



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
AK	Kushunamiut School District	\$322,266	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund the Kashunamiut School District distance learning project. The project will serve Chevak Village, an extremely remote Alaskan village of 938 people, most of whom are Cup'ik Alaska Natives. The grant will connect the students, faculty, and staff of Chevak School with each other, their classrooms, and outside resources. The results will minimize disruptions to education, increase collaboration, and expand educational, professional, and vocational options. This is a Title One school serving pre-k through 12th grade.
AK	Lake and Peninsula School District	\$565,409	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide distance learning opportunities to several students located in the Lake and Peninsula School District. The total population that will benefit is 1,550. This project will be able to provide educational programs to students and teachers who are located in rural areas.
AK	Lower Kuskokwim School District	\$784,818	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Lower Kuskokwim School District install new video conferencing equipment to support K-12 students with a focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) courses, as well as student activities, such as the Spelling Bee and Battle of the Books. Moreover, Project Achieve also will allow for the continuous teaching of tribal languages, traditions and customs; the use of the equipment for Parent Advisory Committees, local School Board meetings and trainings; and will provide teachers with the necessary resources to attend in-service webinars on specific subjects and provide necessary training. Due to COVID-19, the district expanded distance learning to all grades, prior to the pandemic distance learning technology was reserved for students in the higher grades (seven- 12). Increased technology will assist LKSD in meeting all the needs of the students, allowing for the creation of a blended learning environment where education may be done in-person or via distance learning if the need arises. The total population that will utilize the technology will be approximately 4,000 students, teachers, staff and family members in the Bethel Census Area.
AK	North Slope Borough School District	\$999,500	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase access to virtual instruction, specifically science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) courses, as well as career and technical education courses, including simulation. Through Project Ignite, the North Slope Borough School District will use videoconferencing technology, which will allow increased student and staff interactions, such as trainings, in-services, and labs. Project Ignite will also allow the North Slope Borough School District to implement two learning labs at rural sites. These labs will create and share real-time content, classes, and activities. Project Ignite will help provide the school district's extremely rural villages access to additional education resources and allow for continuous teaching of tribal languages, traditions, and customs. More than 2,000 residents are expected to benefit from this project.
AL	Alabama Department of Mental Health	\$156,183	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring telehealth to rural Alabama through the Alabama Department of Mental Health Telehealth Rural Expansion Experiment. The funds will be used to achieve the following: 1) address and reduce the challenging barriers to accessing treatment services for residents in rural communities; 2) increase and improve access to healthcare education and behavioral healthcare treatment including treatment for Substance Use Disorders and Opioid Use Disorders for rural residents of Alabama; and, 3) utilize telehealth to bridge the gaps in treatment and healthcare services caused by provider shortages in rural areas of the state. Through placing adequate telehealth equipment in the proposed project end-user sites, the department will provide the treatment and services necessary to combat the growing epidemic of Substance Use Disorders, including Opioid Use Disorder, and mental health disorders in some of the most rural and poor communities in Alabama. More than 40,500 residents will be helped.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
AL	AltaPointe Health Systems, Inc.	\$259,750	This Rural Development investment will be used by AltaPointe Health Systems, Inc. to provide telehealth equipment to rural hospital emergency departments, to help increase access to psychiatric care for adults and children. The total population impacted is over 861,000 people. The site for the project is located in ten Alabama counties, including Mobile, Baldwin, Washington, Clarke, Monroe, Conecuh, Escambia, Randolph, Clay, and Talladega.
AL	Bibb County Board of Education	\$650,465	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase access to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) opportunities for students using distance learning at Bibb County School District. Students in 41 classrooms at 10 school sites will participate in expanded and enhanced education. Students will have expanded capacity to participate in dual credit college courses and other learning opportunities. The project will alleviate barriers caused by inadequate funding and a shortage of specialized education teachers. Outcomes will include an increased number of students who graduate college and career ready, an increase in the number of students enrolled in dual credit college classes, improved performance in math and science on standardized tests, and enhanced school readiness for a pandemic or other emergency necessitating virtual learning. More than 22,000 area residents will benefit from the project.
AL	Sumter County School System	\$334,317	This Rural Development investment will be used by Sumter County School System to equip interactive distance learning rooms to provide shared teacher resources via interactive videoconferencing. This technology will provide more professional development opportunities to teachers and reduce overall travel cost for students, teachers, and administrators. The project will serve six end user sites in Sumter County in Alabama, bringing benefits to the 12,800 residents in the county.
AL	University of Alabama	\$951,886	This Rural Development investment will create a network of tele medically equipped ambulances that can easily and immediately relay real-time patient data to emergency physicians. The project will consist of 26 ambulances across eleven rural hubs. The proposed ambulance-based systems will have the capability to directly connect to one of the rural hubs (rural hospitals in the proposed counties). By connecting ambulances to multiple hospitals through telemedicine, emergency medical services (EMS) personnel can transmit patient data and communicate with hospital-based emergency department physicians to help determine how best to maximize patient care and reduce cost at the site of the initial patient encounter as well as during EMS transport. The population served is 260,062 for the counties included in this proposed project. In 2020, these rural counties had a total of 36,933 EMS calls and 15,318 individuals were transported to a hospital emergency department.
AR	Dardanelle Regional LLC	\$305,113	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telehealth services from one hub site to six rural hub/end-user sites. Specialists from Conway Regional Medical Center will connect on consults with outreach sites in Telehealth Huddle Rooms which are equipped with video- conferencing equipment that will allow them to work with a patient on a remote site, review images accessed and sent from a remote site. The proposed project seeks to address these challenges by increasing the capability of the Conway Regional Medical Center to focus on providing faster and more targeted Pain Management, Cardiology, Orthopedics, General Surgery and OB/Gyn services. This project provides six rural Central Arkansas communities with telehealth services, that would serve 25,473 rural residents.
AR	Division of Agriculture of the University of Arkansas	\$571,456	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment that would allow Division of Agriculture of the University of Arkansas (UADA) Cooperative Extension Service (CES) to install cellular routers with WIFI to 51 geographic locations throughout Arkansas. These devices will improve internet connectivity and provide an internet access point "parking lot hotspot" for clientele to access research-based training. The proposal would also allow UADA to install video conferencing hardware in these locations to reach an estimated minimum audience of 9,000 per year.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
AR	Lyon College	\$298,004	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Lyon College to purchase interactive video conferencing equipment that will provide distance learning services for approximately 3,200 rural high school and middle school students. This project will provide expanded educational opportunities to include science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for rural Arkansas high schools, expanded post-secondary readiness, transition, and enrollment programs, substance abuse educational and counseling support for students, health education, and professional development and instructional resources for teachers and school leaders through distance learning.
AR	University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences	\$737,882	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring telemedicine across rural Arkansas through the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. This project will place new telemedicine carts at rural hospitals, rural health clinics, and rural penitentiaries through Arkansas for the purposes of clinical care. Most sites are current telemedicine users with outdated equipment at risk of technical failure and require replacement for continued program operation. With 36 sites around the state, this project will benefit over 811,000 residents.
AZ	Navajo County Community College District	\$715,890	This Rural Development investment will be used to acquire high-quality video conferencing equipment for 22 rural schools throughout eastern Arizona. The program will enable expanded access to college coursework as project sites commit to supplying and offering access to dual enrollment coursework to high school students during the day. Funded equipment will also be used for college and career prep for adult learners, taught during evenings, and courses leading to degrees in Early Childhood Education (ECD) and Education (EDU) taught on weekends. The project will serve over 1,100 rural residents at across a 21,158 square-mile area, that includes the tribal lands of the Navajo, Hopi and White Mountain Apache people.
CA	California Rural Water Association	\$151,300	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase equipment to be used to implement a centralized remote distance learning model for California Rural Water Association to teach students participating in an Apprenticeship Program in four different locations in California. The end-user sites are in the city of Corning, city of Montague, Golden Hills Community Services District, and Lake County Special Districts and will benefit approximately 28,000 residents. The program provides a pathway for employed utility workers to upgrade and enhance their Technical, Managerial, and Financial understanding and skills in the operation and management of their local utilities.
CA	Kaweah Delta Health Care District	\$246,965	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect the Visalia hospital, General Medical Education, and Kaweah Health Mental Hospital with Exeter, Woodlake and Lindsay clinics and patients across Tulare county in California. Using a robust telehealth and updated communications network, this project will focus on treating those with substance and opioid use disorders, as well as other chronic diseases and general health issues can be treated with telehealth visits. The project will connect 40 doctors, including specialists with 200,000 people in Tulare county.
FL	Ocala Behavioral Health, LLC	\$160,611	This Rural Development investment will be used to fund the Tele-Behavioral Health Project of North Central Florida (Tele-NCF). The Tele-NCF Project will help The Vines Hospital to develop a telemedicine network of six rural communities in Florida to better serve the healthcare needs of approximately 40,000 residents. The network will enable The Vines Hospital to maximize scarce health care resources available in this rural service region to deliver high quality mental/behavioral health and substance/opioid use disorder treatment.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
GA	Crisp Regional Hospital, Inc.	\$56,574	This Rural Development investment will be used to improve medical services to students, and significantly improve the overall health of the community by addressing long-term physical, mental, and behavioral health issues in the Crisp County School District. Through the Crisp Regional in Schools Program project, Crisp Regional Hospital will place telemedicine carts in the county's schools and provide needed telemedicine services to the students at those schools. This proposal will greatly reduce the burdens (costs, transportation and time) on these students and families seeking more direct and previously inaccessible health care services by meeting students where they are, and in the most convenient manner possible. The total population impacted will be an estimated 3,800 students annually.
GA	Foothills Education Center, Inc.	\$86,475	This Rural Development investment will be used to combat the shortage of health professionals in rural counties. The Foothills Education Charter High School plans to launch a Telehealth Outreach Program to remove barriers to access and increase the availability of health, mental health, and substance abuse care to over 700 students in nine different rural school locations throughout Northeast Georgia. The Telehealth Outreach Program is part of the Foothills plan to re-engage students following the Covid-19 pandemic.
GA	New Horizons Community Service Board	\$51,230	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide a telemedicine and distance learning network for New Horizons Behavioral Health in west central Georgia. These counties experienced a 245 percent increase in opioid-related overdose deaths from 2010 to 2017. By placing end-user equipment in Randolph, Stewart, Talbot and Harris counties and making mobile equipment available for case managers in Clay, Quitman and Chattahoochee, this Integrated Telehealth Network Project will provide approximately 55,000 residents with treatment for substance use disorders, mental health issues and chronic physical conditions such as hypertension and diabetes.
GA	Wheeler County School District	\$607,900	This Rural Development investment will be used to build a telemedicine and distance learning network in Wheeler County, Georgia. As one of the poorest counties in Georgia, its high poverty rate and remote location pose challenges for its citizens who seek opportunities to improve their health, further their education, and improve their quality of life. Substance abuse is on the rise and its effects are evident in the increase of students with special needs entering Wheeler County Schools. This network will provide mental health services and substance abuse education and counseling to 900 Wheeler County District students, as well as inmates and former inmates at the Wheeler County Law Enforcement Office and Center, for a total population served of approximately 2,800. Though the predominate focus of this grant will be on telemedicine, distance learning activities will provide equitable access to high-quality education and mental health services, improved school readiness, and increased awareness of career and education opportunities for all Wheeler County School District students.
HI	Big Island Substance Abuse Council	\$124,730	This Rural Development investment will be used to fund the Rural Wellness Hubs program that mobilizes services in rural areas that offer in-person and telehealth services, through the development of links between community needs, services, and resources. This program also provides in-person and telehealth case management, and behavioral health services. The estimated population impacted by this project is 29,000.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
IA	Greater Regional Medical Center	\$700,296	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand Greater Regional Medical Center's telemedicine services as part of its continuing effort to improve health care services to the communities they serve. Greater Regional Medical Center, Greater Regional Medical Center Clinic's and Specialty Clinics, and Southwestern Community College will provide three hub/end user sites coupled with their three rural clinics, seven local skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facility, daycare, three local schools, community college, and hospice home for a total of 15 end-user sites. This project focuses on patient needs removing barriers to patient health and wellness and ensuring access to health care services regardless of physical location or needed services. Additionally, this platform provides a distance learning space in rural facilities to offer educational learning and training opportunities. This project will provide telemedicine access to the 27,000 residents living in the area.
IA, IL	Iowa Wesleyan University	\$277,059	This Rural Development investment will be used to equip distance learning rooms with interactive mobile cart video systems and touch panels at seven rural Southeast Iowa locations, connecting community college and high school sites with the Mount Pleasant, Iowa campus of Iowa Wesleyan University. This project will provide students access to additional course offerings in health careers and agriculture, increase degree completion options, increase access to dual credit courses for participating high schools, and improve professional development opportunities for staff and students. End-user sites are located in Muscatine, Henry, and Van Buren counties in Iowa and Henderson county in Illinois, where 19,000 residents will be impacted by the enhancement of distance learning capabilities.
ID	Idaho State University	\$751,020	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring telemedicine to rural Idaho through Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho. The university intends to use telehealth to address the current disparity of access between rural and urban students by bringing mental and physical health services and care to high school students and educators through INCLUDE 2: Idaho Needs Connectivity Leading University Distance MED & Ed, too. In addition to health care services, INCLUDE 2 will provide health education to parents, students, and the community, focusing on opioid and substance use, and suicide. Approximately 10,000 students will be served by the project.
ID	Northwest Hospital Alliance	\$501,026	This Rural Development investment will be used to install state-of-the-art distance learning equipment to connect eight Idaho hospitals and their associated clinics in Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai, Shoshone, Clearwater, and Idaho counties. The project will improve the ability for rural healthcare professionals to participate in best practice patient care education through enhanced audio-visual quality and connectivity. Across all the counties, an estimated 270,000 residents will be impacted by the project.
IL	Carle Foundation	\$544,034	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment to virtually connect Carle Richland Memorial Hospital (CRMH) in Olney, Illinois with Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana. This equipment will improve rural community access to specialized health care services for acute cases. It will also allow patients to have the option of receiving care locally and avoiding transferring to another health care facility for vital health care services. The community hospital serves eight southeastern Illinois counties, with a combined population of approximately 200,000.
IL	Community Unit School District #100	\$378,754	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand the Community Unit School District #100's Rural Illinois Shared Education (RISE) Network to eight additional schools in rural Illinois. Poverty and no population growth have factored into the participating counties being Health Professional Shortage Areas for mental health care. The project is focused on opioid and substance abuse prevention and education; suicide prevention education; and expanding educational opportunities. The expansion of the Shared Education network will also provide opportunities for workforce development, including training of first responders. This highly collaborative teaching and communication tool will benefit approximately 3,600 residents of rural Illinois.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
IL	Dieterich Community Unit School District	\$840,776	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand the Dieterich Community Unit School District #30's Rural Illinois Shared Education (RISE) Network to 12 additional schools in rural Illinois. Poverty and out-migration have factored into half of the participating counties of Health Professional Shortage Areas for mental health care. The project is focused on opioid and substance abuse prevention and education; suicide prevention education; and expanding educational opportunities. The expansion of the Shared Education network will also provide opportunities for workforce development, including training of first responders. This highly collaborative teaching and communication tool will benefit approximately 3,200 residents of rural Illinois.
IL	OSF Healthcare System	\$387,092	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide synchronous distance learning for nurses and healthcare professionals with the goal of improving their knowledge and improving health related outcomes, including management of opioid and substance abuse disorders. These programs will reduce the inequity of educational experiences and resources overcoming the barriers of rural residents in the project area. The total estimate of the population benefited from this project is 107,000 rural residents.
IL	Regional Office of Education #17	\$651,596	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment that will provide real-time, interactive, telecommunications link between and among hub and end- users. This network will promote the availability of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) courses and provide dual enrollment credit to high school students located in central Illinois. This project connects rural school districts and career centers with one another allowing them to share resources, classes, and professional development by using video conferencing. It will serve a student population of over 7,900 students.
IL	St. John's Hospital of the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis	\$552,474	This Rural Development investment will be used to acquire interactive telemedicine equipment for the hub site in Springfield and 10 rural end-user hospitals and skilled nursing facilities in Clinton, Montgomery, Madison, Shelby, and Bond counties in Illinois. All the sites will support the Heroin Opioid Prevention Education (HOPE) Telehealth Network, a project launched by the Illinois Telehealth Network, and will include services such as pain medication management and education, prevention, treatment and recovery care for Opioid/Substance Use Disorder (OUD/SUD) individuals, and other health care services. The sites are being deployed as part of an effort to improve access to health care in rural, underserved and disadvantaged communities, through the application of telehealth and telemedicine solutions to benefit the 53,000 residents of the communities where the hospitals are located.
IL	Streator Township High School District #40	\$669,676	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand the Streator Township High School Rural Illinois Shared Education (RISE) Network to 12 additional junior high and high schools in rural Illinois. Poverty and out-migration have factored into the participating counties of Health Professional Shortage Areas for mental health care. The project is focused on opioid and substance abuse prevention and education; suicide prevention education; and expanding educational opportunities. The expansion of the Shared Education network will also provide opportunities for workforce development, including training of first responders. This highly collaborative teaching and communication tool will benefit approximately 74,000 residents of rural Illinois.
IL, IA, MO	Blessing Hospital	\$932,540	This Rural Development investment will be used to build four hubs for the proposed Blessing Hospital Telemedicine Program, which will include both inpatient and outpatient facilities. The hubs will provide services to end user sites. The four hubs for the proposed program are Blessing Physician Services Quincy, Illinois locations (2 locations), Blessing Hospital and Hannibal Clinic. Three additional hospitals will participate in the program as end users, which include Illini Community Hospital and Keokuk Hospital that are both owned by Blessing Health System, and also Scotland County Hospital which is not owned by Blessing Health System. The total estimated population that are served by the collaborative entities participating in the project is 291,000 and the anticipated number of visits that will be provided by telehealth providers is 46,000.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
IN	Indiana University Health, Inc.	\$847,013	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase and install telemedicine equipment at eight Indiana University Health rural critical access hospitals. Indiana University Health will utilize the telehealth equipment to expand access to around the clock behavioral health services, that include peer recovery coaching and psychiatric assessments virtually, to the rural facilities that participate. Several needs will be addressed through this project, which will help create more timely, co-located, high-quality behavioral health treatment for local residents. This project will enhance care in 217 additional rooms system-wide for approximately 56,000 patients annually.
KS	Diocese of Dodge City	\$824,630	This Rural Development investment will be used to focus on three schools located in frontier communities to deliver high-quality distant learning services. The three schools are Holy Family School, St. Joseph Catholic School, and Sacred Heart School, which together serve approximately 300 students. This project provides real-time, interactive telecommunication distance learning equipment, to deliver educational instruction and substance use prevention training to students living in Great Bend, Ellinwood, and Ness City, Kansas. This project will also help connect rural schools to support rural residents throughout Southwest Kansas.
KS	Kansas Department of Corrections	\$858,650	This Rural Development investment will be used to build a telemedicine and distance learning network between 19 counties in Kansas. This project will improve our core infrastructure by expanding access points to internet / Wi-Fi connectivity and introduce state of the art dual- purpose equipment for distance education programs and behavior health services at our adult correctional facilities located in the rural areas of Winfield, Norton, Stockton, El Dorado, Oswego, Ellsworth, Learned and Lansing, Kansas. Through connections between the hub site and end-user sites, the project will provide 7,600 residents of the correctional facilities with the opportunity to access education programs, teacher resources, and secondary and post-secondary level instruction, while also expanding access to therapeutic services for residents in restrictive housing settings to engage in the full range of necessary treatment and support services to aide in their recovery process.
KS	Pawnee Mental Health Services, Inc.	\$579,186	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand Hub/End-User and End-User sites located in counties designated as rural. This project will enhance existing telehealth technology infrastructure and create new partnerships with rural hospitals, jails, and the Pottawatomie Health Department, in order to improve access to mental health care for 70,000 residents of Clay, Cloud, Jewell, Marshall, Mitchell, Pottawatomie, Republic and Washington counties.
KS, OK	Morton County Health System	\$426,102	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist the Morton County Health System to purchase and install stationary and portable medical examination equipment to serve rural residents in Morton County, Kansas and Cimarron and Texas Counties in Oklahoma. The project will provide state of the art diagnosis and care to patients, in addition to opioid and substance abuse education. The total number of rural residents who will benefit from the project is estimated to be 144,000.
KY	Boyd County Public Schools	\$427,157	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Boyd County Public Schools with their distance learning project using interactive video conferencing. The project will develop distance learning, counseling and telecommunications capacity between schools and community partners, with a focus on students with substance abuse disorders. The project will impact more than 3,000 rural residents from Cannonsburg, Catlettsburg, Rush, and Summit in Boyd County.
KY	Caverna Independent Schools	\$534,106	This Rural Development investment will be used to acquire state of the art video conferencing equipment for drug abuse awareness programs, virtual enrichment programs, and distance learning for dual credit classes. Classroom equipment will be used to showcase virtual guest speakers, provide access to visual and performing arts programs and activities to students. This project will benefit approximately 700 students across the school district in both Hart and Barren counties in rural Kentucky.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
KY	Elizabethtown Community and Technical College	\$648,867	This Rural Development investment will be used to launch the ECTC LIVE: Linking Innovative Virtual Education. The ECTC LIVE aims to provide distance learning opportunities to four rural areas in the ECTC service area. This project will equip classrooms with state-of-art technology at the ECTC-Main Campus site and in the remote sites of Leitchfield, Springfield, Meade County, and Green County. The technology provided through this grant program will enable the ECTC-Main Campus to offer more dual credit classes, more general education class offerings and community education classes via distance learning in a synchronized "real-time" classroom. The equipped classrooms will allow ECTC-Main Campus instructors to teach in a classroom in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, and have students attend the same course from all four remote rural classroom sites. An estimated 3,000 students will benefit from this project.
KY	Green County Board of Education	\$983,108	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide distance learning through the Green County Schools PreK-12 Educational Enhancement and Expansion program. This educational technology will equip students with the skills, knowledge and experiences needed to thrive as members of tomorrow's workforce. The project will provide 82 dual camera/dual panel distance learning solutions within classrooms across the school district that will give students the ability to access curriculum and program offerings from across the state and country. This project will have an immediate impact on 1,600 students and approximately 100 adult evening learners within the first year. In addition, the distance learning solutions are expected to continue providing service for a 10-year period bringing an extended impact that could reach tens of thousands of rural residents over the course of the distance learning equipment's useful life.
KY	Marion County School District	\$244,763	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish technological support for distance learning at the Marion County School District's (MCSD) Career Academy, in order to help meet teacher shortage needs and increase access to behavioral health services for students and families. The project will benefit 3,400 students from preschool through grade 12. Over the course of the 3-year project, Marion County School District's will advance the technology at nine school sites by adding interactive distance learning systems to support virtual learning, increased STEM collaboration between middle and high schools, and to support efforts to fill teacher shortages by sharing teachers across sites as needed for subject matter content. Five community- based business partners will receive interactive distance learning systems to expand collaboration for the Career Academy. School sites will be equipped with tele-counseling/tele- medicine carts to support an increase in behavioral health services.
KY	Northern Kentucky University	\$182,792	This Rural Development investment will be used to help NorthKey Community Care and Northern Kentucky University social work offer virtual treatment for Substance Use Disorder at all of its' offices. This project will help offer virtual school-based care programs in all schools in Carroll, Gallatin, Owen, and Pendleton Counties. This project will also address the medical and behavioral needs for residents, especially those with Substance Use Disorder. This project will further solve multiple specific community challenges, including a dearth of medical and behavioral health practitioners who can treat Substance Use Disorder, the absence of medication for Opioid Use Disorder, overburdened primary care providers, inaccessible specialty care, a lack of transportation, hesitancy in leaving their county and significant underserved at-risk populations, including youth and the justice-involved. This telemedicine effort is projected to provide services to 14,500 area residents.
KY	Ohio County Hospital Corporation	\$200,387	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable Ohio County Healthcare to install a telehealth platform to provide needed healthcare to six rural locations in Ohio and Butler counties. Funds will be used to equip sites with mobile telehealth carts to be used on sites. This provides quality care and more access to specialist for patients in rural health clinics. This project will improve quality of care and reduce the travel burden for an estimated 13,000 rural residents in Kentucky.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
KY	Rockcastle County Board of Education	\$939,588	This Rural Development investment will be used to acquire interactive video conferencing equipment for ten sites, including six schools, a mental health service agency, and other facilities in Rockcastle and Pulaski counties. The equipment will be used to provide telemedical and tele-education services to rural students that require ongoing health and wellness services to attend school. Mental health services will be provided via professionals linked virtually from the Somerset Mental Health Center, and students with medical needs will be able to attend school via a connection to the Rockcastle Regional Hospital and Respiratory Care Center/ Rockcastle Pediatrics. The communities housing the end-user sites include approximately 3,700 residents who will benefit from this project.
KY, WV	Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Inc.	\$570,211	This Rural Development investment will be used to enhance the Appalachian Regional Healthcare's (ARH) current telemedicine program by adding 33 telemedicine carts to 29 ARH hospital or outpatient clinic locations throughout Eastern Kentucky and Western West Virginia. Nineteen of these telemedicine carts will serve 17 outpatient clinic locations. Through the use of portable telemedicine units, patients at these rural clinics will be able to visit with a variety of specialists via video conferencing. The project will also fund the purchase of 14 inpatient carts for 12 hospital locations to assist with inpatient telemedicine consultations by various specialists including cardiology, pulmonology, and a telemedicine hospitalist program for some of ARH's Critical Access Hospitals. Six inpatient carts will also be purchased to provide telemedicine services between the six obstetrics units across the ARH system. These units will be utilized specifically for ARH's only level two NICU in Hazard to provide consultative services to the other five obstetric units especially regarding Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome infants born to mothers with substance use disorder. An estimated 350,000 rural residents will have access to improved medical care through this project.
LA	Homer Memorial Hospital	\$707,306	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide a telemedicine and distance learning network for Claiborne Memorial Medical Center located in the northwest Louisiana. Claiborne Parish is an extremely rural area with a 34 percent poverty rate and a median income of \$27,303. The entire Parish is a designated Mental Health Provider Shortage. This network will provide interactive real time telemedicine at clinics for the schools and nursing homes. Approximately 5,500 rural residents will benefit by the reduced absenteeism by both students, faculty, and staff; improved overall health and wellbeing to area children; identification and early treatment for students needing psychiatric treatment; and a reduction in nursing home residents' admissions to the hospital.
LA	North Caddo Hospital Service District	\$141,225	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telemedicine to 1,200 students in five local, rural schools through North Caddo Medical Center. The Louisiana schools are North Caddo High School, North Caddo Elementary School, Plain Dealing High School, Mooringsport Elementary School, and Herndon Magnet School. A registered nurse will be staffed at each school location with a telemedicine cart. A medical provider will evaluate students seeking care while off site. The Telemedicine carts are equipped with a stethoscope that will allow the medical provider to listen to the child's heart and lungs. The carts also have an otoscope and ophthalmoscope to examine the child's ears, nose, throat, and eyes. Each cart will also have a derma probe attached to give the physician an up-close look at any skin complaints. Also available on the carts are dental probes to evaluate oral health. The nurse can perform an electrocardiogram (EKG), vital signs (temperature, heart rate, oxygen level, blood pressure, height, and weight), and a breathing treatment from the cart. The results will be sent directly to the medical provider.
LA	Oceans Acquisition, Inc.	\$418,379	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment that will connect rural nursing facilities and the rural Coshatta Tribe of Louisiana Public Health Department (end-user sites) with Oceans medical facilities (hub sites) to provide mental health services through this telemedicine program. These services will include intake/assessment, individual therapy, group therapy and other services to 1,800 residents.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
LA, NC	Southern University and A&M College	\$502,836	This Rural Development investment will be used to engage rural Louisiana in distance learning through the Southern University Law Center. The center, along with its partnering end-user sites, aim to tackle several issues experienced in their communities due to extreme rurality. The center will engage these communities in opioid abuse community counseling and educational programming, legal literacy clinics and programming, and business education and programming for small businesses, cottage industries and entrepreneurs hoping to boost their local economy. The courses and clinics offered are designed to specifically address the issues encountered by the communities in this project and are expected to positively impact 46,000 residents.
MD	Chesapeake College	\$57,041	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand its synchronous distance learning opportunities by purchasing distance learning technologies, specifically video endpoints and display systems that will broadcast the class and enable interactivity. An advisory council of Chesapeake College academic and enrollment administrators, library directors, and a representative from the Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board will meet prior to each academic year to assess the education and training needs within each community served by the above sites. That assessment will drive the synchronous distance learning opportunities that will be available at each site. The project is projected to reach 42,000 rural residents.
ME	Medical Care Development, Inc.	\$254,192	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring Medical Care Development, Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare, Aroostook Mental Health Services (AMHC), and the National Digital Equity Center together, to improve access to telehealth, specifically in Aroostook and Washington counties, with the primary focus being to treat individuals who live in these two counties that suffer from a substance and opioid use disorder. Services are projected to be provided to over 2,200 residents.
ME	Unity College	\$363,310	This Rural Development investment will be used to support the Unity College Hyflex Classroom Project, which is an initiative of the college's newest sustainable education business unit (the Technical Institute for Environmental Professions). Students will have opportunities to build in- demand professional skills and earn Associate's degrees, or professional certifications. The project will help integrate virtual reality technology and help students in rural areas interact with diverse colleagues all across the globe. The project will enhance educational opportunities for an estimated 172,000 residents in the rural towns near the two project sites.
ME	University of Maine System	\$113,008	This Rural Development investment will be used to develop and connect the University of Maine's Aquaculture Teaching Lab to K-12 schools, a community college and technical training centers throughout the state of Maine. It will also establish a distance learning connection with the University of Maine's main campus. The lab is located at the Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research in Franklin, Maine. Funds will enable the center to purchase video telecommunications hardware, software, and related equipment, as well as outfitting the lab with state-of-the-art sensors and controls allowing over 200 students per year to remotely access and interact with the lab, expanding the reach of UMaine's aquaculture programming.
MN	CentraCare Health System	\$236,214	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist CentraCare and affiliate Carris Health expand access to new services at primary clinic sites and expand telehealth services in underserved communities. An estimated 22,000 rural residents will have enhanced access to medical services through the project.
MN	Riverland Community College	\$137,331	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase interactive videoconferencing technology to deliver and receive distance education. Riverland Community College will be able to deliver on-campus courses synchronously to students in rural locations across southern Minnesota. The new technology will have the ability to benefit approximately 9,300 residents.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
MS	Lawrence County School District	\$600,742	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide a telemedicine and distance learning network for the Lawrence County School District in Southwest Mississippi. The area is rural and does not have enough tax base to provide funding for the equipment to meet the needs of the students, school staff and community. Educational services will include access to college courses, dual credit classes, teacher sharing among the various school sites, and professional development. Though the focus of this project is to benefit the students, adult education classes will provide community members with access to workforce training. Across the district, more than 10,000 students, school staff, parents, businesses and community members will benefit from this project.
MS	Scott County School District	\$466,043	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide a telemedicine and distance learning network for the Scott County School District (SCSD) in Mississippi. The district serves the communities of Lake, Morton, and Sebastopol, along with the surrounding rural areas of the county. The concentrated poverty in Scott County is evident in the SCSD's ranking 122 out of 142 of the lowest expenditure per pupil in the state. This network will provide 3,800 students basic learning and educational services, language services, access to math, science and advanced classes (dual enrollment), reduce need for busing, and improve the overall graduation rate in this high poverty Mississippi Delta area.
MS	West Point Consolidated School District	\$804,379	This Rural Development investment will be used to implement a technology solution to address the need for telemedicine, classroom overcrowding/lack of courses, and certified teacher shortage; particularly advanced-level secondary teachers. This project will enable the West Point Consolidated School District to purchase needed equipment so that all students have access to accelerated courses and Fine Art classes. The upgraded classrooms will feature state-of-the-art video conferencing equipment, interactive boards, teacher technology lecterns that supports mobile technology that will help teachers create an online learning environment. Students enrolled in distance learning will have an updated environment designed to offer access to their teachers during class and a supportive environment to ensure academic success. This project will impact over 19,000 students.
MT	Pryor Public Schools	\$152,699	This Rural Development investment will be used to support a Distance Learning & Telemedicine initiative, and also help set up the project as a hybrid of non-fixed and fixed end-user sites. The project will also help remove geographical barriers for students and teachers. This project will also aim to offer school-based health care to students in the future. All of the project sites are located on the Crow Nation Reservation, federally recognized as the Crow Tribe of Montana. An estimated 2,500 residents will be served by this project.
NC	Carteret Community College	\$508,751	This Rural Development investment will be used by Carteret Community College to enhance the distance learning program to expand course offerings to include live, interactive synchronous continuing education courses, certifications, Peer Recovery Support Specialist training, substance abuse certificate programs, suicide prevention and opioid awareness training, and increased professional development opportunities to the geographically isolated communities of the North Carolina coast. Carteret Community college will also use equipment purchased through this grant to teach virtual classes in other subject areas such as Information Technology and Photography. Students who are unable to attend classes on the college's main campus due to incarceration, substance abuse treatment, works schedules or transportation issues, as well as those who cannot take online courses due to lack of internet connection or appropriate devices, will be able to further their training and education at a site more convenient. This project will directly impact the lives of every resident in Carteret County, which is approximately 70,000 people.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
NC	Columbus County Schools	\$745,358	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect all member schools and key educational partners Southeastern Community College, Columbus Regional Healthcare System, The North Carolina Museum of Natural Science at Whiteville and others. Utilizing state of the art technology to benefit students from real time interaction from the partners. Students and staff will also benefit from the project via the Career Technical Education Program, school-based telemedicine services from contracted providers including opiate abuse prevention programming. This project will benefit 5,000 rural students in the county.
NC	Johnston County Public Schools	\$982,445	This Rural Development investment will be used to bolster students' ability to learn and achieve by addressing the Opioid crisis that has negatively impacted the educational environment. Specifically, the local educational agencies will use technology and telecommunications equipment to implement professional development that will help educators respond more effectively to students and families in crisis, as well as provide a means for students to attend virtual support, counseling, and/or therapy sessions. The project will benefit an estimated 14,000 students in the Johnston County Public Schools and Tyrell County Public Schools in North Carolina.
NC	North Carolina Department of Public Safety	\$936,368	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring telehealth technology to 25 rural correctional institutions in 19 counties through the North Carolina Department of Public Safety. This project will increase access and equity in healthcare, opioid and substance use disorder treatment, and mental health care. The health of approximately 15,000 incarcerated persons will be positively impacted by this project.
NC	Pitt County Public Schools	\$199,058	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Pitt County School District, located in North Carolina, provide equitable education to all students in its district. Pitt County School District has a need to install and/or update distance learning in 11 schools (three hub, eight end user) to include stationary and mobile units. There is a specific need to establish hub-to-site, site- to-site, and site-to-student connections for delivery of core subjects. There is also a need to provide math, science, computer/technology classes to all schools in the district. There is also a need to establish dual enrollment, advanced placement, and advanced math and science courses for college-bound students. There is also a need to provide and expand career and technical courses through distance learning instruction. The Pitt is Innovating Education (PIE) project also includes power supply and necessary supporting equipment and software for all students in the district. The estimated population impacted by the proposed Pitt County PIE project is 9,000 residents.
NE	Mid-Plains Community College	\$139,042	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase and install strategically placed distance learning equipment that will provide access to dual credit course offerings, prerequisite courses in health science occupations, required post-secondary courses leading to acquisition of certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees, continuing education classes, workforce trainings, and community education classes. Mid-Plains Community will service the project which will link eight schools in rural Nebraska and will benefit an estimated 77,000 rural residents.
NM	Ben Archer Health Center, Inc.	\$90,372	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist the Health Education and Access to Learning (HEAL) Project. The HEAL Project will deliver distance learning to rural and exceptionally rural individuals in Northern Dona Ana, Sierra, Otero and Luna Counties, New Mexico. The HEAL Project will affect an estimate 97,000 people directly or indirectly in southern New Mexico.
NV	BHC Health Services of Nevada, Inc.	\$177,644	This Rural Development investment will be used to offer remote tele-psychology and telepsychiatry healthcare to patients located in Battle Mountain city in Lander County, Ely city in White Pine County, Hawthorne Census-Designated Place (CDP) in Mineral County, Lovelock City in Pershing County, Panaca CDP in Lincoln County and Yerington city in Lyon County. Through the Norther Nevada TRON Project, the consortium will reach approximately 50,000 individuals and serve 5,000 patients in the seven (7) rural health clinics in Lander, Lincoln, Mineral, Pershing and White Pine County, Nevada and surrounding counties.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
NV	DVH Hospital Alliance LLC	\$66,355	This Rural Development investment will be to purchase telemedicine equipment to expand healthcare services in rural Nevada. Desert View Hospital, has partnered with two rural communities in Southwestern Nevada, to expand access to specialty care, such as emergency, surgery, inpatient nursing care, radiology, laboratory, cardiopulmonary, physical therapy, wound care, and psychiatry services. This project will offer higher levels of care via telemedicine to over 20,000 individuals in Nye County, Nevada.
NY	Southern Tier Health Care System, Inc.	\$88,648	This Rural Development investment will be used to complete a 17-site project and provide training to at least 6,500 first responders. The project will benefit an estimated 97,000 rural residents of these small rural communities and serve three federally recognized tribal communities in the southern-tier and update region of New York State.
OH	Cardington-Lincoln Local School District	\$887,907	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable students to connect through distance learning with courses in Ohio State University at Marion and Marion Technical College as well as real life learning experience instructions from staff and doctors at Morrow County Hospital. Namely, this project will upgrade Asynchronous Distance Learning system to a Synchronous Distance Learning which will enable the school district to offer adult education classes in off- hours to residents, workforce development courses. This video conferencing system will benefit over 2,000 residents in Morrow County, Ohio.
OH	East Guernsey Local School District	\$788,872	This Rural Development investment will be used to combat Opioid and other Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Services via education and telehealth services. The primary purpose of the project is to help the community through education services that strengthen the knowledge around the effects of substance abuse, mental health counseling, and accessing programs around the world. This project will also provide science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education within schools and telehealth solutions, so nurses can connect to doctors and professionals at partner locations. The project is projected to serve over 2,000 rural residents, both students and other members of the community.
OH	Kent State University	\$585,045	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable Kent State Geauga and Kent State Ashtabula to install advanced video conferencing equipment at four hub sites and eleven end- user sites spread throughout Geauga, Ashtabula and Summit Counties in Ohio. Distance learning education will be offered in the form of dual credit courses for 7th-12th graders, credit-bearing courses and degree programs for adult learners, workforce training programs for area employees, community health outreach initiatives for county residents, and experiential learning opportunities for Kent State allied health students. The project will benefit an estimated 73,000 rural residents.
OH	New London Local School District	\$945,996	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide behavioral health resources, including substance use services and supports for students and families in the district through a partnership with the Huron County Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Additionally, through technology, the School District will seek to further its Substance Use – Community Youth Resiliency Project Work. This programming is a partnership with county and local organizations providing a wide variety of proven, successful enrichment programs that are offered to teens via the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Ohio (BGCNEO). The total population that will utilize the technology will be approximately 1,200 students in the school district.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
OK	Mid-America Christian University	\$451,769	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telecommunications equipment to connect Mid-America Christian University in Cleveland County, Oklahoma with rural high schools in Grady and Adair Counties. College-Level Education and Access for Rural Schools (CLEARS) is an expansion of a successful Mid-America Christian University (MACU) Distance Learning & Telemedicine (DLT) grant project that is currently being implemented called ATOMS (Access to Online Math and Science). The overall goal for CLEARS is to increase concurrent college enrollment and to provide content support for students and teachers at the CLEARS school districts. The project will deliver subject matter content for teachers and students in grades 11-12 in two remote, rural school districts via synchronous distance learning. Over the course of the three year project period, approximately 800 students and residents will be served.
OK	Oklahoma Public School Resource Center	\$355,184	This USDA investment will be used to replace Oklahoma Public School Resource Center's aging videoconferencing equipment and introduce new videoconferencing equipment at the hub and end user sites. The project will use technology to connect students and teachers across long distances. Distance learning services will be offered via a fixed-site project and will provide approximately 700 students and 50 teachers with fixed site interactive video systems and touch panels to create an environment for sharing and collaboration between project sites. Distance learning capabilities for 2,000 rural citizens will be impacted by the enhancement.
OK	Southwestern Oklahoma State University	\$983,566	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) College of Pharmacy Rural Health Center buy equipment to implement telemedicine in LeFlore County and western Oklahoma counties over the next three years. In the first year of the grant, Southwestern Oklahoma State University will collaborate with Eastern Oklahoma Memorial Center (EOMC) in Poteau (LeFlore County), in order to put telemedicine equipment in six rural public-school locations in LeFlore County. In the second and third years of the grant, Southwestern Oklahoma State University goal is to serve 18 rural schools in western Oklahoma counties. Overall the project will bring telemedicine access to an estimated 50,000 residents and over 12,000 students.
OR	Mercy Foundation, Inc.	\$107,478	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase access to health care in 22 rural Douglas County schools via school-based telehealth clinics. The project will create a virtual care system for 6,400 students that will close the gaps in access to rural care to improve health outcomes for low-income vulnerable youth.
PA	Cen-Clear Child Services, Inc.	\$157,025	This Rural Development investment will be used by Cen-Clear Child Services Inc. to expand a telehealth project to those with substance use disorders in rural central Pennsylvania. Interactive telehealth equipment will be utilized for the provision of drug and alcohol outpatient services, including Medication Assisted Treatment to over 2,200 patients and their families. Additionally, interactive video equipment will be installed in group rooms at five drug and alcohol clinics in the Pennsylvania counties of Clearfield, Jefferson, and Clarion. This project will increase rural access to services, reduce travel and reduce drug related emergencies.
PA	Penn Highlands DuBois	\$791,474	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand its current telemedicine program and capability across rural northwestern and central Pennsylvania through its network of hospitals, outpatient clinics, pharmacies, and medical practices. The project will focus on behavioral health with an emphasis on addressing opioid and substance abuse patients. The project will enhance telemedicine opportunities for 79,000 residents in the served communities.
PR	Universal Health Services, Inc.	\$92,752	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Universal Health Services, Inc. (UHS) purchase telemedicine equipment to offer behavioral and mental health care, including substance and opioid use disorder treatment. UHS owns and operates First Health Care of Puerto Rico, Inc., who will serve vulnerable populations in the underserved municipalities of Aguada and Guayama through its Puerto Rico Outreach Network for Tele-Behavioral Health Optimization (PRONTO) Project. The PRONTO Project will reach approximately 10,000 individuals and serve 1,000 patients in Puerto Rico.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
SC	Medical University of South Carolina	\$365,443	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment that will expand school-based telehealth service to the medically underserved students in rural South Carolina. The Medical University of South Carolina will serve as a hub site and will serve 29 different rural schools, providing telehealth services to approximately 11,000 students.
SC	Piedmont Technical College	\$688,500	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment that will connect Piedmont Technical College (PTC), hub site, to the rural community campuses throughout six counties in rural South Carolina. This distance learning project will overhaul and revitalize the current system and update its technology offerings to include a state-of-the-art video conferencing system, accommodating at least 10 additional broadcast locations, better technology, greater flexibility, and increased student learning capacity. An estimated 1,900 students and faculty will be directly affected by this project.
SC	South Carolina Department of Corrections	\$723,276	This Rural Development investment will be used to support Reducing Recidivism through distance learning, an initiative that uses distance learning to address criminogenic risk factors for offenders in 14 rural correctional institutions. Distance learning technology will be placed in the space dedicated to Programs, Reentry, and Educational services. These criminogenic programs include educational programs, vocational programs, post-secondary enrollment, employability programs (and interviews), cognitive-based programs that target antisocial thinking and behaviors, life skills programs, and reentry services. Ultimate outcomes are reduced recidivism and reduced cost of incarceration for taxpayers. Each year, more than 11,000 offenders will have increased access to rehabilitative and educational services as a result of the project.
SC	South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice	\$137,679	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide expanded services to the agency's rural end-user sites. South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) recognizes the need to provide justice involved youth with the consistent, high quality, timely, rehabilitative treatment services. Closing the digital divide within the agency's Rehabilitative Services Division will have a positive and direct impact on the quality of treatment services accessible to youth in rural facilities and/or communities. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated service gaps in rural areas increasing the urgency of need to expand telemedicine options in rural counties. The ability to offer digital conferencing across the state will enhance telemedicine services systemwide and increase access to care (primary health and behavioral health) for youth in DJJ secure facilities and those served in the community in alternative placements county offices. This project will serve an estimated 12,000 Department of Juvenile Justice youths in South Carolina.
TN	Benton County Board of Education	\$385,258	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist the Benton County School District to purchase interactive video conferencing equipment that will provide distance learning services for high school, middle school, and elementary school students in 9 rural schools. It will enable access to quality tele-education, dual enrollment college level access to courses, technology education services as it reduces the costs for transportation and other educational barriers for students throughout the district. Approximately 2,100 students will gain access to distance learning through this project.
TN	University Health System, Inc.	\$534,334	This Rural Development investment will be used by University Health System, Inc. to enhance remote delivery of primary and specialty care, with special emphasis on mental health and substance abuse services by connecting 10 end-user sites, across seven rural counties of Eastern Tennessee, with the University of Tennessee Medical Center network based out of Knoxville. Funding will be used to purchase interactive telecommunication equipment and software designed to better service the surrounding rural residents of the Eastern Tennessee region. It is expected that over 14,000 rural residents will benefit from the increased access made available through this telehealth project.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
TN	University of Tennessee at Martin	\$278,831	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment that will connect the University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM) and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHC) to multiple sites throughout West Tennessee. This distance learning grant will cover a diverse array of health-related topics and experiences, including dual-enrollment programming, summer programs, professional and teacher development, telemedicine, and substance abuse education and treatment. The project will offer increased educational opportunities to the 26,000 residents of the communities that house the end-user sites.
TN	Weakley County Schools	\$358,905	This Rural Development investment will be used by the Weakley County School District to provide distance learning in Weakley County, Tennessee. The project will provide over 2,700 students with access to quality tele-education, dual enrollment college level access to courses, technology education services, and will reduce the costs for transportation and other educational barriers for students throughout the district.
TN, FL, ID, MD, MO, WY	Corizon Health, Inc.	\$967,356	This Rural Development investment will be used to facilitate the delivery of health services including substance abuse treatment and mental health treatment to prison inmate populations in Florida, Idaho, Maryland, Missouri, and Wyoming. An estimated 90,000 incarcerated individuals will be provided with point-of-care behavioral health services through video conferencing by psychiatric professionals and medical professionals at end-user sites.
TN, VA	Mountain States Health Alliance	\$298,100	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand access to Behavioral Health, Urgent Care, and Specialty Care in Rural Appalachia through Mountain States Health Alliance. All telemedicine visits will be conducted on a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act compliant platform using VisuWell which is the approved telemedicine platform for the entire health system. The sites comprise 33 rural Primary Care Offices and Urgent Care locations throughout the Mountain States service area in Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia in southern and central Appalachia. An estimated 33,000 patients will benefit from the telemedical care available due to this project.
TX	Behavioral Health Management, LLC	\$346,814	This Rural Development investment will be used by Behavioral Health Management, LLC to purchase and install telemedicine equipment to increase access to behavioral/mental health and substance/opioid use disorder services to patients located throughout rural Texas and improve the quality of life and the health of patients. Behavioral Hospital of Bellaire is the lead for a consortium of six rural Southeast Texas Health Clinics. The project will improve healthcare outcomes for consortium partners, patients, healthcare professionals, and communities. The project will reach approximately 60,000 individuals and serve 6,000 patients.
TX	Clarendon College	\$670,423	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase state-of-the-art video communication systems located on the main campus of Clarendon College in Clarendon, Texas, as well as three branch locations in Childress, Pampa, and Shamrock. The college will use these systems to allow instructors on one campus to teach classes at other rural sites that lack the faculty for those subjects. Two specific areas where the distance learning technology will have an impact is in expanding the availability of nursing courses to address the healthcare worker shortage in rural Texas and in the delivery of ranch and feedlot operations courses to address workforce needs. The affected population is estimated at 29,000 residents.
TX	Eastland Memorial Hospital District	\$896,714	This Rural Development investment will be used by Eastland Memorial Hospital District to equip twenty-three sites with interactive telehealth equipment in 17 communities located in 14 Texas counties. The sites included in this project will be receiving live, interactive video conferencing technology for the purposes of connecting locations together and bringing health care and continuing medical education (CME) and tele-mental health resources to rural locations where these services are not locally available. This will provide 143,743 rural Texas residents with access to telehealth primary and specialty service as well as enable continuing medical education to the staff at participating project sites.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
TX	Education Service Center Region XIV	\$322,568	This Rural Development investment will be used by ESC 14 to build a telemedicine and distance learning network to provide reliable mental health support in a largely rural area of Texas. This project will serve 18 independent school districts, within the Education Service Center Region XIV of rural west Texas. This project will virtually connect staff, students and families of students to mental health professionals in Abilene. It will also provide for virtual supervision of school nurses and help them identify signs of substance abuse. Though the predominant focus of this grant will be on telemedicine, students and staff will also benefit from virtual dual credit courses and state required training. More than 30,000 are likely to benefit from this investment.
TX	Lamar University	\$230,167	This Rural Development investment will be used to install telemedicine and interactive distance learning equipment in a medical clinic, community center, and public school in Sabine County. The telemedicine equipment will provide access to primary healthcare for students and medically fragile rural residents, provide community access to medical specialty healthcare, and increase access to physical and psychological screenings for students and residents of Sabine County. The distance learning equipment will increase access to opioid/substance abuse, health promotion, and disease prevention distance education. Specialized hearing screening equipment will also be installed at all three end-user sites and at Lamar University's school of nursing and doctor of audiology program to enable access to hearing screenings and referrals for hearing loss. Approximately 10,000 Sabine County residents will benefit from this project.
TX, OK	UHS of Texoma, Inc.	\$199,015	This Rural Development investment will be used to leverage the capabilities of telehealth to address the persistent lack of mental health services in the region. This Psychiatric Access through Rural and Tribal Networks Engaging Remotely (PARTNER) Project will deliver real-time psychiatric care, addiction medicine and behavioral therapy for high-need patients at eight sites spanning seven rural counties in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nation jurisdictional areas, where an ongoing shortage of critical services continues to limit efforts to address the prevalence of serious mental health conditions in local communities. These rural communities include city of Atoka, the city of Broken Bow, the city of Coalgate, the city of Madill, the city of Stigler, the town of Talihina, and the city of Tishomingo, Oklahoma. The project expects to serve about 8,000 patients in its first three years - 4,900 at five facilities open to the general public and 3,100 at three Choctaw facilities exclusively for tribal members.
UT	Central Utah Clinic, P.C.	\$90,137	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment and software, to provide real-time interactive video consultations, examinations, and diagnosis services to an estimated 11,300 residents in central Utah. By connecting specialists and patients virtually and removing access barriers and scheduling delays, Central Utah Clinic, P.C. dba Revere Health expects to see measurable improvement in healthcare outcomes for patients in these rural communities.
VA	Bristol Virginia Public Schools	\$993,840	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist an informal consortium between Radford City Schools, Bristol Virginia Public Schools, and Wise County Schools to purchase interactive video conferencing equipment to deliver distance learning and telehealth services to 21 schools in eight rural Virginia communities. This project will serve an estimated 9,600 students and 700 teachers with fixed site interactive video systems and touch panels to create an environment for sharing and collaboration between project sites.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
VA	The Rector & Visitors of the University of Virginia	\$267,036	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment to serve a Tribal Nation, a Critical Access Hospital, a new Opioid Use Disorder and Substance Use Disorder clinic, and two federally qualified health centers serving the Appalachian region of Virginia. It will address urgent needs including the COVID-19 pandemic, the public health emergency of Opioid addiction in the coal-mining region, severe respiratory disease, and Type 2 diabetes. UVA Health will serve as the Hub site, providing access to clinical specialists across 60 clinical fields through synchronous video-conferencing systems deployed at the end-user sites. It is estimated that over 3,000 patients will receive treatment from this project.
WA	Centro De Servicios Comunitarios	\$524,514	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase equipment that will allow Centro De Servicios Comunitarios (CSC). CSC Yakima (the CSC Tech Hub) to provide support for both Telemedicine and Remote Learning services on the Yakima Reservation. Key among the telemedicine services will be referral to two Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinics (YVFW) treatment centers specializing in behavioral health including Substance Abuse and alcoholism with extended services provided for the families of those afflicted. Distance Learning opportunities will be provided across multiple communities from two end user locations to support enhanced English Language skills, computer literacy, remedial academic tutoring and educational enrichment courses of study in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. This project will reach approximately 9,700 community residents.
WA	Davenport School District	\$523,919	This Rural Development investment will be used to serve students and members of the Davenport, Hatton, Lind and Ritzville communities. Proposed hub/end-user sites for this project will be the Davenport High School, Davenport Elementary/Junior High, Lind Elementary School, Ritzville Grade School, Lind-Ritzville Middle School, and Lind-Ritzville High School. This project will bring telecommunications equipment into these schools and also allow the districts to expand College In the Classroom programs, share teacher resources, expand professional development, expand remote learning capabilities, and begin offering students and community members access to telemedicine opportunities. This project will impact an estimated 1,500 rural community members.
WA, MT	University of Washington	\$941,760	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect 12 rural dental clinics in the states of Washington and Montana through state-of-the-art tele-dentistry equipment to the University of Washington School of Dentistry. It will provide much greater access to instructors while caring for patients and expands the ability for teaching dentistry students to successfully learn oral health care while training at rural or underserved locations. The direct service area includes 57,000 residents, but the project is expected to have an impact on surrounding areas as well, with a total affected population of 890,000.
WI	Waushara County	\$227,418	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telemedicine through the Waushara County Emergency Medical Services Department. The funding will connect seven fixed rural station locations (the main Waushara County location, four station locations and two posting locations) and outfit seven ambulance and truck vehicles with mobile hotspots and mobile telehealth video conferencing systems for emergency medical services (EMS) telemedicine services while in the field. The vehicles will be outfitted with telemedicine systems and mobile hot spot boosters for connectivity so that ambulances in the field can, in real time, respond to calls and incidents and then connect live with healthcare providers to improve efficiency and support services for patients. At each of these fixed sites, video conferencing technology solutions will be installed to enable real-time, live, interactive training and education initiatives via distance learning. The project will benefit approximately 25,000 rural residents.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants FY 2021 application window

