of the Rural Swing Bed Management Grant is to assist the rural Perspective Payment System (PPS) and Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) with expert training and guidance for their staff to understand Swing Bed Conditions of Participation (CoP), improve the quality of their swing bed programs, optimize the patient outcome, increase utilization and revenue for their post-acute care services.</p> <p>The State Office of Rural Health, and HomeTown Health LLC have agreed to partner together to comprehensively address the rural swing bed program providing necessary tools for compliance and quality. The ability to utilize swing beds for CAHS not only reduces the Medicare costs per patient bed day in these facilities, but increases revenues and margins that can help support population health, wellness, and other services.</p> |

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| <b>AWARD JUSTIFICATION</b> | <p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award HomeTown Health LLC in the amount of \$200,000 provide comprehensive training and consultative services for current CAH and rural hospital swing bed programs. CAHs and Rural PPS hospitals who are in the process of developing Swing Bed Programs may participate in the training program – as space allows. The grant will require two tracks of training and consultative services; (1) CAH Swing Bed Track and (2) Rural PPS Hospital Swing Bed Track Each of these tracks will provide at least one two-day training session covering the basics of swing bed services. Key components of the training include, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of CoP, Key Policies and Procedure;</li> <li>• Medicare qualifying stay, beneficiary benefits and notices;</li> <li>• Skilled nursing and therapy medical necessity documentation;</li> <li>• Interdisciplinary team;</li> <li>• Role of the physician;</li> <li>• Billing and utilization review activities;</li> <li>• Measuring outcomes and value to drive program marketing;</li> <li>• Overview and Purpose of the MDS (PPS); and</li> <li>• RUG IV Characteristics by Category (PPS)</li> </ul> <p>In addition to the Swing Bed Training Program, the grantee will provide consultative services to individual hospitals to include site visit and technical assistance. This grant will also support ongoing technical assistance and the development of a “swing bed” community of practice for sharing of best practices, etc.</p> |
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|  | <p>DCH presents this funding as a direct award in that HomeTown Health utilize funding to support the development implementation of a rural hospital swing bed education for Georgia rural hospitals and provide rural hospitals access to consultant education/training and auditing services to promote regulatory compliance and safe, high quality care.</p> |
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| <b>AWARD(S)</b> | <b>TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$200,000.00</b> |
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**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 Wednesday, June 15, 2016.