

Health Resources & Services Administration
Office of Rural Health Policy

**Office for the Advancement of
Telehealth**

Presented by XXXX XXXXXXXXXX



HRSA - ORHP



**Office for the Advancement
of Telehealth (OAT)**

Mission

To advance the use of telehealth
technologies for improving access
and quality of health care services
for the underserved

Serves as the operational focal point
for coordinating and advancing the
use of telehealth technologies.

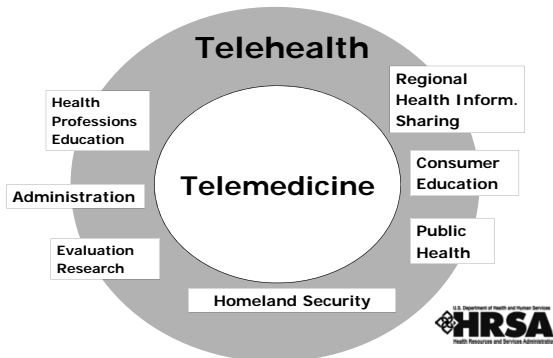


OAT Linking with the Rural Initiative

- Helping link Telehealth Grantees with other ORHP Grantees
- Promoting the Telehealth Resource Centers to Rural Communities
- Linking with USDA Distance Learning and Telehealth Programs



Telehealth vs. Telemedicine



OAT Grant Program Objectives

- Improve Access
- Improve Quality of Services
 - Reduce Medical Errors
 - Work Force Development
- Foster Integrated Systems of Care
- Document Value Added of Telehealth Technologies



OAT Activities

- Telehealth Network Grants
- Licensure and Portability
- Telehealth Resource Centers
- Contracts
- Partnerships



OAT Grant Awards

- Awarded over \$260 million in grants since 1989
- Competitive and Congressionally-mandated projects



Telehealth Network Grants

To demonstrate how telehealth technologies can be used through telehealth networks to:

- (1) *expand access to, coordinate, and improve quality of health services;*
- (2) *improve and expand the training of health care providers; and*
- (3) *expand and improve the quality of health information available to health care providers, and to patients and their families*

Eligibility: TNGP--Open to urban and rural networks, but at least 50% of funding for rural areas.



Telehealth Grants Allow Grantees to . . .

- *Purchase/lease equipment (up to 40% of grant)*
- *Pay for organizational development and operations*
- *Conduct internal evaluations on cost-effectiveness of services*
- *Provide clinical services, develop distance education programs, mentor/precept at a distance*
- *Promote collaboration in the region to improve the quality of and access to health services*



Telehomecare Networks

- Evaluate the cost and effectiveness of remote vital sign monitoring of individual patients and the delivery of healthcare services to individuals in their place of residence by a healthcare provider using telecommunications technologies to exchange healthcare information over a distance.



Licensure Portability Grant Program

- Provides support for State professional licensing boards to carry out programs under which licensing boards of various States cooperate to develop and implement State policies that will reduce statutory and regulatory barriers to telemedicine.



Telehealth Resource Centers

Regional Resource Centers

- California Telemedicine & eHealth Center (CTEC)
- Great Plains Telehealth Resource and Assistance Center (GPTRAC)
- Northwest Regional Telehealth Resource Center (NWRTC)
- Southwest Telehealth Resource Center

National Resource Center

- Center for Telehealth and eHealth Law



CTEC

Service Area

Purpose

- California

To provide leadership and direction in the development application of innovative telemedicine and telehealth systems to improve the delivery and availability of health programs.



CTEC Services

- Develop, sustain, and expand regional rural Telehealth networks
- Expand professional Telehealth training and education initiatives
- Provide education and resources to assist policy organizations/makers to encourage appropriate reimbursement streams and support for Telehealth at both the state and national level.
- Serve as a key resource for advanced integration of Telehealth technologies into health organizations.
- Develop resources to assist rural and underserved communities to sustain Telehealth program after grant funding; and
- Serve as a key resource to assist organizations with the development of sustainable business plans to maintain and expand Telehealth programs.



GPTRAC

Service Area

- South Dakota
- North Dakota
- Iowa
- Nebraska
- Minnesota
- Wisconsin

Purpose

To assist rural health care providers, facilities, and organizations within the region and around the nation in order to better utilize and implement telehealth technology.



GPTRAC Services

- Customized “Coaching” services specific to the needs of individual facilities.
- Assess equipment and service needs
- On line library of resources, tools and articles
- Educational events
- Downloadable education and training materials
- Program evaluation.



NRTRC

Service Area

- Alaska
- Hawaii
- Oregon
- Washington
- Utah
- Wyoming
- Idaho

Purpose

The NRTRC leverages collective expertise of 33 telehealth networks to share information and resources and develop new telehealth programs.



NRTRC Services

- Clinical Services
- Educational Services
- Marketing
- Operations
- Project Management
- Protocols and Procedures
- Reimbursement
- Security/HIPAA
- Training



Southwest Telehealth Resource Center

Service Area	Purpose
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arizona• Utah• Colorado• New Mexico	To assist start-up telehealth programs in their development and serves as a resource for existing programs regarding changes in technology and other issues affecting telehealth in the Southwest region.



Southwest Telehealth Resource Center Services

- Strategic/Business Plans
- Clinical Development Strategies
- Best Practices Models
- Technology Assessment
- Business and Management Policy Plans
- Online Learning Modules
- Regional legislative and regulatory issues
- Sustainability
- Evaluation



CTEL

Service Area

- National

Purpose

To advise, educate and inform telehealth stakeholders and interested parties in the legal and regulatory issues facing telehealth



CTEL Services

- Disseminating and analyzing key telehealth information and research on key legal, regulatory, policy, and legislative documents for HRSA grantees.
- Provide training, education, support and technical assistance through workshops and meetings to better inform and educate HRSA grantees.
- Reimbursement
- Licensure
- Privacy, Security and Confidentiality
- FDA Regulatory Issues
- Telecommunications Legal and Regulatory Issues
- Credentialing and Accreditation



Websites

CTeL www.telehealthlawcenter.org

CTEC www.cteonline.org

GPTRAC www.gptrac.org

Southwest www.southwesttrc.org

NRTRC www.nrtrc.org



FY 10 Grant Competitions

- Telehealth Network Grant Program
- Licensure Portability Grant Program
- Telehealth Resource Center Grant Program



OAT's Partners in Telehealth

- HRSA Bureaus and Offices
- Office of the National Coordinator (ONC)
- Indian Health Service
- CMS
- USDA
- FCC
- American Telemedicine Association
- National Rural Health Association



Other Resources

- American Telemedicine Association
<http://www.atmeda.org>
- Telemedicine Information Exchange
<http://tie.telemed.org/funding/>
- Rural Assistance Center
<http://raconline.org>
- AFHCAN Telehealth Solutions
<http://www.afhcan.org/>