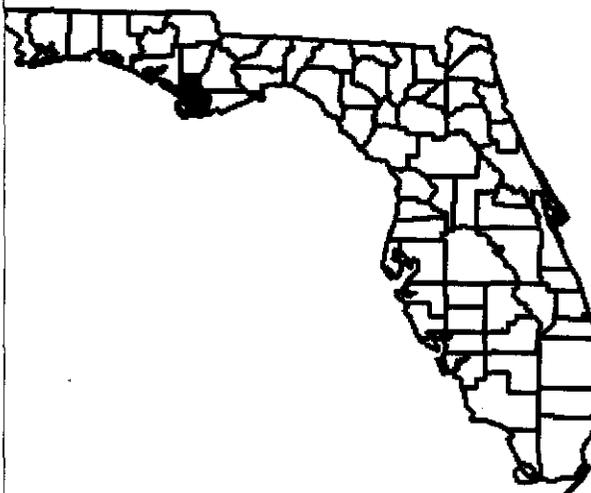


Gulf County

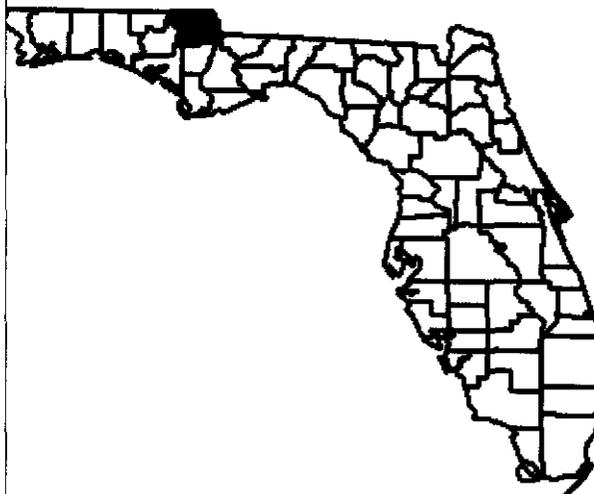
County Seat: Port St. Joe
Nearest MSA: Panama City MSA
Largest Cities: 1 Port St. Joe
 2 Wewahitchka



HEALTH CARE		POPULATION	
Number of Licensed Practitioners: 453		Gulf	Florida
Sacred Heart Hospital		1980	9,746,961
Total Beds:	N/A	1990	12,938,071
Patients Admitted 2005:	N/A	2005	17,789,864
Emergency Dept. Visits 2005:	N/A	2015(p)	21,789,864
North Florida Medical Centers		2030(p)	26,419,200
Gulf County Public Health			
LABOR FORCE		PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME	
(2005)		Gulf	Florida
Labor Force: 6,160		2002	\$20,056
Labor Force % of County Population: 44.1		2003	\$20,545
Number in County Unemployed: 240		2004	\$21,872
Unemployment Rate: 3.9%			\$31,469
QUALITY OF LIFE		MIGRATION	
Cost of Living - Price Level Index (2005)		(2004)	
Florida State Average = 100		In-Migration	644
	Sample	Out-Migration	672
Total	92.49	Net-Migration	-28
Food	98.75		
Health Care	91.28		
Housing	85.23		
Personal Goods & Services	95.40		
Transportation	98.89		

Jackson County

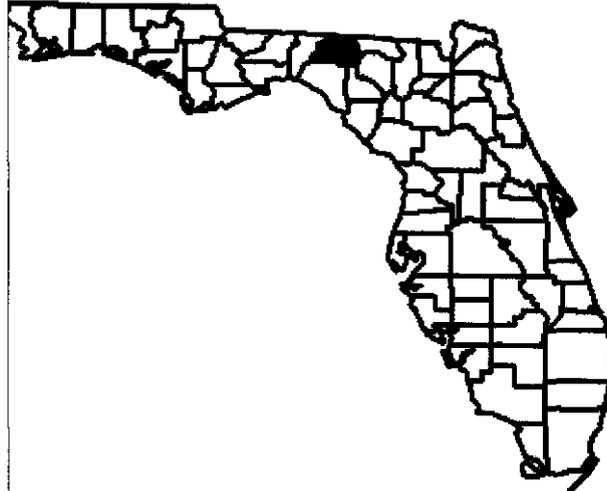
County Seat: Marianna
 Nearest MSA: Tallahassee MSA
 Largest Cities: 1 Marianna
 2 Graceville
 3 Sneads



