



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY HEALTH

NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

**Enhancement of Trauma Care in Rural Communities through the Expanded Use of
Telemedicine**

POSTING DATE: Friday, April 9, 2010

INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: Wednesday, April 14, 2010

TIFFINEY WARD, ISSUING OFFICER

OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND GRANT ADMINISTRATION

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

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DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION
ARRA ASC HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTION PREVENTION

<p>Background</p>	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) was created in 1999 (Senate Bill 241) with the responsibility for insuring over two million people in the State of Georgia to maximize the State’s health care purchasing power, to coordinate health planning for state agencies, and to propose cost-effective solutions to reducing the numbers of uninsured.</p> <p>The Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission (“Georgia Trauma Commission” or “Trauma Commission”) was created in 2007, by the Georgia Legislature through Senate Bill 60. The Trauma Commission is attached to the Department of Community Health for administrative purposes only, as prescribed in Code Section 50-4-3. The Georgia Trauma Commission was established to create a trauma system for the State of Georgia and to act as the accountability mechanism for distribution of trauma system funds appropriated each fiscal year by the legislature.</p>
<p>Program Background</p>	<p>The statewide Georgia Telemedicine Program began in 2005, through the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant (GA712-A16) with the USDA, and resulted in the Rural Health Initiative for a statewide Telemedicine program. The Telemedicine program addresses the delay in definitive care which diminishes the opportunities for optimal outcomes for trauma victims. Georgia Partnership for Telehealth, Inc (GPT) is a charitable nonprofit corporation established to assist in the development of Telemedicine Programs in rural and underserved areas.</p>
<p>Program Description</p>	<p>The purpose of this pilot initiative is to address the shortage of specialty surgeon expertise in rural hospitals to help direct treatment when unstable patients cannot be transported. Telemedicine offers medical and nursing staff in rural facilities the opportunity to obtain a video consultation with trauma specialists in trauma centers. These consultations permit staff to quickly identify patients who need to be transferred to a trauma center. The video consultations also allow staff in the rural facilities to receive expert advice on how to stabilize patients prior to transfer.</p>
<p>Award Justification</p>	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Geor Partnership for Telehealth, Inc., the existing specialty provider, funding for 2010 in the amount of \$200,000 to improve access for telemedicine services Georgia. Implementation of telemedicine capability in rural facilities, in Georg will upgrade the quality of trauma care available to patients in areas of the st where optimal management of trauma patients may not otherwise be available.</p>
<p>Award(s)</p>	<p>TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE : \$200,000</p>

TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

Tiffiney Ward, Issuing Officer at tiward@dch.ga.gov no later than 1:00PM EST, Wednesday,
April 14, 2010.