State	Recipient	Grant Amount	Project Descriptions
WV	Clay County School District	\$464,614	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide distance learning technology and telemedicine stations for each of Clay County's six schools. Distance learning technology will be utilized to provide virtual learning experiences for students across all grade levels, as well as expand opportunities for students to participate in advanced and college level courses not available at their home schools. Telemedicine stations will permit students and their families to confer with medical and mental health professionals at each school-based wellness center. This project will benefit approximately 2,000 residents in Clay County, West Virginia.
WV	Pocahontas County Board of Education	\$434,779	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning supplies that will connect students K-7 grade and teachers, K-12 grade with Microsoft Surface Go 2 and Microsoft Surface Pro 7 devices. Pocahontas County Board of Education will facilitate remote and blended learning, expand capacity of educators with technology to support their ability to teach across campuses and inter-classroom co-teaching efforts, provide remote options for professional development and training for educators, and expand student focused mental health telemedicine capabilities in partnership with Youth Health Services, Inc. The project will benefit approximately 3,000 residents in rural West Virginia.
WV	Shepherd University	\$96,891	This Rural Development investment will be used to fund the "Bridges to Degrees" project that creates pathways to postsecondary education for rural high school students by providing high- quality distance learning through live-streamed, synchronous dual enrollment courses offered at Shepherd University, located in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. Funding will outfit Jefferson High School in Shenandoah Junction, West Virginia and Martinsburg High School in Martinsburg, West Virginia with the technology needed to engage in these distance learning courses and equips the university campus with the hardware necessary to deliver these interactive courses. The university proposes to provide distance learning through synchronous live-streamed dual enrollment courses to over 400 eligible high school students per calendar year.
WV	West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission	\$744,328	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment that will develop a state-wide network to provide an interactive telecommunications link between hub and end users. The project will increase the availability of opioid and substance abuse prevention programs, establish the base of a statewide synchronous interactive distance learning network, expand the availability of college courses to rural communities, improve retention and graduation rates of college students, expand educational opportunities for high schools, improve academic achievement and college readiness for high schools, and increase community resources. The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission will serve as the hub of the project and will serve approximately 5,600 residents in rural West Virginia.
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$52,340,060</b>	



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## **USDA Invests \$42 Million in Distance Learning and Telemedicine Infrastructure to Improve Education and Health Outcomes**

***Investments Will Benefit 5 Million Rural Residents***

**WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 2021** – The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced it is [investing \\$42.3 million to help rural residents gain access to health care and educational opportunities](#) (PDF, 255 KB). Rural areas are seeing higher infection and death rates related to COVID-19 due to several factors, including a much higher percentage of underlying conditions, difficulty accessing medical care, and lack of health insurance. The \$42.3 million in awards includes \$24 million provided through the [CARES Act](#). In total, these investments will benefit 5 million rural residents.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
AL	Richard Shelby, Tommy Tuberville	Terri Sewell (07)	The University of Alabama	\$916,948	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect 23 ambulances and seven hospitals in eight rural counties in west-central Alabama. This project will create a network of ambulances equipped with telemedicine services to relay patient data to emergency physicians and provide more efficient care for patients.
AL	Richard Shelby, Tommy Tuberville	Mo Brooks (05)	Lauderdale County Board of Education	\$245,618	This Rural Development investment will be used to install distance learning systems in Lauderdale County elementary and secondary schools and at the Board of Education. The board will purchase mobile carts, bridging software and wireless access points to create a remote teaching system. The distance learning system will enable teachers to provide lessons and educational opportunities to more students.
AL	Richard Shelby, Tommy Tuberville	Terri Sewell (07)	Physicians Care of Clarke	\$744,150	This Rural Development investment will be used to create a telehealth system across primary health care, school-based health care and administrative sites serving rural residents in Clarke, Marengo, Wilcox and Monroe counties. Residents in these counties have a disproportionate rate of heart disease, high blood pressure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and diabetes compared to the state and national rates. Many are geographically isolated and lack transportation to in-person medical care. This project will help install telemedicine carts at each clinic to capture diagnostic information and transmit it to specialist physicians at any site on the network. Videoconferencing equipment also will be installed to provide clinical supervision and consultation.
AL	Richard Shelby, Tommy Tuberville	Gary Palmer (06)	The University of Montevallo	\$580,308	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a telemedicine system for University of Montevallo (UM) of Shelby County to provide access to mental health through its Community Counseling Clinic. UM will install telemedicine end-user units in high schools in Bibb, Dallas and Talladega counties to offer telemental health services to students, teachers and community members. UM also will be able to offer distance education for professional educators and instructional leaders through the College of Education and Human Development and for high school students through dual-enrollment courses.
AL	Richard Shelby, Tommy Tuberville	Gary Palmer (06)	Cahaba Medical Care Foundation	\$789,150	This Rural Development investment will be used to fund teleconferencing equipment in Bibb, Perry, Chilton and Jefferson counties in central Alabama. It will enable the Central Medical Care Foundation to offer distance learning for its family medicine residency programs, which help medical school graduates achieve medical licensure or board certification. In addition, the system will provide telemedicine services to help accommodate the influx of patients due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	University of Alaska - Fairbanks	\$733,518	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect five end-user sites in the Nome Census Area, Bethel Census Area, Northwest Artic Borough, Dillingham Census Area and Southeast Fairbanks Census Area to two hub sites at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. The project will enable students in remote locations to join classes around the state through any web conferencing platform connected to classroom PC's. Each computer will have a touch screen display at the lectern that will be mirrored on a projector or TV at the front of the classroom.
American Samoa and HI	Mazie Hirono Brian Schatz (HI)	Amata Radewagen (AS); Ed Case (HI-01)	American Samoa Medical Center Authority	\$677,675	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a maternal telemedicine network at the LBJ Tropical Medical Center. Ultrasound images will be recorded and transmitted to maternal fetal medicine specialists at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu. The network will provide access to maternal-fetal medicine specialist services not currently available on the island. It also will provide improved access to routine care for women who live on American Samoa's islands. For pregnant women who live on Ofu or Ta'u, prenatal care requires an eight-hour boat ride to Tutuila to visit the only hospital in the territory. The proposed project and partnership with the University of Hawaii will deliver direct services to patients in American Samoa and build the capacity of the local health care providers through the provision of tele-guidance and distance learning in Maoputasi, Ta'u, Ofu and Tualauta counties.
AR	John Boozman, Tom Cotton	Bruce Westerman (04)	Cossatot Community College	\$400,587	This Rural Development investment will be used to implement a distance learning system with virtual reality welding simulators at five rural sites in Sevier, Little River and Howard counties. The system will allow Cossatot Community College to offer distance learning skilled sciences courses to additional rural students at multiple locations. The grant will fund network fiber upgrades at Cossatot's Lockesburg campus . The college expects to train 30 students in welding technology at five end-user sites annually. The equipment also will be available for special training sessions in evenings and on weekends for workers and industry partners.
AR, TN	John Boozman, Tom Cotton (AR), Marsha Blackburn, Bill Haggerty (TN)	Rick Crawford (AR-01), French Hill (AR-02), Steve Womack (AR-03), Bruce Westerman (AR-04), Mark Green (TN-07)	Boston Mountain Rural Health Center Inc.	\$602,640	This Rural Development investment will be used to improve a data center at the hub site in Franklin to make it a reliable platform for a telemedicine system to deliver medical and behavioral services. Many of the services will focus on medication-assisted treatment of opioid substance use disorders in nine rural counties in northwest Arkansas. Laptops, workstations and telemedicine carts with peripheral health diagnostic devices will enable a patient in a facility at one hub/end-user site to be examined remotely by a health care staff member at another hub/end-user site. In addition, equipment for remote monitoring of diabetic patients in their homes will permit more timely care for those patients.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Alex Padilla	Juan Vargas (51)	Centro de Salud de la Comunidad de San Y	\$186,133	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a telemedicine system linking San Ysidro Health's eight health care clinics in San Diego County to two end-user sites in rural eastern San Diego County. The services will include treatment of substance use disorders; primary medical care; pediatric and women's health care; specialty medical care, including cardiology and HIV primary care; health education; and family planning.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Alex Padilla	Jimmy Panetta (20), Mike Thompson (05)	Pacific Union College	\$210,392	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide equipment for distance learning Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) courses and career counseling in Napa, Sonoma and Santa Cruz counties. This project will link Pacific Union College to three rural high schools. The project also will connect students and residents in and around Rio Lindo Adventist Academy in Healdsburg with students and residents in and around Monterey Bay Academy in La Selva Beach.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Alex Padilla	Jim Costa (16), Tom McClintock (04)	Merced Community College District	\$436,772	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish distance learning services to expand Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)-based courses and activities at four rural high schools in the Central Valley. Courses will include dual-credit courses provided by Merced College and high school courses including Advanced Placement, core and elective courses.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Alex Padilla	Kevin McCarthy (23)	Kern Community College District dba Bakersfield College	\$334,673	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning system to connect residents in the towns of Shafter and Lost Hills with Bakersfield College. The school will build in each town state-of-the-art classrooms equipped with interactive televisions and computers with internet access. The videoconferencing technology will enable courses to be streamed from the college's main campus in Bakersfield, from the Delano campus, and from the Wasco Adult Education Center. Course offerings will include health care, industrial automation and classes in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) This project is expected to provide a skilled workforce for in-demand jobs in the health care and automation industries in high-poverty rural areas of Kern County.
CO AZ NM	Michael Bennett, John Hickenlooper (CO), Mark Kelly, Krysten Sinema (AZ), Martin Heinrich, Ben Ray Lujan, (NM)	Lauren Boebert (CO-03), Tom O'Halleran (AZ-01), Teresa Fernandez Leger (NM-03)	Fort Lewis College	\$950,060	This Rural Development investment will be used to implement a distance learning system to connect Fort Lewis College to its students. Technology to support instructional delivery will be provided at four rural connectivity centers in La Plata and Conejos counties in Colorado; Apache County in Arizona, and San Juan County in New Mexico. The distance learning program will help improve academic outcomes, advance student well-being and strengthen partnerships with tribal governments and rural communities while bridging the digital divide for Fort Lewis College students.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
FL	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott	Debbie Wasserman Schultz (23)	NOVA Southeastern University	\$194,222	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a telemedicine system connecting the Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine at Nova Southeastern University with Central Florida Health Care Inc. and the Florida Community Health Center Inc. The system will provide remote training to medical students and will enhance the capacity of health care workers in rural and underserved Florida counties. The college will establish remote clinical training technology labs and deliver training to medical students through virtual rotations. The college also will provide remote continuing medical education and training to reach health care professionals in four rural clinic sites. Hub sites in Broward and Pinellas counties will be connected to rural locations in Highlands, Okeechobee, Glades and Hardee counties.
FL	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott	Kat Cammack (03)	University of Florida	\$144,010	This Rural Development investment will be used to install telemedicine kiosks at county extension offices to provide specialty medical care to rural residents in 13 high-need counties. The project is a collaboration among several divisions at the University of Florida (UF). Extension personnel will help patients access the telemedicine kiosks, coordinate with technical support and sanitize the kiosks between uses. UF doctors, nurses and scheduling staff will coordinate the telemedicine visits. This project will improve access to specialty care for diabetes and pre-diabetes patients, such as endocrinology, hypertensive and cardiology services. It also will improve access to specialty and follow-up care for oncology services.
GA	Jon Ossoff, Raphael Warnock	Austin Scott (08)	Georgia Department of Corrections	\$126,865	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide distance learning opportunities to individuals who are incarcerated in 16 facilities operated by the Georgia Department of Corrections. The individuals will participate in Helping Offenders Prepare through Education (H.O.P.E.). Currently, there are 2,172 incarcerated individuals enrolled in education courses who will participate in H.O.P.E.
GA	Jon Ossoff, Raphael Warnock	Nikema Williams (05)	The Morehouse School of Medicine Inc.	\$997,194	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Morehouse School of Medicine Inc. purchase interactive telecommunications, distance learning and telemedicine equipment. Equipment will be installed in service hubs in two counties in west-central Georgia. This equipment will provide a variety of health care services to residents in the underserved rural areas of nine counties across the state. These services include mental health and substance abuse treatment and counseling; clinical services; referrals for specialty care; health education and career development to schools; and chronic disease diagnosis, treatment and management, including COVID-19. Equipping the hub sites will involve grant fund expenditures in an additional two counties as well.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
GA	Jon Ossoff, Raphael Warnock	Austin Scott (08)	Ben Hill County Board of Education	\$955,349	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase computers and teleconferencing equipment for students in Ben Hill and Irwin counties. The project will create a joint teaching program between the school systems, maximizing the number of available teachers in an area of Georgia where teacher shortages in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)-related subjects are common. This project will also enhance after-school programs by providing students access to teachers.
GA, VI	Jon Ossoff, Raphael Warnock	David Scott (GA-13), Stacey Plaskett (VI)	University of the Virgin Islands	\$168,586	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telecommunications equipment to connect the St. Thomas and St. Croix campuses of the University of the Virgin Islands to the Speech and Hearing Clinic at Georgia State University's Atlanta campus. The equipment will be used to evaluate, test and diagnose children. It will improve techniques to identify and help children with learning developmental disabilities, including autism and hearing loss. It also will be used to provide educational webinars, lessons for parents on children's developmental milestones and instruction on specific types of developmental disabilities.
GU		Michael San Nicolas	Island Eye Center	\$742,547	This Rural Development investment will be used to install telemedicine equipment at remote sites to diagnose and treat eye conditions, such as diabetic retinopathy, for rural patients. In addition, the telemedicine platform will be used to research eye disease and general medical conditions on Guam, and facilitate two-way learning between eye surgeons and health care providers.
ID	Mike Crapo, James Risch	Russ Fulcher (01), Mike Simpson (02)	University of Idaho	\$404,596	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide distance learning equipment at 28 sites in 27 counties, including University of Idaho research and extension centers and county extension offices. The equipment will enable the University's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences to expand the academic classes and extension programs. Faculty on the University's Moscow and Twin Falls campuses and at other research and extension centers and county extension offices will provide material remotely to sites across Idaho.
ID	Mike Crapo, James Risch	Mike Simpson (02)	Idaho State University	\$322,489	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide access to college-level classes to nearly 11,000 rural students in 16 counties in Idaho with high unemployment and poverty rates. It will also be used to purchase equipment that will enable districts to overcome setbacks brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Marie Newman (03)	Lewis University	\$169,285	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase videoconferencing systems for 18 elementary and secondary schools across rural, medically underserved regions of western and southern Illinois. The project will expand access to clinical specialists in speech-language pathology, communication disorders, occupational therapy and mental health counseling. Rural students will receive individual speech therapy, occupational therapy and counseling sessions from the clinical therapists at Lewis University's colleges of Nursing and Health Professions, and Education and Social Sciences.
IA	Joni Ernst, Chuck Grassley	Mariannette Miller- Meeks (02)	Indian Hills Community College	\$97,590	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase portable videoconferencing equipment for five Indian Hills Community College satellite locations and 13 public high schools in 10 rural southeast Iowa counties. The equipment will be used to offer interactive distance learning to high school students, college students, professionals, small business owners, entrepreneurs and community members. These services may include: professional development and licensure courses, vocational courses, adult basic education, English language, small business classes and technical assistance. The project will maintain access to services during the COVID-19 pandemic by preventing rural residents from having to travel to a College campus.
IA	Joni Ernst, Chuck Grassley	Mariannette Miller- Meeks (02)	Southeastern Community College	\$248,475	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish distance learning programs for Southeastern Community College students in Lee, Henry, Des Moines and Clark counties. The project will provide access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) classes, college readiness and professional development courses, workforce development, certification programs and continuous education. It will also provide health and substance abuse prevention education.
KS	Jerry Moran, Roger Marshall	Tracey Mann (01)	Morton County Health System	\$131,619	This Rural Development investment will be used to implement telemedicine systems in parts of Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Morton County Health Systems in Elkhart, Kan., will be the hub site. The system will serve approximately 144,000 residents in Morton, Stevens, Seward, Haskell, Grant, Finney, Kearney, and Stanton counties in Kansas; Baca County in Colorado; Cimarron and Texas counties in Oklahoma; Union County in New Mexico; and Dallam, Hansford, Ochiltree, and Sherman counties in Texas.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05)	Clover Fork Outpatient Medical Project Inc.	\$60,461	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a telemedicine system connecting two primary care sites in Harlan County, Kentucky. The systems will reduce the need for providers, staff and patients to travel from one clinic to another, reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and other diseases. It also will expand the availability of after-hours care, reducing the risk of overwhelming the emergency department and local community hospital.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05)	Big Sandy Health Care Inc.	\$362,981	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide health education using distance learning technology at six primary care clinics, 10 schools and five public health departments in Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Martin and Pike counties. The project will also provide remote monitoring technology for patients with chronic conditions who are enrolled in Big Sandy Health Care's chronic disease management program.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Garland Andy Barr (06)	Saint Joseph Hospital Foundation	\$869,604	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a telemedicine system for patients with acute and chronic conditions in 12 rural Kentucky counties. Interactive monitors and mobile telehealth equipment will connect five rural hospitals, 15 medical practices and two home health agencies with specialist physicians at Saint Joseph Hospital in Lexington.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	James Comer (01)	Kentucky Community & Technical College System	\$167,802	This Rural Development investment will be used to create a distance learning system linking the Kentucky Community & Technical College system to Webster County High School. Madisonville Community College in Muhlenberg County will own and maintain the equipment at both sites and will provide the required matching funds for the project.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05)	Memorial Hospital Inc.	\$234,775	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish telemedicine services for 9,365 rural Kentucky residents in Clay, Leslie, Jackson, Laurel, Whitley, Owsley and Bell counties. The project will reduce burdensome travel expenses for patients, improve patient compliance with referrals and provide much-needed specialty care.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Cedric Richmond (02)	Southern University Agricultural & Mechanical College	\$354,583	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide distance learning courses at Southern University Law Center for residents of Avoyelles, East Carroll, Madison, Morehouse and St. Landry parishes. The project will enable the Center to offer opioid abuse counseling, educational programming, law education clinics and business education.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Chellie Pingree (01)	Aucocisco School	\$708,487	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase teleconferencing equipment to connect 16 schools, including public schools and special-purpose private schools, in seven counties in rural Maine. The schools will use the equipment to access professional development and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) activities. It also will provide more reliable communication for students at home due to the pandemic.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Jared Golden (02)	Maine School of Science & Math	\$924,630	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase video-telecommunications hardware, software and integrated-classroom presentation equipment to support distance learning among 21 schools in Aroostook County, Maine. The project will help to expand curricula in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM); foreign language and other subjects by providing access to educational opportunities across the school districts and dual enrollment to University of Maine Presque Isle. Funds also will be used to purchase personal devices, remote access points and web conferencing licenses to help students participate in classroom activities from home. Teachers will have remote access to professional development, coaching and mentoring opportunities.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Chellie Pingree (01)	University of Maine System	\$1,000,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to install interactive video-teleconferencing equipment at 42 locations across 11 Maine counties. The project will expand educational opportunities for students at remote rural centers and campuses, and help medical clinics expand access to telehealth services for rural patients.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Chellie Pingree (01)	Sanford School Department	\$945,637	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand the Sanford School Department's middle school aquaponics program into a district-wide Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education program. It will enable Kittery students and others to access STEM-related career training from the Sanford CTE center. The project will provide a more flexible approach to teacher professional development. It also to keep the schools open in hybrid learning during the remainder of the pandemic.
MI	Gary Peters, Debbie Stabenow	Jack Bergman (01)	Lake Superior State University	\$787,118	This Rural Development investment will be used to upgrade and expand the distance-learning network among Lake Superior State University, the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District, regional community colleges and local library sites. Thirty-two sites in seven Michigan counties will be equipped with computers, cameras, microphones, monitors and supporting materials that will enable interactive instruction across a network of classrooms.
MI	Gary Peters, Debbie Stabenow	Daniel Kildee (05)	Universal Kidney Foundation	\$548,270	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect health care providers and educators to patients in the counties of Genesee, Luce, Lake and Clare in rural Michigan. The Universal Health & Kidney Foundation's main office will host a videoconferencing bridge to connect all sites to tele-consults and health education services. The foundation's training center in Flint will host three provider telemedicine workstations. Providers at this site will connect to patients in rural areas. A mobile, cart-based telehealth system will be placed at each end-user site. Patients at these sites will be able to connect to a participating grant site or an external provider in a distant area to receive specialty care.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Bennie Thompson (02)	Delta Regional Medical Center	\$995,958	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect rural patients with remote providers at 15 sites located in the counties of Washington, Issaquena, Humphreys and Sharkey in rural Mississippi. Delta Regional Medical Center facilities in Greenville and Arcola will serve as network hubs connecting to six Kindergarten through 12th grade school buildings, two pharmacies, two grocery stores, two employer worksites, a county correctional facility, a community health clinic, and a skilled nursing facility. This project will enhance experiential learning for a regional physician residency program that launched in July 2020, and is expected to connect at least 10,000 rural residents to clinical providers using telemedicine.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Bennie Thompson (02)	Mid-Delta Durable Medical Equipment Inc.	\$182,653	This Rural Development investment will be used to install interactive distance learning equipment for caregivers that are providing end-of-life care for rural residents. This project will provide caregivers access to virtual health care education and training, and the opportunity to take courses at Mississippi Valley State University. Mid-Delta Home Health and Hospice Inc. is partnering with Mississippi Valley State University and Aaron E. Henry Community Health Centers Inc. The funds will benefit rural residents in Humphreys, Bolivar, Coahoma and Leflore counties.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	Mississippi Authority for Educational Television	\$936,228	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand the Mississippi Authority for Educational Television's Digital Education Network and provide distance learning technology to rural schools in Mississippi. Funds will be used to add schools to the network and increase service capacity for schools that are not in the network. Funds also will be used to increase service capacity to prepare for school closures due to unforeseen circumstances such as the COVID-19 pandemic. This project will benefit hub sites in Hinds and Bolivar counties and end-user sites in 15 counties in Mississippi.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	Mississippi Board of Nursing	\$879,163	This Rural Development investment will be used to finance a distance learning network to enable the Mississippi Board of Nursing to expand outreach to 23 higher education campuses located in 19 counties across Mississippi. The applicant and the participating sites include six hub sites that will be used to provide medical education and training remotely to 18 hub/end-user sites comprised of colleges and universities. The six hub sites will have the ability to host live training sessions including simulations and hands-on training.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	Mississippi State University	\$421,350	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide access to distance learning to offices in the RELIANT (Reliable Internet Access for Networked Telecommunications) project throughout Mississippi. Access to webcams, document cameras and green screens will help to ensure continual quality instructional programming if future shelter-in-place orders are issued. Extension agents can provide webinars on topics that are important to its local clientele. The 89 sites will offer formal and informal Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) educational opportunities and support local efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic in 82 counties across rural Mississippi.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Bennie Thompson (02)	North Panola School District	\$78,735	This Rural Development investment will be used to install distance learning carts at North Panola High School and North Panola Career Technical Education to enable Northwest Mississippi Community College and other entities to deliver courses and content from a broad array of classrooms and programs in Panola County. The project will make at least 100 distance learning courses available for students, including dual credit courses, AP courses, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) courses and other activities. Substance abuse prevention education will also be provided to all students across three evidence-based, age-appropriate curricula. This project will offer workforce training opportunities to North Panola residents.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Trent Kelly (01)	Calhoun County School District	\$442,325	This Rural Development investment will be used to install teleconferencing equipment at eight schools and the Calhoun County Career and Technical Center. The equipment will be used to expand educational opportunities for students through dual credit courses; electives; Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) courses; substance abuse prevention education and activities offered through partners at Northwest Mississippi Community College, Base Camp Coding Academy and Communicare. Teachers will be able to share their lessons with other schools. The project aims to improve the college and career readiness of students in the district.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Trent Kelly (01)	University of Mississippi	\$334,112	This Rural Development investment will be used to develop and deploy virtual centers across Mississippi, partnering with community colleges. The Mississippi Small Business Development Center hub will be used to help small businesses and entrepreneurs access technical assistance, mentoring, training and other resources to grow, start or relaunch their businesses. The virtual centers will provide a gateway for rural Mississippians to connect with resources offered by local, state and federal entities and non-profits. This project will help to provide virtual outreach and resources for entrepreneurs and small business owners of color to help strengthen, grow or start their businesses in rural areas of Mississippi. The project will benefit approximately 175,000 residents in 27 rural Mississippi counties.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	University of Mississippi Medical Center	\$868,690	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy new telemedicine carts and platform software to upgrade and enhance capabilities at 20 hospitals in 17 Mississippi counties. The University of Mississippi Medical Center serves as the hub organization and will provide emergency care, specialty care, and medical education for the 20 rural community hospitals through the telemedicine system.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	Lincoln Lawrence Franklin Regional	\$127,492	This Rural Development investment will be used to install permanent distance learning training labs in four libraries in the counties of Lincoln, Lawrence and Franklin. Partnerships with the Mississippi Library Commission, Copiah-Lincoln Community College and King's Daughters Medical Center will enhance the Library's training resources and will promote lifelong learning through expanded access to formal and informal education, socioeconomic and multicultural resources.
MO	Roy Blunt Josh Hawley	Ann Wagner (02)	Resolute Nursing Solutions LLC	\$53,613	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish an end-user site for telemedicine in Pemiscot County in southeast Missouri. The telemedicine system will connect rural residents with medical practitioners using two-way video technology, specialized equipment and digital monitoring devices. This network will help decrease costs for residents to access health care services.
MO	Roy Blunt Josh Hawley	Cori Bush (01)	SSM Health Care St. Louis	\$665,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a telemedicine network linking SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital with six rural clinics in Butler, Dunklin, Mississippi, New Madrid and Reynolds counties. The project will place telemedicine units and ultrasound technology at end-user sites with secure access to telemedicine control stations at the hub. The network will provide obstetrics and neonatal services and will expand the availability of medical care in the region. SSM Health St. Louis anticipates that this TeleTouch Pregnancy Connection project will improve birth outcomes and long-term wellness for more than 1,480 pregnant women.
MO	Roy Blunt Josh Hawley	Sam Graves (06)	Heartland Regional Medical Center	\$902,629	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Heartland Regional Medical Center expand its telemedicine capabilities in Buchanan, Gentry and Nodaway counties. The telemedicine services will help physicians and crisis responders to spend less time traveling to rural communities and more time treating patients. Rural residents will gain access to virtual hospital services, electronic intensive care units, and access to more than 70 categories of specialty care from more than 200 specialists. Behavioral health services, including emergency assessments and substance use treatment, also will be expanded through telehealth visits in partnership with a behavioral health provider in St. Joseph.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
NE	Deb Fischer Ben Sasse	Don Bacon (02)	Board of Regents, University of Nebraska	\$377,880	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning network to provide graduate and undergraduate nursing courses for students at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The project also will provide telemedicine care for patients at five end-user medical clinics. Telemedicine carts and peripheral tools will be used to provide services at five Federally Qualified Health Center primary care clinics.
NH	Maggie Hassan, Jeanne Shaheen	Ann Kuster (02)	Fall Mountain Regional School District	\$995,158	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Fall Mountain Regional School District provide distance learning services in Cheshire and Sullivan counties in southwest New Hampshire. Distance learning will enable schools to share instructional resources, provide cultural literacy and career pathways programs for students, and provide professional development opportunities. The grant also will help the district respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The system will be implemented in the Fall Mountain, Newport and School Administrative Unit # 6 school districts.
NM	Martin Heinrich, Ben Ray Lujan	Teresa Leger Fernandez (03)	New Mexico Highlands University	\$510,363	This Rural Development investment will be used to create a distance learning hub/end-user site at the main campus in Las Vegas, and at a second end-user site in Mora, N.M. The system will eliminate barriers to higher education for residents of remote communities in San Miguel and Mora counties. This funding will enable New Mexico Highlands University to offer remote courses and to implement remote student support programs (especially for STEM students). In addition to equipping the remote site, the project will fund the purchase of computers configured specifically for distance learning. These computers will be loaned to students. The Mora site also be made available to community members for activities such as workforce development.
NM	Martin Heinrich, Ben Ray Lujan	Yvette Herrell (02), Teresa Fernandez Leger (03)	Tanya V Marin PC	\$263,640	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment to help Santa Teresa Children's Day and Night Clinic implement a comprehensive health care and wellness programs. Six fully-equipped and upgraded telemedicine carts will be provided to five hub/end-user sites. These sites include three elementary schools and two community clinics. Each site will have the capacity to receive primary care services for children and adults, women's health, and mental health and behavior services, including substance misuse prevention and treatment. The sites are expected to serve approximately 14,000 people in Dona Ana, Socorro, Sierra and Union counties.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
NM	Martin Heinrich, Ben Ray Lujan	Yvette Herrell (02)	Ben Archer Health Center Inc.	\$153,963	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide remote medical, dental and behavioral health care services for underserved and uninsured patients, and distance learning education for health care professionals in Dona Ana, Luna, Otero and Sierra counties. An interactive system involving telemedicine carts with accessories will enable live audio-video interactions between health care professionals and patients. Teleconference equipment for conference rooms will facilitate distance learning and group sessions, and laptops for medical, dental and behavioral providers will be used to provide services to patients in rural communities.
NY, TX	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz (TX), Kirsten Gillibrand, Charles Schumer (NY)	Antonio Delgado (NY-19), Marc Veasey (TX-33)	Liberty Central School District	\$296,893	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning program to connect students in Sullivan County, N.Y., with instructors in Westchester County, N.Y., and Tarrant County, Texas. Students in pre-kindergarten through grade 12 will have access to enhanced educational programs, including virtual field trips; Mandarin Chinese instruction; Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) classes; technology and business courses, and college preparatory courses.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	Patrick McHenry (10)	Partners Behavioral Health Management	\$144,364	This Rural Development investment will be used to install a telemedicine system to provide remote mental health services at 13 rural, end-user sites in Catawba, Watauga, Ashe, Avery and Lincoln counties. The counties have significantly fewer mental health providers available per capita compared to the state, with Lincoln County having the fewest. Five of the end-user sites will be in pediatric clinics. The remaining eight will be in schools in Lincoln County.
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	Bob Gibbs (07), Jim Jordan (04), Marcy Kaptur (09), Robert Latta (05)	Seneca East Local School District	\$722,610	This Rural Development investment will be used to deliver distance learning courses in Seneca, Erie, Sandusky, Hancock, Wood and Huron counties during the COVID-19 pandemic. The project will equip 57 classrooms with distance education equipment and provide 350 devices to students. This technology will help schools develop education delivery plans for the coming year. This project also will provide mental health services remotely.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
OH, KY, VA, WV	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul (KY), Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman (OH), Mark Warner, Tim Kaine (VA), Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin (WV)	Harold Rogers (KY-05), Bill Johnson (OH-06), Morgan Griffith (VA-09), Carol Miller (WV-03) Alex Mooney (WV-02)	Ohio Valley Physicians Inc.	\$429,841	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telehealth services in Floyd, Johnson, Lawrence, Martin and Pike counties in Kentucky; Cabell, Mingo, Jackson and Logan counties in West Virginia; Gallia, Lawrence and Scioto counties in Ohio; and Buchanan County in Virginia. Each site will have a dedicated telehealth room equipped with a large interactive touchscreen monitor, computer, camera and printer. Each hub or hub/end-user site will have two dedicated providers who will be provide telehealth services to patients at end-user sites. This project also will provide substance misuse treatment services.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Tom Cole (04)	Cameron University	\$412,090	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning network linking Cameron University with 28 rural school districts, in 10 counties in Oklahoma. The schools will deliver Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and college courses to high school juniors and seniors.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02)	Lane Public Schools	\$550,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning program for students and adults in five school districts in Atoka and Coal counties in southeast Oklahoma. The districts will partner with a local career technology center to increase course offerings. Interactive video rooms will be built on all end-user sites to enable the districts to offer professional development and school courses for students. The technology will also enable teachers and students to stay connected, especially in the event of a school shutdown due to circumstances like the COVID-19 pandemic.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02)	Okmulgee Public School District	\$756,760	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning program in three school districts in Creek and Okmulgee counties. The system will enable schools to expand course offerings, including Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and provide professional development classes. The grant will help the districts to adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic and a post-pandemic world by funding classroom equipment, student devices and connectivity to enable students to join classes from home. Videoconferencing and interactive display panels will enable students to explore career interests and take virtual field trips for cultural and educational enrichment. This project is also expected to help Oklahoma's rural schools recruit and retain teachers.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Matt Cartwright (08)	O.S. Johnson Technical Institute	\$490,381	This Rural Development investment will be used to implement a distance learning program in Lackawanna, Susquehanna, Pike and Wayne counties. The project will link Johnson College with four rural high schools and three libraries. Students will have interactive, two-way access to Johnson College faculty and will participate in remote education, discussions, testing and skills demonstrations. Laboratories and classrooms at Johnson College will be similarly equipped to enable maximum interaction between faculty and students. In addition, three rural libraries will be equipped with laptops to give community residents access to career development services and courses at Johnson College.
PR		Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon	Centro Sor Isolina Ferre (Guayama)	\$77,223	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning network between Jobos and the Centro Sor Isolina Ferré in Ponce, Puerto Rico. The project will connect teachers and students in schools in Tabaiiba, Caimito and Jobos, providing educational opportunities for rural residents. It will also connect community health education staff with elderly residents in Jobos.
PR		Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon	Clinica Las Americas, Guaynabo (CLA) Inc.	\$694,110	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telemedicine services to link 46 sites and 13 municipalities. Equipment will enable providers and patients to connect to appointments remotely.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Jeff Duncan (03)	School District of Pickens County	\$845,291	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish distance learning systems and digital resources in seven rural communities in Pickens County. The system will deliver community support, dual-credit and foreign language courses; virtual field trips; science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) courses; and professional development opportunities. It also will expand personalized learning for nearly 19,000 students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Ralph Norman (05)	Clinton College	\$499,950	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning system connecting Clinton College to with libraries, churches and adult learning centers for residents in 12 counties in rural South Carolina. Funding will provide workforce-focused certificates and college degree programs to adult learners. In addition, North Carolina Central University School of Law will provide pre-law courses and free virtual legal clinics, which provide interactive training on civil and criminal law.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07)	McLeod Regional Med Center of the Pee Dee	\$697,674	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telehealth services to rural communities in Clarendon, Chesterfield, Marlboro and Lower Florence counties. Telehealth platforms will be installed at several public schools in the area to help students receive primary care visits and medication prescriptions. In addition, a platform will be placed in primary care offices in Manning and Cheraw to enable pulmonologists to perform remote visits on patients with lung ailments, helping them receive high-quality care from home.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	James Clyburn (06)	Williamsburg County School District	\$792,441	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning system to make dual enrollments available to students at colleges and universities in Williamsburg County. It will also expand Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiatives for 3,700 students and provide training for teachers in Greeleyville, Hemingway, Lanes, Kingstree, Salters and Stuckey.
TN	Marsha Blackburn, Bill Haggerty	Diana Harshbarger (01)	East Tennessee State University	\$121,069	This Rural Development investment will be used to help East Tennessee State University establish a telemedicine system linking five clinics in Hancock, Johnson and Washington counties. The project will provide access to behavioral and substance misuse telehealth counseling. It will also provide primary care and specialty care telemedicine support for patients who are unable to travel to one of seven nurse-managed clinics in the three counties.
TN	Marsha Blackburn, Bill Haggerty	Scott DesJarlais (04)	Grundy County Department of Education	\$274,768	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning program to assist students from grades Pre-Kindergarten to 12th Grade in Grundy County. Services and equipment will be provided to students at all seven schools in the district and will operate as hub/end-user sites. The schools are Coalmont Elementary School and Grundy County High School in Coalmont, North Elementary School in Altamont, Palmer Elementary School in Palmer, Pelham Elementary School in Pelham, Swiss Memorial Elementary School in Gruetli-Laager, and Tracy City Elementary School in Tracy City.
TN	Marsha Blackburn, Bill Haggerty	Mark Green (07)	Hardin County Regional Health Center	\$296,352	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a telemedicine system for residents in Hardin, Wayne and McNairy counties. Six hub/end user sites will connect patients to primary care, behavioral health providers and to substance use disorder counselors. Portable telehealth units will link patients in their homes, students in school and people at other community settings to providers at hub sites. These telemedicine services are expected to improve patient safety by reducing their risk of exposure to COVID-19 and by encouraging social distancing.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
TX	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz	Veronica Escobar (16)	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso	\$79,978	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand telemedicine specialty services in communities along the U.S./Mexico border in West Texas. Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso will connect via telemedicine to Presidio County Health Services Inc. Presidio is the largest ambulatory health network along the U.S.-Mexico border in West Texas. It provides primary care services to patients in rural areas throughout El Paso, Presidio and Brewster counties. Through this project, clinics will be located in Alpine, Marfa and Presidio in rural Texas.
TX	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz	Jodey Arrington (19)	Castro County Hospital District	\$97,139	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a telemedicine system linking the Northwest Medical Center in Amarillo with three hub/end-user sites in Dimmitt, in Castro County. Physicians will use telemedicine equipment to provide specialty and emergency care.
UT	Mike Lee, Mitt Romney	Blake Moore (01), Chris Stewart (02), John Curtis (03)	Universal Health Services of Provo Canyon Inc.	\$143,406	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish telemedicine equipment for the Universal Health Services of Provo Canyon Inc. and five North Central Utah Health Clinics to deliver mental health telemedicine services in rural areas across northeast Utah. Provo Canyon Behavioral Hospital will offer behavioral/mental health services and opioid education and treatment services to patients and providers in each of the five rural clinics. The project is expected to reach 30,000 individuals and serve 3,000 patients during its first three years.
VT	Patrick Leahy, Bernard Sanders	Peter Welch (At Large)	North Country Hospital Health Center Inc.	\$994,326	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish telemedicine services for North Country Hospital Health Center Inc. (NCCT) to expand capacity through patient monitoring systems and telehealth carts. The NCCT project is expected to benefit up to 64,260 people in Orleans and Caledonia counties.
VI		Stacy Plaskett	University of the Virgin Islands	\$953,314	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish distance learning technology to help medical students at the University of the Virgin Islands Medical Simulation Center receive instruction and surgical demonstrations from practicing physicians and surgeons in remote locations. Virtual reality simulators and task trainers will help medical school residents to practice technical and clinical skills and develop competence and proficiency. Nursing students on both campuses will be able to access virtual learning environments to interact with patients and practice different case scenarios safely. The project will equip 19 suites at the hub/end-user site in Kingshill, in St. Croix, and seven suites at the hub/end-user site in Charlotte Amalie, in St. Thomas.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021**

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
VI		Stacy Plaskett	Virgin Islands Montessori School Inc.	\$447,840	This Rural Development investment will be used to install videoconferencing equipment in classrooms at the Virgin Islands Montessori School Inc., a hub/end-user site in St. Thomas. This distance learning system will enable students to connect with special educators and counselors. It will also help to broaden the available subject matter for students by connecting them to other remote classrooms such as those at the University of the Virgin Islands.
VA	Tim Kaine, Mark Warner	Bob Good (05)	Southside Virginia Community College	\$75,942	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand virtual nursing instruction classes at Southside Virginia Community College's two main campuses and at four off-campus centers. The sites are in Brunswick, Charlotte, Mecklenburg, Nottoway and Greensville counties.
WV	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin	Alex Mooney (02)	Morgan County Board of Education	\$999,999	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish distance learning systems at Berkeley Springs High School, Warm Springs Middle School, Warm Springs Intermediate School, Widmyer Elementary School, Paw Paw School and Pleasant View Elementary School. The project is expected to help 2,232 students and 202 teachers in Morgan County.
WV	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin	Carol Miller (03)	Rainelle Medical Center Inc.	\$614,048	This Rural Development investment will be used to improve the information technology (IT) infrastructure at 33 Rainelle Medical Center sites. Additions will include hardware and software so the center can continue to meet the needs of residents in seven counties in southern West Virginia and keep them safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. The upgrades will enable the center to improve remote monitoring and treatment of patients with chronic diseases.
WV	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin	David McKinley (01), Alex Mooney (WV-02), Carol Miller (WV-03)	Glenville State College Foundation	\$247,500	This Rural Development investment will be used to upgrade telecommunications equipment at seven facilities at Glenville State College in central West Virginia. The equipment will enable the college to connect with dual-credit students at Gilmer County High School, Braxton County High School, Calhoun County High School, Clay County High School, Ridgewood High School and Webster County High School. Funds will also be used to purchase laptops so students can access online classes. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the college will establish courses either exclusively online or in a hybrid method in which one portion of the instruction will be delivered on campus and the other portion will be delivered via electronic communications.
WV	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin	Carol Miller (03)	New River Community and Technical College	\$145,789	This Rural Development investment will establish distance learning technology for New River Community and Technical College to expand and modernize its Interactive Video Network system across seven West Virginia counties. The project will provide services to high schools, medical facilities and a technology center. The enhanced network will increase access to Internet service and post-secondary educational programs across the region; and expand technical research and medical research opportunities.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
February 25, 2021

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
WV	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin	Carol Miller (03)	Lincoln Primary Care Center	\$686,656	This Rural Development investment will be used to implement a distance learning system linking the Lincoln Primary Care Center to 13 sites. Continuing education and training opportunities will be provided to increase the pool of qualified medical professionals serving Lincoln, Boone, Kanawha, Logan and Mingo counties. The project also is expected to improve the retention of medical staff.
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$42,252,505</b>	



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## **Trump Administration Invests \$72 Million in Distance Learning and Telemedicine Infrastructure in 40 States, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands**

*Distance Learning and Telemedicine Investments will Benefit More Than 12 Million Rural Residents*

**WASHINGTON, Oct. 7, 2020** – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced the [United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\) is investing \\$72 million in grants to help rural residents gain access to health care and educational opportunities.](#) These investments will benefit more than 12 million rural residents.

“Increasing access to telemedicine and distance learning is critical to building healthier and more resilient rural communities,” said Secretary Sonny Perdue. “Paired with our monumental effort to expand high-speed broadband access in rural America, these investments will help rural health care centers and education institutions reach more rural residents with essential services and opportunities. Under the leadership of President Trump, USDA is committed to being a strong partner to rural communities because when rural America thrives, all of America thrives.”

### **Background:**

USDA is funding 116 projects through the [Distance Learning and Telemedicine](#) (DLT) grant program. The program helps health care and education institutions buy the equipment and software necessary to deploy distance-learning and telemedicine services to rural residents.

Perdue announced investments today in Alaska, Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, Montana, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, New Hampshire, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Wyoming, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Here are examples of projects announced today:

- In Texas, the Epic Charter School is receiving a \$969,327 grant to link urban schools in Oklahoma and Texas with rural schools, students and community partners in both states. The school will provide Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) courses, Career and Technical Education (CTE) certifications, Advance Placement (AP)/concurrent college courses, professional development and opioid education services. Interactive video conferencing equipment also will be installed.
- In Kentucky, the Bluegrass Care Navigators will use a \$500,000 grant to establish a regional telemedicine network with a hub site at its headquarters in Lexington. Three other hub sites will be established to meet the needs of seriously and terminally ill

patients across 16 counties in southeastern Kentucky. The hubs will contain designated virtual conference rooms to facilitate continuing education and professional development for clinicians as well as a specialized workspace and telemedicine equipment for conducting high-quality virtual visits.