HEALTH CARE		POPULATION	
Number of Licensed Practitioners: 1,956		Jackson	Florida
Campbellton/Graceville Hospital		1980	9,746,961
Total Beds:	49	1990	12,938,071
Patients Admitted 2005:	313	2005	17,789,864
Emergency Dept. Visits 2005:	1,589	2015(p)	21,789,864
Jackson Hospital		2030(p)	26,419,200
Total Beds:	100		
Patients Admitted 2005:	3,375		
Emergency Dept. Visits 2005:	18,143		
Jackson County Public Health			
LABOR FORCE		PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME	
(2005)		2002	Jackson
Labor Force: 20,652			Florida
Labor Force % of County Population: 42.2		2003	\$19,654
Number in County Unemployed: 813		2004	\$20,807
Unemployment Rate: 3.9%			\$21,294
			\$29,709
			\$30,128
			\$31,469
QUALITY OF LIFE		MIGRATION	
Cost of Living - Price Level Index (2005)		(2004)	
Florida State Average = 100		in-Migration	1,633
	Sample	Out-Migration	1,371
Total	89.83	Net-Migration	262
Food	102.38		
Health Care	91.80		
Housing	78.31		
Personal Goods & Services	95.02		
Transportation	96.44		

Madison County

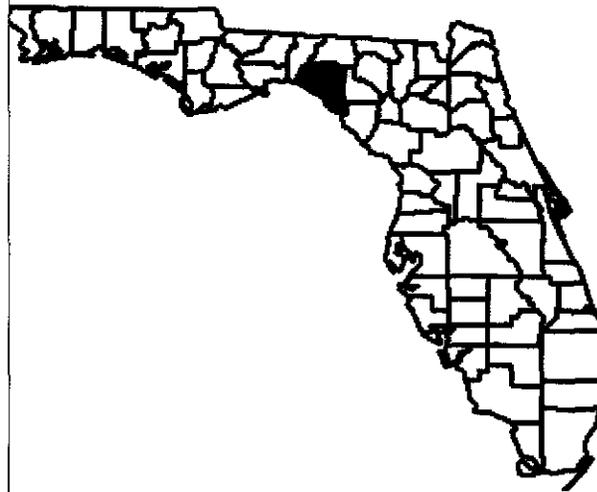
County Seat: Madison
 Nearest MSA: Tallahassee MSA
 Largest Cities: 1 Madison
 2 Greenville
 3 Lee



HEALTH CARE		POPULATION	
Number of Licensed Practitioners: 613		Madison	Florida
Madison County Memorial Hospital		1980	14,894
Total Beds:	42	1990	16,569
Patients Admitted 2005:	2,207	2005	19,092
Emergency Dept. Visits 2005:	13,403	2015(p)	21,441
North Florida Medical Centers		2030(p)	23,564
Madison County Public Health			26,419,200
LABOR FORCE		PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME	
(2005)		Madison	Florida
Labor Force: 7,093		2002	\$17,278
Labor Force % of County Population: 37.2		2003	\$17,549
Number in County Unemployed: 370		2004	\$18,604
Unemployment Rate: 5.2%			\$31,469
QUALITY OF LIFE		MIGRATION	
Cost of Living - Price Level Index (2005)		(2004)	
Florida State Average = 100		In-Migration	610
	Sample	Out-Migration	541
Total	91.32	Net-Migration	69
Food	102.89		
Health Care	89.82		
Housing	79.60		
Personal Goods & Services	96.84		
Transportation	99.69		

