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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU APPROVES THIRD GROUP OF FUNDING AWARDEES IN ROUND 2 OF COVID-19 TELEHEALTH PROGRAM

71 Health Care Providers Receive Critical Support for Telehealth and Connected Care Services

WC Docket No. 20-89

Today, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) approves the third group of funding commitments under Round 2 of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Telehealth Program (Program) and commits \$40.46 million in funding to 71 health care providers across the Nation. The funding commitments made today will provide critical support to health care providers on the front lines in the fight against the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

The Federal Communications Commission (Commission) established the Program in April 2020 pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act² to provide \$200 million in emergency funding to health care providers for telehealth and connected care services in response to COVID-19.³ To build on the Program's success, Congress appropriated an additional \$249.95 million to fund the second round of the Program as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.⁴ On March 30, 2021, the Commission released the *Second COVID-19 Report and Order*,⁵ which initiated Round 2 of the Program by adopting additional requirements and processes to implement Congressional direction and

¹ See FCC Announces Awards For Round 2 of the COVID-19 Telehealth Program, WC Docket No. 20-89, Public Notices, DA 21-1052 and 21-1221 (WCB 2021).

² Promoting Telehealth for Low-Income Consumers; COVID-19 Telehealth Program, WC Docket Nos. 18-213, 20-89, Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 3366 (2020) (First COVID-19 Report and Order); Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (2020) (CARES Act).

³ From April 16, 2020, through July 8, 2020, the Commission fully obligated the \$200 million by issuing awards on a rolling basis to 539 applications. Press Release, FCC, FCC Approves Final Set of COVID-19 Telehealth Program Applications (July 8, 2020), https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-approves-final-set-covid-19-telehealth-program-applications.

⁴ Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No: 116-260, Division N-Additional Coronavirus Response and Relief, Title IX-Broadband Internet Access Service, § 903 "FCC COVID-19 Telehealth Program" (2020), *available at* https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/133/text (Consolidated Appropriations Act).

⁵ COVID-19 Telehealth Program; Promoting Telehealth for Low-Income Consumers, WC Docket Nos. 20-89 and 18-213, Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration, 36 FCC Rcd 7141 (2021) (Second COVID-19 Report and Order).

improve Program administration. Applications for Round 2 were accepted from April 29, 2021, through May 6, 2021.⁶

As the Commission established in the *Second COVID-19 Report and Order*, funding for Round 2 of the Program is to be awarded in two phases.⁷ In the initial commitment phase, at least \$150 million will be awarded based in part on geographic considerations and on the objective evaluation metrics outlined in the *Second COVID-19 Report and Order*.⁸ A full list of the funding awardees receiving funding commitments today is included in Appendix A of this Public Notice. To date, 205 awardees have received funding commitments totaling \$123,562,376.

The Bureau will continue to commit funding to the highest-scoring applications, in descending order, until at least \$150 million has been committed, and it will then issue a Public Notice announcing the complete list of those awardees, the amount of their awards, and the remaining funding available for the final commitment window. That Public Notice will also provide guidance, as directed by the Commission, on how the applicants that did not receive funding during the initial commitment phase may supplement their applications with additional information.

For further information regarding this Public Notice, please contact Connor Ferraro, Attorney Advisor, Wireline Competition Bureau, <u>Connor.Ferraro@fcc.gov</u> or (202) 418-1322. For more information about Round 2, refer to USAC's website at <u>www.usac.org/about/covid-19-telehealth-program</u>.

For inquiries and support related to Round 2 invoicing, please contact Round2TelehlthInvoicSupp@FCC.gov.

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⁶ Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Application Filing Window for Round 2 of COVID-19 Telehealth Program Will Open April 29, 2021, WC Docket No. 20-89, Public Notice, 36 FCC Rcd 7321 (WCB 2021).

⁷ Second COVID-19 Report and Order, 36 FCC Rcd at 7171-73, paras. 61-69.

