



DLT Awards - Arkansas

2006 Grant Awards

Community Medical Center of Izard County

Calico Rock, Arkansas

\$213,184

Areas Served: Izard

Contact: Ms. Genna G. Nave

Telephone: 870-297-2460

Fax: 870-297-4161

Congressional District: AR-01

Rural Development funds will be used to provide teleradiology technology and services to rural residents of Izard County. Radiology images will be sent via a computer with a T-1 line to a radiologist at White River Health System in Batesville, AR. This project would benefit over 13,000 residents of Izard County.

CrossRidge Community Hospital

Wynne, Arkansas

\$118,350

Areas Served: Cross, St. Francis

Contact: Ms. Joy Sheppard

Telephone: 870-208-2117

Fax: 870-238-7432

Congressional District: AR-01

Rural Development funds will be used to establish an in-home electronic monitoring system for rural home health care patients. The project will install a central monitoring station and 31 monitoring units that will be issued to patients who have been identified as at-risk of repeated hospitalization. The monitoring units will remind patients to take weight, blood pressure, and oxygen saturation readings which will be automatically transmitted to the central station. Ten of the units will utilize a medication reminder component that monitors and reports on medication compliance.



Ozark Health Foundation

Clinton, Arkansas

\$497,917

Areas Served: Searcy, Van Buren

Contact: Mrs. Robin R. Corley

Telephone: 501-745-7004

Fax: 501-745-4203

Congressional District: AR-02, 03

Rural Development funds will be used to create a telemedicine/teleradiology network with integrated picture archiving communications system (PACS) and additional communication tools to aid rural physicians and rural residents that will connect and vertically integrate independent health care providers in the area to facilitate the accurate and efficient exchange of information. The system will include the electronic interfacing of a critical access hospital, nursing home, three federally qualified health clinics, five outlying independent primary care clinics, and a specialty clinic with 12 part-time specialists.

Piggott Community Hospital

Piggott, Arkansas

\$173,650

Areas Served: AR – Clay, Greene, Randolph; MO – Butler, Dunklin, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Stoddard

Contact: Ms. Dana L. Stone

Telephone: 870-598-3133

Fax: 870-598-3536

Congressional District: AR-01; MO-08

Rural Development funds will be used to electronically interconnect, via telecommunications, patients and medical professionals in 36 communities in rural Arkansas and Missouri. The telemedicine project is designed as a proactive disease management program designed to utilize state-of-the-art technology to give patients a great role in their own care, allowing clinicians to monitor more patients while permitting them to provide preventative intervention before situations become acute. The project will improve patient care and optimize operation outcomes, improve efficiencies, reduce costs, and satisfy regulatory requirements.



St. Edward Mercy Foundation

Fort Smith, Arkansas

\$137,255

Areas Served: Franklin, Logan, Sebastian, Scott

Contact: Ms. Martha E. Pendleton

Telephone: 479-314-1118

Fax: 479-314-1188

Congressional District: AR-03, 04

Rural Development funds will be used to purchase computed radiology technology needed to connect the network's three rural hospitals. This technology will facilitate the immediate electronic transmission of X-rays from distant locations, providing a more comprehensive and timely medical diagnosis for rural patients.

2005 Grant Awards:

White River Rural Health Center, Inc.

Augusta, AR

\$488,030

Areas Served: Cleburne, Craighead, Cross, Jackson, Lonoke, Monroe, Prairie, White, Woodruff Counties

Contact: Dr. Steve Collier

Telephone: 870-347-2534

Fax: 870-347-2882

Congressional District: AR-01, AR-02

The project will improve patient care, clinical practice, and health in the project service area through advanced telecommunications equipment. Fifteen end-user sites will include medical and dental clinics, retail pharmacies, and a nursing home. Over 100,000 residents of rural Arkansas will benefit from this project.