Taylor County

County Seat: Perry
Nearest MSA: Tallahassee MSA
Largest Cities: 1 Perry



HEALTH CARE		POPULATION	
Number of Licensed Practitioners: 579		Taylor	Florida
Doctor's Memorial Hospital		1980	9,746,961
Total Beds: 48		1990	12,938,071
Patients Admitted 2005: 727		2005	17,789,864
Emergency Dept. Visits 2005: 4,138		2015(p)	21,789,864
North Florida Medical Centers		2030(p)	26,419,200
Taylor County Public Health			
LABOR FORCE		PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME	
(2005)		Taylor	Florida
Labor Force: 8,576		2002	\$19,770
Labor Force % of County Population: 43.7		2003	\$19,796
Number in County Unemployed: 386		2004	\$21,225
Unemployment Rate: 4.5%			\$31,469
QUALITY OF LIFE		MIGRATION	
Cost of Living - Price Level Index (2005)		(2004)	
Florida State Average = 100		in-Migration	632
	Sample	Out-Migration	563
Total	91.67	Net-Migration	69
Food	99.75		
Health Care	89.20		
Housing	81.53		
Personal Goods & Services	96.88		
Transportation	100.04		

Appendix B
Letters of Support



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

www.ngov.com
850-488-7146
850-487-0801 fax
May 1, 2007

Lisa Rawlins, Bureau Chief
State Center for Health Statistics
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, MS #16
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Re: Rural Health Care Broadband Access Proposal

Dear Ms. Rawlins:

I am pleased to wholeheartedly support the Agency for Health Care Administration's application to the Federal Communications Commission for this significant grant to fund the deployment of a regional broadband health care network serving several rural communities in North Florida. I am also pleased to support the effort that state agencies have made to partner with the private sector in seeking this federal funding to extend vital telecommunications and information services to rural hospitals, clinics, and physicians. Providing broadband connectivity will allow rural hospitals to communicate more effectively with health care providers in urban centers, transfer medical documents, and fully participate in the developing Florida Health Information Network.

The Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development (OTTED) administers the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) program, a proactive effort involving more than twenty state and regional agencies and organizations that helps rural communities resolve issues affecting their community and economic viability. REDI participated in the consortium made up of representatives from the Agency for Health Care Administration, Children's Medical Services and the Office of Rural Hospital in the Department of Health, Florida State University College of Medicine, MyFloridaNet in the Department of Management Services, the Florida Hospital Association, the Florida Medical Association, North Florida Medical Centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, the Community Health Informatics Organization, the Big Bend Regional Health Information Organization and Florida LambdaRail have in the development of this extraordinary application to serve rural hospitals with telemedicine services and I am grateful for the outstanding effort made by all concerned.

Lisa Rawlins
FCC **Letter of Support**
May 1, 2007
Page 2

By coming together to interconnect Florida's rural hospitals, this coalition *is* taking a first step toward helping all Floridians benefit from the development of high speed internet-based health care.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this excellent project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie Crist". The signature is stylized and cursive, with the first name "Charlie" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Crist".

Charlie Crist

CCI ADS

Thursday, May 03, 2007

Lisa Rawlins, Director
Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, MS # I6
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Ms. Rawlins:

Please accept this letter as an expression of support from Flagler Holdings, Inc. for the Agency for Health Care Administration's application to the Federal Communications Commission for funding to deploy a regional dedicated broadband network. Our organization would be pleased to be a part of the state's effort to partner with other state agencies and with the private sector on this federal funding opportunity that will extend vital telecommunications and information services to rural hospitals, clinics, and physicians.

Flagler Holdings, Inc. is a private investment firm engaged in the business of providing financial advisory services to corporate clients, investing firm capital, and playing a supportive role in the direction of the business of client companies. Flagler also invests in public and private companies, often identifying investment opportunities through our participation in the development of business plans as is the case with this project. We are long-term shareholders, patient in the deployment and return of capital.

Flagler has been consulting and investing for over 10 years and continues to seek out opportunities that fit our areas of expertise. The two principals, Cliff Hinkle and Wayne Watters, have extensive combined financial, managerial, and operating experience with a wide range of companies and institutions. Flagler has consulted and invested in technology ventures including health care technology.

