



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH**

NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH

ALLIANT HEALTH SOLUTIONS, INC.

RURAL HOSPITAL EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW NETWORK GRANT

JUNE 29, 2018

**JOANNE MITCHELL, GRANTS MANAGER
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION
2 PEACHTREE STREET, NW, 35TH FLOOR
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-3159
TEL: (404) 651-6183 E-MAIL: jmitchell@dch.ga.gov**

DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION

ALLIANT HEALTH SOLUTIONS, INC.

RURAL HOSPITAL EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW NETWORK GRANT

AGENCY BACKGROUND	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.
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.
AWARD JUSTIFICATION	<p>The Rural Hospital External Peer Review Network Grant will provide for the implementation of a rural hospital external peer review framework to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create an ongoing, systemic, data-based process for the rural hospital medical staff to evaluate practitioner performance and maintain accountabilities for addressing opportunities for improvement;• Assist rural hospital medical staff with identifying and resolving performance problems;• Create a positive peer case review culture by recognizing practitioner excellence as well as identifying improvement opportunities through a process that is clearly defined, fair, efficient and useful. <p>The program will provide the credentialing and maintenance of qualified physicians to provide Ongoing Professional Performance Evaluations (OPPE) as well as Focused Professional Practice Evaluations (FPPE) to Georgia rural hospitals.</p>
AWARD(S)	TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$150,000.00

FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

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