



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY HEALTH

# **NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD**

**STATE OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH**

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

**POSTING DATE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2012  
CLOSING DATE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2012**

**LLOYD RICHARDSON, GRANT SPECIALIST  
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH  
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION  
2 PEACHTREE STREET, NW, 35TH FLOOR  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-3159  
TEL: (404) 463-3862 E-MAIL: [LRichardson@dch.ga.gov](mailto:LRichardson@dch.ga.gov)**

# **DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION**

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

### **AGENCY BACKGROUND**

The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) was created in 1999 by Senate Bill 241 to serve as the lead agency for health care planning and purchasing issues in Georgia. DCH is the single state agency for Medicaid and insures 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 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.

The Department of Community Health, State Office of Rural Health recognizes the tremendous value of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs are local, non-profit, 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.

The State of Georgia has made significant investments in Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) with the key focus of ensuring access to health care through the most efficient and appropriate health care delivery system. Georgia currently has twenty-seven (27) FQHCs with approximately one hundred thirty-five (135) clinical sites operating in 77 Georgia counties.

### **AWARD JUSTIFICATION**

DCH intends to award a grant in the amount of \$250,000 to Georgia Association of Primary Health Care for the development and expansion of existing and new start FQHCs in Georgia's rural and underserved areas.

DCH presents this funding as a direct award in that Georgia Association of Primary Health Care meets the federal requirements.

### **AWARD**

**TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$250,000**

### **TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION CONTACT**

Lloyd Richardson, Grant Specialist at [LRichardson@dch.ga.gov](mailto:LRichardson@dch.ga.gov) no later than 2:00 PM on Monday, September 24, 2012