



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY HEALTH

NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH

SCHOOL-BASED TELEHEALTH CENTER

POSTING DATE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2016
INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2016

JOANNE D. 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

GEORGIA PARTNERSHIP FOR TELEHEALTH SCHOOL-BASED TELEHEALTH CENTER

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.• Be the single point of contact for all regional issues related to health care.
AWARD JUSTIFICATION	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Georgia Partnership for Telehealth (GPT) funds in the amount of \$100,000.00 to support the expansion of access to quality health care services to students in Georgia's rural communities through the development of school-based telehealth centers (SBTCs). Georgia Partnership for Telehealth, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit corporation which was formed to promote improvements in healthcare and healthcare facilities in rural and underserved communities throughout the state of Georgia by assisting in the establishment of telemedicine programs. GPT's mission is to: 1) improve and promote the availability and provision of specialized healthcare services in rural and underserved parts of Georgia; 2) educate and provide training and technical assistance to hospitals, clinics, and primary care providers to implement and achieve exchange of health information; and 3) reduce the service barriers that exist for patients who live in rural parts of Georgia at a distance from hospitals and other medical facilities. GPT is Georgia's only non-profit statewide telehealth network, the federally designated Southeastern TeleHealth Resource Center (SETRC), and charged with promoting the expansion and implementation of telehealth statewide in Georgia.</p> <p>DCH presents this funding as a direct award in that Georgia Partnership for Telehealth is a component of the GPT School-Based Health Center Initiative that meets the federal grant requirements and as such were named as recipients in the Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA) federal grant application.</p>
AWARD(S)	TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$100,000.00

TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

Joanne D. Mitchell, Grants Manager at jmitchell@dch.ga.gov no later than 2:00 PM on February 10, 2016