



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH

**RURAL HEALTH INNOVATIONS, LLC (RHI)
NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER**

**MEDICARE RURAL HOSPITAL FLEXIBILITY (FLEX)
POPULATION HEALTH GRANT**

**POSTING DATE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2017
INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017**

**JOANNE MITCHELL, GRANTS MANAGER
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION
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DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION

RURAL HEALTH INNOVATIONS, LLC - NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER MEDICARE RURAL HOSPITAL FLEXIBILITY (FLEX) POPULATION HEALTH GRANT

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; and• Be the single point of contact for all regional issues related to health care. <p>The purpose of the Georgia Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (FLEX) Population Health Grant is to focus on work with Georgia's critical access hospitals (CAHs) to improve the "Triple Aim" of healthcare delivery by providing better care, improving health and lowering costs in rural communities.</p>
AWARD JUSTIFICATION	<p>The complexity and change within the U.S health care industry are best managed by using a comprehensive systems-based framework, including a balanced set of key strategies, initiatives, targets and measures. The Baldrige Performance Excellence Systems Framework will be used to guide the CAHs in achieving clinical, operational and financial excellence. This program will focus on engaging up to 22 CAHs identified in a methodology described within the Scope of Work.</p>
	<p>DCH presents this funding as direct awards to Rural Health Innovations, LLC (RHI) to administer validated tools and provide analytical support to directly benefit Georgia's CAH hospitals.</p>
AWARD(S)	TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$73,000.00

TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

Joanne Mitchell, Grants Manager at jmitchell@dch.ga.gov no later than 2:00 PM on Wednesday, August 30, 2017.