- In Wisconsin, the Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10 will use a \$1 million grant to upgrade distance learning technology that will allow for cloud-based bridging and provide videoconferencing endpoints at 39 school districts in 14 counties in west central Wisconsin. This will provide the resources to help students in rural districts have access to the same technology and services often available in urban and metropolitan areas.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Yukon-Koyukuk School District	\$672,371	This Rural Development investment will be used to link 10 remote village schools in interior Alaska and connect them with the district offices in Fairbanks and outside resources, offering improved educational outcomes, cultural and linguistic preservation and unity. All of the schools are Title 1A and Economically Disadvantaged. This endeavor will be overseen by Connecting Remote Alaskan Villages Effectively (CRAVE), a Distance Learning project by the Yukon-Koyukuk School District.
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Cordova City School District	\$597,954	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Cordova School District with their distance learning project using interactive video conferencing. The goal of the project is to develop both distance learning and telemedicine capacity, with a focus on Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) distance learning. The project will impact 350 rural residents from the town of Cordova, Alaska.
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Southcentral Foundation	\$865,408	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Southcentral Foundation to expand, enhance, upgrade, and secure access to telehealth and telepharmacy services for residents of 13 rural communities. The project will increase the availability, quality and sustainability of health care services through telehealth and telepharmacy service delivery. Removing the barrier to health and wellness will ensure access to health care services regardless of insurance status or ability to pay. It will also improve clinic customer safety and increase rural provider time to direct patient care by reducing administrative burden through automation and additional hub department support.
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Aleutians East Borough School District	\$287,297	This Rural Development investment will be used to build a Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) ready school population by improving elementary education through live, interactive experiences and teaching, beginning at the earliest levels. The district is so widely spread with such small populations, in-person delivery is not feasible. Aleutians East Borough School District (AEBSD) will also expand professional development to district personnel, improving teacher qualifications to teach dual enrollment courses, expand recertification options, and train and credential paraprofessionals. AEBSD will serve residents of the very remote communities of the Aleutian Islands. The AEBSD lies along the far southwestern portion of Alaska making up the "tail" of Alaska, while the eastern portion of the Aleutians chain stretches almost into Russia.
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Northwest Arctic Borough School District	\$936,499	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund the Northwest Arctic Borough School District Distance Learning project, which will serve 12 villages in one of the most remote regions of Alaska. The project will link 12 village schools together and connect them with the district offices in Kotzebue and outside resources, offering improved educational outcomes, cultural and linguistic preservation and unity. All the schools are Title 1A and Economically Disadvantaged. The only opportunity most NWABSD students have to become educated and secure a living wage is through distance learning technology.
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Lower Yukon School District	\$1,000,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist the Lower Yukon School District with the purchase of interactive video conferencing equipment needed to deliver distance learning to residents of Anchorage and Kusilvak Census Area. The project seeks to build on past efforts and develop a distance learning curriculum that includes Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) courses and opportunities, as well as other necessary courses. These new programs will provide students with new learning opportunities and will teach them skill sets that they may bring back to their villages.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
AL	Richard Shelby, Doug Jones	Mike Rogers (03)	Clay County School District	\$304,801	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a distance learning network connecting the Clay County Hospital and Clay County Board of Education. Clay County Schools will utilize this project to bolster Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) input through the addition of distance learning Advanced Placement (AP) and Dual Enrollment courses. Clay County Hospital will use this partnership to connect to teletherapy providers for mental health and drug counseling services, thereby increasing the culpability of school district, hospital, and community. This project will raise the educational outcomes for all students providing much necessary STEM course offerings in the project sites and stimulate growth in the project community by increasing practitioner involvement in all areas of STEM education and health services, including real-world connections to our current curricula and the opportunity to integrate tele-education in areas not currently served through our health services programs.
AL	Richard Shelby, Doug Jones	Mo Brooks (05)	Central North Alabama Health Services	\$173,818	This Rural Development investment will be used to help deliver an interactive digital audio-visual communication platform across five health centers in northern Alabama. Distance learning will be focused on a health and wellness curriculum including concentrations in nursing assistant and opiate substance treatment and counseling. Equipment will include interactive tele-health carts that feature video codec, display, audio system and camera installed on a rolling base that contains an external battery; some will contain peripheral examination equipment. A large conference monitor will also be placed at all sites for group conferencing.
AL	Richard Shelby, Doug Jones	Martha Roby (02)	Dale County Board Of Education	\$716,114	This Rural Development investment will be used to allow the Dale County Board of Education to launch a new Distance Learning project that will serve seven schools, a career and technical campus, and an alternative school in rural Dale County. Interactive video conferencing will be used to deliver Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM)-focused, synchronous educational content to participating end users.
AL	Richard Shelby, Doug Jones	Mo Brooks (05)	Madison County Board Of Education	\$775,058	This Rural Development investment will be used to allow the Madison County School District to expand Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) education augmented curriculum, and virtual field trip opportunities using distance learning technology. This expansion will help to enhance career and college readiness for every school within the district. Twenty-eight sites will connect with each other to share curriculum and improve learning and engagement for their students. This project will help to provide equal access to educational opportunities throughout the schools served within Madison County.
AL	Richard Shelby, Doug Jones	Mike Rogers (03)	Macon County School District	\$469,859	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist the Macon County School District to purchase interactive video conferencing equipment. The equipment will provide distance learning services for high school and middle school students. This project will enable the district to deliver new courses at Macon's high schools and middle school by connecting and sharing teachers across schools. This will position the District to provide more electives, more core courses, and more opportunities for advanced courses for middle school students.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
AL	Richard Shelby, Doug Jones	Bradley Byrne (01), Martha Roby (02), Terri Sewell (07)	Franklin Primary Health Center	\$610,927	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect health center hubs located in Mobile, AL with rural end-user medical and dental sites. The new connectivity will provide real-time audio and visual interactions with expert medical and behavioral specialists for the care of rural patients. The services will include the treatment of substance abuse disorders. The project will deploy interactive video conferencing equipment required for medical consultations and provide training in the use of other project equipment. This, along with telehealth carts with integrated codec, camera, microphone, monitors, and peripheral patient examination devices, will assist specialists to provide real-time interactive telehealth visits.
AZ	Krysten Sinema, Martha McSally	Tom O'Halleran (01), Paul A. Gosar (04)	Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center	\$744,452	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center (CVRMC) develop a telemedicine network through its medical centers covering the rural communities of Globe, Kearny, Superior, Young and Tonto Basin, in addition to its main campus as the hub. Telemedicine capability would be added to emergency medical services (EMS) within the Gila and Pinal counties to better serve the healthcare needs of the more than 44,500 residents. The proposed telemedicine network will enable CVRMC to will maximize scarce health care resources available in this rural service region to deliver high quality stroke care, chronic care management, preventive care services, opioid and other drug treatment, and health education.
AZ	Krysten Sinema, Martha McSally	Ann Kirkpatrick (02)	Cochise Technology District	\$155,407	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund the Cochise Technology District Mental and Social Health Distance Learning Project for rural Cochise County and eastern Santa Cruz County Schools. The project will provide students with the technology to access college-level mental and social health courses.
AZ	Krysten Sinema, Martha McSally	Tom O'Halleran (01), Ann Kirkpatrick (02)	Benson Hospital	\$377,494	This Rural Development investment will be used to allow Benson Hospital to launch a new telemedicine project in Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee counties. Interactive TeleHealth stations will be deployed at 11 sites to remotely provide tele-medicine services to rural residents within the service area.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Kamala Harris	Doris O. Matsui (06), Devin Nunes (22) Pete Aguilar (31), Juan Vargas (51)	California Rural Water Association	\$157,825	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the California Rural Water Association (CRWA) purchase four video teleconferencing kits located in four locations across California. The project will include CRWA's Sacramento headquarters as the Hub, connecting to end-user sites in the Fresno, San Bernardino and Imperial Valley regions. The equipment will be used to implement an innovative, centralized remote distance learning model for CRWA to teach students participating in their Water/Wastewater Specialist Apprenticeship Program. This program serves as a pathway for workers employed in the utilities industry to upgrade and enhance their technical, managerial, and financial knowledge and skills in the operation and management of their local utilities.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Kamala Harris	Juan Vargas (51)	Imperial County	\$102,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy an interactive video conferencing network to help address the need for mental health service. The network will link residents of two rural communities in Imperial County to mental health professionals. These professionals will provide mental health assessments, psychiatric assessment, medication support services, psychotherapy, case management and crisis intervention.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Kamala Harris	Tom McClintock (04)	Mariposa County	\$799,083	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund the Mariposa County Health & Human Services 2020 Telehealth Project, which will provide telehealth services from three rural hub and end user sites to four end-user fixed sites by providing Telehealth Evaluation carts at the fixed primary hub and end user sites to connect county residents to remote medical services. Seventy laptops will be made available to providers from the primary fixed Hub and End-User site county to serve residents for remote medical evaluations. Laptops will be equipped with the AGNES Connect Software Module. AGNES Connect is a telemedicine platform that enables remote clinical healthcare providers to capture and share medical device data, exchange documents and medical images in real-time, and participate in a live video conference.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Kamala Harris	Juan Vargas (51)	Imperial County Office of Education	\$1,000,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to implement synchronous technologies to improve access to education programs addressing substance use disorders, including opioids, expand access to Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) education and improve workforce readiness, and improve community sustainability/resilience during national disasters. The Imperial County Office of Education is working in partnership with the El Centro Regional Medical Center, the Imperial County Behavioral Health Services, the Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program and seven local school districts. This project will serve 22 school sites in eight economically distressed and isolated communities in Imperial County, California.
CO	Cory Gardner, Michael Bennet	Diana DeGette (01), Scott Tipton (03), Ken Buck (04), Doug Lamborn (05), Ed Perlmutter (07)	Colorado Department of Corrections	\$985,455	The Rural Development investment will be used to provide telemedicine services to 17 correction facilities in 12 counties. The project will provide medical assessments, wellness visits, treatment follow-up, remote patient monitoring, mental health screenings, case management services, advanced care planning, and health risk assessment. Telemedicine will allow Colorado Department of Corrections to improve health care by providing access to more health care, preventive medicine, and access medical specialists, while reducing prisoner transport and related security management costs. The project will provide specialty health care usually not available to inmates to include: telepsychiatry, mental health, neurology, cardiology, renal care, cardiovascular, dialysis, gynecological, obstetrics, ophthalmology, orthopedic, oncology, rheumatology, hematology, tele speech, telehealth physical therapy, and opioid and substance abuse prevention.
FL	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott	Ted Yoho (03)	School District of Putnam County Florida	\$340,465	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the School District of Putnam County launch its Better Educational Access for Middle Schools (BEAM) distance learning project. The project will serve rural communities by creating distance learning end-user /hubs in eight middle school classrooms. The classrooms are setup with equipment to allow Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) instruction for students. The equipment will also allow professional development for teachers to be delivered virtually in remote rural areas that currently do not have access to quality STEM instruction.
FL	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott	Matt Gaetz (01), Neal Dunn (02)	PanCare of Florida, Inc.	\$431,283	This Rural Development investment will be used to help PanCare of Florida, Inc. purchase of telemedicine equipment. The new equipment will improve access to primary care and behavioral health services. It will also expand opioid and substance use disorder counseling and education. This telemedicine network will serve children and youth in five Florida counties.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
FL	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott	Neal Dunn (02), Al Lawson (05)	Doctors' Memorial Hospital, Inc.	\$239,824	This Rural Development investment will be used to fund the creation of a telemedicine network providing neurovascular services and specialty physician consult services for rural residents living in seven counties. The network will use 11 additional telemedicine clinical "robots" to provide specialty care consulting services between specialists and rural primary physicians. This will provide inpatient care at the six rural hospitals and at five primary care clinics located in the communities of Steinhatchee, Mayo, Perry, Apalachicola and Carrabelle. These specialty consults will provide rural physicians with local access to specialty care neurology, cardiology, psychiatry, pulmonology, nutrition, and transitional care physicians located in urban areas.
GA	David Perdue, Kelly Loeffler	Sanford D. Bishop Jr. (02), Jody Hice (10), Rick Allen (12)	Augusta University	\$576,035	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist primary care providers in rural clinics in transmitting images of patient lesions to dermatologists at hub sites in 15 Georgia counties. This improved capability will expand access to quality healthcare and serve to expedite diagnosis and treatment plans.
GA	David Perdue, Kelly Loeffler	Sanford D. Bishop Jr. (02), Austin Scott (08)	Taylor County Board Of Education	\$570,050	This Rural Development investment will be used to allow the Taylor County Board of Education to equip interactive distance learning rooms at eight different schools in both Taylor and Cook counties. This new capability will provide student access to additional course offerings in language and math, virtual field trips, and increased access to counselors and advisors in order to prepare students for a high-tech future.
GA	David Perdue, Kelly Loeffler	Sanford D. Bishop Jr. (02), Austin Scott (08) Jody Hice (10)	University Of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc.	\$866,030	This Rural Development investment will be used to improve the management of chronic health conditions in rural residents of nine counties in Central Georgia through partnership between the University of Georgia, Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA), and Georgia Union Missionary Baptist Association (GUMBA). Faculty members and students will have access to videoconferencing technology to provide patient counseling, wellness checks, healthcare education, and outreach to underserved communities.
GA	David Perdue, Kelly Loeffler	Robert Woodall (07), Doug Collins (09), Jody Hice (10)	The Medical Center Foundation, Inc.	\$794,881	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand medical services provided by The Medical Foundation, Inc. dba Northeast Georgia Health System (NGHS) Foundation physicians to patients living in eight rural counties of northeast Georgia. These rural residents are often located hours away from primary, urgent, and specialty care. NGHS Foundation will purchase Telehealth carts which will be equipped to enable video and audio communication that will allow doctors, that would otherwise be unavailable, to connect with remote patients in real time for consultation visits. This will result in an increase in workflow and increase in access and timeliness to care.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
IA	Chuck Grassley, Joni Ernst	Steve King (04)	Iowa Specialty Hospital-Clarion	\$614,723	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment to connect health care providers in six Iowa counties. This project will be used to connect local schools and rural patients to the main hospital locations so that a doctor is always available to patients without them having to drive. The schools will be connected through telemedicine carts at each school location. Equipment will be added to the hospitals that will enable patients to use their personal devices and complete appointments with doctors without leaving their homes. In response to increased patient need, equipment will also be purchased to allow providers to practice through telemedicine if the diagnosis allows it. These services will directly benefit patients by bringing the care closer to home and reducing travel burden on patients and their families. The school services will be available to approximately 1,100 students per year in those districts. The physician access portion of the project is available to all patients, estimated at 500 patients per week in times of high need.
ID	Mike Crapo, James Risch (ID); Ron Wyden, Jeff Merkley (OR)	Russ Fulcher (ID 01), Mike Simpson (ID 02), Greg Walden (OR 02)	Idaho Primary Care Association Inc	\$574,786	This Rural Development investment will be used to build capacity for telemedicine services to better meet the medical and behavioral health care needs of low-income and underserved patients. The project will consist of three hubs and 30 health center sites across 17 counties in Idaho and one county in Oregon. Idaho Primary Care Association (IPCA) will provide training and technical assistance to increase the use and functionality of telemedicine and distance learning within participating project sites. This project will accomplish several things including an increase in access to primary care services for rural and frontier communities. It will expand Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to address the opioid epidemic. It will increase access to behavioral health in primary care settings. And, it will also provide ongoing staff support to retain physicians and advance practice clinicians in rural and frontier communities and offer high-quality continuing education for rural providers.
IL	Richard Durbin, Tammy Duckworth	Mike Bost (12), Rodney Davis (13), Lauren Underwood (14), John Shimkus (15), Aaron Schock (18)	Taylorville Community Unit School District 3	\$859,962	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Taylorville School District provide interactive videoconferencing distance learning classrooms to 14 rural schools across central Illinois, connecting them to the Rural Illinois Shared Education Network. Through this project, districts will share Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) classes and labs, electives, low-density classes, dual credit courses, and nine Advance Placement (AP) courses. The expansion will also add additional classroom space for Chestnut Health so they can meet increasing demand for opioid and substance abuse educational opportunities.
IL	Richard Durbin, Tammy Duckworth	Rodney Davis (13)	HSHS St. John's Hospital	\$977,429	This Rural Development investment will be used to fund a distance learning and telemedicine project that will help address the problems of rural health professional shortages, including opioid and substance use disorder (OUD/SUD) medical assisted treatment (MAT)-waivered providers, educators, clinicians and behavioral health specialists. The project will also address the problems of a lack of patient access to acute hospital (critical and emergency department) and non-acute (outpatient) clinical care.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
IL	Richard Durbin, Tammy Duckworth	Rodney Davis (13)	Blackburn University	\$915,194	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable Blackburn College, along with 12 other school districts in rural Macoupin and Montgomery counties in Illinois, to complete a distance learning project. The project will expand educational opportunities, increase the availability of Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) learning opportunities, increase dual credit courses, and provide teacher professional development. Additionally, equipment that enables interactive video conferencing will be deployed at all sites. The project will serve 3,697 students in sixth through 12th grade. This distance learning project will be within two Opportunity Zones; one in Gillespie, Ill., and one in Hillsboro, Ill.
IL	Richard Durbin, Tammy Duckworth	Rodney Davis (13), Adam Kinzinger (16), Darin LaHood (18)	Regional Office Of Education #17	\$608,944	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish synchronous distance learning among rural high schools. The network will utilize interactive video conferencing equipment, thus allowing them to share resources, classes (including Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM)), and professional development using distance learning. The project will improve issues related to faculty retention and student access to educational services relevant to college and career goals.
IL	Richard Durbin, Tammy Duckworth	Mike Bost (12), John Shimkus (15)	Shawnee Community College District	\$450,545	This Rural Development investment will be used to help purchase and provide distance learning equipment, technologies, and connectivity to students and teachers at the twelve partnering high schools residing within the Shawnee Community College (SCC) District. This network will serve faculty and district residents at the SCC's four extension centers and main campus. High school students and teachers, college students and faculty, and district residents will be offered opportunities to attend a variety of educational, workforce training and/or health education programs through this distance learning project.
KS	Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts	Roger Marshall (01)	Paradise Unified School District # 399	\$791,638	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase monitors, video and audio conferencing equipment, wiring and software licenses for distance learning upgrades for Paradise Unified School District Number 399. The project will expand educational opportunities for rural residents within the district.
KS	Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts	Roger Marshall (01), Ron Estes (04)	Educational Services and Staff Development Association of Central Kansas	\$658,894	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund the Redesign of Virtual Learning project, which is designed to provide high quality virtual learning to students, educators, and community members served by the collaborating 11 school districts within a 10-county area. This project will help address the inequity of educational experiences, resources, and career exploration opportunities in the rural schools of Kansas.
KS	Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts	Steve Watkins (02)	Unified School District #506 Labette County	\$501,956	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide interactive video conferencing equipment to the Labette County Unified School District 506. The equipment enables the distribution of high-quality curricular instruction allowing access for students in rural Kansas.
KS	Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts	Roger Marshall (01), Steve Watkins (02), Sharice Davids (03), Ron Estes (04)	Kansas State University	\$387,459	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) related courses in 20 schools in 13 Kansas counties. The Rural Education Center (REC) at Kansas State University College of Education (KSUCOE) will serve as the hub site to provide training, curriculum, instructors and resources to support STEM in the rural partner schools. The project will also engage rural schools in STE- related extracurricular activities and events.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
KS	Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts	Roger Marshall (01)	Pawnee Mental Health Services, Inc.	\$832,505	This Rural Development investment will be used to enhance the existing infrastructure and create partnerships with the Clay and Republic County Health Departments. The new partnerships will help to provide expanded services and enhanced hours of operation. This project will provide community members in Clay, Cloud, Marshall, Pottawatomie and Republic Counties significantly expanded services in their area. This includes a vastly expanded range of days and times that service is available, plus training and educational opportunities not previously offered. Those who need psychiatric medication treatment will be able to receive this service locally.
KS	Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts	Roger Marshall (01), Ron Estes (04)	Barton County	\$781,127	This Rural Development investment will be used to help establish telehealth programs that connect vulnerable populations across four rural counties to vital services that address public health needs and the treatment of opioid, methamphetamine and substance use disorder. The project will use interactive equipment to connect county jails to critical nursing services through telemedicine technologies. Clients of the health departments will be able to access public health services remotely. Community corrections and juvenile services will be able to provide vital counseling, treatment and educational programs that address substance use disorder. The program will create regional access to public health that is not currently available due to geographical barriers and personnel shortages. Equipment will be installed in two jails, four county health departments and at the district location of community corrections and juvenile services. The project will improve outreach with public health and treatment services through professional consultation, medical diagnoses, medical treatment, and by providing essential public health programs.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	James Comer (01)	Kentucky Community & Technical College System	\$141,250	This Rural Development investment will be used to deliver synchronous, interactive dual credit instruction to juniors and seniors at Crittenden County High School (CCHS) in Marion, Kentucky through Madisonville Community College (MCC). MCC's Senior Academy is a dual credit program that allows high school students in the college's service area to complete general education coursework that is transferable to any public community college or university in Kentucky. MCC will also offer evening programming to adults in Crittenden County via the distance learning arrangement.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Brett S. Guthrie (02), Thomas Massie (04), Harold Rogers (05), Garland Andy Barr (06)	Mountain Comp Care Center, Inc.	\$1,000,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to upgrade Mountain Comprehensive Care Center's (MCCC) existing network infrastructure and will replace aging software and hardware, to upgrade to a new Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliant video and audio-conferencing system. This project will take place in 20 counties across 36 sites in eastern, central and western Kentucky that are either owned or leased by MCCC. Each site can serve as both a hub and end-user site. Sites without adequate screens and software in their conference rooms will be provided the necessary equipment that is compatible with the new system. Sites will also receive upgraded telephones and laptop setups that will integrate within the new system. Both end-user prescribers and clinicians will utilize the new conferencing equipment.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Brett S. Guthrie (02), Harold Rogers (05), Garland Andy Barr (06)	Cafca Cares, Inc.	\$207,083	The Rural Development investment will be used to provide interactive video conferencing equipment and telemedicine carts to support mental health services. The services will include the treatment of opioid substance disorders to patients, and professional development to staff. The project will benefit residents in five Kentucky counties.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05)	Kentucky Rural Health Information Technology Network Inc.	\$689,222	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase access to substance use disorder (SUD) and opioid use disorder (OUD) services in Whitley, Laurel, Knox and Clay counties. Deploying telehealth options is critical to extend services to address the continuous challenge of substance use that many rural communities face. When the three-year project is complete, it will have created a telehealth infrastructure across all four of the sites in southeastern Kentucky. This will be valuable in the effort to reduce barriers to accessing care and improving outcomes for the SUD/OUD patient population.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	James Comer (01), Brett S. Guthrie, (02), Harold Rogers (05)	Cumberland Family Medical Center, Inc.	\$785,791	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Cumberland Family Medical Center, Inc. with delivering telemedicine services in 14 counties in Kentucky. Cumberland Family Medical Center, Inc has 67 school-based clinics and 21 primary care facilities. The project will aid in the delivery of health care services through use of technology. Utilizing technology will help to eliminate the transportation barrier, reduce or eliminate the cost of travel, and reduce the added anxiety that often accompanies patients into the exam room.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05), Garland Andy Barr (06)	Bluegrass Care Navigators	\$468,483	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a regional telemedicine network with a Hub site at Bluegrass Care Navigators headquarters in Lexington, Kentucky. Three hub/end-user sites will be established also, to more effectively and efficiently meet the needs of seriously and terminally ill patients across 16 counties in southeastern Kentucky. The regional telemedicine hub/end-user sites will serve two primary functions. As end-user sites, the facilities contain designated virtual conference rooms to facilitate critically important continuing education and professional development for clinicians. This will ensure the adoption of best clinical practices. In addition, the regional Hub sites will provide clinicians with a specialized workspace and telemedicine equipment for conducting important high-quality virtual visits.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05)	Grace Community Health Center, Inc.	\$790,400	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase services, including care for substance use disorder and opioid use disorder, to pregnant women served by the regional Women's Care Center via telehealth in order to improve health outcomes for newborns. The project will also offer tele-radiology services to patients using portable radiology equipment with an emphasis on serving high-risk nursing home patients.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Garret Graves (06)	Louisiana Rural Ambulance Alliance	\$997,627	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist the Rural Access to Education (RATE) to provide training and education through a distance learning network. The project aims to address the opioid epidemic decimating 12 parishes in rural Louisiana.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Mike Johnson (04)	Sabine Parish School Board	\$864,581	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable the Sabine Parish School District to provide one-to-one Chromebooks for students in grades 3-8 for the purpose of making real time connections to educational experiences related to Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) courses. The project will support supplementing classroom instruction by connecting students to outside experts, promoting cultural interaction and comparisons, enable collaborative student projects at a distance, and virtual field trips. It will also provide remote support for students with special needs and pathways through distance learning to nine rural schools and one professional development center. This investment is designed to make distance learning experiences and other technologies readily accessible to elementary and middle school students and teachers. The investment will also provide opportunities to high-quality STEM courses and programs for Sabine Parish 3-8 elementary and middle school students. Additionally, it will increase the number of educators prepared to teach STEM courses through new and expanded educator preparation, training, and professional development. This project will impact 1920 students and approximately 125 teachers in two counties in Louisiana.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Steve Scalise (01), Cedric Richmond (02), Mike Johnson (04), Ralph Abraham (05), Garret Graves (06)	Access Health Louisiana	\$426,194	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand a telecommunications system for seven rural Louisiana parishes, including both distance learning education and telemedicine services provided to patients of all ages with the highest connectivity currently available. The focus is also on opioid treatment and needed to provide expanded primary care and behavioral health access and services to predominantly low-income patients. The providers are the frontline first responders of the health care delivery system and opioid epidemic in Louisiana.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Ralph Abraham (05)	Care Tec Pediatric Center, LLC	\$113,727	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand a telecommunications system for seven rural Louisiana parishes, including both distance learning education and telemedicine services provided to patients of all ages with the highest connectivity currently available. The focus is also on opioid treatment and needed to provide expanded primary care and behavioral health access and services to predominantly low-income patients. The providers are the frontline first responders of the health care delivery system and opioid epidemic in Louisiana.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Steve Scalise (01), Ralph Abraham (05), Garret Graves (06)	Southeastern Louisiana University	\$173,920	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telehealth and distance learning services via synchronous audio and visual technology across five rural Louisiana parishes. Through this grant, Southeastern Louisiana University (SLU) will establish telehealth clinics/training centers at four Northshore Technical Community College campuses as well as a telehealth clinic/training center at North Oaks Hospital Wellness Clinic.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Mike Johnson (04)	Council For Advance	\$253,961	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand mental health, opioid use disorder and substance use disorder services in six rural Louisiana parishes. A telecommunications system including both distance learning education and telemedicine services will be provided to patients and clients of all ages with the highest connectivity currently available. The project will focus on opioid use and substance use disorder treatment. The project will serve northwest Louisiana rural areas and provide increased primary care and behavioral health access and services to predominantly low-income patients. Providers are the frontline first responders of the healthcare delivery system and opioid epidemic in Louisiana.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Ralph Abraham (05)	Louisiana Delta Community College	\$501,917	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Louisiana Delta Community College (LDCC) to expand distance learning by offering Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) courses in six rural Louisiana parishes. LDCC plans to purchase equipment and provide training necessary to establish a distance learning network, capable of video collaboration, connecting five rural campuses. LDCC is a two-year college within the Louisiana Community and Technical College System. It serves a 12-parish service area located in rural northeast Louisiana.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Mike Johnson (04)	Sabine Parish School Board	\$835,204	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable the Sabine Parish School District to provide Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) courses and pathways through distance learning to seven rural schools and one professional development center located within Sabine Parish in west central Louisiana. The project will make distance learning and other technologies readily available to students and teachers while providing access to high-quality STEM courses and programs for high school students in grades 9-12. It will also increase the number of educators prepared to teach STEM courses, including Advanced Placement (AP), dual credit coursework, and approved STEM JumpStart pathways. This will be made possible through new and expanded educator preparation, training, and professional development. The project will also increase participation among groups traditionally underrepresented in STEM including minorities and female students. This will help them overcome barriers and provide rigorous and engaging learning experiences in STEM. More than 1,200 students and approximately 100 teachers in Sabine Parish and Natchitoches Parish will be served through this distance learning network.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Mike Johnson (04), Ralph Abraham (05)	Natchitoches Parish Hospital Services District	\$290,439	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish a telehealth network for medical diagnoses and services. The services will be delivered by interactive video conferencing to rural patients in three Louisiana parishes. This telemedicine project will expand quality health care to affected communities including some located in Opportunity Zones. The primary technology proposed is video conferencing equipment used in conjunction with telemedicine carts to allow physicians to diagnose patients.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
MD and WV	Benjamin Cardin, Chris Van Hollen (MD); Joe Manchin, Shelley Capito (WV)	David Trone (MD 06), David McKinley (WV 01)	Garrett Regional Medical Center	\$430,124	This Rural Development investment will be used to help to establish a Virtual Cancer Care and Chronic Disease Telemedicine Program in three rural counties. The program will allow both end-user hospitals to consult with oncology and chronic disease specialists located at the hub location, GRMC, in Oakland, MD. Medical providers will be able to provide consultations on patient conditions and diagnoses without having to transport the patient to the larger medical center. The Virtual Cancer Care and Chronic Disease Telemedicine Program will enable medical and ancillary care staff at Potomac Valley Hospital (PVH) and Grant Memorial Hospital (GMH) to increase collaboration with medical specialists who are not onsite. It will also increase medical and ancillary care staff knowledge regarding patient diagnoses and conditions and improve the quality of care provided in the small, rural hospitals that are the end-users. The Virtual Cancer Care and Chronic Disease Telemedicine Program will enable patients at all sites (hub and end-users) to receive care in their own communities, in their own homes, cutting down on the need for patients lacking transportation to travel for medical care. The proposed technology will enhance the medical care available in the GRMC as well as the PVH and GMH service areas and will allow patients to be monitored at home. The technology will provide the opportunity to have daily checks of patient vital signs. It will also allow for check-ups and appointments to be conducted in the patient's home, using technology that provides for a virtual complete physical exam.
ME and NH	Susan Collins, Angus King (ME); Jeanne Shaheen, Maggie Hassan (NH)	Chellie Pingree (ME 01), Jared Golden (ME 02), Chris Pappas (NH 01)	MaineHealth	\$999,573	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish telehealth carts to provide "eConsults" to clinicians across MaineHealth's rural hospitals and practices, especially as they respond to COVID-19. Rural clinicians will use telehealth carts and peripherals to connect with tertiary care specialists, using a "toolkit" enabling full documentation and ongoing co-management and videoconferencing, all of which will eventually be embedded within the Epic Shared Electronic Health Record. This project will increase access across MaineHealth's vast rural service area to cardiology specialty care from Maine Medical Center, the state's largest tertiary care teaching hospital. This project will drastically reduce the rural patient's wait for a cardiology appointment and the clinicians travel time. The project will increase the number of cardiology specialist visits available to rural patients located in 10 counties in Maine and one county in New Hampshire.
MI	Debbie Stabenow, Gary Peters	Jack Bergman (01), Bill Huizenga (02), Justin Amash (03), John Moolenaar (04)	Ferris State University	\$669,216	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable Ferris State University to create a system of hubs and end-users that establishes virtual reality (VR) equipped classrooms in seventeen rural high schools and three career and technical education centers throughout 11 counties. Additionally, related professional development and training will be developed and provided. These classrooms will allow students to participate in synchronous online Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) based dual enrollment courses with immersive VR technology.
MO	Roy Blunt, Josh Hawley	Jason T. Smith (08)	Texas County Memorial Hospital	\$168,399	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable Texas County Memorial Hospital (TCMH) to acquire monitors/defibrillators for five ambulances. The high-tech monitors will provide telemedicine services by allowing emergency medical services (EMS) personnel to transmit vital health data on patients during the transportation process to the TCMH Emergency Department. This will allow the emergency department medical staff to be better prepared to efficiently diagnose and treat patients upon arrival at the hospital.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
MO and IL	Roy Blunt, Josh Hawley (MO); Richard Durbin, Tammy Duckworth (IL)	William Clay Jr. (MO 01), Rodney Davis (IL 13)	Jersey Community Hospital District	\$357,070	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Jersey Community Hospital District with the purchase of new telemedicine equipment with simulcast and licensing. Jersey Community Hospital will establish a telemedicine program for pediatric patients in the Emergency Department and high-risk pregnancies.
MO and KS	Roy Blunt, Josh Hawley (MO); Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts (KS)	Sam Graves (MO 06), Steve Watkins (KS 02)	Farm & Home Cooperative	\$943,163	This Rural Development investment will be used to extend science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, (STEM) classes to underserved areas of Allen and Woodson Counties in rural Southeast Kansas. It will also enable Neosho County Community College to create new STEM distance learning capabilities in Chanute and Ottawa, Kansas to serve surrounding rural areas including Franklin County, KS and Neosho County, KS schools especially with increased allied health courses needed to improve residents' health and to decrease out-migration.
MO and KS	Roy Blunt, Josh Hawley (MO); Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts (KS)	Vicky Hartzler (MO 04), Emanuel Cleaver (MO 03), Sharice Davids (KS 03)	Golden Valley Memorial Hospital District	\$800,369	This Rural Development investment will be used to add new specialty services for three rural counties in Missouri and expand mental health services, emergency services, and specialty services. This project brings additional services via telemedicine to Golden Valley Memorial Hospital's rural hospital, emergency department, rehab clinic and behavioral health clinic that were not previously available. Neonatology, maternal-fetal medicine, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) exams, and orthopedic follow up care will now all be available via telemedicine to GVMH's rural communities. The project will reach more than 50,000 rural Missourians within GVMH's primary service area.
MS	Roger Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith	Bennie G. Thompson (02)	Coahoma Community College	\$943,884	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Coahoma Community College with distance learning by deploying synchronous video conferencing between high schools and the college. This will provide access to college-level science and math instructors. This interactive video conferencing and virtual reality network will benefit students and residents in three rural Mississippi counties.
MS	Roger Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith	Bennie G. Thompson (02)	Greenwood Leflore Hospital	\$996,871	This Rural Development investment will be used to implement telehealth consultations between the HUB hospital and five clinics to assist rural residents in accessing care who otherwise would not be able to. The project will provide medical services, which include consults with primary care physicians and specialists, explanation of care protocols, education on specific health conditions and other medical services as needed. Greenwood Leflore Hospital will also offer remote patient monitoring for rural residents, allowing patients to transmit vital medical data to their provider such as diabetes and cardiovascular monitoring data, fluid and food intake data and other medical data. The project will impact residents in five counties in Mississippi.
MS	Roger Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith	Bennie G. Thompson (02)	Delta Health Center, Inc.	\$1,000,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to allow Delta Health Center (DHC) to provide access to the full range of healthcare services through telemedicine visits with patients throughout the service area from its 10 Hub/End User sites located in DHC clinics across its five county service area in the Mississippi Delta. While emphasis will be placed on substance use and behavioral health services, DHC will increase effective communication and consultation among providers both internally and externally, while providing learning opportunities for medical residency students, improved engagement with faculty in team huddles, and improved coordination and communication regarding medical residency clinical rotations.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
MS	Roger Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith	Bennie G. Thompson (02), Michael Guest (03)	Copiah-Lincoln Community College	\$247,523	This Rural Development investment will be used to include the installation of interactive telecommunications equipment on each of the three campuses of the Copiah-Lincoln Community College system. The system has a campus in each of three Mississippi counties: Copiah, Adams, and Simpson. This Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) focused distance learning project will facilitate interactive synchronous classes, trainings, and meetings for 20,239 rural residents and students.
MS	Roger Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith	Bennie G. Thompson (02), Steven Palazzo (04)	Pearl River County School District	\$288,692	This Rural Development investment will be used to bring distance learning technologies to rural Mississippi schools and communities. These districts serve some of the largest counties in the state with great distance between sites, making delivery of education and services costly and difficult. By providing distance learning technologies in rural schools, the need for expanded access to content and instruction, particularly in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) areas, will be addressed. This project will also address educational inequalities and help create college and career-ready students.
MT, MN, NE, IA, SD, ND, KS and WY	Steve Daines, John Tester (MT); Amy Klobuchar, Tina Smith (MN); Ben Sasse, Deb Fischer (NE); Charles Grassley, Joni Ernst (IA); John Thune, Mike Rounds (SD); John Hoeven, Kevin Cramer (ND); Michael Enzi, John Barrasso (WY); Pat Roberts, Jerry Moran (KS)	Kelly Armstrong (ND At Large), Steve King (IA 04), Dusty Johnson (SD At Large), Steve Watkins (KS 02), Roger Marshall (KS 01), Collin C. Peterson (MN 07), Jeff Fortenberry (NE 01), Liz Cheney (WY At Large), Adrian Smith (NE 03), David Loebsack (IA 02), Jim Hagedorn (MN 01), Greg Gianforte, (MT At Large), Abby Finkenauer (IA 01), Cindy Axne (IA 03), Pete Stauber (MN 08)	Avera Health	\$985,399	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide telemedicine software and equipment to ensure equitable health care access at rural, sparsely-staffed medical facilities in a seven-state, 66 county area in the Upper Midwest through the Emergency Telemedicine Project. It will provide a more streamlined process for caring for patients by focusing on direct patient care delivered via telemedicine through eEmergency. The project brings interactive video and computer equipment that will be used for telehealth consultations with specialty care providers.
NC	Thom Tillis, Richard Burr	G.K. Butterfield (01)	Edgecombe County Schools	\$567,047	This Rural Development investment will purchase and deploy mobile video-conferencing equipment for Edgecombe County Public Schools. The distance learning project will facilitate the delivery of Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM)-focused courses to students at six county schools. This distance learning network will also enable the delivery of professional development courses and opportunities for faculty and staff.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NC	Thom Tillis, Richard Burr	Gregory Francis Murphy (03)	Carteret Community College	\$960,546	This Rural Development investment will be used to enhance the College's existing distance learning program to expand course offerings to include virtual substance abuse certificate programs, suicide prevention and opioid awareness training and increased professional development opportunities to the geographically isolated communities of the North Carolina coast. This opportunity will aid the communities served by allowing for continuing education and professional development opportunities to current substance abuse and suicide prevention paraprofessionals. It will also allow access to train new paraprofessionals to help with the growing issues of substance abuse and suicide in the county. Equipment purchased will teach virtual classes in other subject areas, such as Information Technology and Photography.
NC	Thom Tillis, Richard Burr	Mark Walker (06)	Alamance Community College	\$644,911	This Rural Development investment will be used to link, for the first time, all Alamance County fire stations and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) with the education and training services of Alamance Community College. The goal is to develop highly-skilled professionals in the Nursing and EMS programs through immersive simulation learning experiences and to share these simulations as professional development opportunities for EMS professionals. The equipment and technology purchased will provide instructors access to immersive simulation technology to develop instructional materials and professional development opportunities for county EMS professionals. Through collaboration from the Nursing and EMS departments, students will have the benefit of seeing the full circle of patient care through modules that follow the patient from the first point of contact.
NC	Thom Tillis, Richard Burr	Richard Hudson (08) Dan Bishop (09)	Cumberland County Hospital System, Inc.	\$451,001	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable Cumberland County Hospital System, Inc., operating as Cape Fear Valley Health System, (CFVHS) to establish the Cape Fear Valley Telemedicine Network (CFVTN), which will extend specialty care services to rural communities in Bladen, Harnett, Hoke, Sampson, Robeson and Cumberland counties of North Carolina. CFVHS is a non-profit network of hospitals and clinics based in Fayetteville, North Carolina that serves a largely rural six county region of southeastern North Carolina.
NC	Thom Tillis, Richard Burr	G.K. Butterfield (01)	Granville County Schools	\$679,814	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide video endpoints within schools to create opportunities for videoconferencing that will allow for career exploration, teacher share of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) courses and professional development. The project includes four main technology combinations: A dual-panel mobile codec system with two large displays on trolleys; a single-panel codec system with an interactive TV; a codec system with camera and soundbar; and, a large room system for gyms or auditoriums that includes an audio system, projector and large projector screen.
NC	Thom Tillis, Richard Burr	Gregory Francis Murphy (03)	Beaufort County Community College	\$329,893	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Beaufort County Community College (BCCC) with their "Increased Access to Distance Learning in Eastern North Carolina" Project. BCCC will purchase equipment to create two distance learning classrooms on the main campus as well as place a telecommunication cart at each of the six end-user site schools. This equipment will allow BCCC instruction to extend to new off-site locations in order to provide greater access and opportunity.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NC	Thom Tillis, Richard Burr	G.K. Butterfield (01)	North Carolina Central University	\$573,243	This Rural Development investment will be used to help North Carolina Central University (NCCU), along with its partnering end-user sites, build upon their success from previous funding by expanding services to an additional 10 rural sites for law education services, as well as services and clinics for mental health education. NCCU will be partnering with Johnson C. Smith University to provide additional educational services and clinics related to digital literacy and cybersecurity. These courses are specifically tailored to address issues experienced by rural communities.
ND	John Hoeven, Kevin Cramer	Kelly Armstrong (At Large)	Maddock Public School	\$83,955	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Maddock Public Schools purchase equipment that will allow them to deliver curriculum through distance learning to 809 students in Benson County.
NH	Jeanne Shaheen, Maggie Hassan	Chris Pappas (01)	University of New Hampshire	\$181,400	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand connectivity using health-related technologies to create a telehealth network through the University of New Hampshire. The project will connect the University in order to offer programs and services to help strengthen the state's prison system, jails, and recovery network by helping to address substance use disorder issues and provide parenting support to incarcerated individuals.
NV	Catherine Cortez Masto, Jacky Rosen	Mark Amodei (02)	Nevada System of Higher Education	\$464,583	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund Western Nevada College's (WNC) Rural Remote Learning Project (WNC RRLP), which will be essential to providing quality education to students located in WNC's 18,000 square mile rural service area. WNC seeks to update outdated video conferencing equipment that will expand distance learning capabilities and offerings in order to better serve the rural communities within WNC's service area.
NV	Catherine Cortez Masto, Jacky Rosen	Mark Amodei (02), Susan Lee (03), Steven Horsford (04)	Nevada System Of Higher Education	\$513,706	This Rural Development investment will be used to upgrade infrastructure to increase capacity and will provide equipment to 18 end-user sites in 12 counties in the state of Nevada. All 18 sites will receive network equipment upgrades, and 17 will receive high-definition codecs that will allow video, audio, and interactive content collaboration. The project will overcome the identified challenges by providing rural residents with additional educational opportunities addressing critical community needs through training, classes, and workshops that would otherwise be unavailable in these communities.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NY	Charles Schumer, Kirsten Gillibrand	Antonio Delgado (19), Anthony Brindisi (22)	Board of Cooperative Educational Service	\$683,692	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Otsego Northern Catskills Board of Cooperative Educational Services (ONC BOCES) schools provide access to Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) courses that include a schedule of rigorous curriculum for public school students applying to college and/or preparing to enter the workforce. A secondary benefit will be remote training in opioid addiction and overdose prevention for community members, school staff, and emergency personnel. Distance learning will allow students in Delaware, Otsego, Sullivan, Schoharie, Madison, and Chenango rural counties in New York to connect with instructors, students, scientists and other subject matter experts and institutions around the globe, including museums and zoos. Through this program, students may now be more aware of the careers that exist in the STEM field. Additionally, those who complete advanced STEM or college-level courses may increase their chances of being accepted into their preferred colleges while those who are directly entering the workforce may be better prepared to have a higher-wage job.
NY	Charles Schumer, Kirsten Gillibrand	Tom Reed (23)	Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming Boces	\$486,510	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase distance learning at Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming Board of Cooperative Educational Services (CA BOCES) partner school districts by implementing the Improving Math Scores Through Distance Learning (IMSTDLE) program. The IMSTDLE program will provide students with additional math learning opportunities through distance learning and increase access to professional development for teachers. The program outcomes will be student mastery of math using qualified teachers and enhancement to the delivery of instruction through distance learning. IMSTDLE will lead to higher student retention, improved educational success, increased graduation rates and more students seeking postsecondary education that allows them to successfully transition to adulthood. This program will connect 7,135 students and their teachers at 17 different rural school sites from 16 different districts.
NY	Charles Schumer, Kirsten Gillibrand	Elise Stefanik (21)	Community Health Center	\$223,144	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Community Health Center of North Country provide telemedicine services at four rural clinics and distance learning services at three Individualized Residential Alternatives (IRA's) locations. The project sites are located across St. Lawrence and Franklin counties in New York. The telemedicine services that will be available under this project are substance use disorder treatments and counseling services. At the IRA's, the project will provide training to people with developmental disabilities.
NY	Charles Schumer, Kirsten Gillibrand	Elise Stefanik (21), Anthony Brindisi (22), Tom Reed (23)	Southern Tier Health Care System, Inc.	\$218,557	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund the Southern Tier Health Care System Emergency SUD/ODU Response project, which will provide education and training for opioid and substance abuse services in rural New York. The new project, which will consist of 15 sites, will increase access to a multi-site network with access to even greater system supports for synchronous training. The project goal is to reduce the human loss of life related to the opioid overdose epidemic, and improve emergency response, training and education to our rural southern tier region. The equipment is live-feed instructor-led, multidisciplinary distance technology (live tele-video, audio, and recording) at the Hub.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
OH	Rob Portman, Sherrod Brown	Bill Johnson (06)	Holzer Health System	\$172,358	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide students and staff from Gallia County Schools with primary and preventative care through the Appalachian Primary Care Telemedicine Program. Healthcare services will be transmitted from hub sites at Holzer Health System to several primary and secondary schools through technical equipment purchased through this project. The project will create real-time access to necessary medical care for the children and school faculty in six communities. The goal of this project is to provide students and faculty access to quality healthcare which is currently unavailable. Increased access will lead to better overall health while creating a more conducive environment for learning and growth. Delivering timely, accurate care will benefit the students and staff in the rural areas served by this project.
OH	Rob Portman, Sherrod Brown	Jim Jordan (04), Bob Gibbs (07), Anthony Gonzalez (16)	New London Local School District	\$999,524	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) resource access to the New London Local School District students in Pre-kindergarten through sixth grade across four Ohio counties. By partnering with other STEM-designated schools in Ohio, the New London School District will create an enhanced STEM curriculum for elementary school students. The New London School District will also partner with Lorraine County Community College to provide additional STEM resources and opportunities for their students. STEM courses will be delivered via a fully synchronous distance learning network to 3,600 students.
OR	Ron Wyden, Jeff Merkley	Greg Walden (02)	Baker Technical Institute	\$147,203	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase access to health care training for rural students in remote and frontier areas of eastern Oregon. Baker Technical Institute will establish a state-of-the-art distance learning system that will enable students to participate in health care classes remotely at four sites across eastern Oregon, including the Blue Mountain Hospital in John Day, Harney District Hospital in Burns, Morrow County Health District in Heppner, and Wallowa Memorial Hospital in Enterprise. This distance learning program will provide access to a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program and courses in phlebotomy, medical assistant training, emergency medicine, and medical terminology.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Glenn Thompson (15)	Riverview Intermediate Unit	\$1,000,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to allow Riverview Intermediate Unit 6 to improve its infrastructure and delivery of therapies and teacher related special education services to students. The improved telecommunications will result in increased efficiencies, providing new options that will allow the unit to continue to meet students' needs for intervention services. The Riverview Intermediate Unit service region spans nearly 3,200 square miles in the rural Pennsylvania counties of Clarion, Venango, Crawford, Clearfield and Forest. They are committed to responding to community, school, and student needs, assisting districts in meeting state and federally mandated programs, as well as developing and coordinating regional programs to increase the capacity of the region in education.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Fred Keller (12), Glenn Thompson (15)	Central Intermediate Unit 10	\$994,832	This Rural Development investment will be used to deliver interactive Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) distance learning training to rural Appalachian elementary and middle schools along with one high school, spread across five counties covering 5,600 square miles of mountainous terrain in Pennsylvania. The Central Intermediate Unit 10, in partnership with the Seneca Highlands Intermediate Unit 9, will be providing video conferencing, interactive STEM equipment, computers and networking equipment to 25 elementary schools, 13 middle schools and one high school which will serve 14,149 students. Five hubs sites at the intermediate units will also utilize funds to purchase distance learning delivery room networking equipment, video conferencing software and servers. Program activities will include teacher training workshops, embedded live coaching to the classroom, development of a professional STEM learning network, live interactive STEM competitions between the rural elementary and middle school students, STEM curriculum designed for special education students and career development presentations from industry leaders.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Glenn Thompson (15), Mike Kelly (16)	UPMC Kane	\$448,800	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide synchronous specialty and emergency medical care services to rural end-user sites through the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Hamot-Erie and UPMC Kane hubs. The project will deploy equipment to provide on-site live-feed medical services facilitating real time communication among the project sites, using telehealth carts and peripherals that are able to provide information regarding a patient's condition to an emergency or specialty care physician at the hub and hub/end-user site. The goal is to provide greater access to medical care while decreasing the overall costs of that care. The project will benefit a population of 109,726 in four Pennsylvania counties. The end-user site located in the city of Bradford is within an Opportunity Zone.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Glenn Thompson (15)	Youngsville Television Corporation	\$354,552	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund the deployment of telemedicine infrastructure connecting medical responders to provide opioid dependency support to local and regional communities. In conjunction with participating medical centers, six volunteer fire departments within the region will receive teleconferencing equipment to be installed within their facilities, providing access to opioid response and support training. The training provides first responders the needed tools to identify, respond, and support opioid incidents within their communities. The teleconferencing equipment will also serve the ongoing training and support requirements of the first responders, Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), and paramedics within each department.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
PR		Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon	The Puerto Rico Science, Technology & Research Trust	\$998,076	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide a telecommunications link to end user sites to deliver educational programs, instruction and information to students and teachers who are located in rural areas. Some of Puerto Rico's most remote communities suffered the greatest mortality and health-related crises following the recent hurricanes, earthquakes and COVID-19 Pandemic. This project will also improve healthcare to remote communities and reduce costs but will also decrease the negative impact on health in anticipation of future natural disasters. Telemedicine connectivity will facilitate provision of clinical services by Board Certified Physicians to improve quality-of-care and timely access to medical specialists in remote areas. As Puerto Rico rebuilds, striving to exceed pre-hurricane conditions, distance learning and telemedicine services can improve remote community resilience and access to specialized care. Future plans include improving sustainability of the communications infrastructure to have back-up options for emergency power and satellite-based internet. This will ensure access to critical medical guidance even if storm damage to transportation infrastructure were to isolate residents from specialist care.
PR		Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon	Migrant Health Center Western Region, Incorporated	\$869,565	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide substance use disorder treatment, mental health counseling and primary care services through telemedicine between 11 service branches. This project will change how telecommunications services can be delivered for rural and vulnerable communities in Puerto Rico. All systems will be in accordance with all regulatory standards. The Center will electronically link medical professionals at separate sites and exchange health care information in audio, video, graphic or other format for the purpose of providing improved health care services, mental health and substance abuse disorder primarily to residents of rural areas. This strategy will also deliver education through training and workshops to health providers and patients regarding mental and primary health conditions, substance use disorder, and self-management strategies.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Jeff Duncan (03), William Timmons (04), Ralph Norman (05), James E. Clyburn (06) Tom Rice (07)	South Carolina Department Of Corrections	\$995,129	This Rural Development investment will be used to facilitate the delivery of health services including substance abuse treatment and mental health treatment to a prison inmate population via secure interactive video conferencing. The inmates will access these videoconferences through either a medical cart, a laptop in their housing unit, or in a meeting room with a videoconferencing system and large video display. The project will provide benefits to 15,120 people located in 16 counties in South Carolina.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Jeff Duncan (03), Ralph Norman, Jr., (05), James E. Clyburn (06)	University of South Carolina	\$431,278	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist the University of South Carolina to replace and upgrade obsolete equipment now being used to deliver distance learning. The new equipment will allow the college to effectively and reliably deliver instruction with a distance and two-way learning network encompassing six rural counties in South Carolina.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07)	Northeastern Technical College	\$750,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to upgrade the distance learning network in the South Carolina counties of Chesterfield, Marlboro, and Dillon. The funding will allow Northeastern Technical College (NETC) to purchase and install interactive videoconferencing equipment at four rural Hub / End User campuses and one correctional institution in the college's service area. The college sites will each be equipped with five distance learning rooms while Evans Correctional Institution will receive four video and virtual reality equipped rooms. The interactive videoconferencing systems will provide virtual connections between NETC and the correctional institution classrooms at the same time. With the additional rooms the college will be able provide complete college and technical programs to prepare inmates for careers after their release from incarceration with the goal of reducing recidivism. The system includes high-definition equipment to provide several connections, cameras that automatically track teachers and students, large high-definition monitors, and high-resolution audio.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07)	Northeastern Technical College	\$850,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a system upgrade to Northeastern Technical College's Distance Learning network in three counties. Interactive video-conferencing equipment will be installed at four college campus sites, eight high schools and one applied technology center. This fully synchronous Distance Learning network will serve students in the College's service area.
TN	Lamar Alexander, Marsha Blackburn	Mark Green (07)	American Health Companies Inc.	\$402,793	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund the installation of telehealth equipment at five rural skilled nursing facilities. The new computers and video collaboration system will improve the hiring process for potential employees resulting in lower staff vacancies. The Certified Nursing Assistant program will use the computerized training system. The new equipment will also support the Relias learning system by giving staff access to the educational programs. The participating hubs/end-user sites are all skilled nursing homes that are Medicare and Medicaid certified, providing long-term care and short-term rehabilitation for residents of the rural communities.
TN	Lamar Alexander, Marsha Blackburn	David Kustoff (08)	Tipton County School District	\$976,742	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Tipton County School District deploy an interactive distance learning network to students living in Tipton County. The network will allow real-time connection to teachers, special educators, counselors, remote classrooms, post-secondary institutions, as well as educational and cultural venues offering virtual field trip opportunities.
TN	Lamar Alexander, Marsha Blackburn	Mark Green (07), David Kustoff (08)	Carey Counseling Center, Inc.	\$328,433	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide mental health services in eight locations within six rural counties of northwest Tennessee. The project will enable residents of rural northwest Tennessee to see their mental health professional even if they are not located in their local office that day. This opens more appointment times since the practitioner can see clients from other locations.
TN	Lamar Alexander, Marsha Blackburn	David Kustoff (08)	Carroll County Schools	\$297,439	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable Carrol County Schools to bring distance learning for alternative school environments, dual credit and dual enrollment course offerings from colleges and universities. It will also provide quality educators if there is a shortage of qualified teachers. Additionally, it will provide telemedicine for the school nurse to properly diagnose illnesses and support low-income families.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
TX	Ted Cruz, John Cornyn	Jodey Arrington (19)	Education Service Center, Region 17	\$1,000,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to allow Region 17 Education Service Center to help participating school districts address access issues for both distance learning and telemedicine applications. Providing support for both areas has been identified as necessary to enrich the educational resources available to school populations in rural areas within Region 17. The project will increase e-Connectivity for rural students, support a rural workforce, and improve quality of life through telemedicine services, and provide support for treatment for general health and behavioral health areas.
TX	Ted Cruz, John Cornyn	Michael Cloud (27)	Palacios Community Medical Center	\$812,500	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect rural residents with virtual access to health care in a clinic, institution (Emergency Room/inpatient) and/or home setting. Through this connectivity, rural residents will have virtual access to their hometown providers in "real-time" via a telecom connection provided by Palacios Community Medical Center.
TX	Ted Cruz, John Cornyn	Michael K. Conaway (11), Jodey Arrington (19)	LCHD Foundation	\$585,388	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy interactive telemedicine carts and equipment to 20 sites across Lynn, Garza, Borden, Lubbock and Dawson counties. This project will provide health services to at-risk populations, including substance use disorder (SUD) individuals and patients that live in very remote locations.
TX	Ted Cruz, John Cornyn	Ron Wright (06)	Navarro College	\$132,800	The Rural Development investment will be used to involve three strategies to improve distance learning for the residents in rural communities located in five counties. Strategies include implementing video conferencing for dual credit students at rural high schools, establishing the Navarro College Mexia Campus as a hub for rural students to participate in distance learning programs, and installing a laptop kiosk at the Mexia State Supported Living Center to increase access for employees of the facility to Navarro College courses and programs.
TX and OK	Ted Cruz, John Cornyn (TX); James Inhofe, James Lankford (OK)	Ron Wright (TX 06), Kevin Brady (TX 08), Michael K. Conaway (TX 11), Randy Weber (TX 14), Michael Burgess (TX 26), Kevin Hern (OK 01), Markwayne Mullin (OK 02), Frank Lucas (OK 03), Tom Cole (OK 04), Kendra Horn (OK 05)	Epic Charter School	\$969,327	This Rural Development investment will be used to link urban schools in Oklahoma and Texas with rural schools, students, and community partners in both states to provide Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) learning, Career and Technical Education (CTE) certifications, Advance Placement (AP)/concurrent college courses, professional development, and opioid education service delivery. Interactive video conferencing equipment will be installed, including Video Codecs as shareable mobile cart systems or large-scale dedicated classrooms.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
VA	Mark Warner, Tim Kaine	Morgan Griffith (09)	Lee County School District	\$752,857	This Rural Development investment will be used to connect students and teachers at elementary, middle, and high schools to each other and to the Lee County Central Office and Career and Technical Center. The goals are to provide Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) courses and resources such as robotics competitions and meetups with in-the-field STEM professionals, provide students in alternative education programs the opportunity to attend their classes in real time, enable teachers to access quality professional development synchronously without incurring travel and time costs, and provide access for students as well as for the area community to tele counseling services and preventative substance abuse education. In addition, partnerships with local town councils and the Board of Supervisors will create opportunities to utilize the project equipment, consisting of interactive video conferencing technology, for local community meetings and forums. The project will benefit a total of 4,590 people and includes Jonesville, Va. which is in an Opportunity Zone.
VA	Mark Warner, Tim Kaine	Robert J. Wittman (01), Elaine Luria (02), Robert C. Scott (03), Donald McEachin (04)	Retina And Vitreous Center, P.C.	\$887,525	The Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telehealth equipment required to provide diagnostic and treatment services to patients with diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration, eye tumors and ocular oncology, among other specialties. The system in each clinic will include live interactive videoconferencing hardware and software, a digital stethoscope, a specialized hand-held exam and diagnostics camera, and a variety of lens options. Images, data, and content would be presented during a live, interactive connection with a specialist supporting the clinician and patient at the remote location.
VA	Mark Warner, Tim Kaine	Denver Riggleman (05), Ben Cline (06), Morgan Griffith (09)	Carilion Medical Center	\$947,983	This Rural Development investment will be used to increase patient access to high-quality primary and specialty care services in 14 counties and six independent cities located in western Virginia through the expansion and optimization of an existing telemedicine network. Project equipment will include telemedicine carts (for the provision of teleneurology), peripherals to facilitate physical examinations of patients by transmitting audio visual information to remote physicians (for use in the proposed virtual care centers) and portable examination and vital sign devices.
VA and TN	Mark Warner, Tim Kaine (VA); Lamar Alexander, Marsha Blackburn (TN)	Phil Roe (TN 01), Morgan Griffith (VA 09)	Mountain States Health Alliance	\$313,361	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund a "School-Based Telemedicine Virtual Health Clinic" that will improve the availability of health care to under-served children across eight counties in Tennessee and Virginia. Quality health care is provided right in the school setting without the need for transportation by parents/guardians. The program improves access to acute sick care for school children and faculty, and removes transportation as an obstacle to care.
VI		Stacey Plaskett	Government Of The Virgin Islands	\$723,048	This Rural Development investment will be used to expand access to vital resources for end user schools who were hard hit and have not yet fully recovered from recent hurricanes. This project will provide course work and services accessible through distance learning technology. It will equip elementary and primary schools to ensure all students will have access to the same quality instruction, Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) course work. It will also serve to increase opportunity and professional development for teachers and faculty. Through this project, students will be able to share the limited number of STEM qualified teachers, ensuring they are better prepared for academic success.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### October 7, 2020