A successful effort would strengthen the information infrastructure of our rural communities and be of tremendous value particularly for their health care systems. Thanks to you and the Agency for your efforts to assist the citizens of the Florida Big Bend.

Sincerely,



Cliff Hinkle
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

April 10, 2007

Ms. Lisa Rawlins, Bureau Chief
Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis
Agency for Health Care Administration
2127 Mahan Drive, MS #16
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Ms. Rawlins:

On behalf of Nemours, I am pleased to provide our support for the Agency for Health Care Administration's application to the Federal Communications Commission for funding for the majority of costs to construct a regional dedicated broadband health care network and for costs of services provided over the network. A dedicated network to connect rural hospitals in Florida's Panhandle to urban hospitals would provide the infrastructure for telemedicine services in that area of the state. Providing broadband connectivity would enable rural hospitals to communicate electronically with providers in urban centers, exchange medical documents and transfer digital medical data.

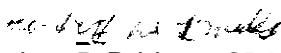
Nemours, a not-for-profit corporation, is one of the largest providers of pediatric health care in the country. It is the mission of Nemours to provide leadership, institutions, and services to improve the health of children. We currently have over 400 employed sub-specialty physicians and own the Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. We deployed our electronic medical record over ten years ago and have one of the most effective digital healthcare networks in the country. Our organization currently provides pediatric rotations for residents coming from eleven medical schools, and it provides Continuing Medical Education for physicians via our website, Nemwv.org. Nemours has made a significant investment in Pediatric Biomedical Research, and it is the recipient of numerous major federal grants for research. Lastly, we developed and continue to provide KidsHeath.org, which is an award winning website for children and adolescent health issues. Over 300,000,000 people have accessed it since 1995.

Ms. Lisa Rawlins, Bureau Chief
Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis
April 10, 2007
Page Two

If the project were funded, Nemours would appreciate the opportunity to participate as a provider of pediatric subspecialty medical care. We could Mer internet-based Continuing Medical Education programs, participate in research initiatives, and make available our expertise in other areas, as well.

We are grateful to have been a participant in the planning effort for this application. The many members of the group provided a significant and thoughtful effort during the five-month period. We are hopeful that the Federal Communications Commission will recognize the importance of Florida's application and provide a favorable decision.

Warm regards,


Robert D. Bridges, CPA
Executive Vice President, Business Operations
& CFO



Internet2
Office of the President & CEO
1000 Oakbrook Drive, Suite 300
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(734) 913-4250
(734) 913-4255 (fax)
www.internet2.edu

April 30, 2007

Lisa Rawlins, Director
Florida Center for Health Information and
Policy Analysis
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, MS #16
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Ms. Rawlins:

On behalf of Internet2, I am pleased to write in strong support of the proposal for the Agency for Health Care Administration that you are submitting to the Federal Communication Commission in response to the Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, **WE** Docket No. 02-60

This proposal's strengths include its:

- Consortium of over fourteen organizations working to connect a broad range of health care providers, including nine rural hospitals in the Florida Panhandle, in order to improve the health information infrastructure in coordination with the Florida Health Information Network (FHIN) initiative;
- Use of Internet2's high bandwidth network to provide access to unmatched content and support; and
- Likelihood of improving chronic disease monitoring and continuing education services in rural and underserved counties, increasing the timely and accurate delivery of health care records, and cost-effectively improving statewide health care.

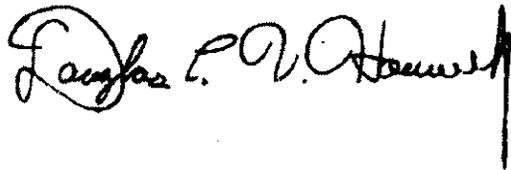
The proposal will utilize the new Internet2 Network and the regional networks to expand the telehealth infrastructure and provide high speed connections to all of its participants. By incorporating Internet2's middleware, security, and performance measurement tools, it also will provide secure exchange of medical records, permit remote access to expert diagnosis and treatment, increase cost-efficiencies by reducing costs associated with travel, and enhance training and research collaboration with secure multi-site videoconferencing. The use of Internet2's network not only will provide an effective, secure, and system for statewide and national telehealth and telemedicine, but also will ensure that training and other integrated resources will be incorporated to optimize the network's utility. In doing so, the regional network that will be created will facilitate the exchange of reliable

data, and digital image, voice, and video transmissions with quality to enhance real-time clinical consultation.

