



## Rural Health Outreach Grant Program

**MultiPlan grants help member hospitals in rural areas educate, screen or otherwise serve their communities.**

MultiPlan knows that a hospital's relationship with its community is integral to its ability to serve its residents. That's why, since 1995, we've offered grants to rural hospitals for the last eleven years. MultiPlan's Rural Health Outreach Grant Program has awarded over \$210,000 to help rural hospitals reach out to their area's residents with services designed to improve their access to healthcare.

If your hospital serves a rural area and you would like to introduce a new service, expand an existing service, or reach out to a new population in your community, consider submitting an application for the 2007 Grant Program.

### 2006 Rural Health Outreach Grant Winners

**Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center in Hartsville, SC** will supplement their current community wellness efforts by enhancing their Diabetes Awareness Program. With this grant, the facility plans to purchase additional educational materials and teaching aides to use in numerous community events.

**Dunn Memorial Hospital in Bedford, IN** plans to refurbish a decommissioned ambulance to use as a mobile health and wellness unit, traveling to surrounding counties to provide health screenings and educational classes. This will help encourage good health practices while reducing healthcare costs for community residents.

**Grimes St. Joseph Health Center in Navasota, TX** will expand a current outreach program that provides flu shots and physicals to the Grimes County Volunteer Fire Department. This expansion will add CPR Certification, and will also make the programs available to the Grimes County Sheriff's Department and the Police Department.

**Gunnison Valley Hospital in Gunnison, CO** will begin the Safe Patient Handling Program. Using the grant money, they will purchase specialized equipment to assist nurses with patient-handling tasks. They will also acquire a sit-stand hoist, pivot discs, and transfer belts in order to eliminate the current practice of manually repositioning patients.

**Louisiana Heart Hospital located in Lacombe, LA** will augment their current Community Outreach Program of education and free screenings. This program would promote a healthier lifestyle to local residents by testing blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol. The need to expand this program is even greater now since the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina have left many unemployed and without health insurance.

**Molokai General Hospital located in Kaunakakai, HI**, one of the six locations chosen by the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a Cancer Prevention and Treatment Demonstration Project, will introduce the Kukui Ahi-Cancer Prevention & Treatment Demonstration Project to address the local community of Native Hawaiians and Asian Americans who statistically are shown to have higher cancer mortality and late staged cancer diagnosis.



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**Perry Memorial Hospital in Perry, OK** will initiate smoking cessation classes for the Perry community. The grant money will be used to provide class materials including instructors, nicotine gum and patches for nicotine replacement therapy, among other materials.

**St. Anthony's Medical Center in Morrilton, AR** will begin a Diabetes Self-Management Education Program. The goal of this program is to help members of the community living with diabetes alter their eating and exercise habits to better manage their symptoms. With this grant money, St. Anthony's plans to purchase video training modules and Diabetes education tracking software.

**Stevens Community Medical Center in Morris, MN** will expand their current Women/Men Health Awareness Events by marketing to a larger service area. The Women's Health Awareness Event (held the week following Mother's Day) and the Men's Health Awareness Night (held during the week of Father's Day) provide education and health screenings to the local community.

**Weiser Memorial Hospital in Wieser, ID** plans to upgrade the hospital's computer software throughout the facility. Plans include purchasing an eFilm Workstation for the CT scanner, which enables the radiologists to enhance images, as well as purchasing scheduling software to convert physician schedules into an electronic scheduling format.

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