



Press Release

California Telehealth Network Receives Grant from USDA

Sacramento, CA (November 26, 2014) – The California Telehealth Network (CTN) announced today that it has received a USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) grant award for \$486,132. With this grant, CTN will serve five participating CTN rural healthcare providers in eight rural communities.

“One of the important roles CTN plays is assisting our participating sites in accessing resources like the USDA DLT grants to fund the deployment of telehealth equipment and technology,” said Eric Brown, CTN President and CEO. “We are very pleased to be working with Polycom, Temedicine.com and USDA to help provide telehealth equipment and cloud based services to our member sites.”

The three year grant will enable participating CTN rural healthcare providers - Ampla Health, Southern Inyo Health Clinic, Redwoods Rural Health Center, Northeastern Rural Health Clinic, and Riverside San Bernardino County Indian Health – to use the grant funded telehealth equipment and training to improve access to telemedicine specialty physician services and distance education sessions in underserved rural communities in northern, central and southern California.

“USDA’s investments in projects like this are critical to ensuring that people who live and work in rural communities have access to specialized healthcare without having to travel long distances; something their urban counterparts have long taken for granted,” said USDA Rural Development State Director Glenda Humiston. “This program is just one of over forty that USDA offers to support strong, healthy rural communities across California, and the nation.”

USDA awards DLT grants annually through a competitive selection process. This year, 65 projects were selected totaling over \$20 million, all of which will bring academic and medical services to rural communities nationwide.

“We are very excited about this grant for patients throughout California. This funding will provide a positive impact on the most medically underserved California communities that are isolated and critically lack access to specialty care. With the equipment and technology provided through this grant we anticipate that ultimately 300 or more hospitals and clinics connected to the California Telehealth Network stand to benefit greatly,” said Daniel Kurywchak, Telemedicine.com CEO.

About CTN

The mission of the California Telehealth Network is to promote advanced information technologies and services to improve access to high quality healthcare focusing on medically underserved and rural

Californians. An independent non-profit 501c3, CTN has become one of the largest FCC-funded statewide telehealth networks in the nation, connecting over 750 healthcare provider locations. Additional funding has been provided by the California Emerging Technology Fund, the California HealthCare Foundation, the California Teleconnect Fund, the National Coalition for Health Integration, United HealthCare and the University of California. For more information, please visit www.caltelehealth.org or connect with CalTeleHealth on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

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