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
VT	Patrick Leahy, Bernard Sanders	Peter Welch (At Large)	Vermont State Colleges	\$465,697	This Rural Development investment will be used to help fund the Northern Vermont University (NVU) Distance Learning Initiative, a partnership between NVU-Johnson and over 25 participating sites in Vermont. They include the Howard Center, Rutland Mental Health Services and Washington County Mental Health Services, among others. The partnership's mission is to expand distance learning and telemedicine services throughout the state. NVU-Johnson and the Howard Center are serving as fixed site hubs, each with diverse and different functions: The former will provide leadership, technical expertise and content delivery to participating project partners using the existing distance learning equipment; the latter will supply a wealth of online training and preventative resources aimed at treating substance-use-disorder, mental-health conditions, and other intellectual and developmental disorders. User sites across the state in nine counties will receive equipment to expand their telepresence to offer these resources.
WA and MT	Patty Murray, Maria Cantwell (WA); Jon Tester, Steve Daines (MT)	Dan Newhouse (WA 04), Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA 05), Pramila Jayapal (WA 07), Greg Gianforte (MT At Large)	University of Washington	\$1,000,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to allow the University of Washington's School of Dentistry to install interactive video conferencing equipment at rural clinical sites in six Washington State counties and five Montana counties. This Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM)-focused project will aid in the clinical education of the dentistry students in addition to facilitating the provision of dental services to a rural population.
WI	Ron Johnson, Tammy Baldwin	Ron Kind (03), Tom Tiffany (07)	Cooperative Ed. Service Agency 10	\$1,000,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to enable Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10 to implement a distance learning technology upgrade. The Achieving Wisconsin Equity Project will allow for cloud-based bridging and provide videoconferencing endpoints at 39 school districts in 14 counties in west central Wisconsin. Expanding schools' capabilities will provide the resources to help overcome disparities experienced by these rural school districts.
WI and MI	Ron Johnson, Tammy Baldwin (WI); Debbie Stabenow, Gary Peters (MI)	Ron Kind (WI 03), Tom Tiffany (WI 07), Mike Gallagher (WI 08), Jack Bergman (MI 01)	St. Vincent Hospital of the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis	\$996,281	This Rural Development investment will be used to address the problems of rural health professional shortages, particularly opioid and substance use disorder (OUD/SUD) clinicians and behavioral health specialists, lack of patient access to acute hospital (critical and emergency department) and non-acute (outpatient clinic) care. The 13 hub/end user sites will provide emergency and treatment services for opioid/substance use disorders across 10 counties in western and eastern Wisconsin and two counties in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$71,541,031</b>	



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## USDA Invests in the Expansion of Rural Education and Health Care Access

*Distance Learning and Telemedicine Investments will benefit 5.4 Million Rural Residents in 37 States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands*

### Release & Contact Info

#### Press Release

Release No. 0185.19

Weldon Freeman (202) 690-1384

Jay Fletcher (202) 690-0498

**WASHINGTON, Nov. 20, 2019** – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development Donald “DJ” LaVoy today announced that USDA is investing [\\$42.5 million in 133 distance learning and telemedicine projects](#) (PDF, 238 KB) in 37 states and two U.S. territories. USDA is providing the funding through the [Distance Learning and Telemedicine](#) (DLT) grant program. These investments will benefit 5.4 million rural residents.

“Distance learning and telemedicine make it easier for thousands of rural residents to take advantage of economic, health care and educational opportunities without having to travel long distances,” LaVoy said. “Under the leadership of President Trump and Agriculture Secretary Perdue, USDA is committed to partnering with rural communities to help them improve their quality of life, because when rural America thrives, all of America thrives.”

USDA is announcing investments today in Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Below are examples of projects announced today:

- Mississippi State University is receiving a \$488,315 grant to update video conferencing and cloud-based equipment in 93 counties. USDA’s investment will enable participants in extension offices and experiment stations to deliver educational programming to

interactive audiences. This project will benefit nearly 29,000 Mississippi residents, students, extension educators and faculty.

- In Ohio, the Lisbon Exempted Village School District is receiving a \$323,478 grant to create a distance learning network at eight sites in Columbiana County. The district will offer classes and behavioral health services to 850 students.
- Owensboro Health Inc. in Kentucky is receiving a \$460,820 grant to install telemedicine equipment at 10 sites in Hopkins, McLean, Muhlenberg and Ohio counties in Kentucky and a site in Perry County, Indiana. This project will provide health care resources to approximately 35,000 residents, including nearly 2,000 patients.

Applicants eligible for Distance Learning and Telemedicine grants include most State and local governmental entities, federally-recognized tribes, nonprofits, for-profit businesses and consortia of eligible entities.

In April 2017, President Donald J. Trump established the Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity to identify legislative, regulatory and policy changes that could promote agriculture and prosperity in rural communities. In January 2018, Secretary Perdue presented the Task Force's findings to President Trump. These findings included 31 recommendations to align the federal government with state, local and tribal governments to take advantage of opportunities that exist in rural America. Supporting the rural workforce was a cornerstone recommendation of the task force.

To view the report in its entirety, please view the [Report to the President of the United States from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity](#) (PDF, 5.4 MB). In addition, to view the categories of the recommendations, please view the [Rural Prosperity infographic](#) (PDF, 190 KB).

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov).

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Hydaburg School District	\$498,076	This Rural Development investment will enable the Hydaburg City School District in Southeast Alaska to create a distance learning network to link schools on three islands to central offices and facilities in Anchorage. Video conferencing equipment will be installed at each location to provide new educational opportunities and teacher training. Almost 5,000 Alaskans will benefit.
AK	Lisa Murkowski, Dan Sullivan	Don Young (At Large)	Yukon Flats School District)	\$498,723	The Rural Development investment will be used by Alaska's Yukon Flats School District to implement a distance learning project that will use iPads and Interactive video conferencing equipment to deliver age-appropriate instruction to students. The project will place an emphasis on science technology engineering and mathematics related courses and activities. Teachers will be trained to use preventative mental health strategies. This project, located in the Yukon-Koyukuk Burrough, will serve 1,158 rural residents at six sites.
AL	Doug Jones, Richard Shelby	Martha Roby (02)	Pike County Board of Education	\$285,468	This Rural Development investment will enable the Pike County Board of Education to replace and upgrade distance learning equipment. Equipment will be deployed at 12 locations in Coffee, Fayette, Lamar and Pike counties in Alabama. An estimated 5,316 students will be served.
AL	Doug Jones, Richard Shelby	Terri Sewell (07)	Stillman College	\$478,962	The Rural Development investment will enable Stillman College of Alabama to implement a distance learning project that will partner with the Alabama State Department of Education. Classes will be offered to students in Sumter, Greene and Hale counties. The project will include videoconferencing, cameras, displays, and audio systems benefiting an estimated 764 students.
AL	Doug Jones, Richard Shelby	Terri Sewell (07)	UAB-Birmingham	\$391,983	The Rural Development investment will be used to enable the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) to implement an eMedicine Telehealth Outreach project. Three hospitals will be served benefiting 159,000 rural residents.
AL	Doug Jones, Richard Shelby	Terri Sewell (07)	UAB-Birmingham	\$359,283	The Rural Development investment will be used to enable the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) implement an eMedicine Telehealth Outreach project. Four hospitals will be served along with clinics in the Marion, Pickens, Sumter and Winston county health departments. The rural population served by this project is 174,831.
AL	Doug Jones, Richard Shelby	Terri Sewell (07)	Trenholm State Community College	\$496,451	The Rural Development investment will be used to enable Alabama's Trenholm State Community College in Montgomery to implement a distance learning program to connect six public high schools to the college. The rural population to be served by this project is 21,000.
AR	John Boozman, Tom Cotton	Steve Womack (03)	Carroll County Resource Council & Prevention	\$62,176	This Rural Development will allow the Carroll County Resource Council to install interactive distance learning equipment in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. This investment will leverage skilled resources from four sites in three states. Skilled job training will be provided to approximately 2,100 students, via two classrooms at the former Eureka Springs High School.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
AR	John Boozman, Tom Cotton	French Hill (02)	Conway Regional Medical Center	\$67,375	This Rural Development investment will allow Conway Regional Medical Center, Inc., in partnership with four other medical facilities, to deliver interactive telemedicine specialty care to approximately 5,000 patients residing in and around Dardanelle, Arkansas. This investment will provide interactive medical services from the Conway Regional Medical Center to Yell County residents.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Kamala Harris	Nancy Pelosi (12)	Hazel Health, Inc	\$270,375	This Rural Development investment will enable Hazel Health, Inc provide telemedicine services to 76 elementary, middle and high schools in Nevada and Georgia. Up to 45,000 rural residents may benefit.
CA	Dianne Feinstein, Kamala Harris	Julia Brownley (26)	Landon Pediatric Foundation	\$174,480	This Rural Development investment will enable the Landon Pediatric Foundation expand its telemedicine network to provide services at eight locations in American Samoa. The sites will be connected to the LBJ Tropical Medical Center Hospital to health care resources and specialists at the primary hub at Ventura County Medical Center in California. New Public Health tools will be provided to improve management of infectious diseases. The American Samoa Community College School of Nursing program will also provide three additional classes per year. This project will improve service to 55,533 residents.
CO	Michael Bennet, Cory Gardner	Doug Lamborn (05)	Fremont County Economic Development Corporation	\$394,653	This Rural Development investment will enable the Fremont County Economic Development Corporation to implement a distance learning STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) educational program. The project will directly link the Florence Primary Site; FEDC TechSTART; Pueblo Community College Fremont Campus; Canon City, Florence, Cotopaxi, Custer County and Cotopaxi high schools; Goal Academy and AIM Academy. Through video conferencing, training will be provided to a variety of business owners and employees. The project serves a population of 24,311.
CT	Richard Blumenthal, Christopher Murphy	Joe Courtney (02)	United Services, Inc	\$319,194	This Rural Development investment will enable United Services, Inc. to connect 11 program locations and four community partners with telecommunications equipment. The project will link Connecticut clinical centers, domestic violence shelters, young adult service program locations, an adult social and vocational rehabilitation program location and supported housing facilities, as well as connect four community partners. Windham and Tolland counties will benefit, and 177,094 rural residents will be served.
FL	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott	Neal Dunn (02)	PanCare of Florida, Inc	\$489,204	This Rural Development investment will enable PanCare of Florida to provide primary care, behavioral health and opioid counseling for children and youth. Interactive video equipment will be installed at twenty sites in seven Florida counties. This project increases health system access to over 5,170 students.
FL	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott	Neal Dunn (02)	Levy County School District	\$246,495	This Rural Development investment will enable Florida's Levy County School District to create a Distance Learning network. The hub will be at Chiefland, serving six locations throughout the county. The emphasis will be on providing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) classes. An estimated 7,330 students will be served by the project.
FL	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott	Al Lawson (05)	District School Board of Madison County	\$173,157	This Rural Development investment will allow the District School Board of Madison County to purchase equipment to create an interactive distance learning network for seven schools in Madison County, Fla. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) course offerings will be provided, improving educational opportunities for an estimated 2,442 rural students.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
FL	Marco Rubio, Rick Scott	Neal Dunn (02)	Washington County School District	\$370,608	The Rural Development investment will be used by the Panhandle Area Education Consortium (PAEC) to implement a distance learning system that will provide students with access to advanced classes. Colleges and schools in nine rural counties in the Florida panhandle will be served, benefitting up to 38,288 people.
GA	Johnny Isakson, David Perdue	Sanford Bishop (02)	The Corporation of Mercer University	\$403,332	This Rural Development investment will enable the Corporation of Mercer University of Georgia to undertake a telemedicine project that is focused on behavioral health. Ten project sites in eight counties will be linked to a high-definition telehealth and remote monitoring program that will provide behavioral and mental health care services. Communities will benefit in the counties of Johnson, Washington, Telfair, Warren, Hancock, Sumter and Clay in Georgia with the hub located in Bibb County. Services will be available to 20,606 rural residents.
GA	Johnny Isakson, David Perdue	Henry "Hank" Johnson (04)	Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice	\$384,344	This Rural Development investment will allow the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice to establish a distance learning program to train and educate staff. This project will serve 96,000 individuals in 15 counties.
GA	Johnny Isakson, David Perdue	John Lewis (05)	Georgia Department of Labor	\$352,135	This Rural Development investment will enable the Georgia Department of Labor to implement a Distance Learning program to provide training to customers and staff. The project will serve 51,525 residents in eight rural counties.
GA	Johnny Isakson, David Perdue	Jody Hice (10)	Oconee Fall Line Technical College	\$105,702	This Rural Development investment will enable the Oconee Fall Line Technical College (OFTC) to equip classrooms with learning equipment which will allow teachers to provide classes in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Distance learning equipment will be placed at five locations in Jefferson, Laurens, Telfair and Washington counties in Georgia. An estimated 366 residents will benefit.
GA	Johnny Isakson, David Perdue	Rick Allen (12)	Augusta University	\$182,250	This Rural Development investment will enable Augusta University to provide ultrasound equipment for educational and diagnostic disease screening. An estimated 2,600 patient-encounters are expected during three-year grant period, with a parallel benefit to approximately 220 medical school students participating in the project through the university medical school. This project will include 28 sites across 21 Georgia counties.
ID	Mike Crapo, James Risch	Russ Fulcher (01)	St. Luke's McCall, LTD	\$153,555	The Rural Development investment will assist St. Luke's McCall, LTD in McCall, Idaho to implement a telemedicine project to connect with St. Luke's Health System, LTD in Boise. The project will ensure access to neurology and behavioral health services. In addition, the Rural Development funds will be used to help fund telehealth equipment in 25 emergency department and inpatient rooms. Over 4,800 area residents will benefit.
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Adam Kinzinger (16)	Arukah Institute of Healing Inc (NFP)	\$105,074	This Rural Development investment will allow Arukah Institute of Healing, Inc., a 20-clinician group, to provide counseling and mental health services from a hub to a residents in a four-county area. The project will help the Arukah Institute treat behavioral health issues and opioid/substance use disorders.
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	John Shimkus (15)	Lake Land Community College District 517	\$224,243	This Rural Development investment will enable Lake Land College to create a Distance Learning network linking the college to five rural high schools. The college will be the hub and will connect with schools in Shelby, Coles and Fayette Counties, in Illinois. The college will deliver General Education Core Curriculum dual core courses to students. The project will serve over 22,000.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Rodney Davis (13)	Jersey Community Hospital District	\$250,727	This Rural Development investment will enable the Jersey Community Hospital District to purchase and install telemedicine equipment to improve medical services in Jersey and Greene counties.
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Darin LaHood (18)	McLean County Unit District No. 5	\$326,327	The Rural Development investment will enable the McClean County CUST 5 School District to create an interactive Distance Learning network. Additional educational opportunities will be made available to students in six school districts in central Illinois. The schools will be connected through the distance learning network and advanced placement courses will be offered, as well as dual enrollment courses that will allow high school students to earn college credits. Over 17,000 students in the participating schools will benefit.
IL	Tammy Duckworth, Richard Durbin	Mike Bost (12)	Community Health & Emergency Services Inc.	\$212,097	This Rural Development investment will enable Community Health and Emergency Services, Inc. to implement a new telemedicine project to treat opioid abuse. It will also be used to re-establish pharmacy services in Cairo. This project will serve 8,195 individuals in the seven southernmost counties of Illinois.
IN	Mike Braun, Todd Young	Andre Carson (07)	Indiana University Health, Inc.	\$240,845	This Rural Development investment will enable Indiana University Health, Inc. purchase and install telemedicine portable examination equipment to improve services at seven rural critical access hospitals in Clinton, White, Tipton, Orange, Lawrence, Blackford and Jay counties in Indiana. The project will serve 51,465 residents from a hub in Indianapolis.
IN	Mike Braun, Todd Young	Andre Carson (07)	Indiana University Health, Inc.	\$457,605	This Rural Development investment will enable Indiana University Health Inc. to purchase and install telemedicine equipment in six primary care offices and seven critical access hospitals in Blackford, Clinton, Jay, Lawrence, Orange, and White counties. The telemedicine system will deliver opioid treatment/substance abuse and behavioral health services in rural Indiana, helping as many as 21,000 patients.
KS	Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts	Roger Marshall (01)	Farm & Home Cooperative	\$127,758	This Rural Development investment will enable an informal consortium of Allen and Woodson County hospital systems in Kansas, to install interactive video systems. Behavioral health specialty care will offer opioid prevention, treatment and recovery services supplemented by primary medical care to several schools. This investment will benefit 14 end user sites in four Southeast Kansas communities comprising over 9,000 residents. The project will allow more timely, accurate and complete diagnosis and treatment of issues that could otherwise result in a worsening health crisis requiring emergency room visits and/or inpatient admissions.
KS	Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts	Roger Marshall (01)	City of Dodge City	\$190,546	This Rural Development (RD) investment will be used to provide Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) courses through distance learning, across seven rural counties, to six rural communities in Kansas. This investment is designed to improve access to education to students in Southwest Kansas. The project will provide interactive two-way distance learning equipment and audio and video equipment necessary for distance learning. Over 2,000 students will benefit from this project in the first year.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
KS	Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts	Roger Marshall (01)	Kansas State University	\$146,031	The Rural Development investment will enable Kansas State University to create a Distance Learning network. The project will provide enhanced educational opportunities, and STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) will be emphasized. The project is expected to serve a student population of 2,460, and 37,964 residents in rural Kansas.
KS	Jerry Moran, Pat Roberts	Roger Marshall (01)	Pawnee Mental Health Services Inc	\$495,488	This Rural Development investment will enable Pawnee Mental Health Services to install teleconferencing equipment to be used to provide psychotherapy, psychiatric medication management and parenting classes to local residents. Equipment will be placed at sites in Geary, Jewell, Mitchell, Riley and Washington counties in Kansas. Over 14,000 residents will be served.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05)	Addiction Recovery Care	\$368,970	This Rural Development investment will enable Addiction Recovery Care (ARC VTX ) to establish a telemedicine hub in Lexington, Kentucky. The will enable service to be provided to 23 rural clinics across 13 counties. Through the hub, the remote sites will connect with clinicians and medical staff for intake, prescribing of medications, and group counseling.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Brett Guthrie (02)	Owensboro Health Inc	\$460,820	The Rural Development investment will enable Owensboro Health to install telemedicine equipment at ten sites in Hopkins, McLean, Muhlenberg, and Ohio county in Kentucky plus Perry County Indiana. The project includes installation of 22 telecommunications units at the user sites. This project provides health care resources to a population of 35,703 including an estimated 1,978 patients.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05)	Pikeville Medical Center Inc	\$357,167	This Rural Development investment will enable the Pikeville Medical Center to install a telehealth platform to provide needed health care services to target communities. Federal funds will be used to equip ten public schools with mobile telehealth carts, exam cameras and equipment which will connect to the center. This project increases rural access to health care and will benefit a population estimated at 476,087.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05)	KY Community & Technical College System	\$128,321	The Rural Development investment will allow the Kentucky Community and Technical College System to purchase and install Distance Learning equipment. A network will link sites in Barren, Daviess, Hardin and Warren Counties in Kentucky, and six sites in Pulaski, Laurel, Russell, McCreary, Clinton and Casey counties. Somerset Community College will partner with Kentucky colleges and universities to provide enhanced STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education to students. An estimated 45,650 residents in six counties will benefit.
KY	Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul	James Comer (01)	One Cross Community	\$344,176	The Rural Development investment will enable One Cross Community to provide opioid and other substance abuse treatment, mental health services and affordable health care for medically underserved residents. Telemedicine equipment will be installed at eight sites in Marion and Taylor counties in Kentucky. This project provides health care resources to over 44,740 residents.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Mike Johnson (04)	Council for Advance	\$179,425	This Rural Development investment will enable the Council for Advancement of Social Service and Education to implement a telemedicine project to provide telepsychiatry services for opioid treatment in Caddo, Bossier, Desoto and Red River counties of Louisiana. This project will serve a base population of 8,779.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Ralph Abraham (05)	Med-Express Ambulance Service Inc	\$217,000	The Rural Development investment will enable Med Express Ambulance Service to provide telemedicine services to hospitals and ambulances in five Parishes in Louisiana. Interactive video conferencing equipment will be placed in the participating hospitals and ambulances. The project will serve 8,000 residents annually.
LA	Bill Cassidy, John Neely Kennedy	Cedric Richmond (02)	Access Health Louisiana	\$159,035	This Rural Development investment will enable Access Health Louisiana, to improve and expand a telecommunications system including both distance learning education and telemedicine services. The project will focus on opioid treatment at Access Health Louisiana's rural Community Health Center, School Based Health Center and public sites to provide expanded primary care and behavioral health access to low-income patients. This project will benefit approximately 17,000 rural residents in six counties.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Jared Golden (02)	Androscoggin Home	\$215,900	This Rural Development investment will allow Androscoggin Home Healthcare and Hospice Telehealth Program to purchase 250 new telemonitoring units to improve health service in Androscoggin, Franklin, Sagadahoc, Oxford, and parts of Cumberland, Somerset, Lincoln, York, and Kennebec counties in Maine. This investment will fund six sites in Norway, Bridgton, Wilton, Rumford, Lewiston and Manchester and will serve 180 communities across nine counties. Androscoggin anticipates monitoring approximately 4,000 patients annually.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Chellie Pingree (01)	MaineHealth	\$473,739	This Rural Development investment will allow MaineHealth to create a telemedicine network to treat opioid disorders experienced by rural women and infants. The project will allow patients to remain in their homes, reduce travel costs, and improve healthcare.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Chellie Pingree (01)	Children's Center: Early Intervention	\$300,818	This Rural Development investment will enable Children's Center Early Intervention & Family Support to fund a new telemedicine project that will use tablets to create a technology library. The library will be available to families within a 120-mile radius of the Children's Center Augusta or at the two designated end-user sites at the Children's Center Farmington and Children's Center Skowhegan. The project will serve 202,572 individuals.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Jared Golden (02)	Northern Light Health	\$191,496	This Rural Development investment will enable Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems dba Northern Light Health to implement a telemedicine project. Telehealth carts, with 2-way audio-visual and diagnostic capabilities will be installed at several Northern Light hospitals including: Blue Hill Hospital (Blue Hill), C.A. Dean Hospital (Greenville), Inland Hospital (Waterville), Maine Coast Hospital (Ellsworth), Seabasticook Valley (Pittsfield), and A.R. Gould Hospital (Presque Isle). The project will serve 54,333 residents.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Jared Golden (02)	Western Foothills Reg. School Unit #10	\$499,676	The Rural Development investment will enable Regional School Unit 10 to implement a distance learning project to receive and distribute advanced classes. All schools will be linked to opioid and behavioral health support. Distance learning equipment will be installed at 16 locations in Oxford, Penobscot and Somerset Counties in Maine. An estimated 25,703 individuals will benefit.
ME	Susan Collins, Angus King	Chellie Pingree (01)	University of Maine System	\$500,000	The Rural Development investment will enable the University of Maine to implement a distance learning technology upgrade. The University will provide teaching services to rural Maine students. The project will include sixty-two sites, centers and campuses. The counties benefiting from the project are Penobscot, Kennebec, Franklin, Aroostook, Washington, Cumberland and Androscoggin. Over 29,000 students will be served.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
MI	Gary Peters, Debbie Stabenow	Sander Levin (09)	Ortele LLC	\$99,978	This Rural Development investment will enable Ortele, LLC to implement a telemedicine project to address opioid misuse, provide continued professional education and general medical care. A hub site will be located in Wayne County, Michigan and will connect to sites located in Gogebic, Mackinac, Luce, Monroe, Lenawee and Marquette counties. It will serve 44,000 rural residents.
MI	Gary Peters, Debbie Stabenow	Paul Mitchell (10)	Elkton Pigeon Bay Port Laker Schools	\$330,741	This Rural Development investment will enable the Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker School District to implement a distance learning project. Project based learning opportunities will be provided to students. Teacher training will also be offered. This project will serve 1,738 students in Huron, Tuscola and Ingham counties in Michigan.
MI	Gary Peters, Debbie Stabenow	Jack Bergman (01)	Helen Newberry Joy Hospital	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will enable the Helen Newberry Joy Hospital to buy telemedicine equipment for three sites at Newberry, Engadine, and Curtis in Luce and Mackinac Counties. Mammography equipment will be upgraded, improving cancer detection. Almost 3,100 patients are expected to be served during the first 3 years of the program.
MN	Amy Klobuchar, Tina Smith	Pete Stauber (08)	Education Innovation Partners Coop Center	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will allow the 6091-50 Education Innovation Partners Cooperative Center to provide distance learning services to 28 sites, across six Minnesota counties. This project will directly benefit 21,000 students and 1,500 teachers per year.
MN	Amy Klobuchar, Tina Smith	Tom Emmer (06)	CentraCare Health System	\$234,648	The Rural Development investment will enable CentraCare Health to establish a telemedicine project to address the rural shortage of specialty care physicians. Video equipment will be placed at 10 locations in nine central Minnesota counties. An additional 73 individual patient sites will be added as a result of this project with an estimated additional 2,000 patients served over a two-year project period.
MO	Roy Blunt, Josh Hawley	Jason Smith (08)	Salem Memorial District Hospital	\$80,604	This Rural Development investment will allow Salem Memorial District Hospital to implement technology necessary to connect rural Missouri schools in Dent, Reynolds, Iron, and Shannon County to affiliated hospitals, Phelps Health hospital, and SSM Health in St. Louis, Missouri. Using HIPAA compliant audio-visual software and hardware, the project will increase accessibility and quality of healthcare service for 2,297 rural Missouri students.
MO	Roy Blunt, Josh Hawley	Ann Wagner (02)	Mercy Virtual	\$496,349	This Rural Development investment will enable Mercy ACO Clinical Services to implement a telemedicine project. Video equipment will be placed in three sites in Missouri (in addition to the hub), three in Arkansas, one in Kansas, and two in Oklahoma. More than 210,000 community residents will be served.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	Mississippi State University of Ag and Applied Science	\$488,315	The Rural Development investment will enable Mississippi State University to implement a new Distance Learning Project. Video conferencing and cloud-based equipment will be updated at 93 sites in 93 counties in Mississippi. Rural Development's investments in distance learning equipment will enable participants in Extension Offices and Experiment Stations to deliver educational programming to interactive audiences. This project will benefit an estimated 28,500 residents, students, extension educators and faculty.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	Mississippi Community College Board	\$319,343	The Rural Development investment will enable the Mississippi Community College Board to implement a Distance Learning Project. Virtual reality (VR) equipment will be obtained to prepare students for careers in coding, programming and software development. Equipment will be installed in Coahoma, Copiah, Kemper, Hinds, Jones, Stone, George, Prentiss and Tate counties in Mississippi. The project will benefit an estimated 20,645 students and faculty.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Michael Guest (03)	Covington County School District	\$480,628	The Rural Development investment will assist Covington County Office of Superintendent implement a new Distance Learning project designed to provide curriculum and teacher sharing including science technology engineering and mathematics content. The project included 8 sites in Covington County Mississippi. It will provide 2899 students and 225 teachers access to fixed site interactive video systems and touch panels to create an environment for sharing and collaboration between project sites.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Bennie Thompson (02)	Coahoma Community College	\$200,000	The Rural Development investment will enable Coahoma Community College to install a distance learning system to connect the college to high schools in Coahoma, Tallahatchie, and Quitman counties in Mississippi. The project will provide career focused programs leading to college credit and workforce certifications and enable rural students to obtain college credits before leaving high school, helping to offset college costs. This project will serve an estimated population of 24,928 students.
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith, Roger Wicker	Bennie Thompson (02)	Base Camp Coding Academy	\$492,131	This Rural Development investment will allow Base Camp Coding Academy to connect the resources of the NWCC campus in Senatobia with the rural community of Water Valley to improve educational opportunities available to approximately 11,500 residents of Yalobusha and Tate Counties in Mississippi.
MT	Steve Daines, Jon Tester	Greg Gianforte (At Large)	University of Providence	\$441,357	This Rural Development investment will enable the University of Providence in Lewistown, MT to install a distance learning system to deliver advanced classes, and educate nurses and nursing students in rural Montana. The project will reach the Salish Kootenai College (tribal college) and eight rural high school sites: Geyser HS, Winifred HS, Fergus HS, Grass Range HS, Denton HS, Judith Gap HS, Ryegate HS, and Roundup HS. The project reaches six counties, covering 12,349 square miles. It will serve an estimated 8,720 students.
MT	Steve Daines, Jon Tester	Greg Gianforte (At Large)	Benefis Hospitals, Inc.	\$301,547	This Rural Development investment will reduce costs and improve access to specialty medical care for 164,000 rural residents of thirteen north central Montana counties through the REACH Montana Telehealth Network. The network includes ten critical access hospitals, a rural hospital, an Indian Health service clinic, and benefits hospitals, along with a regional center. Wireless networking capabilities will be updated in two critical access hospitals. Five rural facilities will receive additional wireless access points to increase coverage. Rural sites will receive wireless exam tools and each organization will receive modern PC or tablet-based calling stations. The project will improve access to specialty care.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01), Vacant (03)	Beaufort County Community College	\$81,329	This Rural Development investment will allow Beaufort County Community College (BCCC) to place mobile video equipment at the main campus as well as two remote campuses located in Engelhard and Roper, NC, to provide opportunities for high school students to receive science technology engineering and mathematics and medical training courses through continuing education programs. BCCC anticipates that this program will reach approximately 12,000 potential students in Beaufort Washington, and Hyde counties.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	David Rouzer (07)	Coastal Horizons Center Inc	\$125,234	This Rural Development investment will fund telehealth equipment and increase internet capabilities for the Coastal Horizon Center's Mental Health, Opioid Medication Assisted Treatment, and Primary Care Telemedicine operations. This investment will serve six project sites in five North Carolina counties (Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Pender and New Hanover). Primary care, health and wellness, psychiatric and specialty substance use care programs will be made available to Burgaw, Elizabethtown, Whiteville and Shallotte.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	Mark Walker (06)	Central Carolina Community College	\$452,335	The Rural Development investment will enable the Central Carolina Community College to implement a Distance Learning Initiative which will increase course offerings to students in North Carolina. A video conferencing system will be installed at 12 sites, serving an estimated 1420 additional students.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01)	North Carolina Central University	\$464,902	This Rural Development investment will enable North Carolina Central University to implement a distance learning project to provide law-enforcement education. Interactive video equipment will be installed in five communities in the North Carolina counties of Bertie, Franklin, Perquimans, Washington and Wilkes. This project increases rural access to education and resources for an estimated 16,423 residents.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01)	Edgecombe County Schools	\$153,702	This Rural Development investment will allow the Edgecombe County Public Schools to implement a distance learning program that will provide access to advanced educational opportunities for students. Job training will also be offered to students in an area of over 11,000 residents.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	David Rouzer (07)	Johnston County Public Schools	\$499,727	The Rural Development investment will enable the Johnston County Public School System to create a Distance Learning network to connect with the Halifax County schools. The project will allow equipment installation at 25 locations in Johnston and Halifax Counties in North Carolina. The project is expected to provide improved educational opportunities for a population of 147,709.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01)	Martin Community College	\$392,850	The Rural Development investment will enable Martin Community College to create an interactive distance learning network linking eight rural high schools in Martin & Bertie Counties, NC. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and college transfer courses will be offered to the students. Health care professionals will also receive training. The project will serve 4,785 residents.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	Vacant (03)	Albemarle Regional Health Services	\$214,661	This Rural Development investment will allow Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS), based in Pasquotank County, to purchase telemedicine equipment to be used throughout seven rural North Carolina end-user sites and reach approximately 159,000 individuals. Outpatient acute telepsychiatry services will be provided, coupled with visits with a licensed clinical social worker and registered nurse.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01), George Holding (02), Vacant (03), Vacant (09), Mark Meadows (11)	East Carolina University	\$500,000	The Rural Development investment will enable East Carolina University to implement a Distance Learning rural Dental Care Project. Senior dental students and graduate doctors serving their residency requirements will study and work in six Community Service Learning Centers in Hertford, Pasquotank, Harnett, Robeson, Mitchell, and Jackson Counties North Carolina. This project will serve over 5,000 residents.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	Richard Hudson (08)	Stanly County Schools	\$321,150	This Rural Development investment will enable Stanly County Schools to connect 20 schools with trained mental health professionals. This telemedicine project will serve 8,700 students.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01)	North Carolina Central University	\$481,182	This Rural Development investment will enable North Carolina Central University to install a distance learning project to provide law-enforcement education. Interactive video equipment will be installed in the North Carolina counties of Beaufort, Franklin, Halifax, Pamlico and Warren. This project increases access to educational opportunities for 15,370 rural residents.
NC	Richard Burr, Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01)	Wilson County Board of Education	\$364,822	The Rural Development investment will enable Wilson County Schools to establish distance learning labs in five rural North Carolina secondary schools. The distance learning project will dispatch mobile distance learning carts to provide education services to students. The project will also allow for a repository of data to be built and housed for instructional purposes and for use by teachers. About 3,300 individuals will be served.
ND	Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven	Kelly Armstrong (At Large)	Bismarck State College	\$214,366	This Rural Development investment will enable Bismarck State College to expand the nursing distance education program in central North Dakota. This investment will fund broadband facilities, and interactive distance learning technology. Up to 150 rural nursing students will benefit.
ND	Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven	Kelly Armstrong (At Large)	Southeast Region Career and Technology C	\$390,475	The Rural Development funds will enable the Southeast Region Career and Technology Center, located in Richland County, North Dakota, to upgrade and replace distance learning equipment. The upgrade will benefit 1,607 secondary students and 280 adults.
NE	Deb Fischer, Ben Sasse	Jeff Fortenberry (01)	Southeast Community College	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will enable the Southeast Community College (SCC) to implement a distance learning project in Southeast Nebraska. Healthcare education will be provided in a 15-county service area. An estimated 304,897 rural residents will be served.
NV	Catherine Cortez Masto, Jacky Rosen	Mark Amodei (02)	Nevada Health Centers, Inc.	\$489,070	This Rural Development investment will enable Nevada Health Centers (NVHC) to implement a telemedicine project deliver primary care, including remote pharmacy services to rural residents. NVHC will connect 10 urban centers to seven schools. Interactive video equipment will be installed in 14 communities in the Nevada counties of Clark, Elko, Lander, Nye, Storey and the Municipality of Carson City. This project increases rural access to 4,000 children and 63,000 residents.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NV	Catherine Cortez Masto, Jacky Rosen	Mark Amodei (02)	Renown Health Foundation	\$228,300	The Rural Development investment will enable Renown Health Foundation to expand and improve an existing high-definition telehealth and remote monitoring plan. Video equipment will be placed in 21 communities in 12 California and Nevada counties, benefiting 316,797 residents.
NY	Kirsten Gillibrand, Charles Schumer	Tom Reed (23)	Southern Tier Health Care Systems Inc	\$203,734	This Rural Development investment will enable the Southern Tier Health Care System, Inc (STHCS) to expand a Telemedicine Opioid and Substance Abuse Prevention Project. The STHCS hub site is in Cattaraugus County, New York and will connect to 11 sites in Cattaraugus, Allegany, Chautauqua and Franklin counties. Two of the end-sites are the Allegany Indian Reservation Volunteer Fire Department and the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation Volunteer Fire Department. This project will train 4,500 first responders and benefit 34,933 rural residents of New York.
NY	Kirsten Gillibrand, Charles Schumer	Anthony Brindisi (22)	Oswego County BOCES	\$420,449	This Rural Development investment in interactive video conferencing equipment will enable Oswego County BOCES in New York to offer certifications and associate degrees. Distance learning equipment will be installed at twenty-three locations in Oswego County. An estimated 12,594 residents and students will benefit.
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	Bill Johnson (06)	Edison Local School District	\$498,015	This Rural Development investment will allow Edison Local School District to implement a Distance Learning Initiative to provide advanced educational opportunities to students in Belmont and Jefferson County, Ohio. Up to 2,600 students, parents, teachers and staff will benefit.
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	Bill Johnson (06)	Lisbon Exempted Village School District	\$323,478	This Rural Development investment will enable Lisbon Exempted Village Schools to create a Distance Learning network. There will be eight sites in Columbiana County, in northeast Ohio. The sites are the Akron Children's Hospital, Columbiana County Health Department, Columbiana County Counseling Center, Juvenile Justice Center, Columbiana County High School, David Anderson Jr/Sr High School and McKinley Elementary School. Classes will be offered, along with behavioral health services. The project will serve 850 students.
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	Marcia Fudge (11)	University Hospitals Cleveland Med. Center	\$108,065	The Rural Development investment will assist the University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center (UH CMC) to implement a telemedicine project to provide specialty care access to rural residents in Northeast Ohio. UH CMC, an academic medical center, will act as the telemedicine hub to provide critical specialty care access to rural sites in Ashtabula and Geauga counties. The project is expected to treat 3,552 patients per year but will be available to a rural population of 16,142.
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	Bill Johnson (06)	Jefferson County Educational Service Center	\$451,822	This Rural Development investment will enable the Jefferson County Education Service Center to install videoconferencing equipment at five hub-sites in Steubenville and Cadiz, and 11 hub-end-user-sites in Jefferson, Harrison and Columbiana counties in Ohio. Behavioral health services will be provided through the telemedicine network. Parental education and a mentoring program will also be initiated. Parental education will also be provided. About 1,060 students and residents will be served annually.
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	Steve Chabot (01)	Mercy Health	\$206,000	This Rural Development investment will enable Mercy Health to implement a telehealth project addressing substance use disorders and mental health issues. Interactive telehealth equipment will be installed in Allen, Champaign, Columbiana, Huron and Trumbull counties in Ohio. The system will serve about 41,931 residents.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
OH	Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman	Bill Johnson (06)	Western Reserve Local School District	\$492,584	The Rural Development investment will be used to enable the Western Reserve Local School District (WRLSDF) to expand an existing distance learning project. Education, health and wellness, as well as prevention programming will be offered to a population of about 6,600. The Ohio counties of Trumbull, Summit and Mahoning will be served.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02)	Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education	\$132,704	The Rural Development investment will allow Connors State College to expand educational opportunities for high school students in Muskogee, McIntosh and Adair counties of Oklahoma by providing interactive video conferencing access to science technology engineering and mathematics courses. Videoconferencing equipment will be provided to help students participate in more, higher level courses. This project will serve approximately 800 students.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02)	Housing Authority of the Choctaw Nation	\$93,632	This Rural Development investment will enable the Housing Authority of the Choctaw Nation to create the Choctaw Home and Health Distance Learning and Telemedicine program. Locations will be linked in Le Flore, McCurtain, Choctaw, and Pushmataha counties. The program will provide educational opportunities and healthcare services to Choctaw Nation citizens. The project will serve 189 Choctaw Nation housing residents.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02)	Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	\$280,895	The Rural Development investment will enable the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma to implement a distance learning project to deliver Choctaw language classes to 15 rural high schools. The schools will also use the audiovisual equipment for other classes and for staff development. This project will serve approximately 2,091 students.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Frank Lucas (03)	Hennessey School District 16	\$490,422	The Rural Development investment will assist Hennessey Public Schools install upgrades and new equipment to their distance learning network. The project is a consortium of rural schools and includes 20 sites in 12 rural Oklahoma communities in 10 counties. It will provide 3,544 students and 236 teachers with interactive video conferencing equipment. The distance learning project will focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) and will allow the schools to share resources and instructors. It will provide enhanced learning opportunities.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Tom Cole (04)	Mid America Christian University	\$211,054	This Rural Development investment will enable Mid-America Christian University to implement a Distance Learning Project to improve educational offerings to students and teachers in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Distance learning equipment will be placed in Adair, Cherokee, Grady and Oklahoma counties in Oklahoma. This project increases rural access to STEM classes and will benefit an estimated 5,312 students and faculty.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Kendra Horn (05)	Oklahoma Department of Corrections	\$217,124	The Rural Development investment will enable the Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC) to replace telemedicine equipment. This project increases rural access to limited education, training, and health care resources for about 15,570 inmates.
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Kevin Hern (01)	Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & SA Services	\$303,200	This Rural Development investment will enable the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences (OSU-CHS) to partner with the Cherokee Nation to provide telemedicine equipment. Equipment will be placed at nine OSU-CHS sites in eight Oklahoma counties. This project increases rural access to health care for about 42,100 residents.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
OK	James Inhofe, James Lankford	Frank Lucas (03)	Cushing Independent School District 67	\$490,984	The Rural Development investment will allow Cushing Independent School District 67 to implement a Distance Learning program to provide a virtual field trips and enhanced educational opportunities. Additionally, teachers will have expanded access to professional development opportunities. This project in Payne and Creek counties in Oklahoma will serve a population of 10,166 individuals, over 4,500 students and 450 teachers.
OR	Jeff Merkley, Ron Wyden	Suzanne Bonamici (01)	Willamina School District 30J	\$340,000	The Rural Development investment will enable Willamina School District to implement a distance learning project. The program will offer e-connectivity for the school, staff, and community which will include STEM focus in the classroom, telemedicine training, and dual on-line credit options to students in three Oregon counties: Yamhill, Polk and Tillamook. In addition, Willamina serves all the students from the Confederated Tribe of the Grand Ronde, a consolidation of nine (9) native tribes. About 3,100 rural residents will be served.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Glenn Thompson (15)	Central Intermed Unit WT Branch Tech	\$499,516	This Rural Development (RD) investment will enable Central Intermediate Unit 10 and the Seneca Highlands Intermediate Unit 9 to provide interactive distance learning training to students at rural Appalachian high schools spread across six counties in Pennsylvania. Thirteen high schools with a total of 5,580 students will be served.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Mary Gay Scanlon (05)	Charles Cole Memorial Hospital	\$248,800	The Rural Development investment will enable Charles Cole Memorial Hospital dba UPMC Cole to establish a telemedicine project to deliver remote medical services including substance abuse services. Six rural sites will be served in Cameron, McKean, Potter and Tioga counties. The project will serve over 5,000 residents.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Dan Meuser (09)	Geisinger Clinic	\$486,287	The Rural Development investment will assist Geisinger Clinic implement a new Telemedicine Project will increasing access to specialty care in Centre, Cumberland, Lycoming, Monroe, and Northumberland Pennsylvania. Additionally, the project will increase the telehealth capabilities of staff going into patients' homes to care for the chronically ill or children suffering from asthma. This project will serve a population of 3,690.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Scott Perry (10)	Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries	\$65,540	The Rural Development investment will enable Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries to install a telemedicine project for bedside remote physician consultations. Service will be provided to Mifflin and Dauphin Pennsylvania. The project will serve 372 residents and 258 skilled nursing clients.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Glenn Thompson (15)	Indiana Regional Medical Center Inc	\$308,897	This Rural Development investment will enable Indiana Regional Medical Center, located in Indiana, Pennsylvania, to install interactive video equipment that will allow approximately 2,700 rural Jefferson County residents to receive opioid treatment at Punxsutawney Area Hospital.
PA	Robert Casey, Patrick Toomey	Mary Gay Scanlon (05)	Potter County Education Council	\$427,280	This Rural Development investment will enable the Potter County Educational Council to use distance learning to collaborate with Potter County government and state agencies. Users will attain professional certifications, and schools teaching science, technology, engineering and mathematics education. Distance learning equipment will be placed at nine locations in McKean and Potter Counties in Pennsylvania. An estimated 4,558 students will be served.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
PR		Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon	Kinesis Inc.	\$291,887	This Rural Development investment will enable Kinesis, Inc. to create a Distance Learning network to provide advanced classes. There will be a hub-site at San Juan, Puerto Rico and it will be linked to 10 other sites in the Commonwealth. College access and technology workshops will also be offered. A population of 5,635 will be served.
PR		Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon	Puerto Rico Science, Technology, & Research	\$489,699	This Rural Development investment will enable the Puerto Rico Science, Technology & Research Trust to implement a telemedicine program for remote rural communities recovering from hurricanes. Video equipment will be installed in seven communities. An estimated 40,000 residents will benefit.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07)	Caresouth Carolina Inc	\$321,016	This Rural Development investment will allow CareSouth Carolina, Inc. (CSC) to deploy interactive video conferencing equipment. CSC will establish a hub site in Lee County and serve 14 end-user schools in Chesterfield, Lee, and Marlboro counties. This project will build on an existing telemedicine network.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07)	Northeastern Technical College	\$499,994	This Rural Development investment will allow the Northeast Technical College in South Carolina to implement an emergency services expansion project. The project will serve 350 first responders in ten fire and rescue departments located in Chesterfield, Dillon and Marlboro counties. Courses will be provided to students in Dillon A-Tech school, Marlboro County High School and Central High School. This project increases rural access to improved educational opportunities, benefiting up to 20,030 residents including first responders.
SC	Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07)	Northeastern Technical College	\$499,997	This Rural Development investment will enable the Northeast Technical College in South Carolina to implement a distance learning project. Science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) based technical training will be provided to students at Dillon Inland Port. Distance learning equipment will be placed in Chesterfield, Dillon and Marlboro counties. Improved educational opportunities will be provided to an estimated 2,212 rural residents.
SD	Mike Rounds, John Thune	Dusty Johnson (At Large)	Oglala Lakota College	\$499,999	This Rural Development investment will enable the Oglala Lakota College to upgrading and expand a distance learning system. New equipment will be installed at ten locations in the Pine Ridge and Cheyenne River Reservations in Bennett, Dewey and Oglala Lakota counties in South Dakota. The project will improve educational opportunities for an estimated 11,000 residents.
SD	Mike Rounds, John Thune	Dusty Johnson (At Large)	Horizon Health Care Inc	\$223,542	This Rural Development investment will enable Horizon Healthcare to purchase desktop telemedicine videoconferencing units. The project service area includes one hub site and 18 end-user sites in 15 South Dakota counties. The system will allow provision of behavioral health and substance abuse services to rural patients. The service area includes a population of 19,000.
SD	Mike Rounds, John Thune	Dusty Johnson (At Large)	Avera Health	\$390,459	This Rural Development (RD) investment will enable Avera Health to provide medical specialists across all specialties to approximately 635,000 patients spanning 73 sites, across 35 counties in the four-state area of South Dakota, southwest Minnesota, northwest Iowa, & northeast Nebraska. RD investments will bring interactive video and computer equipment for telemedicine consultations with specialty care providers in the medically underserved four-state rural region.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
SD	Mike Rounds, John Thune	Dusty Johnson (At Large)	Avera Health	\$454,960	This Rural Development (RD) investment will enable the Rural Emergency Access and Support Project to obtain telemedicine equipment for 35 rural facilities in South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota. The equipment will improve health care access for 64,000 residents of 35 counties and will allow medical personnel access to educational training. Interactive video teleconferencing equipment will allow rural sites to connect to the Avera eCARE Emergency Service network for real-time assistance from board-certified emergency medicine specialists.
SD	Mike Rounds, John Thune	Dusty Johnson (At Large)	Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health Services	\$95,980	This Rural Development investment will enable the Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health Services, Inc. to create a rural telemedicine network at 24 schools in 10 South Dakota counties. Hub sites will be in Yankton and Winner. Staff member travel time will be reduced.
TN	Lamar Alexander, Marsha Blackburn	David Kustoff (08)	Dyer County Board of Education	\$497,252	The Rural Development investment will enable the Dyer County Board of Education to implement a Distance Learning program that will expand educational offerings in three rural school districts in Dyer, Lake and Weakley counties in Tennessee. This project involves 16 schools in 10 communities and will serve 6,519 students and 422 teachers.
TN	Lamar Alexander, Marsha Blackburn	Phil Roe (01)	Rural Health Services Consortium Inc	\$500,000	The Rural Development investment will enable the Rural Health Service Consortium to improve primary care, behavioral health, speech therapy, physical therapy and opioid counseling via a telemedicine system. Interactive video equipment will be placed in 17 communities in eight Tennessee counties. About 3,300 patients will be served.
TN	Lamar Alexander, Marsha Blackburn	Mark Green (07)	Maury Regional Hospital	\$362,087	The Rural Development investment will assist the Mercy Regional Hospital by enabling the deployment of interactive video conferencing equipment at its hub, the Mercy Virtual Care Center in St. Louis. Links will be established with nine hospitals: three in Missouri, three in Arkansas, one in Kansas and two in Oklahoma. This project will impact over 210,000 residents living in the primary service areas of the participating hospitals.
TX	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz	John Ratcliffe (04)	Glen Oaks Hospital Inc	\$228,304	This Rural Development investment will enable Glen Oaks Hospital, Inc. to implement a telemedicine project to address behavioral and mental health service issues through the use of video teleconferencing equipment. The project will reach approximately 60,000 individuals and serve 6,000 patients in 14 northeast Texas Health Clinics in located in Canton, Clarksville, Cooper, Emory, Honey Grove, Ladonia, Leonard, Mount Vernon, Quinlan, Quitman and Winnsboro.
TX	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz	Jodey Arrington (19)	Plainview Foundation for Rural Health Ad	\$112,926	This Rural Development investment will enable the Plainview Foundation for Rural Health Advancement to implement an advanced telemedicine project. Video equipment will be deployed in eight Texas counties throughout the west Texas panhandle. This project will provide telemedicine services through partnerships with healthcare service providers and regional medical centers serving over 1,500 residents.
TX	John Cornyn, Ted Cruz	Michael Conway (11)	Shannon Clinic	\$74,709	This Rural Development investment will enable the Shannon Clinic to implement a telemedicine project in West Central Texas to offer school-based telehealth services to rural schools. Nursing home patients will also receive specialty care. The telehealth project will provide telecommunication equipment to connect a hub site in Tom Green County to sites located in Coke, Irion, Runnels, Crockett and Concho counties. It will serve about 133,000 rural residents.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
UT	Mike Lee, Mitt Romney	Ben McAdams (04)	IHC Health Services Inc	\$285,252	This Rural Development investment will enable IHC Health Services to provide critical care, stroke, neonatal, oncology, crisis counseling and disease consultations to four critical access hospitals located in San Juan, Sanpete, and Sevier counties. This project will ensure additional medical services are available on a timely basis with less need to transfer patients. The project will serve up to 209,046 residents.
UT	Mike Lee, Mitt Romney	Rob Bishop (01)	Uintah Basin Applied Technology College	\$153,760	The Rural Development investment will be used to enable Uintah Basin Technical College (UBTEch) to implement a distance learning project that will provide advanced classes to students in regional high schools. UBTEch will operate from hubs in Uintah and Duchesne counties in Utah and will connect to schools in Duchesne, Uintah, Daggett counties. An estimated population of 3,110 will be served.
VA	Tim Kaine, Mark Warner	Morgan Griffith (09)	Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens Inc	\$154,600	Rural Development funds will be used to enable the Appalachian Agency for Senior Citizens, located in Cedar Bluff, Va., to provide telemedicine services to low-income elderly and disabled individuals who will attend the adult day care facility located in Falls Mills. The facility will provide medical care, nutrition services, and day care and care coordination, while also providing economic development for the community and educational opportunities for the public. This rural investment will benefit approximately 25,000 residents at nine sites across a four-county area.
VA	Tim Kaine, Mark Warner	Denver Riggleman (05)	University of Virginia	\$397,668	This Rural Development investment will enable the Rector and Visitors Center at the University of Virginia to implement the Virginia Telemedicine Network for Cardio-metabolic disease, Opioid Use Disorder, Ophthalmology, Black Lung Disease and Cancer. The University of Virginia Health System (UVAHS) will serve as the hub site to deliver health care services and training to 19 community health care providers in 12 counties, including federally qualified health centers (FQHC) and free clinics that serve economically distressed regions of Virginia. This project will reach 750,000 rural residents.
VA	Tim Kaine, Mark Warner	Gerald Connelly (11)	George Mason University	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will allow George Mason University to implement a telemedicine project to provide training of medical professionals in the area of opioid dependency and treatment. This program will serve a population of almost 177,000 residents across Virginia and West Virginia.
VA	Tim Kaine, Mark Warner	Denver Riggleman (05)	Community Memorial Hospital	\$144,979	This Rural Development investment will enable Community Memorial Hospital to create the Rural Center for Integrated Telemedicine. It will provide medical services via interactive video conferencing equipment, to four sites in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, and will benefit approximately 11,000 residents.
VI		Stacey Plaskett	Government of the Virgin Islands	\$345,595	This Rural Development investment will enable the Government of the Virgin Islands to provide a telemedicine project that places interactive video technologies at five sites. Medical staff training will be improved. This project will serve 39,923 residents on St. Croix and St. Thomas islands.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
VI		Stacey Plaskett	University of the Virgin Islands/VISBDC	\$489,723	The Rural Development investment will enable The University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) to implement a distance learning program to provide early health screening, educational courses, and training. This project places interactive distance learning equipment at the main UVI campuses as well as in 12 satellite locations throughout the three-island region which includes St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix. The rural population served by this project is 42,174.
VI		Stacey Plaskett	VI Government	\$489,936	The Rural Development investment will be used to enable the Virgin Islands Department of Education to implement a distance learning program to enable teachers to expand course offerings, prepare students for college, and provide continuing education opportunities for teachers. The system will link the Department of Education Main Complex with 13 schools throughout the Virgin Islands.
WA OR	Jeff Merkley, Ron Wyden (OR); Maria Cantwell, Patty Murray (WA)	Greg Walden, (OR 02) Jaime Herrera Beutler (WA 03)	Columbia Gorge Community College	\$498,623	The Rural Development investment will enable Columbia Gorge Community College to establish a distance learning program to provide access to dual-credit courses. Specialized classrooms will be developed at 13 high schools located in Gilliam, Sherman, Wasco, Wheeler, Klickitat, and Skamania counties in Oregon. Additionally, two additional broadcasting rooms will be established on the college's campuses in Hood River and Wasco counties. The multi-year project will initially serve the region's 2,499 high school students, eventually benefitting all 8,096 students in the region's rural schools.
WI	Tammy Baldwin Ron Johnson	Mark Pocan (02)	Wisconsin Department of Corrections	\$175,462	The Rural Development investment will enable the Wisconsin Department of Corrections to implement a telemedicine project that will allow inmates to obtain routine health and mental health examinations remotely. Distance learning will also be available. The project will serve 21 Wisconsin counties.
WV KY OH	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin (WV); Mitch McConnell Rand Paul (KY); Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman (OH)	Carol Miller (WV 03), Harold Rogers (KY 05) Bill Johnson (OH 06)	Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation	\$206,000	This Rural Development investment will allow Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation to establish a tele-stroke and tele-oncology network between Cabell Huntington Hospital (Hub) and 10 sites (spokes sites) in rural Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia. This investment will be used to buy and install telemedicine equipment. The resources provided will bring telestroke and tele-oncology health care services to 10 rural communities with a total population of 45,748.
WV	Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin	David McKinley (01)	Salem University	\$231,436	This Rural Development investment will allow Salem University to install equipment in the Lewis and Upshur County Public School Districts, with the hub-site on campus in Salem, WV. The hub will provide distance education services to consortium members, as well as necessary technical assistance. The RD investment will fund deployment of two-way interactive technology to enable Salem and its partners to offer high school students the option to take dual-credit courses that will earn appropriate college credit. About 2,000 students will benefit.
WY	Michael Enzi, John Barrasso	Liz Cheney (At Large)	Care United Medical Center of Laramie LLC	\$62,557	This Rural Development investment will allow Stitches Acute Care Center, located in Laramie, Wyoming, to establish a telemedicine primary care network at 21 rural pharmacy sites located in 16 Wyoming counties. This project will reach a combined population of approximately 90,000.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### November 20, 2019