Ozark Health Foundation

Clinton, AR

\$420,505

Areas Served: Van Buren, Searcy

Contact: Pearl McElfish

Telephone: 501-745-7004

Fax: 501-745-9501

Congressional District: AR-02, AR-03

A vertically integrated WAN will tie together pharmacy, radiology, medical orders, patient assessments, and other health information to improve patient care. Participants include a critical access hospital, a nursing home, a home health agency, a therapy



services agency, three health clinics, five primary care clinics and a specialty clinic. The project will benefit approximately 24,000 residents in this exceptionally rural area of Arkansas.



2004 Grant Awards:

McGehee School District

McGehee, Arkansas

\$361,687

Areas served: Ashley , Bradley , Chicot , Desha , Lincoln , and Mississippi Counties

Contact: Bobby Ashley, (870) 222-3670

Congressional District(s): AR-01, AR-04

This project will extend the opportunity for interactive distance learning in 12 rural school districts serving over 9,500 students. DLT funds will be used to help the districts fulfill a need to provide expanded course offerings that are mandated, but not funded by the State, to provide higher educational opportunities to the students. Grant funds will be used to purchase the interactive distance learning studio equipment.

Osceola School District

Osceola, Arkansas

\$408,442

Areas served: Columbia, Crittenden, Fulton, Jefferson, Hempstead, Lafayette, Mississippi, Newton, Nevada, Ouachita, Stone, Sharp, and Van Buren Counties

Contact: Milton Washington, 870-563-2561

Congressional District(s): AR-01, AR-02, AR-03, AR-04

The grant will be used for interactive video equipment, computers and training in 14 school districts in 13 different counties in the state of Arkansas. The schools will utilize T-1 lines that they already have for transmission of the signals. The 6,269 students in the 14 school districts will benefit from the project through the opportunity to participate in new courses and new types of learning using the facilities financed. Faculty members will similarly benefit from the availability of new opportunities for continuing education and professional development. And local residents will be able to use the equipment for adult education, including job training otherwise unavailable.

Pocahontas School District

Pocahontas, Arkansas

\$461,521

Areas served: Saline, Randolph, IZard, Cross, Arkansas, Sharp, Faulkner, Jackson, Woodruff, Independence, Grant, Lawrence Counties

Contact: Daryl Blaxton, 870-892-4573

Congressional District(s): AR-01, AR-02, AR-04

This project will extend the opportunity for interactive distance learning in 18 rural school districts serving over 13,300 students. DLT funds will be used to help the districts fulfill a need to provide expanded course offerings that are mandated, but not funded by



the State, to provide higher educational opportunities to the students. Grant funds will be used to purchase the interactive distance learning studio equipment.

2003 Grant Awards:

Arkansas School for Mathematics & Science; Hot Springs, AR

\$425,820

Area(s) Served: Towns of Bay, Earie, Elaine, Hot Springs, Parkin, Wilson, and Turrell

Contact: Ralph Malone (501) 622-5100; Fax: 501-622-5108

Congressional District(s): Applicant 4th, Project 1st

The Arkansas School for Mathematics & Science will use RUS grant funds to establish a distance learning network using leased T1 lines within seven school districts and the central hub site at the Arkansas School for Mathematics & Science. The seven school districts involved in this project have formed a consortium with the Arkansas School of Math & Science to improve education in their districts. The project will allow access to expand and enhance instructional programs for 3,422 public school students in underserved communities in Arkansas as well as to provide educational opportunities and training for adults in the communities served.

Parkers Chapel School District; El Dorado, AR

\$354,850

Area(s) Served: Towns of Carthage, El Dorado, Emmet, Huttig, and Kingsland

Contact: John E. Gross (870) 862-4641; Fax: 870-881-5092

Congressional District(s): 4th

Parkers Chapel School District will utilize RUS grant funds to provide distance learning to extremely rural schools within the consortium. The system will ultimately benefit 1,649 students, 156 teachers, and 12 administrators by providing expanded course offerings, higher education opportunities, and professional development. The network will also be available to residents of the communities for job advancement training, health care providers, and businesses.



