



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION FOR PRIMARY HEALTH CARE, INC.

**FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER (FQHC)
DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION GRANT**

LEGISLATIVE MANDATE

JUNE 8, 2018

**JOANNE MITCHELL GRANTS MANAGER
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DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION FOR PRIMARY HEALTH CARE, INC.

FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER (FQHC) DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION 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 Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) benefit under Medicare was added effective October 1, 1991, when Section 1861(aa) of the Social Security Act was amended by Section 4161 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990.</p> <p>The Department of Community Health, State Office of Rural Health recognizes the tremendous value of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs are local, nonprofit, community-owned health care providers serving low income and medically underserved communities. FQHCs successfully increase access to care, promote quality and cost-effective care, improve patient outcomes, and are uniquely positioned to spread the benefits of community-based and patient centered care. FQHCs provide comprehensive services that address the major health care needs of the target population and ensure the availability and accessibility of essential primary and preventive health services including as appropriate, oral health, mental health and substance abuse services.</p> <p>FQHCs are "safety net" providers such as community health centers, public housing centers, and outpatient health programs funded by the Indian Health Service, and programs serving migrants and the homeless.</p> <p>The State of Georgia has made significant investments in Federally Qualified Health Centers with key focus on ensuring access to health care thorough the most efficient and appropriate health care delivery system. Georgia currently has thirty-two (32) FQHCs with one hundred fifty-six (156) clinical sites operating in 87 Georgia counties.</p>
AWARD JUSTIFICATION	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Georgia Association for Primary Health Care, Inc. \$250,000 as a legislative mandate to provide funds for the development and expansion of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) in Georgia's rural and underserved areas.</p> <p>DCH presents this funding as a legislative mandated direct award in that the Georgia Association for Primary Health Care, Inc. is a component of the Federally Qualified Health Center Program (FQHC) that meets the state grant requirements and as such was named as the Grantee.</p>

AWARD(S)	TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$250,000.00

FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

Contact: Joanne Mitchell, Grants Manager at jmitchell@dch.ga.gov