State	Sen.	Rep.	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
			TOTAL	\$42,453,095	



## **USDA Announces Funding to Increase Access to Education, Workforce Training and Health Care Opportunities in Rural Communities**

*Investments will help more than 4.5 million rural Americans*

### **Press Release**

Release No. 0236.18

Weldon Freeman (202) 690-1384

Jay Fletcher (202) 690-0498

**WASHINGTON, Oct. 31, 2018** – Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue today announced that USDA is awarding grants for [128 projects to increase access to job training](#) (PDF, 351 KB), educational and health care services in rural areas.

“Empowering rural Americans with access to services for quality of life and economic development is critical to rural prosperity,” Secretary Perdue said. “Distance learning and telemedicine technology bridges the gap that often exists between rural communities and essential education, workforce training and health care resources.”

USDA is awarding \$39.6 million through the [Distance Learning and Telemedicine \(DLT\) Grant Program](#). More than 4.5 million residents in 40 states and three territories will benefit from the funding.

Below are summaries of some of USDA’s investments in rural communities:

- Washburn University, in Kansas, is being awarded \$349,213 to help provide resources to enable two-way interactive distance learning via video conferencing technology. The technology will help develop workplace skills that are increasingly needed in the modern, technical work environment. The resources provided through this investment will enable rural students across Kansas to obtain these skills. Additionally, this investment will be used to recruit and retain health care workers for rural communities. More than 3,700 students will have access to the educational opportunities provided with this project, including students in a high school in the Lawrence-Gardener Juvenile Corrections Center.
- St. Anthony Hospital, in Oklahoma, is receiving \$457,020 to help SSM Health Care of Oklahoma purchase telemedicine equipment to expand its Saints 1st Telehealth Network to serve up to 3,434 inpatients and 3,401 outpatients. This project will reduce time and expense for patients to access specialized medical services such as cardiology, endocrinology, pulmonology, ENT (ear, nose and throat), pediatric, hospitalist, primary care, and mental health care. Telemedicine links will be established at 12 hub/end-user

locations in Beaver, Blaine, Custer, Garvin, Harper, Kiowa, Lincoln, Major, McClain, Washita and Woods counties. Project sites include nine rural hospitals and three rural physician practices. This project will significantly improve health care in the affected areas.

In April 2017, President Donald J. Trump established the Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity to identify legislative, regulatory and policy changes that could promote agriculture and prosperity in rural communities. In January 2018, Secretary Perdue presented the Task Force's findings to President Trump. These findings included 31 recommendations to align the federal government with state, local and tribal governments to take advantage of opportunities that exist in rural America. Increasing investments in rural infrastructure is a key recommendation of the task force.

To view the report in its entirety, please view the [Report to the President of the United States from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity](#) (PDF, 5.4 MB). In addition, to view the categories of the recommendations, please view the [Rural Prosperity infographic](#) (PDF, 190 KB).

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov).

#

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
AL	Richard Shelby Doug Jones	Terri Sewell (07)	Lowndes County School District	\$489,081	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Lowndes County School District update and expand interactive video classrooms and replace end-of-life equipment. The project will serve three school districts and sixteen end-user sites by creating a network of course and program offerings that will serve students, and teachers. By leveraging programs already going on in these communities these virtual connections will increase Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics proficiencies by 30 percent, increase enrollment of dual credit courses by 30 percent and expand professional development for staff by 25 percent. The project will serve 5,285 students and more than 350 teachers and adults.
CA, OR	Ron Wyden Jeff Merkley (OR) Dianne Feinstein Kamala Harris (CA)	Suzanne Bonamici (01) Kurt Schrader (05) Doug LaMalfa (01) John Garamendi (03) Mike Thompson (05)	Adventist Health System/West	\$183,711	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Adventist Health build a virtual health network using high definition telemedicine technology to establish two inter-linked mesh networks. One network is in Oregon, the other in California, and they are served by interconnected hubs from each state. Collectively, 13 end-user sites, each serving large rural geographic areas, will be served by three hubs delivering opioid misuse behavioral-health treatment to foster long-term recovery. Adventist Health will reach out to rural residents in starkly medically underserved areas. The interconnected hubs will operate from Portland, Oregon, San Francisco and Glendale California and will be able to provide quality care drawn from the vast professional medical resources employed by this health care provider. This project is expected to serve 22,806 residents in the first two years of operation, with a potential of reaching 65,769 residents in the service area.
CA	Dianne Feinstein Kamala Harris	Doug LaMalfa (01) John Garamendi (03)	Ampla Health	\$99,046	This Rural Development investment will be used to assist Ampla Health to purchase tele-video conferencing equipment to establish three rural sites serving 5,000 residents. This project will serve Arbuckle, Hamilton City and Los Molinos with telepsychiatry, telehealth, teletherapy, preventive telehealth consultations, outreach education, and health and specialty services. This project will improve access, reduce travel times, and reduce overdose deaths due to opioid and substance misuse disorders by increasing access to ongoing treatment and health care services during recovery.
CA	Dianne Feinstein Kamala Harris	Juan Vargas (51)	Imperial County	\$127,500	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Imperial County Behavioral Services (ICBHS) purchase telemedicine equipment for opioid treatment to youth and adults in cities of Salton City, Calipatria and El Centro -- all in Imperial County. ICBHS has developed innovative methods of opioid treatment through the use of 25 outpatient clinics that employ highly qualified psychiatrists, clinicians, mental health rehabilitation technicians and substance abuse counselors. These staff will implement treatment in a holistic manner for adults and youths with opioid addiction issues. This project impacts approximately 11,468 rural residents.
CA	Dianne Feinstein Kamala Harris	Tom McClintock (04)	State Center Community College District	\$84,365	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the State Center Community College District create new Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) distance learning classrooms at Madera Community College Center and at Oakhurst Community College Center. It will also extend STEM classes to the underserved area of Oakhurst. The project will provide presentation systems with cameras, displays, and software to suit STEM instructional needs and to enhance the interactive aspects of remote teaching and learning. This project will reduce the barriers to underserved populations by providing access to students who want to complete their educational goals and obtain gainful employment. This grant will assist 11,398 residents.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
CA	Dianne Feinstein Kamala Harris	Tom McClintock (04)	Mariposa County	\$252,647	This Rural Development investment will help Mariposa County Human Services address mental health and substance misuse. Mobile telehealth carts will be installed at seven facilities and will connect Mariposa County human services clinics with a local hospital, county jail and the high school. The project will increase psychiatric services and access to and coordination of opioid treatment. It also will help retain health care providers. The project has the potential to impact more than 17,700 residents.
CA	Dianne Feinstein Kamala Harris	Doug LaMalfa (01) Jared Huffman (02) Doris Matsui (06) Tom McClintock (04)	California Telehealth Network	\$196,221	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telehealth equipment for the California Telehealth Network's (CTN) Opioid and Chronic Pain Telemedicine Project. This project is a partnership between CTN and seven rural clinics in Northern California counties with a total population of 17,709. These clinics serve highly-vulnerable patient populations, many of whom are impacted by the consequences of opioid misuse. These clinics have made a commitment to address opioid misuse within their respective communities by investing in pain management best practices, medication-assisted treatment and other therapies. A significant component of the efforts is leveraging telehealth technology at eight sites that will provide access to specialists for treatment services, professional eConsultation and education.
CA	Dianne Feinstein Kamala Harris	Paul Cook (08) Kevin McCarthy (23)	Kern Community College District	\$162,748	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Cerro Coso Community College, a member of the Kern Community College District in California, replace obsolete, interactive distance learning equipment at three satellite sites in Tehachapi, Mammoth Lakes and Lake Isabella. This project will enable the college to offer enhanced courses simultaneously at several locations and facilitate delivery of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) courses, blended with a mix of standard curricula, to improve systemwide degree/certification attainment rates impacting more than 26,000 students and faculty.
CA, American Samoa	Dianne Feinstein Kamala Harris	Julia Brownley (26) Aumua Amata, Aumua (AS)	Landon Pediatric Foundation	\$453,280	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Landon Pediatric Foundation expand mobile clinics in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This project will provide 10 mobile telemedicine units to outfit rural clinics and to deliver distance learning telemedicine IT Skills Certification courses in each location benefiting more than 55,000 residents. This project's primary focus is on treating opioid abuse and overdose, addressed by the integration of public health tools to identify potential drug abuse patterns and assist doctors in safer prescription and management of addictive substances. Advanced care typically requires trips off-island to the Philippines, Hawaii or the continental United States. However, for the first-time, health centers will be connected to the greater medical resources available on the mainland.
CO, NM	Michael Bennet Cory Gardner (CO); Tom Udall Martrín Heinrich (NM)	Scott Tipton (03) Ben R. Lujan (03)	San Juan College	\$177,736	The Rural Development investment will assist San Juan College's "Native American Access Project" (NAAP) provide Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education programs and training through the purchase and installation of distance learning equipment. The project will increase collaboration through the implementation of new interactive video equipment at one high school in LaPlata county, Colorado, two high schools in San Juan County, New Mexico and one high school in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. The project provides network and video-conferencing equipment, increasing access to STEM education courses and dual credit courses, which includes collaboration with the Unlimited Learning Center offering medical training. The project provides advanced educational opportunities to schools with a minority-majority American Indian population and will increase all participating students success in college or a career and add content knowledge to practicing teachers. This project will serve more than 7,772 students within total population area of 26,797.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
CO	Michael Bennet Cory Gardner	Ken Buck (04)	Centennial Mental Health Center Inc.	\$204,000	The Rural Development investment will help the Centennial Mental Health Center provide regionally-based behavioral health telemedicine focused on the treatment of opioid misuse. This project will expand or replace telehealth treatment at 11 health care clinics in 10 counties in Northeastern Colorado. Upgraded server and telehealth stations will connect approximately 2,000 rural clients through to trauma care, outpatient therapy, community support programs, crisis intervention, emergency response, substance misuse treatment, and child, adult and family counseling. It also will help retain 10 behavioral health care providers.
CO	Michael Bennet Cory Gardner	Ken Buck (04)	East Central BOCES	\$481,977	The Rural Development investment will assist East Central Board of Cooperative Educational Services implement interactive video classrooms and replace end-of-life equipment. The project will benefit 20 school districts by establishing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) distance learning-enabled classrooms/learning environments in eight counties located in East-Central Colorado. The project will form collaborative connections between teachers and STEM resources to increase STEM classes, improve quality of learning environments, and create active, engaged classroom experience for student-led STEM projects reaching more than 8,000 students across all grade levels.
FL	Bill Nelson Marco Rubio	Neal Dunn (02)	PanCare of Florida Inc.	\$499,961	This Rural Development investment will be used to help PanCare of Florida bring medical services via telemedicine to students in schools in Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, and Washington Counties. This project will establish one telemedicine hub and 23 end-user sites to improve access to primary care, behavioral health, and opioid counseling and education for children and youth. School sites will be staffed with a school nurse, who will assist students in accessing primary medical care and behavioral health services. This program will increase access to needed services including 18 primary care providers, five behavioral health counselors and one psychiatrist impacting more than 6,500 students.
FL	Bill Nelson Marco Rubio	Neal Dunn (02)	DISC Village Inc.	\$160,614	This Rural Development investment will help DISC Village Behavioral Healthcare address opioid misuse through the purchase and installation of interactive telemedicine equipment. Telehealth treatment will be provided at five rural community jails, four human service centers and one residential treatment center in six counties in the Florida panhandle. The project will provide telehealth carts and kiosks allowing residents access to Medication Assisted Treatment and recovery support. It will assist more than 525 clients.
FL	Bill Nelson Marco Rubio (FL)	Ted Yoho (03)	School District of Putnam County Florida	\$307,345	This Rural Development investment will be used to help improve student access to high quality Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) instruction through a distance learning project. The end-user sites are all four public high schools in Putnam County, Florida including Palatka High School, Interlachen High School, Q. I. Roberts Jr.-Sr. High School, and Crescent City High School. The project will provide presentation sources, display, switching and control, and audio equipment to give students access to STEM instructors for high school acceleration courses. This will include both Dual Enrollment instructors coming from St. Johns River State College and AP and Cambridge instructors coming from collaborating high schools in the county as well as other locations in the region. The project will benefit 30 teachers and 200 students at the four Putnam County high schools.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
GA	Johnny Isakson David Perdue	Buddy Carter (01) Sanford Bishop, Jr. (02) Austin Scott (08)	Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College expand nursing and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics education in South Georgia. The project will benefit nurses at four regional hospitals and students at five rural elementary schools. Equipment will include integrated distance learning classrooms, mobile video conferencing carts, mobile utility carts, and software to provide continuing education courses or class lectures. Ultimately, this will increase the number of residents in South Georgia's rural communities with higher degrees, increase residents' marketability in the workforce and their earnings potential, and decrease outward migration in the region. According to the applicant, the project will impact 20,415 residents.
GA	Johnny Isakson David Perdue	Sanford Bishop, Jr. (02) Austin Scott (08)	Central GA Technical College Foundation	\$136,500	This Rural Development investment will be used to help provide Central Georgia Technical College with a distance learning network to provide academically diverse educational opportunities to 150 rural students. By offering Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) courses as well as dual enrollment courses for college credit at the high school level, students will have an opportunity to participate in advanced coursework needed to be successful in our economy. This investment is designed to attract and maintain the technical jobs requiring a thorough knowledge of mathematics, science and basic engineering principles. The project will also enable tutoring and counseling to 75 students who are struggling to maintain adequate progress toward high school graduation.
GA	Johnny Isakson David Perdue	Sanford Bishop Jr. (02) Jody Hice (10) Allen (12)	Georgia Department of Community Health	\$259,339	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase, install, provide training for and test distance learning equipment in the Georgia State Office of Rural Health and at five rural hospitals.
GA	Johnny Isakson David Perdue	Buddy Carter (01) Austin Scott (08) Rick Allen (12)	Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to help upgrade and expand the current Distance Learning Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics program offered at Wiregrass Georgia Technical College (WGTC) to ten high schools and three WGTC campuses in Georgia. The project will provide distance learning equipment, audio and video equipment, telecommunications terminal equipment, interactive audio/video equipment, and inside wiring for the total of twenty-two rooms. WGTC is a two-year technical college within the Technical College System of Georgia and serves an 11-county service area located in the heart of South Georgia that is majority rural and financially distressed. According to the applicant, the project will impact 3,530 students.
GA	Johnny Isakson David Perdue	Sanford Bishop Jr. (02)	Mitchell County Board of Education	\$299,582	This Rural Development investment will be used to help provide a synchronous video conferencing distance learning network. This network will promote the availability of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics courses and provide dual enrollment credit to high school students located in Mitchell County. The investment will provide additional opportunities for technician certification courses and for the aircraft and agricultural implement manufacturing industry. Adult education is also a need that will be satisfied with this network and GED programs can use the network to instruct adults who have re-entered the education system. The project will help those adult students who wish to further their education to do so in a more convenient manner without traveling long distances to a campus location. The distance learning network will also afford school personnel the ability to participate in continuing education, freeing up resources used for travel. More than 7,200 students, teachers and community members will have access to advanced educational opportunities through this project.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

<b>State</b>	<b>Sen.</b>	<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grants</b>	<b>Project Description</b>
GA	Johnny Isakson David Perdue	Buddy Carter (01) Doug Collins (09)	Georgia Partnership for Telehealth Inc.	\$108,385	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Georgia Partnership for Telehealth (GPT), along with its partner, Stephens County Mental Health Collaborative, deploy telemedicine to address opioid misuse through a variety of targeted programs designed to reach the impoverished and medically under-insured populace of Stephens County, Ga. GPT will provide licensed medical care to five sites in Stephens County, in the community of Toccoa, Ga. Telemedicine technology, technical assistance, and software funded through this grant will help deliver specialized care consisting of emergency, mobile-based EMS care, primary medical care, educational and counseling health programs, and licensed remote pharmacy prescription services to over 26,000 residents.
GA	Johnny Isakson David Perdue	Buddy Carter (01) Rick Allen (12)	Bacon County Health Services Inc.	\$430,512	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Bacon County Health Services, Inc. establish a HD telehealth program. The project will benefit eleven sites in four rural counties in Georgia (Bacon, Ware, Coffee, and Appling). The program will create a regional telehealth network, including four school-based health centers serving more than 25,000 residents. Patients will gain access to specialists not currently available due to geographic barriers and physician shortages, and providers will be able to share existing resources across a greater scale. Additionally, the project will establish a sustainable network that provides preventive and acute care services and address safe use and disposal of opioid-based medications.
GA	Johnny Isakson David Perdue	Austin Scott (08) Jody Hice (10) Rick Allen (12)	Oconee Fall Line Technical College	\$432,521	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Oconee Fall Line Technical College enhance distance learning education capabilities at four sites providing Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) courses for degree and certificate programs in Jefferson, Laurens, Telfair and Washington counties. Interactive distance learning technology will enable students to obtain vital skills to compete in the workplace. These counties have high poverty rates and low post secondary achievement rates. This project will assist 360 students each year.
HI	Brian Schatz Mazie Hirono	Colleen Hanabusa (01) Tulsi Gabbard (02)	Hawaii Pacific University	\$70,411	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telecommunications equipment to provide a unique distance learning interactive dual college/high school credit program for rural students in remote agricultural communities of Honolulu and Hawaii Counties. The program will expand offerings at the Honokaa High School in rural Hawaii County benefiting over 300 students. By striving to combine strong cultural influences along with the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) offerings from Hawaii Pacific University the students would be able to understand the value of their culture to the STEM professions and validate the pursuit of a STEM career. The synchronous approach to the courses offered will allow coaching and guidance from the perspective of secondary educators and give the high school students confidence to explore new and unique subjects like Oceanography, Computer Science and Marine Biology.
HI	Brian Schatz Mazie Hirono	Colleen Hanabusa (01) Tulsi Gabbard (02)	Hawaii Health Systems Corporation	\$215,093	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Hawaii Health Systems Corporation provide specialty care telehealth using telecommunications equipment to rural Hawaiians who have limited access to treatment in pulmonology, oncology, cardiology, tele-stroke, opioid misuse and many other specialty medical practices. The Hawaiian Islands have challenges in their rurality that are not easily overcome. Traveling to the Big Island to receive specialist care adds an overwhelming amount of time and expense. Requiring an investment in time and money rarely required in rural mainland areas. This network of 10 end users and two hubs located in Hawaii, Honolulu and Kauai counties will integrate the most rural and remote clinics and patient care facilities to the advanced services the Hawaii Health System Corporation offers to its served population of 27,885 residents. In addition, the telemedicine network will also provide in-service training to healthcare professionals in those same remote areas to maintain certifications and meet continuing education requirements.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants October 31, 2018