2002 Grant Award:

Barton-Lexa School District / Quad-District Distance Learning Consortium; Barton, Arkansas

\$500,000 Grant

Area(s) Served: Philips, Counties of Cross, Chicot and Arkansas

Contact: Roy Kirkland (870) 572-7294; Fax: (870) 572-1577

Congressional District(s): Applicant: 1st & 4th / Project: 1st & 4th

The Barton-Lexa School District will use RUS grant funds for a distance learning project on behalf of the Quad-District Distance Learning Consortium. This consortium is comprised of four (4) schools districts located in four different counties in eastern Arkansas. State-of-the-art distance learning labs will be installed in three (3) elementary schools, two (2) middle schools and three (3) high schools which will create a network that expand course offerings, increase the number of advanced placement classes and provide professional development training for teachers. The community will benefit from adult education classes such as GED courses as well as the establishment of on-line or multi-site discussion on a variety health and social issues. This project combines existing technology infrastructure such as T-1 lines and local education networks with the self-contained labs that have all the components needed to connect each end user site. The design of these units is compatible with community college, university and state educational networks. The project will benefit 2,941 students and potentially 80,837 rural community residents.

2001 Awards:

De Queen Public Schools; De Queen, Arkansas

\$500,000 Grant

Area(s) Served; Sevier County

Contact: Mr. Bill Blackwood; (870) 584-4312

Fax: (870) 642-8881

Congressional District(s): 4th.

De Queen Public Schools will use RUS grant funds for a distance learning project for the De Queen/Foreman/Ashdown Distance Learning Consortium. This consortium is comprised of three school districts in Arkansas. Eight end user sites are proposed including De Queen High School, De Queen Middle School, De Queen Elementary School, De Queen Primary School, Foreman High School, Foreman Elementary School, Ashdown Middle School, and L.F. Henderson Intermediate School. The focus of this project is to enable the three school districts to network with each other using a compressed video system with delivery via high-speed telecommunications (T1) lines. Equipment to be used includes a video conferencing system with dual monitors, document cameras, and a desktop conferencing unit at each school. Each school will also have multimedia computers installed in distance learning classrooms, libraries, media



centers, labs, and regular classrooms to provide online and other technology resources for teachers and students. This project will benefit 2,949 students and 244 staff per year. In addition, 27,600 residents in the immediate communities will be directly impacted.

Crowley's Ridge Education Service Cooperative; Harrisburg, Arkansas

\$81,872 Grant

Area(s) Served: Crittenden and Mississippi Counties

Contact: Mr. Jim Parrish; (870) 578-5426

Fax: (870) 578-5896

Congressional District(s): 1st.

Crowley's Ridge Education Service Cooperative (CRESC) will use RUS grant funds for a distance learning project to enhance learning, education and training opportunities for rural residents. The participating school districts are Crawfordsville, Earle, Osceola, and Turrell. CRESC will provide professional development for teachers in reading and mathematics to increase achievement in lower grades to reduce the area's school drop-out rate. In addition, the network will offer increased course subject diversity for students and increased adult learning opportunities for community members. The project's new distance learning laboratories will allow one teacher to teach a course at all four schools simultaneously. New courses will include advanced placement courses, upper-level courses, and classes taught by teachers in limited supply. This project will help the affected communities achieve objectives of the Arkansas Smart Start Initiative, a program of the Arkansas Department of Education. This is a comprehensive plan to increase student reading and math achievement in the lower elementary school grades, creating a strong foundation for greater academic success in upper grades. Quantitatively, the Arkansas Smart Start Initiative goal is for all children to meet or exceed grade-level requirements in reading and math by Grade 4. The Smart Start Initiative accomplishes this through curriculum-specific teacher training. This project will benefit approximately 3,190 students in these four school districts.

