NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH

AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY

STATEWIDE AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS (AHECs) NETWORK GRANT

JUNE 8, 2018

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# DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION

**AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY**  
**STATEWIDE AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS (AHECs)**  
**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

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.

The primary objectives include the following:

- 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

The Statewide Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) Network Grant is to provide educational programs for the health professions that increase access to primary care services in Georgia through the recruitment, training and retention of primary care health professionals.

## AWARD(S)

| TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: $2,909,595.00 |

**FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION**

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