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
HI	Brian Schatz Mazie Hirono	Tulsi Gabbard (02)	University of Hawaii	\$388,280	This Rural Development investment will be used to help provide the means for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) courses to the rural communities around the defunct plantations in Hawaii. These areas have suffered with the loss of agri-business so the main source of income on the Big Island (Hawaii) is tourism. Even tourism is not a reliable industry since many factors can influence it adversely. Students who lack exposure and basic skills cannot compete in a technology driven economy. These grant funds will develop a robust distance learning program that will offer dual enrollment college credit courses at the high school level. Students will also be introduced to topics beyond the basics of the high school and middle school curriculum. They will be able to explore advanced biology, introduction to engineering, electronics, robotics and other emerging fields. The investment will impact students from the 56,725 population served.
IA	Charles Grassley Joni Ernst	Steve King (04)	Iowa Lakes Community College	\$499,975	This Rural Development investment will be used to upgrade the distance learning telecommunications equipment at four college campus sites located in Emmet, Pala Alto, Kossuth and Clay Counties, benefitting a total population of 27,057 people. The enhancements will dramatically improve the classroom experience for students, including improved video capabilities, improved audio quality and updated assistive-learning devices for students who have hearing impairments. The upgraded system will allow the College to offer higher-level Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics courses, along with other general education classes, to students at any campus. The improved access to these classes allows students to overcome barriers that often derail student achievement such as transportation costs and time constraints.
IA	Charles Grassley Joni Ernst	Steve King (04) David Young (03)	Iowa Speciality Hospital-Clarion	\$52,170	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase and install telemedicine equipment to connect the health care providers at five sites located in Wright, Dallas and Hancock counties benefitting a total population of 8,355 people in Iowa. For primary care, this project will be used to connect a local school and distant clinics to the main hospital locations so that a doctor is always available to patients without them having to drive. Currently, many of the opioid misuse patients seen in the system, rate travel and distance as their greatest barriers to seeking care. This project would directly address both of those factors and make it easier for those patients to receive treatment.
IA	Charles Grassley Joni Ernst	Steve King (04)	Westwood Community School District	\$499,733	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Westwood Community School District provide a distance learning network that will offer educational opportunities to the 11,538 residents served. With condensing populations in rural Iowa, school districts are becoming more isolated from educational opportunities. The distance learning network will provide access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) oriented and advanced placement coursework, as well as dual enrollment courses that provide college credit to high school students. Faculty and staff will be able to engage in coursework for continuing education that will maintain their ability to teach STEM courses. These professional development opportunities will also help retain staff and faculty in a region where outmigration is common.
IA, MI	Charles Grassley Joni Ernst (IA); Debbie Stabenow Gary Peters (MI)	David Loeb sack (IA 02) David Young (IA 03) Upton, Fred (MI 06)	Clarke County Hospital	\$314,743	This Rural Development investment will be used to upgrade and extend the video distance learning network in southern Iowa to support Clarke County Hospital's efforts to address childhood trauma. The hospital will use distance learning for professional development and educational programs for students, family members and the community at large. Eleven schools will be linked to the network, serving a population of 9,986.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
IA	Charles Grassley Joni Ernst	Rod Blum (01) Dave Loeb sack (02) David Young (03) Steve King (04)	Mercy Foundation of Des Moines, Iowa	\$92,826	The Rural Development investment will assist Mercy Foundation of Des Moines in addressing opioid misuse through the purchase and installation of interactive telemedicine equipment allowing access to two high need specialties, cardiology and psychiatry. This project implements a telehealth network at nine (9) healthcare facilities in nine (9) Southern Iowa counties. The project provides video-conferencing equipment increasing access to healthcare resources delivering treatment to opioid dependent persons, opioid training to medical professionals and training psychiatric residents in tele-psychology. The project will serve more than 6,189 rural patients annually.
ID	Mike Crapo James Risch	Raul Labrador (01)	City of Fruitland	\$52,480	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the City of Fruitland, doing business as Payette County Paramedics, purchase telemedicine equipment for paramedics to communicate with physicians in real time. The project will allow paramedics to notify the hospital of life threatening emergencies, give physicians a true picture of the situation, and health of the patient. The project will reduce time to receive lifesaving treatment and will save lives. The communication between the paramedics and physicians will provide significantly higher quality medical services in a rural area that has some of the lowest patient care physicians per 10,000 people in the United States. The project will serve approximately 23,000 residents in Payette County.
IL	Richard Durbin Tammy Duckworth	Adam Kinzinger (16) Cheri Bustos (17)	Freeport Regional Health Care Foundation	\$328,215	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Freeport Healthcare Foundation purchase telecommunication equipment to provide telemedicine resources to connect six rural hubs with 10 rural end user facilities serving 18,301 rural residents in northern Illinois. The end result will be increased access to medical specialists, reduction in 30 day hospital readmission rates and minimization of the impact of acute illnesses through patient education and monitoring. This project will dramatically reduce the distances patients travel to receive specialty healthcare, saving time and the patient's healthcare dollars. In addition, Freeport Healthcare will implement an opioid treatment program that will give the rural mental health and counseling resources access to the most relevant substance misuse treatment available.
IL	Richard Durbin Tammy Duckworth	Mike Quigley (05) Rodney Davis (13) Mike Bost (12) John Shimkus (15) Darin LaHood (18)	Altamont Community School Unit 10 District	\$215,638	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Altamont Community Unit School District 10, a rural Illinois local educational agency, attain the ability to leverage educational opportunities through the implementation of interactive distance learning technology at two (2) Hub sites and six (6) rural school-system end-user sites located in seven (7) counties in Illinois. The project administrators, via the Rural Illinois Shared Education (RISE) Network, will provide enhanced Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics-gearred courses, dual credit/advanced-placement, professional development, workforce educational courses, career/vocational courses, and community-wide health education classes. This project has potential to reach up to 22,101 residents.
IL	Richard Durbin Tammy Duckworth	Rodney Davis (13) John Shimkus (15) Darin LaHood (18)	HSHS St. John's Hospital	\$429,008	This Rural Development investment will help HSHS St. John's Hospital address opioid misuse through the purchase and installation of interactive telemedicine equipment. A telehealth network will be implemented at 14 health care facilities in 13 central Illinois counties. The project will provide eight virtual urgent care sites, two occupational health clinic sites, and four hospital emergency department tele-consult sites. These sites will be linked to the "Heroin Opioid Prevention Education (HOPE) telehealth network." The project will provide access to rural telemedicine non-acute and acute consults for approximately 25,000 rural patients annually.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
KS	Pat Roberts Jerry Moran	Lynn Jenkins (02)	Burlington Unified School District #244	\$106,282	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Coffey County develop a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) distance learning project to provide STEM curricula to 17 sites in the Kansas communities of Burlington, Gridley, Lebo, LeRoy and New Strawn. The sites include schools and the Coffey County Hospital. More than 8,600 residents will have access to STEM college and career readiness curricula, enrichment courses and teacher professional development courses. This project will help better prepare Coffey County students to transition to post-secondary learning institutions. It also will help foster local economic development by attracting outside businesses and industries to a highly-trained local population of workers.
KS	Pat Roberts Jerry Moran (KS)	Roger Marshall (01) Lynn Jenkins (02)	Washburn University of Topeka	\$349,213	This Rural Development investment will be used to help provide resources for Washburn University of Topeka to enable two-way interactive distance learning via video teleconferencing technology. The distance learning technology will provide exposure to workplace skills increasingly needed in the modern technical work environment. The resources provided through this investment will enable rural students across Kansas access to obtain these skills. Additionally, this investment will be used to recruit and retain healthcare workers for rural communities. 3,713 students will have access to the educational opportunities proposed with this project. This includes one high school in the Lawrence-Gardener Juvenile Corrections Center. A problem, common to rural areas, is the lack of instructional resources in areas of relatively low student enrollment. Distance learning enables the pooling of students to take advantage of available instructors.
KY	Mitch McConnell Rand Paul (KY); Amy Klobuchar Tina Smith (MN)	Thomas Massie (KY 04) Harold Rogers (KY 05) Garland Barr (KY 06) Rick Noland (MN 08)	Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation	\$337,327	This Rural Development investment will be used by the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation to purchase necessary interactive video equipment to provide a comprehensive, evidence-based distance learning environment for rural health care facilities in Hazard, Carlisle, Owingsville and Williamstown, Kentucky. The project will train healthcare professionals, behavioral health professionals, and peer recovery specialists in evidence-based practices related to the prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery support of opioid use disorder in individuals. The project will offer individuals and families a comprehensive, evidence-based support model that will enhance outcomes for individuals in treatment and recovery, including those in Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid use disorder. It is projected a population of 11,921 will be served by this investment.
KY	Mitch McConnell Rand Paul (KY)	Harold Rogers (05)	University of Pikeville Inc.	\$128,675	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the University of Pikeville expand its distance learning facilities with a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) focus benefiting 320 high school students. This program will deliver a career- and business-driven curriculum to high school students throughout a seven-county service area in rural Eastern Kentucky. It will provide computers, video conferencing units, software and infrastructure to allow to focus on STEM based education at 16 end user sites, allowing students at multiple schools to interact with one another as well as with the individuals leading the session.
KY	Mitch McConnell Rand Paul	Harold Rogers (05)	Big Sandy Health Care, Inc.	\$370,875	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Big Sandy Health Care, Inc. purchase telemedicine equipment include telemedicine carts for school and clinic sites. The project will provide primary care, specialty care, opioid education, counseling and treatment via telemedicine and distance learning in five school sites and five clinic sites in a four-county area of eastern Kentucky. The health center sites will serve as both hub and end user sites. The clinicians based at these sites will provide educational sessions through distance learning technology and will provide direct medical care via telemedicine to students and school staff. Also, patients at the clinics will participate in educational sessions through distance learning technology and will also receive telemedicine visits from specialty providers not available at the clinics. The project will benefit 3,250 students, faculty and patients.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
LA	Bill Cassidy John Neely Kennedy	Clay Higgins (03)	Lafayette General Health	\$272,900	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Lafayette General Health provide an expansion of the South Louisiana Telehealth Network using telecommunications equipment. This expansion will include 18 public schools in Acadia Parish, eight public schools in Vermillion Parish and two public schools in St. Martin Parish serving 27,000 students. It will also include three parish jails impacting 5,000 inmates. The extreme need in these rural parishes means acute diseases such as skin rashes and influenza often go undiagnosed and untreated. Patients with chronic illnesses like asthma and diabetes do not receive the level of care available in more populated areas. This expanded telehealth network will provide the basic medical care taken for granted in the rest of the country. The treatment of opioid misuse counseling is a need that disproportionately affects rural areas. The features of the network will also have an impact on opioid misuse counseling by making available synchronous access to counseling and behavioral health specialists.
LA	Bill Cassidy John Neely Kennedy	Clay Higgins (03) Mike Johnson (04) Ralph Abraham (05) Garret Graves (06)	Primary Care Providers	\$499,592	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Primary Care Providers develop telemedicine to connect rural patients in nine Louisiana parishes with behavioral health, specialty care and opioid treatment services. It will also connect school-based health centers with primary care consults. The project will provide mobile telehealth carts to 20 sites (six community health centers and 14 school-based health centers) in rural communities in Louisiana. Patients will receive the same quality of care they would if they traveled and were seen in person, without incurring the time, expense and stress of traveling to a more urban area. The project will be available to the 96,870 rural residents of these parishes. Service areas include the following parishes: Morehouse, Livingston, West Baton Rouge, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, Union, Ouachita, Acadia, and Allen.
LA	Bill Cassidy John Neely Kennedy	Steve Scalise (01) Cedric Richmond (02) John Fleming (04) Ralph Abraham (05)	Access Health Louisiana	\$184,512	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Access Health Louisiana. Through the use of telemedicine equipment it will greatly improve comprehensive preventive and primary care and behavioral health access and services to the predominantly low-income patient population of four rural communities of Louisiana where distances are too far to access services otherwise. The project will integrate mental health/substance misuse services with primary care services, that have a specific focus on treatment, prevention, and awareness of opioid misuse. The project's telecommunications system equipment includes mobile telemedicine carts, terminal equipment, data terminal equipment, interactive video equipment, computer hardware and software systems. According to the applicant, 4,500 students and/or patients will be impacted by this project. Service areas include the following parishes: Washington, Rapides, Allen, West Feliciana.
ME, NH	Susan Collins Angus King (ME); Jeanne Shaheen Maggie Hassan (NH)	Bruce Poliquin (ME 02) Anne Kuster (NH 02)	Maine Rural Health Collaborative, LLC	\$479,679	This Rural Development investment will help the Maine Rural Health Collaborative address opioid misuse through the purchase and installation of interactive telemedicine equipment. A telehealth network will be implemented at nine health care facilities in Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot and Washington counties. The facilities will be linked to providers in Maine and New Hampshire. Network and video-conferencing equipment will increase access to health care resources, deliver treatment and training addressing opioid misuse, advance professional development and expand the availability of advanced healthcare services. The project will serve more than 115,000 people in four of Maine's most rural counties.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
ME	Susan Collins Angus King	Chellie Pingree (01) Bruce Poliquin (02)	Maine Quality Counts	\$87,011	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Maine Quality Counts provide distance learning via telecommunications equipment to engage the very rural healthcare partners in the practice of opioid misuse recovery. The hub/end user and nine dedicated end user sites located in Kennebec, Washington, Waldo, Hancock and Piscataquis Counties in Maine, will use synchronous video conferencing equipment to engage partners such as law enforcement, child welfare organizations and social services in the opioid misuse recovery community of practice, thereby insuring a more thorough and meaningful result. Hardware and software for media and content production will allow for development and production of content to provide Medication Assisted Treatment Education to healthcare providers involved in the practice of opioid misuse disorder recovery. This project is expected to assist 1,500 - 2,000 patients over a three-year period.
MI	Debbie Stabenow Gary Peters	Jack Bergman (01)	Munising Memorial Hospital	\$303,337	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment for six sites in Marquette and Angler counties. New 3D tomosynthesis mammography equipment will replace the outdated 2D mammography equipment technology. The new technology improves cancer detection by 40 percent and will speed up the diagnosis and treatment. The new telemedicine capabilities will impact a population of 2,927 and decrease travel time for patients and provide the most comprehensive breast imaging services, which are not usually available in rural communities.
MI	Debbie Stabenow Gary Peters	John Moolenaar (04)	Sheridan Community Hospital	\$284,105	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Sheridan Community Hospital develop a telemedicine system to address opioid misuse through the delivery of professional medical primary care and behavioral-health medical services over new high definition two-way interactive technology. Primary medical care will also be provided to four (4) sites across a single Michigan county (Montcalm) over the course of the project timeline. Additionally, this project will provide professional development opportunities for medical and social service professionals at the four sites. This project is expected to reach up to 3,704 residents.
MI	Debbie Stabenow Gary Peters	Jack Bergman (01) Justin Amash (03)	Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Service	\$102,987	This Rural Development investment will be used to help purchase telemedicine equipment for Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services which will provide a telehealth network to rural areas of northern Michigan. Rural sites will be connected with larger Pine Rest facilities in Grand Rapids and Traverse City, which provide psychiatry services. The project will also provide access to substance misuse providers based in Marquette and Sault St. Marie. Thirteen sites will have access to state of the art treatment services provided by nine hub sites that have capability of providing a broad range of medical services and treatment options to its service area of 242,191 residents.
MN	Amy Klobuchar Tina Smith	Rick Nolan (08)	Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	\$368,221	This Rural Development investment will be used to help purchase telemedicine equipment for the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior. A telehealth network will be created in the northern Minnesota counties of Carlton, St. Louis, and Hennepin to provide enhanced medical services, including treatment for opioid misuse, which will impact approximately 4,048 residents. Virtual Reality headsets and related content modules will also be used for pain management and other related treatments. A mobile care vehicle will travel seven sites on a rotational basis, as well as travel to home bound patients. The telemedicine network will also be used for skill development of health care professionals.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
MN	Amy Klobuchar Tina Smith	Timothy Walz (01) Collin Petersen (07) Rick Nolan (08)	East Central MN Educ. Cable Coop.	\$249,027	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase and install interactive video distance learning telecommunications equipment. East Central Minnesota Educational Cable Cooperative will provide critically needed learning opportunities focused on workforce readiness, world language and college credit courses to secondary students in 12 rural East Central Minnesota school districts, 13 rural districts in Southwest Minnesota and three rural districts in Northwest Minnesota. Additionally, students in 37 elementary, middle and high schools through Southwest Minnesota will have access to video technology to provide experiential learning, student support services and other collaborative activities benefitting 125,355 people at all locations.
MO	Claire McCaskill Roy Blunt	Jason Smith (08)	Southeast Missouri Behavioral Health Inc.	\$72,074	The Rural Development investment will assist Southeast Missouri Behavioral Health to address opioid misuse through the purchase and installation of interactive telemedicine equipment. This project implements and expands telehealth treatment capabilities at fourteen health care clinics in 13 rural southeast Missouri counties. The project utilizes telehealth systems and smart boards providing clients the opportunity to meet with multiple providers and improve the quality of group service delivery interactions and enhance community education and clinic outreach. This project will expand healthcare access to more than 75,000 residents.
MO	Claire McCaskill Roy Blunt	Vicky Hartzler (04) Billy Long (07) Jason Smith (08)	Lester E. Cox Medical Centers	\$235,472	This Rural Development investment will be used to help CoxHealth connect children in schools with a telemedicine network to deliver direct-to-patient care for rural communities in Southern Missouri. The project will equip 17 rural schools and eight rural clinics with telemedicine capabilities, increasing access to quality healthcare for 30,000 rural residents. The project will include telehealth carts and audio and visual conferencing equipment to affect illness events for children and increase access to opioid treatment in rural clinics. CoxHealth is a healthcare organization that serves 24 mainly rural counties in southwest Missouri.
MO	Claire McCaskill Roy Blunt	Vicky Hartzler (04) Blaine Luetkemeyer (03)	Lake Regional Health System	\$443,417	This Rural Development investment will be used to establish the Lake Regional Mid-Missouri Telemedicine Program providing specialty physician telemedicine care. This project will establish synchronous, tele-conferencing equipment with interactive medical devices within 13 facilities in five rural mid-Missouri counties serving over 35,000 rural residents. The network will also be used to keep healthcare providers aware of the latest innovations in healthcare and allow easier access to continuing education and other required training. A new and much needed facet of the telehealth resources will be enabling the use of behavioral and other counseling services including opioid misuse treatment.
MO	Claire McCaskill Roy Blunt	Ann Wagner (02) Blaine Luetkemeyer (03) Vicky Hartzler (04) Sam Graves (06) Jason T. Smith (08)	Great Circle	\$385,777	The Rural Development investment will assist Great Circle in addressing limited specialty healthcare services through the purchase and installation of interactive telemedicine equipment. This project implements mobile telehealth equipment delivering specialty telehealth services from St. Louis County to the counties of Adair, Butler, Crawford, Jefferson, Phelps, Pulaski and Ripley in the State of Missouri. Specialty care will include psychological services and Applied Behavioral Analysis therapy at seven health care facilities benefiting over 2,600 patients. Great Circle will increase the number of youth and families receiving therapy by 41 percent and increase the number of youth served by 56 percent over two years.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
MO, IL	Claire McCaskill Roy Blunt (MO); Richard Durbin Tammy Duckworth (IL)	Ann Wagner (MO 02) Rodney Davis (IL 13)	Jersey Community Hospital District	\$326,456	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Jersey Community Hospital (JCH) establish an interactive telemedicine system at seven Illinois sites to be served by one (1) hub site located in Missouri. JCH will tackle the opioid and substance misuse crisis affecting its service area through the establishment of the Community Addiction Recovery and Education Services (CARES) Network. This telemedicine system will extend opioid prevention, treatment, and education services, including other behavioral health services and specialty medical care to the rural communities in Calhoun, Greene, and Jersey Counties in Illinois. Licensed care will be provided by Mercy Virtual Care Center (MERCY) located in nearby Chesterfield, Mo. Professional Development training for medical professionals at JCH service area sites will also be part of this project. The project will serve 2,205 residents, with potential to reach 13,733 residents.
MO	Claire McCaskill Roy Blunt	Jason Smith (08)	Family Counseling Center, Inc.	\$277,683	This Rural Development investment will help the Family Counseling Center Inc. address mental health and substance misuse. Interactive telemedicine equipment will be installed at 17 health care clinics and seven courthouses in 14 counties in Southern and Southeastern Missouri. The project will provide upgraded servers, telehealth stations and mobile laptops, enabling clients to meet with providers at clinics and within their homes. This project also will connect rural residents suffering from opioid misuse to Medication Assistance Treatment, nursing services, psychiatric therapy, and substance use disorder counseling. The investment will increase telemedicine access to over 12,375 rural residents.
MP		Gregorio Sablan	Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation	\$143,853	This Rural Development investment will be used to help establish remote pharmacies on the two islands of Tinian and Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) using telepharmacy. This service expansion will make pharmacy services available to more than 5,600 people who currently have no access to a pharmacy. The project will procure hardware and software necessary to establish capacity for pharmacy inventory management, pharmacy sales, and synchronous audiovisual communication with the coordinating pharmacy at each of the two remote pharmacy sites. Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation manages and operates the CNMI's sole hospital, the Commonwealth Health Center, which runs inpatient and outpatient pharmacy units, and the only health care services on the islands of Tinian and Rota.
MS	Roger Wicker Cindy Hyde-Smith	Bennie Thompson (02) Gregg Harper (03)	North Pike School District	\$498,687	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the North Pike School District install distance learning carts in partnership with four regional K-12 school districts: South Pike, Simpson County, Yazoo County, and Natchez-Adams. This program will bring about new opportunities for students in 16 schools to increase their proficiency in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics subject areas, providing access to additional courses in math, science, and coding. It will also open up career-focused programming such as computer science, health science, and agriculture science. The project will provide services to 7,688 students and teachers.
MS	Roger Wicker Cindy Hyde-Smith	Steven Palazzo (04) Gregg Harper (03)	Forrest County General Hospital	\$472,835	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Forrest County General Hospital, Hattiesburg, MS, purchase telemedicine equipment to expand the Forrest County General Hospital Health System. Forrest Health is a partnership of health care organizations formed to increase access to quality healthcare in south Mississippi. This project will increase access to medical care and better services to rural patients in eight counties in Mississippi. Three telemedicine projects will be established: Tele-Psych, to provide psychiatric services remotely via telemedicine; Tele-ICU, to provide remote intensive care assessments via telemedicine; and Tele-ER, to provide remote emergency care consults via telemedicine. This project will bring state of the art medical services to remote and rural locations in southern Mississippi. The project has the potential to serve up to 200,000 residents.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
MS	Roger Wicker Cindy Hyde-Smith	Gregg Harper (03) Steven Palazzo (04)	Lauderdale County School District	\$478,246	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Lauderdale County School District purchase mobile videoconferencing carts for 16 sites in five rural Mississippi school districts. The project will enable each school to connect to share teachers, combine resources, and bring new educational services and opportunities to 8,447 students and faculty. The program will also offer rural residents in the communities of Collinsville, Meridian, Liberty, Heidelberg, Tylertown and Columbia Mississippi greater access to job placement services, GED programs, skills training programs, and higher education.
MS	Roger Wicker Cindy Hyde-Smith	Trent Kelly (01) Bennie Thompson (02)	Holly Springs School District	\$491,885	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Holly Springs School District, along with Rust College, Marshall Urgent Care, the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) & Workforce Program Office in Holly Spring, and North Panola School District develop a distance learning program. This project will establish 17 interactive distance learning environments at 12 project locations serving a population of 11,566. The program will quadruple the number of students who have access to classes, strengthening academic preparedness and achievement. Career Tech training, particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics areas that are in high demand from regional employers, will prepare traditional students for entry into a skilled wage job following high school graduation.
MT	Jon Tester Steve Daines	Greg Gianforte (At Large)	Kalispell Regional Medical Center , Inc.	\$236,061	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Kalispell Regional Medical Center develop a telemedicine and distance learning project that will address the rising opioid epidemic. The project will utilize telemedicine and distance learning to address healthcare challenges in nine locations across five counties in Montana. This program will target opioid-addicted mothers during pregnancy and follow them through safe labor and delivery in addition to targeting neonatal care of opioid addicted newborns. More than 17,000 residents are supported by this project.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	George Holding (02) Virginia Foxx (05) Richard Hudson (08) Robert Pittenger (09) Richard Hudson	Daymark Recovery Services, Inc.	\$391,498	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Daymark Recovery Services provide video conferencing solutions to the provision of mental health and substance abuse services, including opioid abuse services. The use of telepsychiatry to treat underserved counties will have the benefits of reducing cost and travel time for patients, reducing the impact on local jails and emergency rooms by treating patients before they end up at those facilities, and reducing the number of patients who get re-admitted to the hospital. This project serves seven North Carolina sites enabling access to psychological and substance abuse care in these communities, benefiting 36,792 projected patients.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	Robert Pittenger (09)	South Piedmont Community College	\$349,767	This Rural Development investment will be used to help South Piedmont Community College (SPCC) develop distance learning to bring vital Science, Technology, Education, and Mathematics (STEM) resources to the students of Anson County, North Carolina. The project will involve the purchase of a display, camera, microphones, audio equipment, and various other necessary ITV technology items for each site. Obsolete distance learning equipment at the teaching sites will be upgraded and learning classrooms in Anson County will be created. The project will expand STEM academic program offerings, provide more course options previously not feasible due to low enrollment, improve course success rate for students as compared to online learning, and benefit students by decreasing their transportation financial burden to attend courses at Union County campuses. The project will provide needed STEM courses to approximately 650 Anson County SPCC students and Anson High School students enrolled in college courses.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01)	Edgecombe County Schools	\$162,989	This Rural Development investment will assist Edgecombe County Public Schools with implementing distance learning labs through the purchase and installation of video-conferencing equipment. This project implements mobile distance learning carts at four (4) high schools providing access to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics education for students in North Carolina's rural Edgecombe County. The project connects students to colleges and universities providing science and mathematics courses and allows educators to continue education and professional development. The project will increase the number of graduating career and college ready students and retain highly qualified teachers within an area of more than 20,000 North Carolina residents.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01) Walter Jones (03)	Metropolitan Community Health Services	\$375,996	This Rural Development investment will help provide opioid treatment services via telemedicine at six end-user sites in rural eastern North Carolina. Equipment will include mobile carts with video conferencing units to provide opioid treatment services, including: counseling of opioid misuse; training of medical professionals, counselors and first responders who interact with opioid users; and education programs addressing opioid misuse. This project will save vulnerable, low-income rural residents travel time and money and will increase the number of patients who achieve and sustain recovery from opioid misuse disorders. It also will decrease unnecessary emergency room visits and hospitalizations related to opioid misuse and will help save lives. Each year, more than 2,400 rural residents will be served by the project.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01)	Roanoke-Chowan Community College Foundation	\$439,457	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Roanoke-Chowan Community College establish a distance learning teleconferencing network in eight North Carolina communities. The project will place distance learning carts with a two-way video, speaker system, camera, and microphones in 12 area businesses, to include five emergency medical services departments. This system will deliver Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics-related career training, such as nursing/allied health, Emergency Medical Response, computer technology, manufacturing, as well as specialized medical training to EMS departments. The project will serve the 68,050 residents of the college's service area and will serve another approximately 7,500 employees of the seven companies and 23 EMS agencies.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01) George Holding (02) Walter Jones (03)	East Carolina University	\$346,423	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the East Carolina Universities College of Engineering and Technology purchase video conferencing kits for 11 sites in three eastern North Carolina counties. This project will build the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) skill base, offering IIoT certifications to community college students, providing hands-on laboratory and dynamic academic experiences, fostering IIoT-focused collaboration and extending IIoT-related workforce and advising resources. This program will expand workforce development and develop a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics education network designed to prepare a rural, underserved workforce to fill the IIoT skills gap benefiting over 3,700 students and faculty.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	David Rouzer (07)	Coastal Horizons Center, Inc.	\$89,222	This Rural Development investment will be used to help establish a high-definition telehealth program to provide Opioid Medication Assisted Treatment. In addition, the investment will help provide acute, routine and preventive health care services in rural North Carolina. The project will create services for four project sites in three counties: Brunswick, Pender and New Hanover. The project will provide computers, monitors and telemedicine carts and software so that patients do not have to travel great distances to see specialists and mental health counselors. Coastal Horizons Center provides mental health, substance misuse, and primary care services in Southeastern North Carolina. Coastal Horizons Center projects this grant can help serve at least 200 new participants.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants October 31, 2018

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	Richard Hudson (08)	Stanly County Schools	\$447,280	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Stanly County Schools build a robust distance learning program to enhance educational opportunities at 19 school and two hub sites within Stanly County. State-of-the-art interactive distance learning technology will be used to provide Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) curricula and STEM-focused professional development courses benefiting 8,338 students and faculty.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	G.K Butterfield (01) George Holding (02) Virginia Foxx (05) David Rouzer (07) Robert Pittenger	North Carolina Central University	\$403,012	This Rural Development investment will be used to help purchase state of the art distance learning equipment to North Carolina Central University, expanding its distance learning network to 24 additional rural sites across the state of North Carolina for law education services and allowing it to provide services for mental health education and substance misuse. The education network offers law education to rural residents who would not otherwise have assistance for basic legal issues. The program also will provide mental health and substance misuse counseling services to assist rural residents. The project has the potential to impact 65,377 residents.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01) Walter Jones (03)	Washington County Board of Education	\$315,448	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Washington County Board of Education purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. This project connects three districts and nine participating schools with one another, allowing them to share resources, classes, and professional development through the use of distance learning. It will serve a population of 6,482. The project will improve issues related to faculty retention, student access to educational services for college-bound and career-bound students, and access to special education resources by providing a more robust Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics curriculum.
NC	Richard Burr Thom Tillis	G.K. Butterfield (01) George Holding (02) Mark Walker (06) David Rouzer (07) Patrick McHenry	North Carolina Central University	\$385,509	This Rural Development investment will be used to help North Carolina Central University purchase distance learning equipment to expand 23 sites in North Carolina. The distance learning project will address two issues. First, the need to enhance behavioral health promotion and substance misuse prevention strategies through mental health and substance misuse community counseling services. Second, to address the need for self-empowerment through education for rural, underserved community members by providing law education services. This project has the potential to assist up to 141,923 individuals.
ND	John Hoeven Heidi Heitkamp	Kevin Cramer (At Large)	Heartview Foundation	\$154,812	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase and install telemedicine equipment at eight rural locations in Burleigh, Towner, Mercer and Dunn Counties. Heartview and its rural partners will implement a telemedicine system to deliver behavioral programs in rural North Dakota to address opioid misuse and other substance misuse issues. These programs will deliver counseling, education and training to patients and staff while reducing travel time and expense to remote locations serving a total population of 81,067 people.
NE	Deb Fischer Ben Sasse	Adrian Smith (03)	Educational Service Unit #16 (ESU #16)	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will assist Educational Services Unit 16 Nebraska with implementing its Health Initiative for Living and Learning STEM (HILLS) program through the purchase and installation of video-conferencing equipment. This project implements mobile distance learning carts at thirty (30) public schools providing access to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education for students in eighteen (18) counties within South-Central Nebraska. The project connects students to colleges and educational centers providing courses in agriculture, education, information technology, business, health science, and STEM education. The project will increase the number of graduating career and college ready students from among the 93,000 residents served.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NE	Deb Fischer Ben Sasse	Adrian Smith (03)	Mid-Plains Community College	\$101,133	This Rural Development investment will be used to replace outdated distance learning carts in Nebraska with more inclusive, updated distance learning technology. Distance learning carts will be installed at six campus sites in Lincoln, Custer, Keith, Chase and Red Willow counties to accommodate the growing demand for distance education courses. Distance learning technology will be installed in laboratories and classrooms affiliated with Science, Technology, Education, and Mathematics instruction, where the technology currently does not exist, benefiting 41,496 rural residents.
NE	Deb Fischer Ben Sasse	Adrian Smith (03)	Rural Nebraska Healthcare Network	\$265,159	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Rural Nebraska Healthcare Network replace obsolete telemedicine technology at nine sites in far western Nebraska to continue modernization of the existing tele-health system. This project installed a core all-fiber backbone and paired electronics on the new network. innovative technology, computers, and software to enable all sites to deliver medical care predominantly aimed at opioid misuse, but also to provide primary, emergency, and specialty care using collaborative resources from all network clinics and hospitals. Sites from this project will impact Arthur, Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes, Duel, Garden, Grant, Keith, Kimball, Morrill, Perkins, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan, and Sioux Counties. The project has potential to serve 43,840 residents.
NE, IA, KS	Deb Fischer Ben Sasse (NE); Charles Grassley Joni Ernst (IA); Pat Roberts Jerry Moran (KS)	Jeff Fortenberry (NE 01) Adrian Smith (NE 03) Steve King (IA 04) David Young (IA 03) Roger Marshall (KS 01)	Rural Health Partners Inc.	\$499,800	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Heartland Health Alliance using telemedicine technology, provide essential opioid misuse and treatment services, mental health and other medical specialty care throughout Nebraska, Western Iowa, and Northern Kansas. These services will allow 14 rural hospitals located in these states to increase access to services routinely available in more urban and populated areas. Innovative telemedicine equipment will enable healthcare professionals to remotely diagnose patients, impacting approximately 37,000 residents surrounding these facilities. The use of high definition remotely operated pan, tilt and zoom cameras and digitally connected medical devices such as otoscopes, stethoscopes and other primary medical indicating devices will allow a patient doctor virtual reality type interaction. The project hardware will also allow physicians to consult collaboratively and in real time with patients even if all parties are in different physical locations.
NE	Deb Fischer Ben Sasse	Jeff Fortenberry (01) Adrian Smith (03)	Southeast Communtiy College	\$495,631	This Rural Development investment will be used to create a multi-campus simulation center connecting Southeast Community College's Lincoln and Beatrice campuses as well as the six learning centers. Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education, particularly related to health care and bioscience education, will be delivered to a 15-county service area. The College's instructors will provide STEM education courses to rural areas in Southeast Nebraska at the learning center locations benefiting 44,428 people.
NH	Jeanne Shaheen Maggie Hassan	Ann Kuster (02)	Weeks Medical Center	\$180,010	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Weeks Medical Center expand its telehealth network by installing state of the art telemedicine equipment. Weeks Medical Center is a comprehensive healthcare facility located in Lancaster, NH, with four rural health clinics located in Groveton, Lancaster, North Stratford, and Whitefield, all in Coos County, New Hampshire. This project will focus on the hub Site in Lancaster and four end user sites in Lancaster and Whitefield locations. Services include but are not limited to emergency services, inpatient and outpatient care, surgical services, behavioral health, substance misuse, surgical services for general, orthopedic, gynecologic and podiatry, child development, and rehabilitation services. This project will serve at least 400 residents, but has the potential to reach up to 5,813 rural residents.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NH	Jeanne Shaheen Maggie Hassan	Ann Kuster (02) Carol Shea-Porter (01)	University of New Hampshire	\$147,355	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire, purchase telemedicine equipment to expand its telehealth network. There will be four locations in Durham, Littleton, Gorham, Plymouth and Bristol, New Hampshire, in Stratford and Grafton Counties. The areas of emphasis for this project are: Providing opioid misuse treatment, education regarding telemedicine services, and the expansion of clinical teaching-learning opportunities in rural areas of New Hampshire, impacting approximately 18,820 residents.
NV	Dean Heller Catherine Cortez Masto	Dina Titus (01) Mark Amodei (02) Jacky Rosen (03) Ruben Kihuen (04)	Valley Health System LLC	\$164,137	This Rural Development investment will be used to help provide telemedicine to patients located in seven rural communities in Clark, Elko, Lincoln, Nye and White Pine County, Nevada. Valley Health System (VHS) serves as the lead applicant for a consortium of seven Nevada Department of Corrections conservation camps located in exceptionally rural areas across the state of Nevada. VHS will offer emergency, cardiac, stroke, psychiatry and opioid treatment. The project will provide portable telemedicine kits and carts. Valley Health System (VHS) is a system of six acute care hospitals and one critical access hospital with locations in Las Vegas, Henderson and Pahrump, NV. This project will reach approximately 20,000 individuals and serve 3,000 patients in the seven conservation camps in Carlin, Ely, Indian Springs, Jean, Pioche, Tonopah and Wells, Nevada for three years.
NV	Dean Heller Catherine Cortez Masto	Mark Amodei (02) Ruben Kihuen (04)	Renown Health	\$439,312	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Renown Health deliver the Telehealth and Healthcare Education Expansion program, via two hub-only sites, and 11 medically underserved end-user sites in Nevada. Delivery of high-definition telehealth capabilities to these communities, which are currently unavailable, will consist of primary care, specialty care, acute services, behavioral health care, and substance misuse care and treatment, inclusive of opioid care. Additionally, the project will deliver professional development, health and wellness programs, and enable paramedics in these rural communities to connect to Renown Health acute care facilities to provide emergent care, under the supervision of a physician. Primary beneficiaries will be rural, underserved residents in eight targeted counties: White Pine, Pershing, Nye, Douglas, Lyon, Washoe, Lander, and Churchill. This project will serve up to 45,539 rural residents.
NY	Charles Schumer Kirsten Gillibrand	Tom Reed (23)	Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming BOCES	\$207,205	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Cattaraugus - Allegany - Erie - Wyoming Board of Cooperative Educational Services and its Science Connected Across Networks (SCAN) Extension deliver Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) curricula via distance learning technology. The program will offer K-12 STEM courses, professional development courses, along with substance abuse prevention and educational content. High-definition interactive, distance learning technology will be used to deliver high-quality educational content to 13 sites from seven pure hub sites. Two of the seven hubs are professional health care and education organizations. This project will benefit over 6,715 students and teachers in the New York Counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Wyoming.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants October 31, 2018

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
NY	Charles Schumer Kirsten Gillibrand	John Faso (19) Claudia Tenney (22) Tom Reed (23)	Otsego Northern Catskills Board of Cooperative Educational Services	\$499,926	This Rural Development investment will assist Otsego Northern Catskills Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) increase Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) opportunities and increase opioid misuse education and prevention through the purchase and installation of interactive distance learning equipment. This project implements and expands STEM courses and opioid education and prevention at ten (10) educational facilities located in six (6) counties in the northern Catskill Mountains in New York state. The project provides new videoconference endpoints allowing students access to 55 shared courses, within the school district, and over 402 courses statewide. Additional equipment will be placed in school health offices and school-based health centers, increasing access to healthcare providers providing substance misuse education and counseling. This project will bring advanced education opportunities and expanded healthcare access to 23,261 students and residents.
NY	Charles Schumer Kirsten Gillibrand	Tom Reed (23)	Southern Tier Health Care Systems, Inc	\$265,179	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide education and training to emergency police, fire and medical services in Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties in southwest New York State. This region has averaged 60 opioid overdose deaths each year. To help mitigate the loss of life due to opioid abuse, rural first responders need to be educated on the use of life saving devices and techniques specific to this epidemic, such as NARCAN and CPR. The challenge in educating these rural first responders is the distances and time invested in travel to the instructional sites. The grant investment will provide synchronous training opportunities to three new sites and three existing sites, all of which will enable instructor led interactive live-feed course content impacting over 15,000 residents served.
OH	Sherrod Brown Rob Portman	Jim Jordan (04) Bob Gibbs (07)	Lorain County Community College	\$315,095	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Lorain County Community College located in Lorain County, Ohio provide a newer, more modern distance learning network. This will allow a greater impact in the core fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics to be offered to one community college and seven schools located in Lorain, Ashland and Huron counties, serving 16,721 residents. The innovative programs that will be made possible with these funds will use augmented and virtual reality technology to teach courses like Physiology and Anatomy. There will also be unique opportunities to learn skills used in manufacturing and agriculture that are just beginning to show their potential. One of the most promising will be drone or unmanned aircraft technology. Since drone technology is so new, the field of instruction is relatively small and concentrated Lorain students will have access to those few instructors through the synchronous distance learning system built with these funds.
OH, WV	Sherrod Brown Portman, Rob (OH); Joe Manchin B94 Shelley Capito (WV)	Bill Johnson (OH 06) Michael Turner (OH 10) David Joyce (OH 14) David McKinley (WV 01)	Toronto Board of Education	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Toronto, Ohio City School District purchase distance learning equipment to create opioid health education, treatment, and prevention programs for families. The project will implement a comprehensive opioid treatment and misuse prevention program. The hub site will be in Weirton, W.Va., with two end user sites in Toronto. The District will have three partners and sites: CHANGE, Inc. in Newell, WV, Eastern Gateway Community College in Steubenville, Ohio, and FFA Camps in Carrollton, Ohio. Families will also have access to health care onsite, supported by additional healthcare professionals via telecommunications. Students will also have access to dual credit offerings from Eastern Gateway Community College and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics coursework and counseling workshops from Ohio FFA Camps. Based on the communities served, this project has the potential to impact a population of 45,746.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

<b>State</b>	<b>Sen.</b>	<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grants</b>	<b>Project Description</b>
OH	Sherrrod Brown Rob Portman	Steve Chabot (01) Brad Wenstrup (02)	Mercy Health Cincinnati LLC	\$142,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Mercy Health Cincinnati, LLC extend telehealth services into Adams and Brown counties in southwest Ohio. The project will link three urban Cincinnati hubs to five rural and medically underserved sites in Georgetown, Mt. Orab, Sardinia and Seaman. This project will address critical shortages in behavioral health and specialty care to deliver solutions to opioid misuse patients in Adams and Brown counties while providing other primary care and specialty services potentially impacting over 10,863 residents.
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02) Tom Cole (04)	Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education	\$422,384	The Rural Development investment will assist Murray State College's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education program through the purchase and installation of interactive distance learning equipment. The project will increase collaboration through replacement of aged network infrastructure at thirteen (13) public schools in nine (9) south-central Oklahoma counties which includes schools within Tribal Jurisdictions. The project provides network and video-conferencing equipment increasing access to STEM education courses, which includes 3D interactive visual anatomy and physiology courseware. The project will serve approximately 3,000 students and offer more than 90 courses.
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Frank Lucas (03) Tom Cole (04) Steve Russell (05)	St. Anthony Hospital	\$457,020	This Rural Development investment will be used to help SSM Health Care of Oklahoma purchase telemedicine equipment to expand its current Saints 1 st Telehealth Network to serve up to 3,434 inpatients and 3,401 outpatients. This project will reduce long distance and significant travel expense for patients to access specialized medical services including cardiology, endocrinology, pulmonology, ENT (ear, nose & throat), pediatric, hospitalist, primary care, and mental healthcare services via telemedicine patients at twelve hub/end-user locations in Beaver, Blaine, Custer, Garvin, Harper, Kiowa, Lincoln, Major, McClain, Washita, and Woods Counties. Project sites include nine rural hospitals and three rurally located physician practices. This project will significantly improve healthcare in the areas it will serve.
OK	James Inhofe James Lankford	Markwayne Mullin (02) Frank Lucas (03)	Perry High School	\$440,734	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Perry School District implement the Oklahoma Rural STEM Achievers program. Interactive distance learning technology will be installed to deliver advanced placement and professional development courses, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) courses for talented and gifted students. This project will also serve Native American Tribal Areas at nine sites, potentially serving more than 2,500 students and 360 teachers overall.
OR, IN	Ron Wyden Jeff Merkley (OR); Joe Donnelly Todd Young B126 (IN)	Earl Blumenauer (OR 03) Peter DeFazio (OR 04) Luke Messer (IN 06)	Coquille Indian Tribe	\$57,370	This Rural Development investment will be used to create an enhanced specialized professional medical care delivery telemedicine system by the Coquille Indian Community Health Center. The Center serves Native Americans throughout southwestern Oregon. It is located on the Coquille Indian Tribe's Reservation (Kilkich Reservation) and is a primary health care provider and investment will benefit approximately 1,300 resident Native Americans. Funds will be used to buy equipment such as computers, dual monitors, high-definition cameras with built-in microphones, specialized software, and ancillary support technology. Telepsychiatry site in Columbus, IN is a Hub site for this project. The Center will provide previously unavailable medical care such as psychiatry, pediatric psychiatry, pain management and dermatology services. It also will treat patients who misuse opioids.
PA	Robert Casey Patrick Toomey	Glenn Thompson (05) Mike Doyle (14)	Allegheny Singer Research Institute	\$119,500	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Allegheny Singer Research Institute empower Allegheny General Hospital (AGH), based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to equip rural Clarion Hospital with telemedicine equipment. The equipment will be 100 percent dedicated to telestroke care for patients with acute stroke emergencies at Clarion Hospital. Rural patients from the geographic service region, which includes Clarion, Forest, Jefferson and Armstrong counties in western Pennsylvania, will receive specialized stroke care over the Allegheny Health Network provided by AGH doctors located in Pittsburgh. The census population of these counties totals approximately 159,000 people.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

<b>State</b>	<b>Sen.</b>	<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grants</b>	<b>Project Description</b>
PA	Robert Casey Patrick Toomey	Glenn Thompson (05)	Penn Highlands Healthcare	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase and install telemedicine equipment linking 20 locations in Clearfield, Jefferson, Elk, Centre and Cameron Counties, serving over 54,300 rural residents. Penn Highlands Healthcare will also launch a telepsychiatry service to address the growing opioid misuse crisis in this very rural, underserved area of Pennsylvania.
PA	Robert Casey Patrick Toomey	Bill Shuster (09) Tim Murphy (18)	Cornerstone Care	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will help Cornerstone Care address opioid misuse. This project will implement telehealth treatment capabilities between eight health care centers and four schools in Washington and Greene counties in Southwestern Pennsylvania. The project will utilize telehealth systems to expand access to behavioral health services and education to reduce the impact of opioid misuse through remote screening. It will increase school district personnel's knowledge of opioid use disorder and available resources. Seventy-five percent of personnel will be trained by the end of the project's first year, allowing effective intervention with students who are suspected to suffer from opioid misuse. More than 16,000 residents will have increased access to telemedicine.
PA	Robert Casey Patrick Toomey	Glenn Thompson (05)	Rural Regional College of Northern Penns	\$83,161	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Rural Regional College of Northern Pennsylvania (RRC) install the latest interactive distance learning technology to one (1) hub site, and eleven (11) end-user sites in order to provide education and training to high school and adult residents spread out over six (6) Pennsylvania counties. This Rural Development investment will allow residents in this economically-challenged region to complete educational courses required to compete for opportunities in the fast-growing field of health care and social services, potentially impacting over 45,000 residents. RRC is making a concerted effort to create an educated rurally-based population that is more attractive to business and industry looking to establish new operating centers.
PA	Robert Casey Patrick Toomey	Charles Dent (15) Matthew Cartwright (17)	Saint Luke's Hospital of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania	\$401,679	This Rural Development investment will be used to help St. Luke's Hospital purchase telemedicine equipment to help expand St. Luke's Hospital-Bethlehem, PA telehealth network to the new, still under construction St. Luke's Hospital at Orwigsburg, PA, which is slated to open in 2019. The project will provide critically needed specialty care and disease management to a potential 143,573 rural residents who need higher quality medical services. Improved services will include inpatient healthcare, behavioral health services, chronic disease management and professional development for the staff. In addition, St. Luke's Hospital-Bethlehem provides over 1,900 virtual professional development sessions each year, and participation in these events will increase with the availability of these programs to the staff at the hospital in Orwigsburg.
PA	Robert Casey Patrick Toomey	Tom Marino (10) Lou Barletta (11) Matthew Cartwright (17)	Wright Center Medical Group PC	\$463,223	This Rural Development investment will be used to help provide telemedicine resources to address two primary and related concerns -- opioid misuse and a related disease, Hepatitis C, that seems to affect those suffering with opioid misuse at a greater rate. This investment will ensure those who need assistance and treatment for opioid misuse in isolated rural communities will have the same access afforded to less rural patients. In addition, the resources will be used to train specialty care providers including physicians, nurses and other professionals to practice telemedicine benefiting over 300 patients.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
SC	Lindsey Graham Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07)	Northeastern Technical College	\$499,933	This Rural Development (RD) investment will be used to help Northeastern Technical College (NETC) to upgrade its distance learning network to include two rural school districts and two AMIkids Juvenile Justice Programs in South Carolina. 1,178 students at the project sites will be provided access to specialized workforce training opportunities through this RD Distance Learning and Telemedicine project. Two-way interactive videoconferencing equipment will be provided to expand STEM-based technical training programs from NETC in Bennettsville, South Carolina and the other participating sites. The project will help alleviate the shortage of health care workers in the rural communities.
SC	Lindsey Graham Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07)	Northeastern Technical College	\$499,933	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Northeastern Technical College (NETC) to upgrade their distance learning network to include two rural school districts and two AMIkids Juvenile Justice Programs. 2,212 students at the project sites will be provided access to specialized workforce training opportunities through this project. Two-way interactive videoconferencing equipment will be provided to expand STEM-based technical training programs from the Northeast Technical College in Cheraw, South Carolina and the participating sites. Advanced Manufacturing 4.0 offerings will help address the shortage of employees qualified to obtain high-tech, STEM-based workforce positions in the rural communities.
SC	Lindsey Graham Tim Scott	Ralph Norman (05) James Clyburn (06)	University of South Carolina	\$478,556	This Rural Development investment will help the University of South Carolina provide Science, Technology, Education and Math (STEM) education programs. Interactive video equipment will be installed at five satellite college campuses in Sumter, Union, Lancaster, Allendale and Walterboro counties in the Northern and Southern regions of South Carolina. The project will enhance network and video-conferencing equipment, increasing access to 33 STEM-related courses and Bachelor of Science in Nursing courses reaching more than 3,580 students. The project will provide increased opportunities for nursing degrees, addressing the need due to the expected shortage of 10,400 nurses statewide in the future.
SC	Lindsey Graham Tim Scott	James Clyburn (06)	Clarendon County School District 2	\$295,310	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Clarendon County School District 2 (CDS2) implement a distance learning strategy to connect its campuses in Manning, Turbeville, and Summerton to the District Office in Manning, SC and to each other. A dedicated distance learning room with a high definition video endpoint will be installed in each school. Other equipment will include network switching, router, and inside wiring upgrades. This project represents a first for these schools, providing new and exciting opportunities for the communities while providing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics-based instruction and professional development for teachers. According to the applicant, this investment will impact 2,139 students.
SC	Lindsey Graham Tim Scott	Ralph Norman (05) Tom Rice (07)	Caresouth Carolina Inc.	\$362,726	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide Science, Technology, Education, and Math (STEM) education to students who are challenged by limited access to technology and other public services. The grant will provide the needed infrastructure to enable STEM instruction to those students as well as continuing education requirements for STEM instructional staff. By expanding STEM access, students will have a better understanding of career paths in the fields of Computer Science, Engineering and Robotics. There will be six hub/end user locations serving the rural schools of the Hemingway and Andrews, SC communities. There will be one dedicated hub in the district offices in Georgetown. S.C. Approximately 3,300 students will have access to the STEM content.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
SC	Lindsey Graham Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07) James Clyburn (06)	Georgetown County School District	\$393,902	This Rural Development investment will be used to provide Science, Technology, Education, and Mathematics (STEM) education to students who are challenged by limited access to technology and other public services. The grant funding will provide the needed infrastructure to enable STEM instruction to those students as well as continuing education requirements for STEM instructional staff. By expanding STEM access, students will have a better understanding of career paths in the fields of Computer Science, Engineering and Robotics. There will be six hub/end user locations serving the rural schools of the Hemingway and Andrews, SC communities. There will be one dedicated hub in the District Office in Georgetown, SC. The total number of students that will have access to the STEM content through the project resources will be 2,899.
SC	Lindsey Graham Tim Scott	Mark Sanford (01) James Clyburn (06)	Bridges Preparatory School	\$187,064	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services for the Bridges Preparatory School and Royal Live Oaks Academy, which serves a population of 13,631 people in Beaufort, Jasper, Colleton and Hampton counties. The project will benefit the two schools by providing mobile distance learning carts containing video conferencing equipment. The equipment will enable the schools to share teachers, combine resources and bring new Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education services and opportunities to students and faculty. It will also allow high school students to connect with the Technical College of the Lowcountry, where they will take vocational and dual enrollment courses relating to STEM education without the additional expense and travel time.
SC	Lindsey Graham Tim Scott	Tom Rice (07)	Marlboro County School District	\$485,493	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the Marlboro County School District enhance and expand its distance learning network. The project will upgrade an aging, out-of-date distance learning network and expand the network across nine sites in Marlboro County in South Carolina. The project will take the eight rural schools involved and create a network of course and program offerings that everyone will have access to. This program will increase job readiness Science, Technology, Engineering and Math and dual credit courses for student by 30 percent, proficiencies by 15 percent and create seven professional development courses. In doing so, it will create educational opportunities for a larger opportunity-rich community in several rural areas. The project will serve 4,353 students and more than 350 teachers and adults.
SD	John Thune Mike Rounds	Kristi Noem (At Large)	Oglala Lakota College	\$491,493	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Oglala Lakota College purchase equipment to set up Smart Rooms in nine of its instructional centers. This project serves both the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Cheyenne River Tribes and will focus on courses in Math and Science, Nursing and Foundational Studies. This cloud-based learning system will expand access to class sessions allowing more than 1,400 students per semester, with lack of childcare, lack of transportation and/or illness to connect to mentors, tutors and continued learning. This is a STEM project.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

<b>State</b>	<b>Sen.</b>	<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grants</b>	<b>Project Description</b>
SD, MN, NE, IA, ND	John Thune Mike Rounds (SD); Amy Klobuchar Tina Smith (MN); Deb Fischer Ben Sasse (NE); Charles Grassley Joni Ernst (IA); John Hoeven Heidi Heitkamp (ND)	Kristi Noem (SD At Large); Timothy Walz (MN 01) Collin Peterson (MN 07); Adrian Smith (NE 03); Steve King (IA 04); Kevin Cramer (ND At Large)	Avera Health	\$436,054	This Rural Development investment will be used to help purchase telemedicine equipment expanding Avera Health's telehealth network. Avera Health will connect forty-two (42) end-user sites located across North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska to its hub in Sioux Falls, SD. This project will focus on improving the quality and quantity of life by providing access to up-to-date quality specialty healthcare. The project will reduce the disparities in healthcare that exist in rural areas as compared to more urban areas by providing specialized healthcare through the telemedicine healthcare network, which includes treatment and prevention of opioid misuse. This project will further expand Avera's telehealth network, reaching up to 411,026 rural residents in five states.
TN	Lamar Alexander Bob Corker	Diane Black (06)	Volunteer State Community College	\$102,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Volunteer Community College, located in Gallatin, TN, install innovative distance learning audio/video conferencing equipment (Zoom Rooms) in rural high schools located in six designated Appalachian counties and one exceptionally rural county in upper middle Tennessee. This project will deliver Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) curricula to one of the college's satellite campuses, and six high schools, benefiting students and residents in proximity of the sites. This investment in Tennessee will positively impact seven end-user counties and one hub county. Students will be able to earn credits by taking accredited course work applicable towards degrees or certifications in the areas of technology and healthcare careers. This project will serve 4,379 students and a potential of 46,771 residents in the service area.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	Will Hurd (23)	Southwest Texas Junior College	\$473,177	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Southwest Texas Junior College deliver interactive distance learning to three rural colleges and two public high schools in low income areas of southwest Texas. The project will upgrade and enhance a portion of the distance learning network. Each rural college campus site will have classrooms outfitted with cameras, microphone and audio and video peripherals and each high school will have cameras and microphone. The network will share 59 courses between college campuses and provide 59 dual credit courses to participating high schools. This will include 37 STEM courses for participating colleges and 13 STEM courses for participating high schools. The project will serve 1,266 college students, 569 high school students, and 365 adults.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	Beto O'Rourke (16) Will Hurd (23)	TX Tech University Health Sciences Center	\$499,227	This Rural Development (RD) investment will be used to complete a telemedicine delivery service project to seven (7) sites located in a five-county rural service area in West Texas. The predominant use of this RD Distance Learning and Telemedicine project is to deliver quality health care via telemedicine services. The project for Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso will directly impact approximately 1,500 students at rural school districts. An additional 1,200 patients will receive increased access to specialty care, specifically psychology, neurology, surgery, and pediatrics. They will also be able to reduce average travel time spent, which for rural patients had historically been a minimum of an eight-hour round trip for specialty visits. The equipment provided will include telehealth carts and video terminals.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants October 31, 2018

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	K. Michael Conaway (11) Roger Williams (25)	Info-Net Consortium	\$391,000	The Rural Development investment will assist Info-Net Consortium through the purchase and installation of video-conferencing equipment. This project replaces and enhances distance learning equipment within eight schools providing access to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education for students in five central Texas counties. The project connects students and communities to colleges providing dual-credit courses, STEM-based education and career skills while providing continuing education opportunities to community residents. Project will impact approximately 1,200 students, their teachers and thousands of residents located in the project communities.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	Will Hurd (23)	Southwest Texas Junior College	\$500,000	The Rural Development investment will assist Southwest Texas Junior College to provide Science Technical Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education programs and training through the purchase and installation of distance learning equipment. The project will replace and expand new interactive video equipment at two colleges and two high schools in four Southwest Texas counties. The project provides network and video-conferencing equipment increasing access to STEM education courses and dual credit courses, which includes; 59 shared college courses, 37 STEM courses for participating colleges and 13 STEM courses for participating high schools. The project will serve approximately 1,536 students providing improved college and career readiness, increased academic opportunities, increased job training in the region and increase professional development for faculty, teachers, leaders and staff.
TX	John Cornyn Ted Cruz	John Ratcliffe (04) Jeb Hensarling (05) K. Michael Conaway (11) Roger Williams (25) Bill Flores (17) Gene Green (29)	Winters HC Operator LLC	\$358,975	This Rural Development investment will help Winters Healthcare address opioid misuse. Interactive telemedicine equipment will be installed at 13 rehabilitation and nursing care facilities in nine counties in Northern Texas. Telehealth carts will allow access to specialty physicians at remote locations. The project will lower the amount of unnecessary emergency department transfers and improve continuity of care, including opioid misuse prevention and education for more than 1,000 patients.
UT	Orrin Hatch Mike Lee	Rob Bishop (01) Chris Stewart (02) John Curtis (03)	Utah State University	\$496,523	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Utah State University update interactive video classrooms and supporting audio visual equipment to expand broadcast capacity. The project will provide access to health and mathematics education programs. Additionally, it will allow equal access to other Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math programs at the university and improve program delivery to five counties in Utah.
UT, CO, IL	Orrin Hatch Mike Lee (UT); Michael Bennet Cory Gardner (CO); Richard Durbin Tammy Duckworth (IL)	Chris Stewart (UT 02); Scott Tipton (CO 03); Danny Davis (IL 07)	Memorial Hospital at Craig	\$67,320	This Rural Development investment will be used to help purchase telemedicine equipment for The Memorial Hospital, Craig, CO telehealth network in Moffat County, Colorado. The Memorial Hospital and the Memorial Regional Health Medical Clinic, both in Craig, CO will be connected with University of Utah Health in Salt Lake City, UT and Regroup Therapy, Inc. in Chicago, IL. This project will provide northwestern Colorado patients with access to healthcare specialists at University of Utah Health as well as behavioral telehealth and tele-psychiatry specialists at Regroup Therapy Inc. The project will also include treatment for substance and opioid misuse. This project has the potential to serve 9,464 residents.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants October 31, 2018

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
UT	Orrin Hatch Mike Lee	John Curtis (03)	San Juan County School District	\$416,325	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the San Juan School District expand interactive video classrooms and replace end-of-life equipment. The project will benefit six end-user sites by establishing 21 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)-distance learning enabled classrooms/learning environments, benefiting 450 students and teachers annually. The project will also expand extra-curricular STEM-related clubs and learning activities and increase access to professional development and instructor collaboration. Every site will be able to offer and receive synchronous distance content and increased student engagement will result in improved proficiency in Math and Science by at least 10 percent in each high school.
UT	Orrin Hatch Mike Lee	John Curtis (03)	Utah Navajo Health Systems, Inc.	\$133,208	This Rural Development investment will be used to help provide telemedicine services at each of four Utah Navajo Health System (UNHS) health centers. These health centers treat patients who are not able to travel or otherwise access services due to the remote location of their communities or the barriers to care, such as lack of transportation, lack of funding to travel to access services. The project will purchase four telemedicine carts that will then be available at each of the four UNHS health centers. UNHS provides primary healthcare services and behavioral health services to southern San Juan County in Utah. According to the applicant, 1,450 residents will benefit from this project.
VA	Mark Warner Tim Kaine	Morgan Griffith (09)	St. Charles Health Council, Inc.	\$269,044	This Rural Development investment will be used to help St. Charles Health Council, Inc. d/b/a Stone Mountain Health develop a fixed site telehealth program in the rural Virginia counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, and Smyth. The project will use a mobile, cart-based telehealth system and each of the five locations will have the capacity to connect to either a participating grant site or to an external provider in a physically distant area, such as the University of Virginia, to receive specialty care. This program will also provide access to enhanced primary, specialty, and mental health care services that includes treatment for opioid addiction, from expert providers. The investment has the potential to provide services to 97,801 patients.
VA	Mark Warner Tim Kaine	Donald McEachin (04) Tom Garrett (05)	Southside Virginia Community College	\$168,203	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Southside Virginia Community College implement its Southside Learning Connections project through installation of Cloud-based, ZOOM-room distance learning technology at six strategically located collaborative hub/end-user sites in south-central Virginia. The sites will serve a 10-county region that is economically challenged and has experienced high outmigration rates. This project will expand educational opportunities to high school students and adults seeking to increase their employment opportunities. By having these satellite campuses closer to their communities, this project will benefit over 3,100 students who are transportation-challenged or hampered by job or family commitments.
VA	Mark Warner Tim Kaine	Robert Wittman (01)	Northern Neck Mid Peninsula Telehealth	\$226,554	This Rural Development investment will be used to help Bay Rivers Telehealth Alliance develop a telemedicine system to address the issue of opioid misuse by increasing the capacity of the behavioral health services system in the Middle Peninsula, Northern Neck and Eastern Shore regions of Virginia. In this area, the number of providers and services available are simply not adequate to meet the need. The twelve counties to be served by the project are designated as medically underserved areas and as health professions shortage areas for mental health care providers. The project will provide video conferencing equipment and telemedicine carts so that assessments, consultations, and counseling are available for opioid assessment, education, and related activities. The 17 sites will serve over 18,000 rural residents.
VI		Stacey Plaskett	Plessen Healthcare, LLC	\$372,008	This Rural Development investment will help Plessen Healthcare purchase and install interactive telemedicine equipment at three health care facilities in St. Croix. This will allow health care specialists to manage chronic care remotely and will support the provision of new specialty care services to more than 82,000 underserved residents.