Internet2 is the foremost U.S. advanced networking consortium. Led by the research and education community since 1996, Internet2 promotes the missions of its members by providing both leading-edge network capabilities and unique partnership opportunities that together facilitate the development, deployment and use of revolutionary Internet technologies. The Internet2 Network and its member community innovations in middleware, security, educational networking, and partnerships with premier federal agencies such as NIH are uniquely positioned to deliver high performance, flexible, low-cost connectivity in support of healthcare needs on a sustained basis on the local, regional, state, and national levels. In the process, these partnerships are likely to expand technological capabilities, increase the range of geographical access to sophisticated treatment modalities, and redefine the parameters of disease diagnosis, treatment, and management.

We are pleased to offer our strong support for this innovative proposal, which will enhance the provision of telehealth and telemedicine services regionally and nationwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Douglas E. Van Houweling". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long vertical line extending downwards from the end.

Douglas E. Van Houweling
President and CEO, Internet2



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL

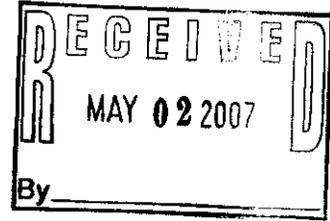
TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA 32399 0001

www.flgov.com

850-488 7146

850-487 0801 fax

April 30, 2007



Lisa Rawlins, Bureau Chief
State Center for Health Statistics
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, MS #16
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Re: *Rural Health Care Broadband Access Proposal*

Dear Ms. Rawlins:

As you are aware, the Governor's Office, Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development (OTTED) has been actively participating in the meetings at the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) relating to the submission of an application to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for funding of costs to deploy a regional dedicated broadband health care network. I am pleased to offer continued support for AHCA's grant application. Providing high speed and reliable broadband connectivity will allow rural hospitals to communicate electronically more effectively with urban health care providers in centers, transfer medical documents, and supports their ability to fully participate in the developing Florida Health Information Network.

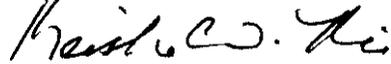
I am pleased to commit the resources of OTTED, which includes the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) program. REDI is a proactive effort involving more than twenty state and regional agencies and organizations that help rural communities resolve issues affecting their community and economic viability.

This Office understands that the availability of quality health care is a critical component of the infrastructure necessary for a community's economic vitality. We have extensive experience in working with rural hospitals and the Rural Health Networks throughout the state to help ensure Floridians living in rural areas have the best local healthcare possible.

Lisa Rawlins
FCC Letter of Support
April 30, 2007
Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to advocate on behalf of this project which will benefit the health of Florida's rural communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keisha Rice".

Keisha Rice, Deputy Director
Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic
Development

CC/ ADS

850-718-0453
VOICE

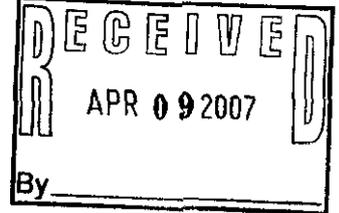
850-482-3590
FAX

877-467-7352
TOLL FREE



Thursday, April 05, 2007

Lisa Rawlins, Bureau Chief
Florida Center for health Information and Policy Analysis
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, MS #16
Tallahassee, FL 32308



Dear Ms. Rawlins:

Please accept this letter as an expression of support from Opportunity Florida, an eight county economic development organization, in northwest Florida. We strongly support the Agency for Health Care Administration's application to the Federal Communications Commission for funding of costs to deploy a regional dedicated broadband health care network. Our eight counties have been designated by the Florida Legislature as a 'Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern'. The per capita income levels of these designated rural counties are **34%** less than the more urban counties. Opportunity Florida is very pleased to be a part of the state's effort to partner with other state agencies and with the private sector on a federal funding opportunity that will extend vital telecommunications and information services to rural hospitals, clinics, and physicians. Providing broadband connectivity will allow rural hospitals to communicate electronically with providers in urban centers, transfer medical documents, and supports their ability to **fully** participate in the developing Florida Health Information Network.