Helena-West Helena/Forrest City Arkansas Delta Technology Consortium, c/o Helena-West Helena School District; Helena, Arkansas

\$500,000 Grant

Area(s) Served: Phillips and St. Francis Counties

Contact: Mr. Rodney E. Echols; (870) 338-4425

Fax: (870) 338-4434

Congressional District(s): 1st.

The Helena-West Helena Distance Learning Consortium is comprised of two school districts along the Mississippi River Delta. Helena-West Helena School District will serve as the fiscal agent for the Consortium. Serving as a collaborator of the project, although not a member of the consortium, is Great Rivers Education Cooperative



(GREC). The consortium plans to enable six schools in two school districts to network with each other and the GREC to share teacher resources using a compressed video system operating over high speed telecommunications (T1) lines. The project will benefit 2,764 students and 536 staff per year. In addition, 23,059 residents in the immediate communities will be directly impacted.

2000 Awards:

ARKANSAS-MISSISSIPPI RURAL SCHOOL CONSORTIUM C/O DES ARC SCHOOL DISTRICT

\$350,000 Grant

Area(s) served: Arkansas: Prairie and Woodruff Counties; Mississippi: Tallahatchie County

Contact: Mr. Carroll Denton; (870) 256-4164; FAX: (870) 256-3701

Congressional Districts: Arkansas - 1st Mississippi – 1st and 2nd

The Arkansas-Mississippi Rural School Consortium intends to use RUS grant funds for a distance learning project for Responsible Enhancement of Academic Development (Project READING). Project READING will include the three rural school districts of Des Arc School District and Augusta School District in Arkansas and the East Tallahatchie Consolidated School District in Mississippi. The goals of this project are to improve student achievement in reading, reduce the effects of rurality and geographic isolation through technology, enhance the school districts' technology infrastructure for teacher development and academic improvement, and reduce violence and conflict in the school communities. Interactive distance learning classrooms will be installed at each of the three high schools. Desktop conferencing capability will also link these three schools for small-group activities, including periodic training of teacher and student teams. The project will allow individuals and/or small groups to use desktop conferencing and the on-line READING network for sharing ideas, difficulties, and resources. Networked multimedia computers will provide access to the desktop conferencing and the READING network, a closed-access on-line chat box, at secondary schools in each district. This project will benefit the 3,000 students enrolled in these three school districts as well as the approximately 34,000 people living in those three rural counties.

DELTA HEALTH EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP, C/O ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

\$350,000 Grant

States of Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee

Contact: Dr. Phyllis Skorga, (870) 910-8033; FAX: (870) 910-8036

Congressional Districts: AR 1st and 4th; LA 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, and 6th; MS 2nd; and TN 7th and 9th

The Arkansas State University will act as fiscal agent and overseer of the development of a distance learning network called the Delta Health Education Partnership. The



partnership consists of Arkansas State University, Arkansas Office of Rural Health, Alcorn State University, Delta State University, Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing, Louisiana Office of Rural Health, Louisiana State University at Shreveport, Tennessee Department of Health, and University of Tennessee at Memphis. The partnership plans to use the grant funds, along with matching funds, to extend health education courses to rural family nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, and physician's assistants in the Lower Mississippi River Delta Region. It also plans to provide access to quality education and health care services to health care professionals, students, and rural residents of this same region. The Mississippi Delta area encompasses 140 Counties in the 4 State area. The academic partners will deliver and provide access to health education and health services at the rural end user sites (mostly clinics in rural towns) through a web-based network from the coordinating hub at Arkansas State University. During the first year, the project proposes to benefit 110 students from 6 educational institutions and 50 rural health sites. It is anticipated that rural residents of this region will benefit with better health care diagnostic and preventive medicine that was not previously available to health care professionals who care for them.

SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

\$203,001 Grant

Area(s) served: Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland, Desha and Lincoln Counties

Contact: Mr. Bruce Terry, (870) 367-6848, Fax: (870) 367-9877

Congressional Districts 1st and 4th

The Southeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative (SEARK) submitted this project on behalf of the Arkansas City, Crossett, Dermott, Eudora, Fountain Hill, Gillet, Gould, Grady, Wilmot, Hermitage, Lakeside and Rison School Districts, located in the Mississippi Delta. The goal of this project is to increase economic prosperity in southern Arkansas by providing professional development courses, college preparatory classes and lifelong learning opportunities. Approximately 150 students, 120 teachers and many community members will benefit from this project each semester. A compressed, interactive video system will be installed in each school district that will be used in conjunction with existing network infrastructure to provide distance learning opportunities to the twelve rural school districts. In addition, the school districts will benefit from the educational support and expertise that SEARK can provide thorough its service group of 21 total school districts.



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF

\$350,000 Grant

Area(s) served: Jefferson, Cross and Chicott Counties

Contact: Dr. Jacquelyn McCray, (870) 543-8130, FAX: (870) 543-8035

Congressional Districts: 1st and 4th

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB), a historically Black College/University, is the lead institution and fiscal agent for this project which includes the following school districts: Altheimer Unified School District, Lakeside School District, and Parkin School District. UAPB proposes to use RUS grant funds to install a distance learning classroom at each of the three high schools, equipping them to participate in shared instruction and in regionally or nationally broadcast network. To supplement that instruction, multimedia computer workstations with printers will be installed in some classrooms to allow for independent and small-group use of on-line resources at the three high schools. Students will have access to high-quality instruction in challenging upper-division coursework provided by subject matter certified teachers by way of a local, state and national distance learning networks. Adults in the three target communities will have access to for-credit college coursework via interactive classroom distance learning technologies. Teachers in the UAPB Distance Learning Consortium will have participated in professional development via the UAPB distance learning network. This project will serve 11,220 students and rural residents.

COSSATOT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

\$234,977 Grant

Area(s) served: Howard, Little River and Sevier Counties

Contact: Mr. Frank G. Adams, (870) 584-4471; FAX (870) 642-3320

Congressional District: 4th

Cossatot Technical College proposes to connect three (3) end-user sites located in Ashdown, De Queen and Nashville by way of interactive classrooms using compressed video. This will make university courses available in both baccalaureate and graduate study programs and delivering nursing and medical programs to area health care professionals and emergency medical personnel. In addition to courses offered by Cossatot Technical College in degree programs and continuing education courses, Southern Arkansas University and Texas A and M have indicated an interest in establishing an interactive video to their courses. It is estimated that the college will serve between 300 and 400 new students each year in both credit and non-credit formats. More than 3,000 individuals will have the opportunity to attend college and to complete their educational goals.



1999 Awards:

Arkansas-Mississippi River Delta School Partnership, c/o Brinkley Public Schools; Brinkley, Arkansas

\$350,000 Grant

Counties Served: Monroe, Phillips and St. Francis

Contact: Joe C. Williams, (870) 734-5000: Fax (870) 734-5002

The Arkansas-Mississippi River Delta School Partnership is comprised of four school districts; Brinkley, Elaine, Hughes, and Lake View, with four end user sites. The districts will connect with the Great Rivers Educational Cooperative. The project will benefit approximately 1,350 students, 240 staff and 7,416 residents. The four districts will not only share their resources, but they will also benefit from the faculty and expertise of the four districts involved in the Arkansas Delta Consortium, a 1998 grant recipient. Multimedia computers will be installed in distance learning classrooms, libraries, media centers, labs and regular classrooms at the four end user sites to provide on line technology resources for staff and students taking the classes via distance learning. Elaine and Lake View are Champion Communities. Hughes is part of an Enterprise Community.