**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018**

<b>State</b>	<b>Sen.</b>	<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grants</b>	<b>Project Description</b>
WA	Patty Murray Maria Cantwell	Jaime Herrera Beutler (03)	Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue	\$73,672	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase distance learning equipment for the Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue Department in Kelso. This grant will provide distance learning equipment in fire stations at six sites for emergency medical technicians and paramedics covering more than 28,444 residents. The equipment will enable first responders to remain locally, reducing response times to emergencies that occur during regular training. It will be used for medical training and certifications, and will enhance treatment and patient interaction training during opioid misuse responses.
WI	Ron Johnson Tammy Baldwin	Ron Kind (03)	Western Wisconsin Health	\$85,646	This Rural Development investment will be used to help the purchase of telemedicine equipment including two telemedicine carts, to create a telehealth network. One telemedicine cart will be used to provide services for the medical/surgical unit at Western Wisconsin Health, facilitating medical care for hospitalized patients. The other telemedicine cart will support telemedicine evaluation services for patients admitted from the emergency department. Western Wisconsin Health is partnering with Eagle Telemedicine, LLC to provide telemedicine access for remote patients in St. Croix County, Wisconsin. The emphasis of this project will be on the treatment and prevention of opioid misuse. This project will reach up to 3,960 residents.
WV, OH, KY	Joe Manchin Shelley Capito (WV); Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman (OH); Mitch McConnell, Rand Paul (KY)	Alex Mooney (WV 02) Evan Jenkins (WV 03); Bill Johnson (OH 06); David McKinley (WV 01); Andy Garland Barr (KY 06) Thomas Massie (KY 04) Harold Rogers (KY 05)	CAMC Health Education & Research Institute	\$163,223	This Rural Development investment will be used to help provide a continuum of care to the patients in 46 facilities in 16 rural Appalachian counties in West Virginia, Southern Ohio and Eastern Kentucky who suffer from chronic kidney disease. The new network of interactive healthcare will help manage and prevent kidney failure and monitor the other diseases that contribute or accelerate kidney damage. The network will help patients, from a population of approximately 180,000, throughout the kidney disease treatment spectrum, from education on disease management and dialysis, to post kidney transplant care and consultation.
WV, OH	Joe Manchin, Shelley Capito (WV); Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman (OH)	Bill Johnson (OH 06); David McKinley (WV 01)	CHANGE Inc.	\$500,000	This Rural Development investment will be used to purchase and install telemedicine equipment at eight locations in Hancock, Marshall and Brooke counties in West Virginia and in Jefferson County, Ohio. It will bring behavioral health services to school-based health centers and to rural communities with a total population of 42,260 people. CHANGE, Inc. will address behavioral health issues by establishing remote telemedicine links to psychiatrists or other specialty providers. This grant will remove barriers of distance and cost and will provide dramatically increased access to health care where it is needed the most.



Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants  
October 31, 2018

State	Sen.	Representatives	Recipient	Grants	Project Description
WY	Michael Enzi John Barrasso	Liz Cheney (At Large)	Northern Arapaho Tribe	\$208,961	This Rural Development investment will be used to help provide telemedicine resources to the Northern Arapaho Tribe on the Wind River Indian Reservation. Chronic medical conditions and lack of care have made the average life expectancy of tribal members less than 54 years. The remoteness of the reservation makes the availability of routine medical services scarce. In addition, above average numbers of traumatic injuries and illnesses have caused an increase in pain management, which has resulted in opioid misuse. The telehealth resources will be used to implement diabetes care and education, behavioral and substance misuse counseling and treatment, and a multitude of specialty medical care not commonly available on tribal land. The project will benefit 13,824 rural residents.
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$39,555,788</b>	

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

2017

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
AK	Northwest Arctic Borough School District	\$169,077	Rural Development funds will help the Northwest Arctic Borough School District purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit two hubs and 12 end-user sites in 11 communities by broadening curriculum choices, sharing classes, delivering professional development, increasing career awareness and enhancing pre-school instruction.
AK	Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	\$484,632	Rural Development funds will help the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive telemedicine services. The project will provide behavioral health specialty care, including addiction medicine and psychiatry. It will benefit one hub and 112 end-user sites in 111 communities by providing mobile telemedicine carts with exam cameras and exam equipment. This will allow health care providers to expand access to emergency, trauma and behavioral health services. It also will allow more timely and accurate diagnoses and treatment of issues that could otherwise result in a worsening health crisis requiring emergency room visits and/or inpatient admissions.
AK	Alaska Gateway School District	\$76,743	Rural Development funds will help the Alaska Gateway School District purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit seven end-user sites in seven communities by providing schools with video conferencing equipment, laptop computers and networking equipment to allow them to share classes and teachers. The school district is planning to rework its class schedule so all students have access to the course offerings. Every site will be able to offer and receive distance content taught by subject-area specialists. The project is expected to increase student interest and engagement and result in increased achievement, attendance and graduation rates.
AK	Lower Yukon School District	\$478,626	Rural Development funds will help the Lower Yukon School District purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services in the Kusilvak Census Area (formerly known as the Wade Hampton Census Area). The project will benefit one hub and 10 end-user sites in 10 communities by providing servers, video conferencing units and software. It will enable schools to share classes and teachers, provide pre-school education to parents, and provide professional development to teachers.
AK	Iditarod Area School District	\$182,695	Rural Development will help fund distance learning in the Iditarod Area School District to expand learning opportunities by connecting teachers and resources in remote areas of the Yukon Koyukuk Census Area. The School District will provide high-quality, high-definition distance learning systems connecting teachers and students throughout the District, which covers 61,000 square miles.
AL	University of Alabama	\$128,664	Rural Development funds will bring telemedicine capacity to Pickens County. The telemedicine equipment will provide a direct, two-way link between Pickens County ambulances and the Pickens County Medical Center's Emergency Department. Medical oversight training will also be provided by the Alabama Department of Public Health's State EMS program.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
AL	The Bibb County Healthcare Authority	\$480,706	Rural Development funds will help the Bibb County Healthcare Authority purchase distance learning and telemedicine equipment to provide enhanced medical and teaching services. The project will benefit one hub and eight end-user sites in three communities by providing computer servers, video conferencing units, laptops and software. Bibb Medical Center facilities will be able to access remote resources, including trauma and specialty care, along with continuing medical education. This project will also provide health and wellness education to residents at the county's assisted-living community and provide increased access to clinical care for inmates at the county jail. Bibb County Schools will be able to create new learning opportunities for their students and professional development for their teachers. They will be able to share resources and provide career technical courses, advanced math, music and reading intervention. The distance learning technology will also be utilized for adult education.
AL	University of Alabama at Birmingham	\$495,877	Rural Development funds will help establish a telehealth network to connect the University to various hospitals and medical centers across the state. The network will connect patients and providers to deliver telemedicine programs across the medical spectrum, from low-acuity ailments to electronic intensive care units, telestroke care, rare genetic diseases, transplant care and pediatric specialties. The network also will be used for professional training and continuing education.
AZ	Flagstaff Medical Center, Inc.	\$249,601	Rural Development funds will help finance telemedicine carts at five sites, upgrade telemedicine carts at 10 sites and purchase 89 remote monitoring devices for patients in isolated rural communities in central and northern Arizona. Flagstaff Medical Center and Verde Valley Medical Center will be the hub sites for the project. This project will serve residents in Apache, Coconino, Mohave, Navajo and Yavapai counties. Patient consultations, specialist referral services, remote patient monitoring and medical education will be available to the region's rural, low-income, tribal patients. The project will reduce travel time for patients and their providers, improve the communication of medical data and improve access to health care.
CA	Colusa County Office of Education	\$126,056	Rural Development funds will help the Colusa County Office of Education expand its distance learning program to include all county schools and tribal communities. The project will serve six end-user sites.
CA	Institute for Telehealth	\$325,665	Rural Development funds will help the Institute for Telehealth in Placer County purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive telemedicine services. The project will benefit one hub and 33 end-user sites in 32 communities by providing video conferencing units and software. It will allow hospitals, medical clinics and nursing homes to communicate with specialists and participate in an Anti-Microbial Stewardship program implemented by the Institute.
CO	Lincoln Community Hospital and Nursing Home	\$265,622	Rural Development funds will provide a telemedicine network between hospitals and clinics for more than 20,000 residents in Adams, Cheyenne, Kit Carson, Lincoln and Phillips counties. Improved medical services include behavioral health, post-operative care and care management for chronic conditions. Mobile clinics will provide medical services at patients' homes and will provide access to specialty care and tele-stroke services. Additionally, the telemedicine connections will help emergency departments at Lincoln Memorial Hospital's behavioral health providers assess behavioral health issues more rapidly and move patients in crisis out of the departments and into more appropriate care settings.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
GA	Augusta University Research Institute, Inc.	\$310,950	Rural Development funds will help Augusta University Research Institute create an emergency telehealth network in rural Georgia. The Institute will be the hub. There will be five end-user sites: Miller County Hospital, Crisp Regional Health Services, Emanuel Medical Center, Washington County Regional Medical Center and Wills Memorial Hospital. The project will provide direct, two-way links between emergency rooms at the end-user sites and the Augusta University Medical Center as well as provide 12-lead EKG machines in three ambulances dispatched from the Washington County Regional Medical Center. Equipment will include telepresence carts, EKG machines, ultra-sound systems, video laryngoscopes and digital stethoscopes.
GA	Chattahoochee Technical College	\$480,000	Rural Development funds will help Chattahoochee Technical College establish distance learning capabilities to reach schools in Gilmer, Paulding and Pickens counties. This will enable rural students to participate in classes via distance learning to receive the support they need to ensure they graduate on time. Health program classes will be a top priority, given student demand for these classes and the high demand/high-wage nature of health careers. Video capability will be established at Gilmer and Pickens High Schools and at the main offices at Paulding County Schools to enable dual enrollment and teacher professional development.
IL	Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago	\$252,673	Rural Development funds will help finance a pediatric telemedicine project to connect the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital to 20 hospitals and medical clinics in Illinois. The project will allow care staff at end-user sites to connect to the emergency department at Lurie Children's Hospital for trauma and/or emergency care consults. Providers can assess the patient, review diagnostic images and data, and provide an expert diagnosis. The project will also provide professional development for staff and clinicians at each site.
IL	County of Clay	\$58,935	Rural Development funds will help the Clay County Hospital purchase telemedicine equipment to provide a direct link between its three ambulances and larger, specialized medical facilities that can treat patients with critical cardiac issues. Patients will receive better and more appropriate care in the field and during transport, and lives will be saved through access to cardiac specialists. Telecommunications equipment will include a monitor and defibrillator, ability to transmit EKG readings remotely, cuff kits to monitor blood pressure, oxygenation sensors and other supporting equipment.
IN	East Central Educational Service Center, Inc.	\$498,261	Rural Development funds will be used to help purchase video conferencing equipment for two hubs and 18 end-user sites in 13 communities. The project will link sites in Martin, Jasper, Newton, Randolph, Jennings and Fayette counties in Indiana with a site in Aroostook County, Maine. Users will gain access to new learning material, expertise and staff. The Center and the Indiana Small and Rural Schools Association will provide professional development training and resources.
IN	East Central Educational Service Center, Inc.	\$490,800	Rural Development funds will be used to help the East Central Education Service Center purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit two hub and 10 end-user sites in rural Indiana and South Carolina. It will provide computer servers, video conferencing units and software to allow schools to share foreign language, science, technology, engineering and math classes. Advanced Placement courses, after-school tutoring and enhanced special education services will be offered. The project will also provide teachers with increased access to professional development and training.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
KY	Hazard Community and Technical College	\$449,031	Rural Development funds will help Hazard Community Technical College (HCTC) purchase telemedicine equipment to provide education and telemedicine services for students, health care providers and patients. HCTC will connect to 30 health care providers, including a regional ambulance service, to improve specialized care to students and low-income patients. HCTC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in southeastern Kentucky with campuses in Hazard, Jackson and Hyden.
KY	Grace Community Health Center, Inc.	\$496,081	Rural Development funds will help Grace Community Health Center, d/b/a Grace Health, purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive telemedicine services. Using telemedicine will expand access to mental health and substance abuse treatment services, including opioid addiction, which has increased significantly in the service area. The project will benefit one hub and 21 end-user sites in nine communities by providing computer servers, video conferencing units and software to allow health care providers, counselors and patients to connect and communicate without the need for extensive travel.
KY	Berea College	\$499,544	Rural Development will help finance a distance learning project at Berea College to connect 19 sites in 15 counties in southeastern Kentucky. The project will expand workforce training and continuing education opportunities for school-age students and adult learners. It also will help the College's Partners for Education program, which coordinates school-based and other services to improve education outcomes in Eastern Kentucky.
KY	Northeast Kentucky Regional Health Information Organization	\$495,851	Rural Development funds will help the Northeast Kentucky Regional Health Information Organization purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive telehealth services. The organization and its project partners will address the need for mental health and substance abuse services in Kentucky, where the demand for treatment to painkiller addiction has increased 900% during the last decade. The project will benefit two hubs and 22 end-user sites in 13 communities. It will provide computer servers, mobile telemedicine carts and software so patients do not have to travel great distances to see specialists and mental health counselors.
LA	RKM Primary Care	\$298,100	Rural Development will help fund a fixed-site telemedicine project in four of the most rural and low-income parishes in Louisiana: Livingston, West Baton Rouge, Tangipahoa and Tensas. These parishes have disproportionate percentages of vulnerable populations (the young, the elderly and minorities). They have shortages of health care professionals and a high percentage of uninsured residents. This telemedicine project will connect patients to behavioral health and specialty care providers at remote sites, using interactive videoconferencing. It will also connect rural health providers with professional development opportunities, so they may continue to hone their skills without having to leave their rural communities.
LA	Lafayette General Health Systems, Inc.	\$311,356	Rural Development funds will help Lafayette General Health Systems, Inc. expand the South Louisiana Telehealth Network. Hubs will be established in Lafayette, Breaux Bridge, Crowley and Kaplan to connect 30 end-user sites in Arcadia, Vermillion, Evangeline, St. Martin, St. Mary, Iberia and St. Landry parishes. Lafayette General Health and its partners will train registered nurses to improve access to medical care, and improve health outcomes. The expanded telehealth network will serve public schools, community college campuses and government agencies in multiple parishes across South Louisiana.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
LA	Winn Community Health Center, Inc.	\$277,672	Rural Development funds will help support the North Central Louisiana Telemedicine Program at the Winn Community Health Center. The project will connect to nine school-based health clinics and two community-based health centers in Winn, Grant and Bienville parishes. The project will enable teleconsulting by qualified practitioners to improve the health outcomes of residents in extremely rural, low-resourced, and high-poverty communities.
LA	Franklin Parish Hospital Service District No. 1	\$111,794	Rural Development funds will help the Franklin Medical Center purchase telemedicine equipment to provide enhanced telemedicine services. The project will provide interactive audio/video equipment, a terminal server, tablet computers, transportable exam stations and care coordination software. Three end-user sites will have expanded communications capabilities that enable the Franklin Telemedicine Network to provide expanded access to specialists. The Franklin Medical Center's Services Coordination Team will educate providers regarding the benefits of care coordination through the network and will deploy the program. The project will reach patients discharged with chronic diseases or conditions, including cardiac health issues, making them high risk for future readmission. Education will be provided to patients in their homes to ensure care goals are met. Patients will be monitored to prevent a reoccurrence of their original reason for medical care.
ME	New England Music Camp Association	\$132,214	Rural Development will help fund a distance learning project that will equip five schools in central Maine with the technology to provide rural Maine communities with music and performing arts education as well as a broader range of cultural opportunities. The region faces challenges such as rural isolation, unemployment and poverty. This project is designed to mitigate these challenges by providing exposure to a variety of academic and cultural opportunities to primarily low- to moderate-income individuals. This technology will provide a content-rich educational model to students and professional development opportunities for instructors.
ME	City of Sanford	\$495,541	Rural Development funds will help the Sanford School Department in York County purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit three hubs and 13 end-user sites in 14 communities. Computer servers, video conferencing equipment, software and networking components will be provided to allow the schools to strengthen curricula, particularly that related to STEM education, and to promote cross-cultural learning through history and the arts.
ME	MaineHealth	\$274,092	Rural Development funds will help MaineHealth provide a three-component telehealth network, including EMS enhanced communications, nursery care support, transfer decision support, and post-discharge care to home-based patients. Ten area hospitals in Franklin, Oxford, Lincoln, Kennebec, Knox and Waldo counties in Maine, and a hospital in Carroll County, N.H., will be hub/end-user sites and will connect to 13 ambulance companies throughout the area. The project includes EMS enhanced communications that will connect rural ambulances to hospital emergency departments. The nursery care support and transfer decision support components will facilitate telehealth consultations between local care providers and specialists. Also, the post-discharge element of the project will provide comprehensive home-based medical services for infants and adults who have been discharged, in order to provide post-hospital care and reduce re-admissions.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
ME	School Union 76 and Isle Au Haut	\$441,189	Rural Development funds will help create a distance learning network linking two hubs in Belfast with 30 other hub/end-user sites in Waldo, Sagadahoc, Hancock, Knox, Cumberland and Washington counties and including the Passamaquoddy Indian Tribe. The project will include video conferencing equipment that will allow for expanded opportunities for real-time, interactive education. The project will help students strive for higher academic achievement, complete post-secondary educations, and it will enhance professional development opportunities for teaching.
MI	Michigan Science Center	\$115,060	Rural Development funds will help implement a distance learning program at the Michigan Science Center. Twenty-three end-user sites in 16 counties will connect to the Michigan Science Center and the Henry Ford Health System so they can explore science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) from remote locations. These educational opportunities provide multiple entry points into meaningful career pathways for students.
MN	Little Crow Telemedia Network	\$119,828	Rural Development funds will help the Little Crow Telemedia Network and the River Valley Education District provide technology and distance learning opportunities for their member districts. The distance learning network will offer more courses for high school students, such as college prep and advanced placement courses. This project will serve 19 school districts, two adult basic education sites, and the Upper Sioux Community. An estimated 10,000 rural students, 600 rural educators, 50 adult basic education students and more than 400 Upper Sioux Community tribal members will have access to educational and other services through this project.
MO	Lester E. Cox Medical Centers	\$120,246	Rural Development funds will help the Lester E. Cox Medical Center purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive telemedicine services. The project will benefit one hub and 22 end-user sites in 11 communities. It will provide cart-mounted telemedicine video conferencing equipment to allow the Medical Center to connect children and school nurses with children's parents and with a health care provider. The project will increase access to health care, reduce transportation costs, help alleviate the rural health care shortage and increase affordable health care.
MS	Amite County School District	\$335,811	Rural Development funds will help create a distance learning network in Forrest, Amite and Marion counties. The hub will be the Southern Regional Educational Service Agency. End-user sites will be at Amite County High School, Amite County Elementary School, Liberty and Amite County Vo-Tech, East Marion High School and West Marion High School. The network will provide enhanced educational opportunities not previously available in the area. Schools will be able to interconnect and share teaching staff. Expanded course offerings will help prepare students for higher education. The project will also provide opportunities for professional development for the teaching staff.
NC	East Carolina University	\$61,772	Rural Development funds will help East Carolina University purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning and telemedicine services. The project will benefit one hub and eight end-user sites in nine communities. It will provide video conferencing equipment, endodontic microscopes and software to enable the University to promote, train and develop dentistry students in the area.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
NC	Mission Healthcare Foundation, Inc.	\$231,192	Rural Development funds will help the Mission Healthcare Foundation purchase video conferencing equipment to provide enhanced telemedicine services. The project will benefit one hub and 11 end-user sites in 11 communities. It will provide telemedicine carts, digital stethoscopes and horus scopes to give rural residents increased access to the health care system and increased access to specialty care. The project will decrease travel time for patients and costs to obtain care.
NC	North Carolina Central University	\$499,081	Rural Development funds will help North Carolina Central University create a distance learning program, named the Virtual Justice Project, to enable citizens of North Carolina to access legal services at the University. Nineteen end-user sites in central and western North Carolina will have access to the Virtual Justice Project. Many low- and moderate-income North Carolinians will have increased access to free or reduced-cost legal education and services that will enable them to represent themselves in an informed manner, or seek pro bono services.
NC	East Carolina University	\$395,000	Rural Development funds will help East Carolina University purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning. The project will benefit two hub and 17 end-user sites in 15 communities. It will provide video conferencing equipment to enable the University to connect with community colleges and high schools to allow the sharing of classrooms and teachers.
NE	Southeast Community College	\$120,582	Rural Development funds will help create a distance learning program at Southeast Community College (SCC). Campuses in Lincoln, Milford and Beatrice will act as hubs and will connect to learning centers in Hebron, Plattsmouth and Falls City. Distance learning will focus on health care education and continuing education. Both are a high priority in these communities. The project will benefit rural communities by allowing SCC to increase capacity and provide more distance learning courses.
NM	New Mexico Junior College	\$411,350	Rural Development will help fund the Lea County distance learning project on the campus of New Mexico Junior College. The project will connect to four end-user sites in Tatum, Eunice, Lovington and Jal. It will create an environment that facilitates the development of distance learning instruction. It will support first-generation college students and will encourage faculty participation in distance learning initiatives. It also will support the development of instructional technology courses and materials.
NM	Western New Mexico University	\$191,589	Rural Development funds will help Western New Mexico University purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit one hub and eight end-user sites in six communities by providing video conferencing units and software. It will enable high school students to take dual-enrollment courses, provide virtual experiences and expand professional development opportunities for educational staff. The equipment also will give community residents access to employment training.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
NY	New York State Office of Mental Health	\$500,000	Rural Development funds will help the New York State Office of Mental Health purchase telemedicine equipment to provide enhanced mental health services. The project will benefit 19 hub and 66 end-user sites by providing video conferencing equipment, tablets and software to allow clinics, schools, doctors' offices, nursing homes and correctional facilities to expand mental health services. Given the high demand and provider shortages, this project will address the needs of adults and children, with an additional focus on individuals who may need skilled nursing facility interventions and individuals involved with New York State's criminal justice system. Additionally, the New York Office of Mental Health will leverage collaborative relationships with Western New York Independent Living, Inc., which supports individuals living within the Seneca Nation of Indians and the Tuscarora Nation of Indians to improve Native peoples' access to mental health services.
NY	Ira Davenport Memorial Hospital, Inc.	\$96,775	Rural Development funds will help the Ira Davenport Memorial Hospital, Inc. purchase telemedicine equipment to provide enhanced telemedicine services. The project will benefit one hub and two end-user sites in Urbana by providing telemedicine carts, digital stethoscopes, exam cameras, software and networking equipment. The project also will help health care providers determine whether low-severity patients can remain in their community for treatment at their local hospital, which is more cost effective and more convenient for patients and their families.
NY	The ARC Oneida-Lewis Chapter NY SARC, Inc.	\$474,258	Rural Development funds will help the Oneida-Lewis Chapter of the NY State ARC purchase telemedicine equipment to provide enhanced telemedicine services in Utica and at 25 residential and day service end-user sites in Oneida and Lewis counties. End-user sites in rural areas will be able to connect to the hub site in live, two-way communications via voice, data and video for access to specialized medical professionals and services that are not available in rural areas. The project will serve more than 2,500 individuals with disabilities by providing enhanced medical care. It also will eliminate the need for patients to travel from rural areas to larger, urban medical centers. Equipment will include computer servers, bridges, video conferencing equipment and software.
NY	Southern Tier Health Care Systems, Inc.	\$132,899	Rural Development will help fund a distance learning program at Southern Tier Health Care Systems, Inc. The project will connect to four end-user sites in Salamanca, Cuba, Franklin and Gerry. The telecommunications equipment will help offset the struggle for basic operational funds to certify the training of emergency responders to the dramatic increase in opioid overdose rates in New York State. It will support education for emergency response personnel and community service agencies in Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties, including the Allegany Indian Reservation Volunteer Fire Department, which is within a tribal jurisdictional area. The Allegany Indian Reservation site will provide education to preserve the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Seneca Nation Indian people as well.
NY	Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming BOCES	\$466,686	Rural Development funds will help the Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming Board of Cooperative Educational Services purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit one hub and 15 end-user sites in 14 communities by providing video conferencing equipment, network-enabled scientific instruments and computer networking equipment. It will enable schools to share classes and teachers and implement New York state's Strategic Plan for Science.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
OK	Northwestern Oklahoma State University	\$231,983	Rural Development funds will help Northwestern Oklahoma State University purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit two hubs and five end-user sites in seven communities by providing video conferencing equipment. The University will provide college courses and professional development at partner high schools, provide remote access to continuing medical education at Cimarron Memorial Hospital, expand academic offerings at Panhandle State University, and provide distance learning to Crabtree Correctional Facility for college courses and degree programs to better prepare inmates for work after release.
OK	Hennessey School District 16	\$266,419	Rural Development funds will help Hennessey School District 16 in Oklahoma improve its distance learning program by replacing aging video conferencing equipment and technology. Two hub sites in Oklahoma City will connect to eight end-user sites in schools in Hennessey, New Cordell and Pond Creek. The distance learning program will have state-of-the-art video conferencing equipment. The program will focus on connecting schools to enable course sharing so all of the sites served will have access to a complete array of curricula.
OK	Stroud Independent School District 54	\$499,805	Rural Development funds will help Stroud Independent School District 54 purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services to 16 end-user sites in Bristow, Boswell, Davenport, Depew and Stroud. The project will provide servers, video conferencing units and software to allow the schools to share teachers, content and resources to support expanded course offerings, including college-level courses.
OK	YCO Tulsa	\$459,675	Rural Development funds will help YCO Tulsa purchase video conferencing equipment to provide mental health services to youth in Oklahoma City. The project will benefit three hubs and 21 end-user sites in 13 communities. YCO recognizes there is a shortage of mental health providers and a great need for solutions to address this rising problem. Telemedicine has been proven to be an effective approach and strategy to address mental health in rural areas where provider access is limited. This grant will help provide computer servers, video conferencing units and software for telepsychiatry, medication monitoring, group and individual therapy, including drug counseling, and other counseling and community outreach services to youth and their families.
OK	Clinton Independent School District 99	\$470,383	Rural Development funds will help Clinton Independent School District 99 purchase equipment to connect schools to the Support Oklahoma through Advancing our Reach (SOAR) distance learning program. The Clinton Public Schools central office will be connected to 12 rural schools in Custer, McCurtain and Beckham counties. The project will provide students and teachers with an expanded selection of course content providers, curricula, training and resources.
SC	Florence-Darlington Technical College	\$184,785	Rural Development funds will help Florence-Darlington Technical College (FDTC) expand and enhance its distance learning network to deliver adult education and programs for students in alternative schools. FDTC is in Florence in the Pee Dee region. The network will serve more than 7,600 students at 16 end-user sites in Florence, Marion and Darlington counties.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
SC	Beaufort County School District	\$419,510	Rural Development funds will help the Beaufort County School District purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit 12 schools by providing mobile distance learning carts containing video conferencing equipment. The equipment will enable the schools to share teachers, combine resources and bring new educational services and opportunities to students and faculty. It also will allow high school students to connect with the Technical College of the Lowcountry, where they will take vocational and dual enrollment courses.
SC	Northeastern Technical College	\$500,000	Rural Development funds will help Northeastern Technical College establish a distance learning project that will provide virtual connections to classrooms in Dillon, Lake View and Latta. The hubs and end-user sites are in Chesterfield and Dillon counties. The project will allow schools to connect to other counties, schools, colleges and organizations to bring needed educational content to teachers and students. It will expand educational opportunities to provide students with core courses, electives, dual credit courses and advanced placement courses. It also will provide access to community meetings, continuing education and training for first responders.
SC	Central Carolina Technical College	\$365,457	Rural Development funds will help Central Carolina Technical College establish a distance learning network between its main campus in Sumter and campuses in Manning, Bishopville and Camden. The project will help expand access to education, technology and health-related services for rural residents in Clarendon, Lee and Kershaw counties. Residents of these extremely rural areas have pervasive health concerns such as strokes, diabetes and obesity, limited public services and little access to technology. These areas also are costly to serve, are economically distressed and have low secondary to post-secondary enrollment. To better serve these remote communities, Central Carolina Technical College will deliver distance learning solutions through video endpoints and network equipment at its campuses.
SC	Northeastern Technical College	\$415,256	Rural Development funds will help create a distance learning network in Marlboro and Chesterfield counties. Northeastern Technical College campuses at Bennettsville and Pageland will be the hub/end-user sites. High schools at Pageland, Chesterfield, McBee and Cheraw will be end-user sites. Expanded course offerings will include core courses, dual-credit courses and advanced placement courses. The learning network will also provide a community resource for workforce development, job training, community meetings and continuing education for first responders. Courses in advanced manufacturing also will be offered, which will enhance job opportunities in local manufacturing.
SC	Little River Medical Center, Inc.	\$418,184	Rural Development funds will help the Little River Medical Center (LRMC) establish a telemedicine network for a school-based primary care initiative in Horry County elementary schools. The project will provide much-needed behavioral health in the schools and the project communities, as well as primary care. The project will link four sites with the Medical Center at the University of South Carolina. It will utilize telemedicine and video conferencing to share patient caseloads within the network, and provide increased access to medical services via home and site-to-site visits. The project will improve health outcomes for more than 4,000 rural students, and will increase access to behavioral health and other specialists for more than 78,000 residents. It also will enable the four sites to serve more patients per day and reach hundreds of rural patients who are homebound due to health or economic constraints.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
SD	Avera Health	\$484,271	Rural Development funds will help Avera Health implement a telehealth project to enhance labor and delivery and post-partum services for mothers and their babies. The end-user sites are 11 rural hospitals in South Dakota, Iowa and Minnesota. New equipment will be able to monitor a baby's heart rate, which is a critical indicator of fetal health during the birthing process. When necessary, the baby's heart rate information can be transported to Avera Health 24 hours a day, where specialists can assist at a critical time for mother and baby. Avera's Best Beginnings Rural Obstetrics Connections Project will reduce brain damage, permanent injuries and even deaths during difficult pregnancies when something goes wrong and additional help is immediately needed. This project will greatly improve labor and delivery services in rural hospitals by making highly specialized and dedicated specialists available whenever they are needed.
SD	Avera Health	\$128,045	Rural Development funds will help Avera Health implement an advanced telehealth project to integrate quality care for mothers and babies into small, rural, under-staffed hospitals. Avera will connect to end-user sites in Sibley, Hendricks, Freeman and Redfield. The project will provide telehealth programs with 24-hour labor and delivery support and remote neonatal intensive care unit monitoring. It also will address the increasing shortage of obstetricians in extremely rural hospitals while increasing patient safety and the quality of in-hospital care.
TN	United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.	\$496,718	Rural Development funds will help the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) purchase telemedicine equipment to provide enhanced telemedicine services. The project will benefit one hub and 10 end-user sites in 10 communities across three states. It will provide computer servers, video conferencing equipment, laptops and tablets, electronic stethoscopes and horus scopes, software and networking equipment. USET plans to expand its offering to Tribal Nation health departments to include direct services and support through professional development and telemedicine, initially in psychiatry and behavioral health. The goal is to establish a technology platform that facilitates quality health care for tribal citizens and builds the capacity of tribally operated health clinics to ensure high performance through professional development and improved efficiency.
TN	Quorum Health Corporation	\$485,395	Rural Development funds will help Quorum Health purchase equipment to provide enhanced telemedicine services to hospitals, medical clinics and schools in eight states. The project will benefit one hub and 16 end-user sites, including nine hospitals and medical centers, and seven school-based health clinics in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, North Carolina, Texas and Tennessee. The project will benefit rural patients by providing telemedicine carts, cameras and monitors to allow interactive video communications between clinicians and remote patients or students. The technology will enable images and media conten to be shared. This enhances patient and student experiences and provides more information to the clinician.
TN	Chattanooga State Community College	\$475,056	Rural Development funds will help Chattanooga State Community College develop a distance learning program that will connect to schools in Kimball and Dayton. The project will involve more than 55 classes. It will include academic advising, financial aid sessions, academic success coaching, as well as intervention and teacher meetings. Additionally, community residents, via connections with Chattanooga State's main campus, will be able to see and hear visiting speakers, authors and scholars' presentations.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
TN	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	\$269,792	Rural Development funds will help create a telemedicine network in Overton, Jackson and Pickett counties. Vanderbilt University Medical Center will be the hub site. Stroke-trained advance practice clinicians will be linked to 15 ambulances to enable EMS personnel to provide advanced, life-saving medical services. Each ambulance will have a tablet, a high-definition camera system and accessories to communicate with the hub site for enhanced medical services. Early detection and treatment of stroke victims is known to greatly improve survivability. This project will provide unprecedented medical treatment advances for rural residents.
TX	Texas Rural Education Association	\$391,510	Rural Development funds will help the Texas Rural Education Association purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit two hub and 10 end-user sites in 10 communities by providing computer servers, video conferencing equipment, software and networking components to allow schools to provide a rich array of synchronous distance learning experiences. These opportunities will include dual-enrollment classes, virtual field trips, classroom collaborations, career explorations and an expanded menu of course offerings at all levels. Teachers will be able to participate in professional learning communities and access development opportunities without travel.
TX	Northwest Texas Healthcare System	\$427,113	Rural Development funds will help Northwest Texas Healthcare System, an acute care hospital, create a telemedicine project that will work with a consortium of seven health care facilities in the Texas panhandle. The project will connect rural patients to telemedicine opportunities through video teleconferencing. It will operate under the designation <i>Texas Panhandle Specialty Telemedicine Project</i> and will offer higher levels of specialized care via telemedicine to rural patients in Collingsworth, Hansford, Hemphill, Ochiltree, Swisher and Wheeler counties. Northwest Texas Healthcare System will offer emergency, trauma, cardiac, stroke, hospital and psychiatric services.
TX	Texas Rural Education Association	\$499,198	Rural Development Funds will help the Texas Rural Education Association purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit two hub and 12 end-user sites in nine communities by providing computer servers, network equipment, video conferencing equipment, laptop computers and software. It will enable the schools to provide dual-enrollment courses, virtual field trips, classroom collaborations, career explorations and an expanded menu of courses at all levels. Teachers will be able to access professional development courses and learning communities without the hardship of long travel.
VA	Pittsylvania County School Board	\$215,523	Rural Development funds will help the Pittsylvania County Schools purchase video conferencing equipment to provide interactive distance learning services. The project will benefit one hub and 20 end-user sites in seven communities by providing networking equipment, video conferencing equipment and software. It will enable schools to utilize a vast array of educational services through partnerships with the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, which serves as a regional catalyst for economic transformation, along with collaborations with the Houston Audubon Society, Team Kaizen and the NASA Johnson Space Center.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
VT	Vermont State Colleges	\$388,988	Rural Development funds will help Vermont State Colleges create a distance learning system to connect Johnson State College and Lyndon State College in Vermont to Sinte Gleska University, Lower Brule Community College and Ihanktonwan Community College in South Dakota and to 28 Vermont high schools. A mix of fixed and mobile video conferencing technology will increase course offerings to students, including dual-credit college courses. It will provide increased professional development opportunities for instructors. The project also will connect individuals in public service agencies, such as police and firefighters, with training and professional development opportunities.
WA	Sunnyside Community Hospital	\$68,237	Rural Development funds will help the Sunnyside Community Hospital Association create a telemedicine project by purchasing equipment to enable citizens of Benton, Grant and Yakima counties to get access to the latest telemedicine technology. Sunnyside proposes six hubs and six end-user sites. The hubs are specialty clinics spread across a 50-mile expanse of Interstate 82, from Yakima in the northwest corner of the service area to Prosser in the southeast corner. The specialties selected for inclusion are those that local primary care providers and office staff noted as the highest need and/or most difficult for patients to access. A newly recruited psychiatrist and a licensed social worker will support the bi-directional behavioral health integration called for in the state's Medicaid transformation efforts. The six end-user sites include three primary care clinics, a rural community hospital and two elementary schools. They are located in some of the most underserved, poorest and highly diverse communities in Washington.
WA	University of Washington	\$500,000	Rural Development funds will help the University of Washington in King County purchase telemedicine equipment to provide enhanced telemedicine services for its The RIDE (Regional Initiatives in Dental Education) teledentistry program. The project will benefit one hub and 11 end-user sites in 12 communities by providing teledentistry mobile carts, intraoral cameras, video conferencing equipment and software. The RIDE program trains students to be placed in rural dental practices after they graduate. It was developed to address oral health workforce needs in rural and underserved communities. RIDE students are sent on rural service learning rotations for five to six months during their four years of dental school. While all dental students go on five-week rotations, only RIDE students are required to do so in rural locations for a prolonged period of time. The equipment purchased will allow the students to continue their education while serving in the rural communities.
WA	Wenatchee Valley Hospital and Clinics	\$279,620	Rural Development funds will help Confluence Health purchase telemedicine equipment to expand its capacity to deliver clinical care, behavioral health services and medical training in North Central Washington. A 2016 community needs assessment for the region determined that access to behavioral health services was among the highest areas of need. The project will benefit two hubs and five end-user sites in Grant and Okanogan counties. It will provide computer networking equipment, mobile telemedicine carts, telemedicine medical devices and software. The project will improve communication between rural patients and clinical care providers, and give medical personnel more access to continuing education programs.



## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program USDA Rural Development

State	Recipient	Grant	Project Description
WV	CAMC Health Education and Research Institute, Inc.	\$100,079	Rural Development funds will help CAMC Health Education and Research Institute, Inc. provide obstetrical services in a five-county area in south-central West Virginia. The Charleston Area Medical Center in Kanawha County will serve as the hub site. The Summersville Regional Medical Center will serve as the end user. The New River Health Association will provide daily perinatal services on the Summersville campus. The counties served are Braxton, Clay, Fayette, Nicholas and Webster. The project includes an innovative use of streaming fetal ultrasound for enhanced obstetrical care. Physicians will be able to operate remotely when necessary. These two innovative methods will greatly enhance medical care delivery to area residents.



## News Release

Release No. 0201.16

### **USDA Funds 18 Distance Learning and Telemedicine Projects in 16 States**

***Projects use telecommunications to bring medical expertise to rural areas, including substance misuse treatment***

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19, 2016 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA is investing in [18 projects in 16 states](#) to use communications technology to expand access to health care, substance misuse treatment and advanced educational opportunities.

USDA is awarding \$4.7 million in [Distance Learning and Telemedicine](#) (DLT) program grants to support 11 distance learning and seven telemedicine projects. These will join the [80 DLT projects](#) USDA announced July 14.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program provides grants for telecommunications equipment to increase access to health care and educational opportunities in rural areas.

State	Cong. District	Recipient	Grant	Initiatives	Project Description
AL	1, 5, 7	Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards Commission	\$115,282		To provide distance learning paramedic, advanced paramedic and EMT courses to firefighters and first responders in rural Alabama.
AL, MS	2 (AL), 3 (MS)	East Central Mississippi Health Network, Inc.	\$125,577	SF	To install interactive audio/video equipment to connect a central hub and 15 end-user sites in Mississippi and 3 end-user sites in Alabama
AR	1, 3	Baxter County Regional Hospital, Inc.	\$320,538	SF	To provide a comprehensive telehealth care management program that will include remote patient monitoring and a free, 24-hour nurse help line. These enhancements will improve patient case management and health outcomes, and reduce unnecessary hospitalizations and visits to the emergency room.
CA	1	Lassen Community College	\$313,593		To provide increased access to higher education by establishing video conferencing connections between Lassen Community College and six high schools, including a teen center on the Susanville Indian Rancheria.
CA	7, 8	Landon Pediatric Foundation	\$221,230		To equip rural hospitals and clinics with telemedical carts that will connect them with specialists throughout the state. This project will also create a distance learning certification program to train nurses, physician's assistants and doctors.
CO	3, 4, 5	South Central BOCES	\$183,597	SF	To develop a distance learning and teletherapy network between SC-BOCES, 12 elementary, junior and senior high schools, and two county administrative offices. This project will impact approx. 3,500 students per year by providing expanded learning opportunities and mental health services, ensuring students are adequately prepared for postsecondary and workforce readiness in rural areas.
IL	16, 17, 18 (IL); 3 (TN); 6 (WI)	Bushnell-Prairie City District #170	\$313,572	SF	To establish a distance learning network between the Boone-Winnebago Regional Office of Education in Illinois and 14 middle and high schools in Illinois, Tennessee and Wisconsin. The project will enhance the educational opportunities for students in rural areas.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program provides grants for telecommunications equipment to increase access to health care and educational opportunities in rural areas.

State	Cong. District	Recipient	Grant	Initiatives	Project Description
MA, NY and SC	2, 3 (MA); 21 (NY); 6 (SC)	Town of North Brookfield	\$299,263		To obtain a bridge and video infrastructure package at Mt. Wachusett Community College and connect it to three other hub/end-user sites in Massachusetts, New York and South Carolina.. This project will benefit at least 4,000 students, 160 teachers and 450 residents. It will include access to college and career preparatory curricula, professional development and cultural diversity training.
MN	1	Grand Meadow Independent School District 495	\$115,692		To replace telecommunications equipment to enhance academic services available to rural students. More than 2,700 students are expected to benefit from this interactive video conferencing project.
MS	1, 2	Delta Health Alliance, Inc.	\$396,530		The Delta Health Alliance will partner with five rural health clinics to purchase electronic equipment and provide training for personnel. The equipment will expand the health records system to offer new services, enhance care coordination, increase access to timely medical information and improve reimbursement rates in the Mississippi Delta region.
MT	At-Large	Flathead Valley Community College	\$83,270		To purchase video conferencing equipment that will allow rural students to access remote health care instruction, build relationships with local clinics through internships and meet the need for nurses in their communities.
NC	6	Rockingham County Schools	\$162,698		To provide high-definition videoconferencing infrastructure and network capabilities for interactive educational programming. The network will provide learning opportunities for students in six rural schools.
NV	1, 2, 4	Elko County School District	\$431,255	SF	To provide a telecommunications network from four hub sites in Elko and Clark counties to 13 end-user sites in Elko and White Pine counties.
NY	23, 26	Erie2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Board of Cooperative Educational Services	\$221,780		To provide enhanced video conferencing capabilities and expanded higher education distance learning course offerings to almost 3400 students in western NY. This project will support one hub, one hub/end-user site and seven end-user sites.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program provides grants for telecommunications equipment to increase access to health care and educational opportunities in rural areas.

State	Cong. District	Recipient	Grant	Initiatives	Project Description
OK	3	Southwestern Oklahoma State University	\$485,498	SF	To deploy interactive video teleconferencing equipment at one hub, one hub/end-user and 11 end-user sites. This project will deliver college classes to all of the end-user sites; provide opportunities for interaction with students in other rural schools; and reduce the shortage of certified teachers in the districts.
PA and NY	5, 10 (PA); 23 (NY)	Charles Cole Memorial Hospital	\$50,336		To deploy a telemedicine project connecting nine rural health clinics and wellness centers in Pennsylvania and two orthopedica centers in New York. This project will result in improved access to clinical education, health care services, care coordination programs and community health education for residents in six rural counties.
SC	7	McLeod Regional Medical Center of the Pee Dee, Inc.	\$420,092	SF	To establish a telemedicine network that will connect doctors at McLeod Regional Medical Center with seven other regional McLeod centers throughout South Carolina This network will provide primary and mental health care, occupational health services and continuing medical education.
WI	3, 7, 8	Ministry Health Care, Inc.	\$432,258		To expand the advanced practice nurse practitioners telemedicine program to clinics in western and eastern Wisconsin. This project will allow nurse practitioners to communicate with physicians through one hub and 15 end-user sites.
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$4,692,061</b>		
<b>LEGEND</b>					
SF - projects in StrikeForce areas					
PP - projects in areas of persistent poverty					
PZ - projects in Promise Zones					
6025 - projects with Farm Bill Section 6025/Regional Development Priority points					



## News Release

Release No. 0167.16

### **USDA Funds 80 Distance Learning and Telemedicine Projects in 32 States**

***Projects use telecommunications to bring medical expertise to rural areas, including substance misuse treatment***

WASHINGTON, July 14, 2016 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will fund 80 [Distance Learning and Telemedicine \(DLT\) projects in 32 states](#). These projects will help connect rural communities with medical and educational experts in other parts of the country, increasing access to health care, substance misuse treatment and advanced educational opportunities.