I **am** pleased to commit the resources of my organization to advise the project and encourage wider provider adoption of broadband information services, along with a consortium made up **of** representatives from the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development Rural Economic Development Initiative, Children's Medical Services, the Office of Rural Health in the Department of Health, Florida State University College of Medicine, MyFloridaNet in the Department of Management Services, the Florida Hospital Association, the Florida Medical Association, North Florida Medical Centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, the Community Health Informatics Organization, the Big Bend Regional Health Information Organization and Florida LambdaRail.

Telemedicine could very well play a central role in the transformation of health care through health information technology. The ability of video teleconferencing services to reduce geographical barriers to diagnosis and treatment parallels the development of health information exchange networks that will deliver medical records in a secure, timely manner. By coming together to interconnect Florida's rural hospitals, our coalition is taking a first step toward helping all Floridians benefit from the development **of** telecommunication-based health care.

We are committed to serving as a key partner in the project that will result **from** the application being submitted by the Agency and the provider consortium. The experience **of our** organization is a **strong** addition to our multi-stakeholder collaboration and will help to achieve a sustainable outcome.

We hope that with this broadband benefit will enhance the quality of health and life in **rural northwest Florida.**

Thank you for initiating this **effort** which will strengthen the information infrastructure of our rural communities and enable our organization to better **fulfill** its mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Marcum", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard Marcum, Executive Director
Opportunity Florida



Friday, April 13, 2007

Lisa Rawlins, Bureau Chief
Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, MS #16
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Ms. Rawlins:

Please accept this letter as an expression of support from the Economic Development Council of Tallahassee/Leon County, Inc. for the Agency for Health Care Administration's application to the Federal Communications Commission for funding of costs to deploy a regional dedicated broadband health care network. We are pleased to be a part of the state's effort to partner with other state agencies and the private sector on a federal funding opportunity that will extend vital telecommunications and information services to rural hospitals, clinics, and physicians. Providing broadband connectivity will allow rural hospitals to communicate electronically with providers in urban centers, transfer medical documents, and supports their ability to fully participate in the developing Florida Health Information Network.

I am pleased to commit the resources of my organization to advise the project and encourage wider provider adoption of broadband information services, along with a consortium made up of representatives from the Agency, Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development Rural Economic Development Initiative, Children's Medical Services, the Office of Rural Health in the Department of Health, Florida State University College of Medicine, MyFloridaNet in the Department of Management Services, the Florida Hospital Association, the Florida Medical Association, North Florida Medical Centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, the Community Health Informatics Organization, the Big Bend Regional Health Information Organization and Florida LambdaRail.

Telemedicine could play a central role in the transformation of healthcare through health information technology. The ability of video teleconferencing services to reduce geographical barriers to diagnosis and treatment parallels the development of health information exchange networks that will deliver medical records in a secure, timely manner. By coming together to connect Florida's rural hospitals, our coalition is taking the first step toward helping all Floridians benefit from the development of telecommunication-based healthcare.

We are committed to serving as a key partner in the project that will result from the application being submitted by the Agency and the provider consortium. The experience of our organization is a strong addition to our multi-stakeholder collaboration and will help to achieve a sustainable outcome. The EDC has a 40-member Board of Directors comprised of leaders from the public, private, education and workforce development sectors. In addition, we sponsor six existing industry roundtables which are comprised of decision makers from the Healthcare, Technology, Manufacturing, Distribution, Aviation and Commercial Real Estate Development sectors.

