Statewide Telehealth Infrastructure Program

Session Law 2023-134, Section 9B.7A.(c)



Report to the

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services

and

Fiscal Research Division

by the

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

May 1, 2025

Executive Summary

SECTION 9B.7A.(b) of Session Law 2023-134 requires the Office of Rural Health (ORH) to establish a telehealth infrastructure grant program to award grants on a competitive basis to rural healthcare providers to be used to purchase equipment, high-speed internet access, and any other infrastructure necessary to establish telehealth services, defined as the use of two-way, real-time interactive audio and video where the healthcare provider and the patient can hear and see each other. In awarding grants under this program, the ORH is subject to the following requirements and limitations:

(1) Priority shall be given to independent primary care practices and independent obstetrics and gynecology practices.

(2) The maximum amount of a grant award is two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) per grantee.

FUNDS FOR TELEHEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM SECTION 9B.7A.(a). Of the funds appropriated in this act from the ARPA Temporary Savings Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Central Management and Support, Office of Rural Health (ORH), the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and the sum of fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2024-2025 fiscal year shall be allocated for the telehealth infrastructure grant program authorized by subsection (b) of this section.

SECTION 9B.7A.(c) further instructs ORH to submit reports as follows: By April 1, 2024, and by April 1, 2025, ORH shall report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services and the Fiscal Research Division on the grants awarded under this section. The report shall include at least all of the following information:

(1) A list of grant recipients.

(2) The total amount of grant funds awarded to each recipient.

During SFY 2024, ORH created infrastructure to address this funding through establishing 2.0 FTE positions and developing the Request for Applications (RFA). To date, ORH has completed two RFA processes. The initial RFA closed on October 29, 2024, with awards announced on November 4, 2024. ORH opened a second round of this RFA on November 12, 2024, to make remaining funds available for applicants who were unable to participate in the first RFA. That RFA closed on January 31, 2025, with awards announced on March 7th, 2025. With funds still remaining from rounds one and two, a third round of the RFA was initiated on February 21st, 2025 with an application deadline of April 4th, 2025. The awards announcement for the third round is projected for April 16th, 2025. As with previous RFA rounds, depending on the response, ORH may opt either to extend the third round or post additional RFAs until the entire funding amount is obligated.

The following is a list of grant recipients, primary county served, and award amounts for the first two rounds of applications.

ROUND	GRANTEE	COUNTY SERVED	AWARD
	ARC Family Medicine DBA Avance Care North Wake Forest	Wake	\$ 250,000.00
Round 1	Beckford medical center	Vance	\$ 250,000.00
Round 1	Benson Area Medical Center dba Benson Health	Johnston	\$ 233,344.00
Round 1	Black River Health Services	Pender	\$ 245,246.00
	Blue Ridge Community Health Services	Henderson	\$ 79,999.00
Round 1	Cabarrus Rowan Community Health Centers	Rowan	\$ 250,000.00
	Carolina Mercy Medical Clinic	Gaston	\$ 92,300.00
Round 1	Clay County Health Department	Clay	\$ 248,299.00
Round 1	Coastal Horizons	Columbus	\$ 172,522.51
Round 1	Community Care Clinic of Dare	Dare	\$ 250,000.00
Round 1	Community Free Clinic	Cabarrus	\$ 250,000.00
Round 1	Duplin Medical Association Inc	Duplin	\$ 250,000.00
Round 1	First Care Medical Clinic	Stanly	\$ 246,169.00
Round 1	Grace Clinic of Yadkin Valley	Surry	\$ 67,380.00
	Granville Health System	Granville	\$ 25,533.00
Round 1	Hodges Family Practice, Inc	Randolph	\$ 250,000.00
	Kinston Community Health Center	Lenoir	\$ 150,000.00
	LifeBrite Hospital Group of Stokes	Stokes	\$ 250,000.00
	Mountain Area Health Education Center, Inc. (MAHEC)	Buncombe	\$ 216,106.02
Round 1	Ocracoke Health Center, Inc.	Hyde	\$ 196,512.00
Round 1 Round 1	Open Water Medical PA	Carteret	\$ 190,312.00
	Pamlico County Health Department	Pamlico	\$ 250,000.00
	Person Family Medical Center, Inc.	Person	\$ 166,760.00
Round 1 Round 1	Piedmont Health Services		\$ 250,000.00
	Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center	Orange	\$ 250,000.00
	Rural Health Group, Inc.	Hertford Halifax	\$ 250,000.00
	Southeastern Life Center, Incorporated	Robeson	\$ 250,000.00
			\$ 250,000.00
	Stokes County Health Department	Stokes Vance	\$ 230,000.00
	Sunflower Direct Primary Care, PLLC Tyrrell County Rural Health Association	Tyrrell	\$ 72,990.00
			\$ 250,000.00
	Vance Family Medicine Vecinos, Inc.	Vance Jackson	\$ 250,000.00
	Washington Regional Medical Center	Washington	\$ 250,000.00
	Bluebell Health and Wellness, PLLC/RHC		\$ 250,000.00
	Columbus Family Medical, Pa	Wayne Brunswick	\$ 250,000.00
	Community Care Clinic Comprehensive Interventions, Inc.	Watauga	\$ 120,578.00 \$ 249,975.00
		Martin	\$ 249,975.00
	Dare County Department of Health and Human Services	Dare	. ,
	Deel Initiative	Polk	\$ 247,765.00
	Family Solutions	Randolph	\$ 50,000.00
	Firsthealth of the Carolinas	Richmond	\$ 250,000.00
Round 2	Greater Hickory Cooperative Christian Ministry	Catawba	\$ 150,000.00
	Henderson County Free Medical Clinic Inc dba The Free Clinic	Henderson	\$ 250,000.00
Round 2	Holden Beach Medical Center, PA	Brunswick	\$ 183,618.00
	Hope Clinic	Pamlico	\$ 142,110.00
Round 2	Kings Clinic and Urgent Care PLLC	Cleveland	\$ 250,000.00
	Lee County Health Department	Lee	\$ 171,277.00
	Martin-Tyrrell-Washington District Health Department	Washington	\$ 250,000.00
	Mountain Community Health Partnership, Incorporated	Yancey	\$ 242,960.00
	North Carolina Farmworkers' Project	Sampson	\$ 249,431.00
Round 2	Opportunities Industrialization Center	Edgecombe	\$ 250,000.00
	Roanoke Valley Psychiatric Associates, PA	Halifax	\$ 250,000.00
	Rural Health Group, Inc	Halifax	\$ 250,000.00
	Scotland Health Care System	Scotland	\$ 148,278.00
	Southeastern Integrated Care, LLC	Robeson	\$ 250,000.00
	The Center for Rural Health Innovation	Mitchell	\$ 185,665.00
	Wilmington Family Practice	Brunswick	\$ 200,000.00
Round 2	Wilson County Health Department	Wilson	\$ 225,000.00
			\$ 12,279,817.53