USDA is awarding \$23 million in grants to support 44 distance learning and 36 telemedicine projects.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants – 2016

State	Recipient	Award	Project Description
AK	Dena' Nena' Henash dba Tanana Chiefs Conference	\$375,000	To expand the telemedicine program, <i>Foundations and Innovations in Tele-health</i> .
AK	Copper River School District	\$488,558	To provide distance learning services to five primary schools in extremely remote Alaskan villages. The schools will share curriculum and professional development and mentorship. Three of the sites are on Native Alaskan trust lands.
AK	Hope Community Resources Inc.	\$279,820	To purchase video conferencing equipment to provide mental health and disability counseling and training and support services to individuals and their families.
AK	Arctic Slope Native Association Ltd.	\$287,198	To purchase a tele-pharmacy remote dispensing system. Currently, medication can only be flown into the remote clinics.
AL	Alabama Southern Community College	\$339,419	To establish a distance learning partnership between Alabama Southern Community College and three rural and economically depressed high school and StrikeForce zones in Alabama.
AR	Arkansas Children's Hospital	\$371,923	To install real-time telemedicine mobile carts and peripherals in 25 rural Arkansas schools in StrikeForce areas. This will enable students at each location to receive health care services from physicians at Arkansas Children's Hospital.
AR	Arkansas Children's Hospital	\$270,210	To establish a school-based telemedicine project serving 17 schools in StrikeForce areas. This project will bring needed health services to medically isolated youth.
AR	St. Bernard's Development Foundation	\$370,000	To expand a telemedicine network to connect five rural end-user clinics with medical specialists (heart disease, diabetes, obesity) at five hub sites.
AZ	Canyonlands Community Health Care	\$205,052	To provide telemedicine to development and implement a telehealth program to minimize the effects of respiratory and pulmonary impairments in local coal miners at health center sites.
CA	College of the Siskiyous	\$235,225	To provide video conferencing equipment at five teaching classrooms at the college and four high schools.
CA	Karuk Tribe	\$116,677	To provide video conferencing equipment to support the delivery of specialty care, primary care, and behavioral health care services from hub sites in Sacramento and Redding to end-user sites in Happy Camp, Orleans and Yreka.
CA	California Tele-health Network	\$405,917	To deliver telemedicine to improve access to specialty health, including psychiatry, endocrinology, dermatology, nephrology, and cardiology as well as health care education to isolated patients with chronic health conditions.
CA	Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital Foundation	\$285,129	To purchase telemedicine carts with accessories for seven health care clinics in rural California.
CA	Colusa County Office of Education	\$493,054	To add interactive videoconferencing and audio-visual equipment into four school district offices, seven preschools and child care centers, and seven K-12 schools.
GA	Central Georgia Technical College	\$337,178	To establish a distance learning network where Central Georgia Technical College in Macon and Warner Robins will provide educational services to rural high school students in middle Georgia.
GA	Community Health Care Systems Inc.	\$419,886	To improve EMS service and access to primary and specialty health care, improve health outcomes, reduce non-emergency emergency department visits and reduce health care expenses.
GA	HealthIE Georgia Corporation	\$121,989	To expand telemedicine into additional communities.
GA	The Morehouse School of Medicine Inc.	\$216,462	To connect the Morehouse School of Medicine in Georgia with six rural clinics.
GA	Young Harris College	\$104,382	To purchase video conferencing equipment for a project titled <i>Reach MOWR (Move On When Ready)</i> Students in Northern Georgia.
GA	Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	\$444,851	To provide educational programming for rural healthcare workers and community members by creating a distance learning network between the college and remote hospitals. This will enable rural nurses to access BSN programs without leaving their jobs or communities.
GA	West Georgia Technical College	\$225,511	To purchase video conferencing equipment for health science distance learning, including GED preparation, health science credit coursework, peer-to-peer learning, tutoring, dual enrollment, virtual field trips, career preparation, and health care exploration and preparation.
IL	Bushnell-Prairie City District #170	\$303,670	To establish a distance learning network between two offices of the Boone-Winnebago Regional Office of Education in Illinois and 17 elementary schools in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Tennessee.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants – 2016

State	Recipient	Award	Project Description
IN	Southern Hills Counseling Center Inc.	\$73,348	To implement a telemedicine system that will enhance the availability of mental health services in remote, rural areas of Indiana.
KY	Baptist Health Foundation Corbin Inc.	\$377,121	To establish a telemedicine network that connects clinical specialists at the Baptist Health Corbin and Grace CHC Pineville clinics to 10 school-based health centers as well as two Baptist Health primary care sites in rural Kentucky.
KY	Mountain Comprehensive Health Corporation	\$343,600	To provide a telemedicine network for greater access to primary care services, behavioral health, and other specialty services.
LA	Louisiana Primary Care Association Inc.	\$305,841	To deploy a video teleconferencing network to connect 14 rural health centers with medical professionals specializing in psychiatry, psychology, nephrology, cardiology, immunology and infectious diseases.
LA	Biomedical Research Foundation of Northwest Louisiana	\$485,237	To establish the University Health Telemedicine network for live tele-consults between specialists at University Health Shreveport.
MA	Collaborative for Educational Services Inc.	\$337,356	To purchase video conferencing equipment for the hub site in Northampton, Mass., to serve the 22 end-user sites, and one Tribal end-user site in Maine and Massachusetts.
ME	Regional School Unit 13	\$327,466	To purchase video-telepresence equipment to enable real-time distance learning among Regional School Unit #13, the Chewonki Foundation, the Center for Maine Contemporary Art, the Catawba Indian Nation, the Monhegan Island School and AOS 93 to provide rural students, educators and adult learners with access to science, technology, engineering, art and math classes.
ME	Regional School Unit 87/Maine School Administrative District 23	\$312,744	To purchase video-telepresence equipment.
ME	Regional School Unit 80/Maine School Administrative District 4	\$239,235	To establish a distance learning network connecting instructors at the Maine Tri-County Technology Center to students in 10 rural schools in Maine; three rural schools in New Hampshire; and one end user site in the Indian Township of Passamaquoddy, Maine.
ME	Regional School Unit 33/Maine School Administrative District 33	\$366,459	To purchase video-telepresence equipment that will enable real-time distance learning activities between schools in Maine School Administrative District #33 (MSDA #33) and its partners.
ME	MaineHealth	\$398,692	To install tele-health videoconferencing carts at six rural medical clinics. Three tele-health videoconferencing carts will be provided to three home health agency sites.
MI	Munson Medical Center	\$407,709	To connect 19 medical clinics in rural Michigan to the Munson Medical Center and Grand Valley State University.
MI	Central Michigan University	\$137,010	To expand a distance learning network to 12 unserved rural clinics in Michigan where one (the Kbic Clinic on the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community) serves a tribal area.
MN	Education Innovation Partners Cooperative Center	\$365,968	To provide for a distance learning project that will directly benefit more than 4,800 students and more than 200 teachers per year.
MN	East Central Minnesota Educational Cable Cooperative	\$50,000	To expand educational opportunities to students in 10 schools through video-based instruction.
MN	Bois Forte Band of Chippewa	\$91,821	To provide telemedicine, tele-pharmacy and distance learning to serve patients at all Boise Forte Health and Human Services sites.
MT	Kalispell Regional Medical Center Inc.	\$373,658	To purchase telemedicine-enabled toolkits for three Critical Access Hospitals and one Primary/Urgent Care Center.
MT	University of Montana	\$195,312	To establish video conference equipment for public schools in five counties in grades K-12 as well as for adult/non-traditional students.
NC	Montgomery County Schools	\$265,576	To establish a distance learning network connecting instructors at Montgomery Community College and the school district's central office to students at six elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools in rural North Carolina.
NC	College of the Albemarle	\$288,492	To provide video conferencing equipment to support the delivery of educational content from one hub location to students at three high schools and three college campuses.
NC	Beaufort County Board of Education	\$60,864	To replace/upgrade 10-year-old distance learning equipment at three rural high schools in Beaufort County, a USDA-designated StrikeForce county.
NC	North Carolina Central University	\$480,000	To purchase video conferencing equipment for 11 end-user sites (consisting of libraries and church centers) providing rural residents with the ability to educate themselves on a host of legal issues.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants – 2016

State	Recipient	Award	Project Description
NE	Mid-Plains Community College	\$100,144	To purchase video conferencing equipment that will deliver courses to four extended campuses and a rural college.
NE	Rural Health Partners, Inc. dba Heartland Health Alliance	\$209,663	To purchase telemedicine carts for 11 rural hospitals. These carts will assist patients by providing access to tele-emergency, tele-mental health triage, tele-hospitalist, and tele-specialist consulting services.
NM	New Mexico Department of Health	\$287,926	To place videoconferencing equipment at 18 public health offices in New Mexico. The project will focus on medical practice transformation, which will lead to expanded access, improved health outcomes, and enhanced patient satisfaction.
NM	Santa Fe Indian School Inc.	\$318,093	To provide video conferencing equipment at 16 end-user sites to support the maintenance of the native languages of the 19 Pueblos in New Mexico. Santa Fe's new DLT facility will act as the hub for the Pueblo libraries, creating a digital pipeline that connects native students and teachers, elders, community leaders and mentors.
NV	Board of Regents Nevada System of Higher Education	\$493,351	To provide video conferencing equipment to 13 USDA StrikeForce counties with 30 end-point users. This project will expand the availability of courses to students in rural colleges, work with cooperative extension agencies to assist in sharing trainings, classes and workshops for the community.
NV	Renown Health	\$324,387	To provide acute and preventive health care specialists, currently not available, at 21 sites in Nevada and California. This program will be located in USDA StrikeForce counties.
OH	Marietta Memorial Hospital	\$185,791	To provide telemedicine services in southeastern Ohio and in northwestern West Virginia. Marietta Memorial Hospital will provide services to 14 hospitals and clinics creating the first ever telemedicine system in the region.
OH	Ohio Christian University	\$206,095	To provide a fixed-site distance learning initiative connecting Ohio Christian University's main campus to four rural Ohio educational facilities, one of which is in a StrikeForce zone. The goal is to provide access to college education opportunities.
OK	Epic Charter School (K-8)	\$208,617	To purchase video conferencing equipment for eight schools and six libraries. Services provided include literacy intervention and enrichment, teacher professional development, parental outreach programs, foreign language instruction, and virtual field trips.
OK	Epic Charter School (9-12)	\$209,277	To purchase video conferencing equipment for five schools, four libraries, and the Wyandotte Nation. Services provided include literacy intervention and enrichment, teacher professional development, EOI and ACT test preparation, parent outreach programs, foreign language instruction, and virtual field trips.
OK	Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	\$263,384	To purchase video conferencing equipment for educational initiatives in 30 schools in a project named “Holbvt toba Aianumpuli” (Talking TV).
OK	Murray State College	\$369,751	To purchase video conference equipment for one small rural community college and 13 public high schools located in Tribal jurisdictions, a StrikeForce area, and a Promise Zone of south-central Oklahoma.
OR	Lake Health District dba Lake District Hospital	\$98,713	To provide video conferencing equipment at a hub and 4 end-user sites to improve public health. This project will address the needs of the communities by establishing video conferencing equipment and the supporting network technologies.
PA	Titusville Area School District	\$421,925	To establish a distance learning network connecting instructors at Edinboro University to students in 11 rural K-12 schools in northwest Pennsylvania as well as the cultural center on the Catawba Indian Reservation (Tribal Area) in South Carolina.
PA	Universal Health Services Inc.	\$430,939	To offer remote cardiology and health care to patients in three rural communities in northern Nevada and northern California. This teleconferencing project's goal is to reduce the incidence of heart disease, stroke, and other chronic diseases which are a major cause of death in these communities.
PA	Butler Healthcare Providers dba Butler Memorial Hospital	\$137,755	To purchase telemedicine equipment. The benefits to rural patients include specialty care, diabetes, self-management education, health education, post-op follow-up, and behavioral and mental health care.
SC	Florence County Commission on Alcohol & Drug Abuse	\$318,218	To provide video conferencing equipment to connect geographically distant health clinics to Behavioral Health Care Association hub sites.
SC	Dillon School District Four	\$378,329	To install videoconferencing equipment at seven schools in the Dillon school district and the district office. Dillon County is a StrikeForce County.
SC	Palmetto Care Connections	\$158,214	To establish a telemedicine network connecting medical practitioners at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) and Low Country Health Care System to 19 school-based health centers in rural South Carolina.
SD	Avera Health	\$494,518	To integrate 18 rural, under-staffed hospitals with Avera’s ePharmacy network. A pharmacist will provide prescription review and pharmacy support 24 hours a day.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants – 2016

State	Recipient	Award	Project Description
SD	Mount Marty College Inc.	\$116,445	To purchase video conferencing equipment to provide Master's in Education curriculum to Tribal colleges. This project will help train current and future teachers as well as provide professional development through distance learning.
TN	Chattanooga Hamilton County Hospital Authority	\$269,905	To establish a telemedicine network in rural Grundy County. The county currently only has one pediatric clinic. This project will expand the availability of pediatric services county-wide by installing telemedicine equipment in seven county schools.
TN	Tennessee Rural Education Association	\$281,079	To establish a distance learning network with the Tennessee Rural Education Association, Tennessee College of Applied Technology at Jacksboro, and Tennessee College of Applied Technology at Morristown. Advanced courses will be provided to 17 high schools and middle schools in five counties.
TN	Carey Counseling Center, Inc.	\$67,572	To establish a telemedicine network connecting board-certified psychiatrists at the Carey Counseling Centers in Paris to three rural counseling centers in Northwest Tennessee.
TN	Tennessee Rural Education Association	\$312,892	To establish a distance learning network connecting instructors at Lincoln Memorial University to students at 25 rural K-12 schools in five county school districts.
TN	Mountain States Health Alliance	\$133,659	To establish a telemedicine network connecting doctors at Johnson City Medical Center to three hospitals in rural Tennessee and three hospitals in rural Virginia.
TX	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center	\$430,780	To install video conferencing infrastructure and equipment at 10 sites in west Texas to deliver health education to rural communities. The network will also provide access to Continuing Nursing Education to these rural areas.
UT	Snow College	\$304,132	To purchase interactive video conferencing equipment for three high schools and three charter schools. This project will shorten the time to earn a college degree and implement an easier transition to college coursework.
VA	The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia	\$153,082	To invest in an advanced telepresence system at the U-VA Center for Telehealth to provide 11 community health centers with access to specialty care.
VA	Carilion Medical Center	\$434,182	To provide mental health and other physician services in 12 rural counties in southwest Virginia.
WA	Wenatchee Valley College	\$457,028	To connect the Wenatchee Valley College campus with 19 rural hub/end-user sites to bring distance learning programs that will be inclusive of dual enrollment for high school students and professional development programs for K-12 teachers and workforce development programs, including health care and continuing education.
WI	Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10	\$134,348	To extend distance learning capabilities to students at 12 rural K-12 schools in west central Wisconsin.
WI	Lakeshore Technical College	\$412,748	To upgrade distance learning capabilities at five college campuses and 30 rural high schools in east central Wisconsin.
WI	Riverdale School District	\$91,089	To improve academic achievements in seven school districts in Wisconsin. This distance learning project will use video conferencing to link teachers and students at fixed end-user locations.
WV	CAMC Health Education and Research Institute Inc.	\$188,206	To establish a telemedicine network connecting clinical specialists at CAMC Memorial Hospital to nine rural hospitals in central and southern WV. This project will use remote tele-stroke consultations to give all participating rural hospitals access to medical specialists and critical care experts in neurology.
WV	Roane County School District	\$499,951	To provide video conferencing equipment to 19 schools. Benefits will: 1) increase academic achievement; 2) ensure college/career readiness; 3) address professional development, 4) aid special needs children; and 5) improve student's social, emotional, and physical health.
WV	Pocahontas County Board of Education	\$499,951	To place video conferencing equipment at 12 end user sites (consisting of schools and a preschool) at the Pocahontas County Free Library and at the Pocahontas County Public School District office.
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$23,382,759</b>	

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants – 2015

State	Recipient	Award	Project Description
AK	Yukon Koyukuk School District	\$496,701	To purchase video conferencing equipment for nine schools in Native Alaskan tribal land
AK	Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc.	\$279,106	To build an interactive tele-psychiatry network that delivers mental and behavioral health services to seven end-user sites (six schools and one children's home)
AK	Bering Strait School District	\$497,572	To purchase video conferencing equipment to increase access between Bering Strait School District offices and 15 public schools
AK	Alaska Children's Services, Inc.	\$290,188	To build an interactive tele-psychiatry network delivering mental and behavioral health services to schools in Kalskag, Bethel, Chuathbaluk, Crooked Creek, and Stoney River
AK	North Slope Borough	\$420,027	To purchase video telemedicine equipment for 10 sites above the Arctic Circle in the North Slope Borough
AK	Kenai Peninsula Borough School District	\$354,647	To install video conferencing equipment in 13 schools
AL	Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards Commission	\$453,604	To purchase video conferencing equipment to provide emergency services training, focusing on paramedic and EMT classes, to rural emergency responders
AL	Reid State Technical College	\$399,968	To establish video conferencing connections between 13 high schools and two Reid State College campuses
AL	Franklin Primary Health Center, Inc.	\$413,625	To establish a community telehealth network that connects four urban medical centers to 18 remote clinics and medical centers
AR	Arkansas State University	\$477,925	To connect 13 public libraries to three Arkansas State University locations
CA	Adventist Health System/West	\$222,244	To purchase telemedicine equipment for 11 end-user sites, including the Lassen Indian Health Center
CA	Imperial County Office of Education Foundation	\$240,650	To purchase video conferencing equipment for Imperial Valley College and nine end-user sites
CO	Ute Mountain Ute Tribe	\$259,428	To connect the Ute Mountain Learning Center and the White Mesa Education Center with Utah State University's Blanding campus, Southwest Colorado Community College, and San Juan College
FL	Medlink Management Services, Inc., d/b/a Lake Butler Hospital	\$276,381	To install imaging equipment to consult remotely with patients at Lake Butler Hospital
FL	SMA Behavioral Health Services, Inc.	\$70,450	To install teleconferencing equipment at eight schools in Putnam County
GA	Technical College of Georgia	\$500,000	To purchase video conferencing equipment for two hub sites and 12 end-user sites
GA	HealthIE Georgia Corporation	\$403,016	To install a telemedicine system to coordinate the care of high-risk patients
ID	Nez Perce Tribe, dba Nimiipuu Health (Center)	\$482,178	To provide distance learning and telemedicine services to educators, medical professionals, students and residents of the Nez Perce Reservation
IL	St. John's Hospital of the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis	\$154,497	To provide teleconferencing equipment to three rural hospitals

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants – 2015

State	Recipient	Award	Project Description
KS	Burlington Unified School District #244	\$142,157	To establish a distance learning network in three rural school districts (Burlington USD 244, Lebo-Waverly USD 243 & Southern Coffey USD 244) as well as six public library branches in Coffey
KY	Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Inc.	\$267,866	To address a number of health care needs in rural central Appalachia
KY	Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital, Inc.	\$112,836	To install teleconferencing equipment in five rural health clinics
KY	Baptist Healthcare System, Inc.	\$182,566	To install teleconferencing and telehealth equipment for five medical facilities in medically underserved areas in rural southeastern Kentucky and east Tennessee
MD	Atlantic General Hospital Corporation	\$99,725	To install teleconferencing equipment in nine rural health clinics in Maryland and Delaware to provide at-home monitoring equipment
ME	Home Health Visiting Nurses of Southern Maine	\$129,400	To deliver at-home telehealth services
ME	Kno-Wal-Lin Home Health Care Management, Inc.	\$130,000	To provide tele-homecare monitors
ME	Regional School Unit 64	\$498,535	To establish an interactive distance learning network
ME	Maine Rural Health Collaborative, LLC	\$431,599	To offer telemedicine services to nine rural clinics in northern and eastern Maine
ME	Region Two School of Applied Technology (Rural Maine Public Health Consortium)	\$498,825	To connect the Pleasant Point Adult Education Center on the Passamaquoddy Tribal Reservation and 48 other adult education centers throughout Southern and Eastern Maine
ME	Region Two School of Applied Technology	\$499,378	To provide distance learning classes for adult literacy, high school completion and specialized career training
ME	Easton School District	\$499,773	To deploy video-teleconferencing equipment for educational and vocational materials
MI	MidMichigan Health	\$494,900	To establish a rural telemedicine network
MI	Spectrum Health System	\$254,884	To establish a rural telemedicine network
MI	iNDIGO Services, PLC	\$226,803	To deploy two telemedicine carts at 12 rural hospitals
MO	Compass Health, Inc.	\$122,524	To deploy high-definition video-teleconferencing equipment at 18 remote rural health clinics
MO	Bates County Memorial Hospital	\$265,386	To expand a telemedicine network
MO	Lester E. Cox Medical Centers	\$286,813	To expand a telehealth network to connect six rural clinics, six ambulance stations, and three county health departments in southwest Missouri
MP	Northern Marianas College	\$493,240	To purchase telemedicine equipment and software
MS	Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science	\$498,961	To install teleconferencing equipment in seven high schools and middle schools
MS	North Mississippi Medical Center, Inc.	\$228,260	To establish telemedicine access points at four health clinics, two community hospitals and three long-term care facilities
MT	Western Montana Mental Health Center	\$288,061	To provide a range of services, including routine behavioral health medication management

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants – 2015

State	Recipient	Award	Project Description
MT	St. Patrick Hospital Foundation	\$72,870	To build a tele-psychiatry network and provide equipment and software training
ND	State Of North Dakota, dba North Dakota Educational Technology Council	\$237,817	To upgrade distance learning equipment at 37 public school hub/end-user sites, including three schools on Federal Indian Tribe Reservations
ND	North Dakota University System	\$237,817	To purchase video conferencing equipment to improve access to quality education, and expand distance learning offerings
ND	North Dakota University System	\$267,655	To expand access to state-of-the-art distance learning technologies for video-teleconferencing equipment
NH	North Country Education Services Agency, Inc. (NCES)	\$496,612	To upgrade and extend a distance learning network to 21 high schools in northern New Hampshire and one Native American school (Indian Island School) in Maine
NH	Newport Town School District	\$422,567	To purchase video conferencing equipment for one hub site and three hub/end-user sites, including two Native American sites (Wabanaki Culture Center & Museum and Waponahki Museum & Resource Center), and 20 end-user sites
NM	New Mexico Highlands University	\$438,715	To purchase video conferencing equipment to provide distance learning technology for Navajo Nation students in Media Arts/Cultural Technology
NV	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	\$377,772	To provide tele-pharmacy services to eight remote pharmacies in the Pyramid Lake Piute's tribal area
NY	Otsego Northern Catskills Board of Cooperative Educational Services	\$281,731	To deploy equipped interactive distance learning classrooms for vocational, academic and professional development distance learning
NY	Finger Lakes Migrant Health Care Project, Inc.	\$200,452	To deliver teleconferencing equipment for medical, dental, and behavioral health services to residents of rural New York
OH	North Central State College	\$248,649	To connect the North Central State College and the Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center to one elementary, one middle and two high schools
OK	Lane Public School	\$338,974	To purchase distance learning equipment in four public schools and an adult education technology center
OK	Redlands Community College	\$481,401	To purchase video conferencing equipment for a hub site, Redlands Community College, and 29 end-user sites, including three high schools in a StrikeForce county and 19 schools under tribal jurisdiction
OR	Klamath Community College	\$202,643	To provide distance learning classes to three jr.sr. high schools, two charter schools and one K-12 school in rural Oregon
SC	Denmark Technical College	\$340,056	To offer vocational, academic and professional development distance learning courses to students, teachers and adult learners
SC	Palmetto Health Foundation	\$268,949	To launch a telemedicine project in lower Richland County

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants – 2015

State	Recipient	Award	Project Description
SC	Florence-Darlington Technical College	\$228,017	To extend dual enrollment/early college instructional programs at Florence-Darlington Technical College's three satellite campuses to students in nine rural high schools in Florence, Darlington and Marion counties
SC	Jasper County School District	\$347,145	To provide academic & professional development courses to students & teachers
SC	Fairfield County School District	\$430,745	To install teleconferencing equipment in nine rural schools and two hub sites to provide telehealth services, including primary and acute care
SD	Horizon Health Care, Inc.	\$238,303	To provide health care to 12 frontier counties that span 7,000-square-miles in South Dakota
SD	Avera Health	\$74,747	To provide eConsult telemedicine services to rural patients, physicians and clinicians
SD	The University of South Dakota	\$499,897	To connect the University of South Dakota's campuses in Vermillion, Pierre, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls with 24 rural hospitals and clinics, including one on the Lake Traverse Indian Reservation
SD	Oglala Lakota College	\$284,221	To replace video conferencing equipment for 16 classrooms and add an four distance learning classrooms
TN	Cherokee Health Systems	\$168,152	To establish a telemedicine project to serve up to 339,000 patients in seven remote rural counties
TN	Tennessee Rural Education Association	\$459,371	To purchase video conferencing equipment for 15 public schools in Marion and Polk counties and the Choctaw tribal council building in Trout, Louisiana
UT	Utah State University	\$252,741	To expand a distance learning network
UT	San Juan Foundation	\$86,739	To develop broadband-capable interactive video teleconferencing and audio-visual equipment
WA	Community & Technical College, WA State Board for	\$377,258	To connect the two campuses in Spokane with five outlying, rural campuses
WI	Shawano Medical Center, Inc.	\$379,515	To provide telehealth services to 12 health care facilities and education centers
WI	Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10	\$294,609	To replace video conferencing equipment in 10 Wisconsin schools and provide equipment in three Native Alaskan schools
WI	Cooperative Educational Service Agency #11	\$97,140	To upgrade outdated distance learning video end-points in six rural high schools within the rural communities
WI	Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College	\$485,524	To purchase video conferencing equipment for two hub sites and 21 hub/end-user sites including one Native
WI	Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College	\$317,869	To upgrade distance learning video end-points in 15 rural high schools in southwestern Wisconsin
WI	Bellin Memorial Hospital, Inc.	\$145,029	To establish a telehealth network for medical specialty services at hub sites in Green Bay and Oconto
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$23,426,401</b>	

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Awards November 20, 2014

State	Recipient	Distance Learning or Telemedicine	Amount	Purpose
AL	Mobile Infirmary Association	Telemedicine	\$93,681	To provide acute and preventive care in rural south Ala. communities that are underserved.
AL	Quality of Life Health Services, Inc.	Telemedicine	\$396,543	To provide healthcare for rural patients at 10 remote sites.
AK	Aleutians East Borough School District	Distance Learning	\$431,440	To make University of Alaska and Alaska Vocational/Technical Education Center courses available to students from the Aleutian Islands.
AK	Southeast Island School District	Distance Learning	\$360,845	To link 10 very small, rural Alaskan village schools to the larger school and curricula in Thorne Bay.
AK	Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium	Telemedicine	\$284,424	To provide healthcare for more than 16,200 clients from 12 clinics in remote locations.
AZ	La Paz Regional Hospital, Inc.	Telemedicine	\$316,800	To treat cardiology patients in remote parts of La Paz County.
CA	California Telehealth Network	Telemedicine	\$486,132	To extend healthcare programs to five agencies serving rural patients in an eight-county region.
CA and GU	Good Samaritan Hospital	Telemedicine	\$417,560	To connect medical professionals at this Los Angeles hospital with providers and patients at six remote sites in Guam.
CA	College of the Siskiyous	Distance Learning	\$78,148	To update the college's aging videoconferencing system and purchase other equipment.
CO and UT	The Adult Learning Center, Inc. dba Pine River Community Learning Center	Distance Learning	\$385,864	To provide job training, college and adult education classes in three communities where the majority of residents are Native Americans. More than 1,700 people are expected to benefit from the project.
CO	East Central Board of Cooperative Educational Services	Distance Learning	\$322,337	To expand the distance learning network in rural east-central Colo. The service area includes 19 school districts and a community college.
HI	New Moon Foundation dba Kohala Institute at 'Iole	Distance Learning	\$419,427	To provide educational opportunities in rural Hawaii. The project will support the state's "Veterans to Farmers" program that helps veterans find jobs in agriculture.
HI	University of Hawaii	Distance Learning	\$259,740	To make Windward Community College classes and programs available to high school students.
HI	University of Hawaii	Distance Learning	\$486,664	To make Hawaii Community College classes and programs available to Big Island high school students.
ID	Idaho Bureau of Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind	Distance Learning	\$114,831	To link bureau staff with administrators of Idaho's Infant Toddler program to facilitate early intervention services for deaf and blind children.
ID	Idaho Digital Learning Academy	Distance Learning	\$368,247	To launch a STEM (science,

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Awards November 20, 2014

State	Recipient	Distance Learning or Telemedicine	Amount	Purpose
				technology, engineering, mathematics) program for rural middle and high school students.
IL	Chaddock	Telemedicine	\$194,223	To provide healthcare and community services for more than 130,000 rural residents through eight remote sites.
IL	St. John's Hospital of the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis	Telemedicine	\$180,781	To consult with providers and provide emergency healthcare services to patients at three remote rural hospitals.
IL	Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market Place	Distance Learning	\$439,425	To connect college faculty with high school teachers and adult education providers in an 18-county region, and increase students' access to college-level and college-prep courses.
IA	Iowa Central Community College	Distance Learning	\$291,377	To provide career, professional development, technical and other training for more than 1,000 clients in a 10-county region.
IA	The University of Iowa	Telemedicine	\$498,973	To provide adult, pediatric and geriatric healthcare for patients at 64 remote rural locations.
KS and NE	KVC Health Systems, Inc.	Telemedicine	\$181,500	To assist children in foster-care and foster parents in Nebraska, including crisis intervention services.
KS	KVC Health Systems, Inc.	Telemedicine	\$335,100	To increase therapies for children in foster care, deliver state-required curricula to foster parents in remote locations, and facilitate timely placement of children in foster homes.
ME	Home-Health Visiting Nurses of Southern Maine	Telemedicine	\$51,920	To provide healthcare for rural residents in 36 towns in the Cumberland West area, with a focus on seniors with chronic diseases and medically fragile children.
ME	LearningWorks, Inc.	Distance Learning	\$52,772	To teach more than 950 students in three chronically underperforming rural high schools and train more than 100 AmeriCorps volunteers.
MD	Crisfield Clinic	Telemedicine	\$390,115	To connect two primary-care clinics in Crisfield with six remote rural schools to provide healthcare and community services.
MI	Central Michigan University	Distance Learning	\$297,671	To train medical students in remote rural clinics and hospitals. This CMU project will train more than 100 students each year in an effort to address the shortage of rural healthcare providers.
MI	The Memorial Hospital dba Memorial Healthcare	Telemedicine	\$110,000	To connect medical professionals at the hospital in Owosso with providers and patients in five remote rural clinics.
MI	Munson Medical Center	Telemedicine	\$217,629	To link specialists at the Munson center with providers in remote locations to treat rural patients with

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Awards November 20, 2014

State	Recipient	Distance Learning or Telemedicine	Amount	Purpose
				bleeding disorders. The system will also be used for continuing education.
MN, ND and WI	Essentia Health	Telemedicine	\$213,564	To expand Essentia's existing telemedicine network to 21 clinics and two hospitals. More than 300,000 people are expected to benefit from the project.
MN and SD	Russell-Tyler-Ruthton Public Schools	Distance Learning	\$54,739	To expand the distance learning network by adding new curricula and degree and certificate programs.
MS	Coahoma Community College	Distance Learning	\$410,413	To make more classes available to reduce the need for remediation of high-school graduates.
NE	Educational Service Unit #2	Distance Learning	\$283,248	To increase educational offerings for high school students and adults.
NE	Educational Service Unit #10	Distance Learning	\$126,989	To increase educational offerings for rural Nebraskans in remote isolated communities.
NE and KS	Good Samaritan Hospital	Telemedicine	\$155,041	To provide a wide range of healthcare services for patients in rural Neb. and north central Kan.
NM	Navajo Technical University	Distance Learning	\$447,748	To educate and train members of the Navajo Nation, in an effort to counteract high unemployment and poverty in the Navajo community.
NY	Cattaraugus Allegany Board of Cooperative Educational Services	Distance Learning	\$499,863	To educate students and provide professional development training for teachers at 24 remote rural high schools in three counties.
NY, CA and TX	Finger Lakes Migrant Health Care Project, Inc.	Telemedicine	\$231,329	To provide primary and specialty care for patients in eight rural clinics.
NY	New York State Office of Mental Health	Telemedicine	\$219,650	To expand mental health services for needy populations throughout rural N.Y.
NY	Otsego Northern Catskills Board of Cooperative Educational Services	Distance Learning	\$312,138	To offer college courses for students in 19 remote rural school districts in the northern Catskills.
NY	Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe	Telemedicine	\$336,598	To provide healthcare for members of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe through rural clinics and community centers located on the reservation.
NC	Mission Healthcare Foundation, Inc.	Telemedicine	\$175,836	To provide pediatric, cardiac and bariatric healthcare for rural patients in western N.C.
NC	Southeastern Community College	Distance Learning	\$449,919	To increase education options for K-12 and community college students, teachers and other rural Columbus County residents.
ND	Altru Health System	Telemedicine	\$196,305	To provide healthcare for remote, rural patients in a 17-county region.
OH and ND	East Central Ohio Educational Service Center	Distance Learning	\$437,748	To educate students, and provide job training, training for emergency responders, and continuing adult education through 14 remote rural sites.

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Awards November 20, 2014

State	Recipient	Distance Learning or Telemedicine	Amount	Purpose
OK	Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center	Telemedicine	\$448,887	To help primary care physicians in 11 remote rural communities treat patients with Hepatitis C virus, increase awareness of the condition and prevent future cases.
OK	Boswell School District 1	Distance Learning	\$499,893	To enhance the distance learning network for schools in Bowell, Haywood, Leflore and Webber Falls through new equipment and curricula.
OK	Eastern Oklahoma State College	Distance Learning	\$309,044	To offer college-level courses for students in six high schools in the Choctaw Tribal Jurisdictional Area.
OK	Great Plains Technology Center	Distance Learning	\$495,038	To expand the curricula in 13 rural area high schools and offer adult continuing education and professional development classes.
OK	Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College	Distance Learning	\$499,873	To offer college, professional development, and GED courses and counseling services to students and adults at 11 remote rural sites.
OR	Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc.	Telemedicine	\$436,506	To link about 10,000 patients in 12 rural counties with 32 community health care providers for consultation and treatment.
OR	Klamath Community College	Distance Learning	\$194,053	To provide college-level courses to residents of Lake County through five end-user sites.
SC	Denmark Technical College	Distance Learning	\$460,024	To launch a STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) program for students at six remote rural high schools and at six area libraries.
SC	Medical University of South Carolina	Telemedicine	\$276,878	To provide maternity and pediatric healthcare for patients in 15 remote rural areas. The system will also provide rural healthcare providers with continuing education.
TN and VA	Mountain State Health Alliance	Telemedicine	\$169,200	To connect seven rural Appalachian hospitals to a variety of specialists at Tenn.'s Johnson City Medical Center. The project will help address the shortage of healthcare providers and enhance specialty care for residents of the Appalachian region.
TN	Professional Care Services of West Tennessee	Telemedicine	\$109,245	To provide mental health counseling, including crisis intervention services, to youth and adults at six remote rural locations. The project will benefit about 8,000 people in seven counties.
TN and KY	Tristar Health Systems, Inc.	Telemedicine	\$288,600	To expand an existing network to provide treatment for remote rural stroke victims. The system will also be used to treat behavioral health issues.
TX	Info-Net Consortium, Inc.	Distance Learning	\$235,308	To increase educational offerings in

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Awards November 20, 2014

State	Recipient	Distance Learning or Telemedicine	Amount	Purpose
				rural schools and communities in seven counties. The project will benefit more than 3,650 students and teachers.
UT	University of Utah	Distance Learning	\$469,300	To provide college-level classes to about 15,875 students in 46 remote, rural schools and communities. The project will also serve members of the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Indians.
VT	Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union	Distance Learning	\$498,856	To expand course offerings for K-12 students in 20 remote rural schools. The curriculum includes AP courses, and advanced science and foreign language courses.
WA and ID	Northwest Indian College	Distance Learning	\$264,696	To provide culturally relevant and higher-education courses through eight remote Tribal centers. The project will serve about 965 Tribal students and adults each year.
WA and ID	Whitman Hospital and Medical Center	Telemedicine	\$500,000	To enhance and expand medical treatment and services by replacing outdated imaging equipment with new 3-D imaging technology, and make other network improvements.
WV	CAMC Health Education and Research Institute, Inc.	Telemedicine	\$229,368	To provide mental health counseling and services for children and teens in eight rural counties. The project will benefit about 5,000 youths.
WV	Monongalia County General Hospital Company	Telemedicine	\$496,252	To connect specialists at this hospital in Morgantown with primary care providers and patients in rural areas of the state, including extremely remote locales.
WV	West Virginia Network	Distance Learning	\$499,991	To provide continuing education to adult students at 12 remote rural sites to help them complete bachelor of arts degrees.
	<b>TOTAL: 65 Projects</b>		<b>\$20,396,309</b>	

**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Awards  
FY 2013**

<b>State</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
AR	Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts	\$499,905	DL	Funds will be used to purchase servers and video application software for a distance learning hub at the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts in Hot Springs. The project will focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics classes for high school students in the Delta region.
CA	Butte County Office of Education	\$284,239	DL	Funds will be used to purchase components for a video teleconferencing and distance learning system for a multi-county partnership of schools, hosted by Butte County Office of Education. As a solution to overcome budget cuts in education, a teacher shortage and other challenges, the distance learning system will leverage and improve the existing resource of teachers in this Northern California territory and provide a platform for collaboration and professional development. Over 3700 students per year will benefit from the panorama of learning possibilities that the system will open up. Schools in Gridley, Oroville, Berry Creek, Los Molinos, Hay Fork, Weaverville, Bridgeville, Greenville, Portola, Quincy, and Chester will receive video teleconferencing equipment, while the Butte County Office of Education in Oroville will receive video system management equipment.
GA	South Georgia Governmental Service Authority	\$496,727	DL	Funds will be used to purchase distance learning equipment for public schools in Mitchell, Worth, Baker and Laurens Counties, and their host hub sites in Thomasville and Atlanta. The South Georgia Governmental Services Authority will use distance learning as a new way to teach Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.
ID	Idaho Department of Administration	\$498,627	DL	Funds will be used by the Idaho Education Network to purchase distance learning equipment for K-8 schools in 62 of Idaho's most rural and economically challenged communities. The distance learning equipment will be used to train emergency service personnel after school hours.
KS	Southwest Kansas Educational Consortium	\$426,675	DL	Funds will be used to restore a distance learning system for the Southwest Kansas Educational Consortium. The project will establish connections to Pratt Community College and Seward County Community College. It will offer new opportunities in technical skills and certification. More than 400 students and 130 teachers will use the system each year.

**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Awards  
FY 2013**

<b>State</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
ME	Maine School Administrative District #37	\$490,625	DL	Funds will be used to acquire equipment and software for a distance learning connection between the Maine School Administrative District 37 and the Machias Bay Area School System. The new equipment will give students a wider range of classes and teachers. Adult education, professional development and public service classes will also be carried on the system.
ME	Maine School Administration District #54	\$499,278	DL	Funds will be used to purchase equipment for a laptop-based distance learning system. The initiative is intended to increase elementary, middle and high school students' knowledge and practice of important health and wellness concepts. The project will involve 22 schools serving nearly 6,500 students, 575 teachers, 13,000 parents and more than 33,000 community members.
MN	Minnesota State Colleges and Universities	\$500,000	DL	Funds will be used to link Leech Lake Tribal College, the Red Lake Nation College and the White Earth Tribal Community College with Bemidji State University and Northwest Technical College. These Native American colleges currently have no existing or functioning interactive distance learning equipment. The new connections will give students access to industry-driven certification training, bachelor's degrees and specialized associates degrees not available at their home colleges.
MN	East Central Minnesota Educational Cable Cooperative	\$238,294	DL	Funds will be used to update a video teleconferencing system between the Cable Cooperative, Pine Technical College, the East Central Regional Library System and several sites at the Mille Lacs Reservation. The system will host a variety of courses, such as dual credit and certification courses, and will support one-to-one tutoring, mentoring and the preservation and development of Ojibwe language and culture.
MN	Russell-Tyler-Ruthton Public Schools	\$99,103	DL	Funds will be used to purchase distance learning equipment and software for five rural school districts in Southwest Minnesota. Public schools in Tyler, Hendricks, Russell, Lynd and Ruthton will be united into a single virtual campus. Through a partnership with Southwest Minnesota State University, programs will be offered in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, and vocational training courses and certification.

**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Awards  
FY 2013**

<b>State</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
MS	Jefferson Davis County School District	\$499,215	DL	Funds will be used to help Jefferson Davis County Schools, Hazlehurst City Schools and Pearl River Community College purchase equipment and software for a distance learning video network. School programs will be coordinated into virtual classes, using instructors and curricula from Pearl River Community College, especially in the area of vocational programs and other career pathways.
NE	Educational Service Unit #16	\$399,988	DL	Funds will be used to upgrade distance learning equipment and acquire educational software for Educational Service Unit 16, which spans more than 17,000 square miles. This project will replace outdated equipment, introduce new learning concepts and increase the use of project-based learning activities.
NE	Educational Service Unit #8	\$287,442	DL	Funds will be used to update distance learning equipment and connect 30 schools in Northeast Nebraska to Northeast Community College. Students will be able to get advance placement classes, dual credit courses and job skills training.
NE	Educational Service Unit #13	\$500,000	DL	Funds will be used to connect schools to the distance learning video network. Schools in Alliance, Bayard, Bridgeport, Chadron, Crawford, Chappell, Dalton, Gering, Gordon, Hay Springs, Hemingford, Kimball, Lodgepole, Lewellen, Oshkosh, Minatare and others will benefit from a host of new educational content. This will include curricula in modern agriculture and agri-business, and enable and training from the Future Farmers of America.
NY	Otsego Northern Catskills Board of Cooperative Educational Services	\$379,598	DL	Funds will be used to upgrade and expand a distance learning system at 11 sites in the Catskills region of central New York.
NY	Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming Board of Cooperative Educational Services	\$218,787	DL	Funds will be used to provide teleconferencing equipment for the Cattaraugus Allegany Board of Cooperative Educational Services. The project will deliver distance learning capabilities between Cattaraugus' main facility and 19 K-12 rural schools. Schools will be able to share teachers, offer new classes and capture live classes for playback.
NY	St. Lawrence-Lewis Board of Cooperative Educational Services	\$500,000	DL	Funds will be used to replace video teleconferencing equipment at 14 sites and install equipment at four new sites. The new distance learning system will consolidate low-demand courses, offer advanced placement courses and enrichment programs, support individualized learning and special needs, and provide teacher training, continuing education and adult learning. The program serves 10 school districts in New York's North Country.

**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Awards  
FY 2013**

<b>State</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
NY	Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services	\$302,678	DL	Funds will be used to purchase distance learning equipment for the Altmar-Parish-Williamstown, Central Square, Hannibal Central, Phoenix Central and Sandy Creek Central school districts. Advanced placement, dual credit and foreign language courses will be offered. Special classes for adult learning, workforce development and teacher professional development will use the system during after-school hours.
OH	South Central Ohio Computer Association	\$183,995	DL	Funds will be used to connect 20 high schools throughout Southern Ohio. The project will match students with successful careers in high technology through a mentoring program using advanced communications technology.
OK	Arkoma School District	\$393,333	DL	Funds will be used to acquire distance learning equipment and software for the Arkoma School District and the neighboring school districts of Beggs, Hanna, Atoka and Rattan. The University of Arkansas-Fort Smith will provide video communications management, content management and other centralized functions. The distance learning system will link to Native Homeland projects including the Lana'i Cultural & Heritage Center in Lana'i City, Hawaii; the Chevak School District in Chevak, Alaska; and the nearby Cherokee Heritage Center, which will allow students and their families to share their native cultures and learn about others.
OK	McAlester Public School	\$336,543	DL	Funds will be used to purchase distance learning equipment and software for seven school districts in Eastern Oklahoma. The technology will link these school districts into one virtual campus.
TX	Region XIV Education Service Center	\$288,192	DL	Funds will be used to provide video teleconferencing among Cisco College, Ranger College and Western Texas College in a 15-county area. The emphasis will be on career-oriented classes primarily for high-demand local careers.
WA	Kiona Benton School District	\$168,473	DL	Funds will be used to purchase distance learning video teleconferencing equipment. A variety of display and system types will be used, from large desktop units and mobile carts to laptops.
WI	Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10	\$329,167	DL	Funds will be used to update and expand the distance learning network at 16 sites spanning six counties in sparsely populated, rural west central Wisconsin. Sites will receive new video teleconferencing units. Academic courses will focus on supporting non-traditional styles of learning, improving critical thinking skills and raising student achievement and teacher effectiveness.

**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Awards  
FY 2013**

<b>State</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
WI	Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10	\$297,340	DL	Funds will be used to update and expand the distance learning network at 17 sites spanning six counties in sparsely populated, rural west central Wisconsin. Sites will offer programs to spawn student motivation, support non-traditional styles of learning, improve critical thinking skills and raise student achievement. The initiative will also focus on college readiness, workplace skills development, and a special training program for volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel.
WV	Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College	\$215,620	DL	Funds will be used to expand the distance learning system at Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College. The College will offer courses and workforce development programs to high schools. The system will also host forums to promote community leadership and business development courses.
AK	Chugachmiut	\$180,656	TM	Funds will be used to re-establish a telemedicine network between Native village sites in the Chugach region and offices in Seward and Anchorage. Clinics in the villages of Tatitlek, Chenega, Port Graham and Nanwalek will be linked with Anchorage and the North Star Clinic.
AK	Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium	\$114,842	TM	Funds will be used to purchase video conferencing equipment systems for virtual sessions between patients and health care providers. It is projected that nearly 3,200 people will benefit in the first year alone. The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium includes nine organizations that deliver innovative telehealth solutions throughout the Alaska Federal Health Care system.
AZ	Flagstaff Medical Center, Inc.	\$129,412	TM	Funds will be used to purchase digital electronics and software for a telemedicine system linking the Flagstaff medical center with clinics in Coconino, Apache, Mohave and Navajo Counties. This system will connect local caregivers and their patients with specialists at Flagstaff.
KY	Norton Healthcare Foundation	\$259,607	TM	Funds will be used to expand the Norton Rural Medicine Initiative. The equipment will allow Norton physicians and other medical specialists in Louisville to consult medical staff and their patients at Breckinridge Health and Westlake Regional Hospitals in Kentucky; and Scott Memorial Hospital in Indiana. With the telemedicine network, patients no longer will have to travel for pulmonary, cardiology, neurology, infectious disease and critical care.

**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Awards  
FY 2013**

<b>State</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
ME	Community Health & Counseling Services	\$103,235	TM	Funds will be used to purchase in-home patient monitors, medication dispensers and screening monitors for Community Health and Counseling Services, which serves patients in Piscataquis and Washington counties with congestive heart failure, medication compliance issues, patients who need speech pathology to address swallowing disorders. The project is expected to reduce preventable hospital visits and emergency room visits, saving time and money.
MO	Ozarks Medical Center	\$274,638	TM	Funds will be used to buy equipment to expand medical services to Ozarks Medical Center's four hospitals and nine clinics. Services will include tele-stroke, tele-psychiatry, tele-speech therapy and tele-dermatology.
MO	Harrison County Community Hospital District	\$500,000	TM	Funds will be used to purchase software and equipment for Harrison County's teleradiology system. A Radiology Information System will be purchased to connect end-user workstations at clinics in Princeton, Cainsville and Bethany. The project will also fund a new telemedicine unit for the hospital's outpatient clinic. The hospital will be able to improve operations in several departments, including emergency, respiratory therapy and cardiac rehabilitation.
MO	Mercy Health	\$382,748	TM	Funds will be used to purchase equipment and devices for exam rooms in 11 sites in Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Physicians and other medical specialists at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis will use the audio/video equipment for face-to-face consultations, observation and diagnosis, and treatment planning.
MS	University of Mississippi Medical Center	\$378,360	TM	Funds will help a consortium of rural hospitals in Mississippi acquire high-definition video teleconferencing units for their emergency rooms, and mobile units for ambulatory care at each hospital. The University of Mississippi Medical Center will make specialists and medical personnel available through the video network to respond interactively to live emergencies from any of the participating sites.
NC	Grandfather Home for Children, Inc.	\$393,368	TM	Funds will be used to install video teleconferencing equipment. Grandfather Home is a facility in Banner Elk, N.C., for abused and neglected children. Video conferencing will provide critical therapeutic services for children and a direct line of communication between children and their foster parents.

**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Awards  
FY 2013**

<b>State</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
NH	Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital	\$498,356	TM	Funds will be used to purchase equipment and software to expand the telemedicine network at the Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital to new sites in New Hampshire and Vermont. After this expansion is deployed, the system is projected to provide medical expertise for more than 5,000 rural residents.
NH	Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital	\$500,000	TM	Funds will be used to purchase telemedical carts and related equipment for 18 rural sites. The participating sites include rural acute care hospitals, ambulatory care sites, rehabilitation sites and behavioral health centers in Woodsville, Littleton, Greenfield, Colebrook, New London, Whitefield, Lancaster and Groveton.
SC	Hampton Regional Medical Center	\$249,162	TM	Funds will be used to purchase a variety of video teleconferencing equipment and digital exam devices for the medical center and nine end-user sites. Roper St. Francis Hospital in Charleston will serve as a hub site for medical specialists and video system management. The video teleconferencing platform will allow face-to-face consultations between patients and physicians and between local health care providers and medical staff at the hub site.
WA	Kadlec Regional Medical Center	\$329,269	TM	Funds will be used to purchase telemedicine equipment for a consortium of 12 health care organizations serving 19 sites at rural clinics along the Columbia River in Eastern Oregon and Washington. The Medical Center and participating hospitals will offer a comprehensive array of services and consultations.
WV	Davis Memorial Hospital	\$74,189	TM	Funds will be used to establish telemedicine consultations between physicians at Davis Memorial Hospital and the Cortland Acres (Tucker County), Pendleton Manor (Pendleton County) and Mansfield Place (Barbour County) nursing homes. Physicians will be equipped with iPads and video-enabling software to increase their availability to observe and provide diagnosis for residents and patients.
KS	KVC Health Systems, Inc.	\$330,695	Combo	Funds will be used to purchase 400 iPads which will be placed in the homes of KVC foster children and their foster families, the video bridge equipment that will support the communications with a multi-device platform, and other video teleconferencing equipment suited to the 500 professional services that provide behavioral health therapy for the foster children and families. The equipment which enables this communications system will also provide direct, required, continuing education for foster parents, KVC professional staff and KVC's community partners.

**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Awards  
FY 2013**

<b>State</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
MO	Citizens Memorial Hospital District	\$175,989	Combo	Funds will be used to provide telemedicine equipment for a partnership led by Citizens Memorial Hospital. The hospital and its hub partners will provide telemedicine services to rural clinics in Pleasant Hope, Rockville, El Dorado Springs, Stockton, Greenfield, Buffalo, Montrose, Wheatland, Hermitage, Humansville, Appleton City and Deepwater.
MT	Kalispell Regional Medical Center	\$363,326	Combo	Funds will be used to help Kalispell Regional Medical Center provide 24/7 telemedicine consultation services in its nine-county area. The equipment will create a telemedicine service among the Western Montana Tele-neurology Network, Kalispell Regional Medical Center and critical access hospitals in the region.
NY	Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Herkimer-Oneida Board of Cooperative Educational Services	\$487,267	Combo	Funds will be used to purchase video teleconferencing units for 37 schools in the Jefferson Lewis Hamilton Herkimer Oneida jurisdiction, 15 of which have never been connected to a distance learning system before. LeMoyne College in Syracuse, Clarkson University in Potsdam, Jefferson Community College in Watertown, and the Syracuse University School of Medicine will be part of the teleconference network.
OK	Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center	\$500,000	Combo	Funds will be used to purchase state-of-the-art digital equipment and software for a telemedicine initiative hosted by the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center. The initiative will use video teleconferencing to offer geriatric services to Choctaw Nation clinical sites -- including Stilwell Community Hospital -- and Choctaw clinics in Hugo, Broken Bow, Stigler, Idabel, Talihina and Atoka, and general services to health care facilities in Fort Cobb, Grandfield and Tipton.
SC	South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice	\$196,809	Combo	Funds will be used to provide video teleconferencing systems for the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice. The equipment will give students a better chance of obtaining work skills and higher education opportunities.

**Distance Learning and Telemedicine Awards  
FY 2013**

<b>State</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
SD	Avera Health	\$294,586	Combo	Funds will be used to purchase equipment and software to expand and improve Avera's video telemedicine network, which connects 32 rural clinics and hospitals in South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota. Participating clinics will receive telephonic stethoscopes and other devices for their video-equipped exam rooms. The technology will give health providers and patients real-time, face-to-face consultations with specialized physicians at the hub hospitals in Sioux Falls, Marshall and Pierre. The system will double as an instructional medium so rural health providers can receive medical education and mentoring.
WA	Confluence Health	\$331,935	Combo	Funds will help the Access Confluence Health Education Network link eight sites in four counties in north central Washington. The Wenatchee Valley Medical Center and Central Washington Hospital will lend medical expertise to connect six rural health clinics with video conferencing so physicians can provide exams and consultations at a distance.

D = Distance Learning

TL = Telemedicine

Combo = Distance Learning and Telemedicine