Thank you for initiating this effort which will strengthen the information infrastructure of our rural communities and enable our organization to better fulfill our mission of enhancing the local quality of life.

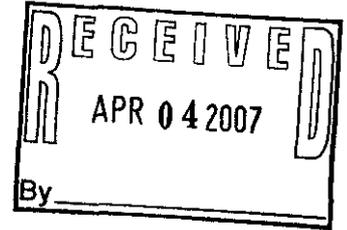
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth Kirkland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "K".

Beth Kirkland
Director of Partnership Development



FLORIDA'S
Great Northwest



March 30,2007

Lisa Rawlins, Bureau Chief
Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, MS #16
Tallahassee, FL **32308**

Dear Ms. Rawlins:

Please accept this letter as an expression of support from Florida's Great Northwest for the Agency for Health Care Administration's application to the Federal Communications Commission for funding of costs to deploy a regional dedicated broadband health care network.

Representing the regional economic development efforts for the 16 counties in northwest Florida, we are pleased to be a part of the state's effort to partner with other state agencies and with the private sector on a federal funding opportunity that will extend vital telecommunications and information services to rural hospitals, clinics, and physicians. Providing broadband connectivity will allow rural hospitals to communicate electronically with providers in urban centers, transfer medical documents, and supports their ability to fully participate in the developing Florida Health Information Network.

I am pleased to commit the resources of my organization to advise the project and encourage wider provider adoption of broadband information services, along with a consortium made up of representatives from the Agency, Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development Rural Economic Development Initiative, Children's Medical Services, the Office of Rural Health in the Department of Health, Florida State University College of Medicine, MyFloridaNet in the Department of Management Services, the Florida Hospital Association, the Florida Medical Association, North Florida Medical Centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, the Community Health Informatics Organization, the Big Bend Regional Health Information Organization and Florida LambdaRail.

Telemedicine could very well play a central role in the transformation of health care through health information technology. The ability of video teleconferencing services to reduce geographical barriers to diagnosis and treatment parallels the development of health information exchange networks that will deliver medical records in a secure, timely manner. By coming together to interconnect Florida's rural hospitals, our coalition

is taking a first step toward helping all Floridians benefit from the development of telecommunication-based health care.

Additionally, we are excited about the enhanced economic development opportunities that this opportunity will provide our rural region.

We are committed to serving as a key partner in the project that will result from the application being submitted by the Agency and the provider consortium. The experience of our organization **is a** strong addition to our multi-stakeholder collaboration and will help to achieve a sustainable outcome. As the administrator of the \$15 million US Department of Labor WIRED grant, we are very familiar with the intricacies of implementing a federally funded initiative.

Thank you for initiating this effort which will strengthen the information infrastructure of our rural communities and enable Florida's Great Northwest to better fulfill its mission of increasing the standard of living and quality of life in our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Allan Wenstrand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

L. Allan Wenstrand
Executive Director

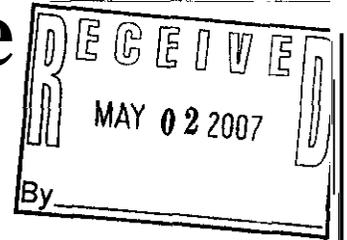


The City of Port St. Joe

Post Office Box 278

Phone (850) 229-8261

Port St. Joe, Florida 32457



April 27, 2007

Lisa Rawlins, Director
Florida Center for Health Information and Policy Analysis
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, MS #16
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Ms. Rawlins:

Please accept this letter as an expression of support from The City of Port St. Joe for the Agency for Health Care Administration's application to the Federal Communications Commission for funding of costs to deploy a regional broadband health care network. Our organization is pleased to be a part of the state's effort to partner with other state agencies and with the private sector on a federal funding opportunity that will extend vital telecommunications and information services to rural hospitals, clinics, and physicians. Providing broadband connectivity will allow rural hospitals to communicate electronically with providers in urban centers, transfer medical documents, and supports their ability to fully participate in the developing Florida Health Information Network.