East Arkansas Delta Consortium, c/o Cross County School District; Cherry Valley, Arkansas

\$350,000 Grant

Area(s) served: Cross, Lee, and St. Francis Counties

Contact: Mr. Don E. Smith; (870) 588-3338: Fax (870) 588-3565

The East Arkansas Delta Consortium consists of the Cross County, Lee County, and Palestine/Wheatley School Districts located in the Mississippi Delta. The goal of this project is to use distance learning technology to improve student achievement and positively impact the local communities by increasing the availability of course offerings and instructional quality for these three rural school districts. This project, in collaboration with the Great Rivers Educational Cooperative, will place interactive distance learning classrooms at three high schools and one middle school. Also, to supplement instruction at these schools and two elementary schools, additional computer equipment will be installed in labs to allow students to use on-line resources individually or in small groups. This system will furthermore allow for professional development of residents of these communities by offering community college courses through the Great Rivers Educational Cooperative distance learning network. This project will positively impact 2,500 students, 268 certified teachers and approximately 5,000 residents.



1998 Award:

Arkansas Delta Consortium

\$350,000 Grant

Location: Barton, Arkansas

Area(s) served: Phillips and Monroe

Contact Roy Kirkland, Jr.

Telephone Number: (870) 572-7294

Fax Number: (870) 572-1577

Congressional District: 1st.

The Arkansas Delta Consortium is comprised of four school districts in the Mississippi River Delta with five end user sites. The four school districts, Barton-Lexa, Clarendon, Holly Grove, and Marvell will connect with the Great Rivers Educational Cooperative in West Helena, Arkansas. This project will benefit about 1,200 high school students, 400 elementary students, and 175 staff members, and 5,000 residents in the immediate communities per year in Phillips and Monroe counties. At each of the four high schools and one elementary school, multimedia computers will be installed in distance learning classrooms, libraries, media centers, labs, and/or regular classrooms to provide on-line and other technology resources for teaching staff and those students taking classes taught via distance learning.

1995 Grant Award:

St. Edward Mercy Medical Center

A medical and education system will link SMC and three hospitals in western Arkansas. The sites will be able to access medical training, teleradiology/EKG interpretation services and training courses for medical professionals from West Arkansas Community College.

1994 Grant Awards:

University of Arkansas for Medical Services

Name of Project: Arkansas Rural MedLink (ARM)

Project Area: The counties of Fulton, Izard, Sharp, Searcy, Stone,, Pope, Van Buren, Cleburne, Conway, Yell, Poinsett, Cross, Woodruff, Saint Francis, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, Dallas, Cleveland, Lincoln, Desha, Calhoun, Bradley, Drew, Ashley and Chicot.

A consortium consisting of 7 small rural hospitals will bring interactive video and other electronic services to the remaining 5 hospitals currently not served by a medical network pilot project. These hospitals, located in the Eastern Delta and the North-central and West-central areas of Arkansas, will link to resources at the University of Arkansas at



Little Rock to complete a comprehensive medical and health services educational network serving 26 rural counties. Services include clinical consultations with medical specialists on diagnoses and treatment procedures, teleradiology, 24-hour access to trauma specialists, continuing medical educational programs, administrative consultations, mental health, public health and community health programs. The network will employ a combination transmission pathway using T1 circuits where phone service is more advanced, and 56 Kbs, or switched 56, circuits for more remote sites.

Ozarks Unlimited Resources Educational Cooperative

Name of Project: OURNET

Project Area: Baxter, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Marion, Newton, and Searcy Counties

A consortium of 19 high schools in North Central Arkansas will connect through a two-way interactive video system to other educational television systems and to various University of Arkansas campuses and programs. The schools will also will share teachers and course offerings among consortium participants. Funds will be used for studio equipment, classroom modifications and other video-related equipment. The transmission medium is linear broadband analog over fiber optic lines. Transmission facilities will be provided by 5 independent telephone companies, all RUS borrowers.

1993 Grant Award:

Baptist Medical Center

Arkadelphia

A 67-mile teleradiology link with the center's flagship facility, in Little Rock, to send patients' images, scans and x-rays for review by specialists.