I am pleased to commit the resources of my organization to advise the project and encourage wider provider adoption of broadband information services, along with a consortium made up of representatives from the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development Rural Economic Development of Health, Florida State University College of Medicine, MyFloridaNet in the Department of Management Services, the Florida Hospital Association, the Florida Medical Association, North Florida Medical Centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, the Community Health Informatics Organization, the Big Bend Regional Health Information Organization and Florida LambdaRail.

Telemedicine could very well play a central role in the transformation of health care through health information technology. The ability of video conferencing services to reduce geographical barriers to diagnosis and treatment parallels the development of health information exchange networks that will deliver medical records in a secure, timely manner. By coming together to interconnect Florida's rural hospitals, our coalition is taking a first step toward helping all Floridians benefit from the development of telecommunication-based health care.

FRANK PATE, JR.
Mayor/Commissioner

JOHN REEVES
Commissioner, Group I

RACHEL S. CREWS
Commissioner, Group II

JAMES B. ROBERTS
Commissioner, Group III

DAVID R. HORTON
Commissioner, Group IV

N. LEE VINCENT
City Manager

PAULINE W. PENDARVIS
City Auditor and Clerk

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"

We *are* committed to serving as a key partner in the project that will result from the application being submitted by the Agency and the provider consortium. The experience of our organization is a strong addition to our multi-stakeholder collaboration and will help to achieve a sustainable outcome. [Add discussion of mission, experience and plans for expansion as a result of project.]

Thank you for initiating this effort, which will strengthen the information infrastructure of our rural communities and enable our organization to better fulfill its mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee Vincent". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Lee Vincent
City Manager

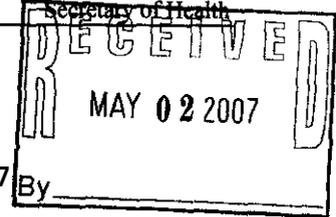
LV/tk

Cc: file

Charlie Crist
Governor



Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary of Health



Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Lisa Rawlins, Director
Florida Center for health Information and Policy Analysis
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive, MS #16
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Dear Ms. Rawlins:

Please accept this letter as an expression of support from the Saint Joseph Care of FL, Inc/Gulf County Health Department for the Agency for Health Care Administration's application to the Federal Communications Commission for funding of costs to deploy a regional dedicated broadband health care network. Our organization is pleased to be a part of the state's effort to partner with other state agencies and with the private sector on a federal funding opportunity that will extend vital telecommunications and information services to rural hospitals, clinics, and physicians. Providing broadband connectivity will allow rural hospitals to communicate electronically with providers in urban centers, transfer medical documents, and supports their ability to fully participate in the developing Florida Health Information Network.

I am pleased to commit the resources of my organization to advise the project and encourage wider provider adoption of broadband information services, along with a consortium made up of representatives from the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development Rural Economic Development Initiative, Children's Medical Services, the Office of Rural Health in the Department of Health, Florida State University College of Medicine, MyFloridaNet in the Department of Management Services, the Florida Hospital Association, the Florida Medical Association, North Florida Medical Centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, the Community Health Informatics Organization, the Big Bend Regional Health Information Organization and Florida LambdaRail.

Telemedicine could very well play a central role in the transformation of health care through health information technology. The ability of video teleconferencing services to reduce geographical barriers to diagnosis and treatment parallels the development of health information exchange networks that will deliver medical records in a secure, timely manner. By coming together to interconnect Florida's rural hospitals, our coalition is taking a first step toward helping all Floridians benefit from the development of telecommunication-based health care.

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GULF COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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We are committed to serving as a key partner in the project that will result from the application being submitted by the Agency and the provider consortium. The experience of our organization is a strong addition to our multi-stakeholder collaboration and will help to achieve a sustainable outcome. [Add discussion of mission, experience and plans for expansion as a result of project.]

Thank you for initiating this effort which will strengthen the information infrastructure of our rural communities and enable our organization to better fulfill its mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas M. Kent", written over the printed name.

Douglas M. Kent, M.P.H.

Administrator/COO