⁸ Second COVID-19 Report and Order, 36 FCC Rcd at 7157, para. 38.

⁹ *Id.* at 7172, para. 64. Once \$150 million in funding has been committed, any applications with the same score as the last application to receive a funding commitment will also receive a funding commitment. *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.* at 7172, para. 64.

¹¹ *Id.* at 7172, para. 65.

APPENDIX A

Lead Health Care Provider or Applicant	Eligible Funding Amount
Adelante Healthcare	\$868,857
Alleghany Memorial Hospital	\$92,041
Archie Hendricks Sr. Skilled Nursing Facility	\$688,084
The Asian Human Services Family Health Center	\$400,725
Baptist Health Medical Center	\$999,277
Berkshire Health Systems	\$1,000,000
CareSouth Carolina	\$242,334
The Center for Family and Child Enrichment	\$78,204
CenterPlace Health	\$91,179
Chestnut Health Systems	\$271,866
Collier Health Services	\$506,652
Community Health Centers of Pinellas	\$962,184
Community Health Center of Richmond	\$335,995
The C.W. Williams Community Health Center	\$312,399
Denver Health	\$529,250
DuBois Regional Medical Center	\$530,800
El Paso County Hospital District	\$763,050
Empower U Community Health Center	\$301,554
Erie Family Health Center, Inc.	\$409,678
Evergreen Health	\$160,806
Family Christian Health Center	\$124,667
Family First Health Corporation	\$620,510
Family Health Centers	\$212,164
First Nations Community HealthSource	\$655,395
Forsyth Memorial Hospital	\$1,000,000
FoundCare, Inc.	\$942,083
Golden Valley Health Centers	\$509,048
Great Lakes Bay Health Centers	\$963,947
Gundersen Health System	\$999,909
Hampton Roads Community Health Center	\$195,666
HealthPoint	\$839,091
The Holyoke Medical Center	\$795,090
Holzer Health System	\$667,723

Indiana University Health The University of Kansas Health System Kaleida Health Kodiak Island Health Care Foundation La Casa de Salud Lawndale Christian Health Center Loretto Hospital Marion County Public Health Department Marlette Regional Hospital Mercy Health Mercy Hospitals Michigan Primary Care Association	\$908,061 \$659,146 \$968,131 \$86,033 \$419,875 \$172,354 \$823,600 \$299,799 \$382,730
Kaleida Health Kodiak Island Health Care Foundation La Casa de Salud Lawndale Christian Health Center Loretto Hospital Marion County Public Health Department Marlette Regional Hospital Mercy Health Mercy Hospitals Michigan Primary Care Association	\$968,131 \$86,033 \$419,875 \$172,354 \$823,600 \$299,799
Kodiak Island Health Care Foundation La Casa de Salud Lawndale Christian Health Center Loretto Hospital Marion County Public Health Department Marlette Regional Hospital Mercy Health Mercy Hospitals Michigan Primary Care Association	\$86,033 \$419,875 \$172,354 \$823,600 \$299,799
La Casa de Salud Lawndale Christian Health Center Loretto Hospital Marion County Public Health Department Marlette Regional Hospital Mercy Health Mercy Hospitals Michigan Primary Care Association	\$419,875 \$172,354 \$823,600 \$299,799
Lawndale Christian Health Center Loretto Hospital Marion County Public Health Department Marlette Regional Hospital Mercy Health Mercy Hospitals Michigan Primary Care Association	\$172,354 \$823,600 \$299,799
Loretto Hospital Marion County Public Health Department Marlette Regional Hospital Mercy Health Mercy Hospitals Michigan Primary Care Association	\$823,600 \$299,799
Marion County Public Health Department Marlette Regional Hospital Mercy Health Mercy Hospitals Michigan Primary Care Association	\$299,799
Marlette Regional Hospital Mercy Health Mercy Hospitals Michigan Primary Care Association	
Mercy Health Mercy Hospitals Michigan Primary Care Association	\$382,730
Mercy Hospitals Michigan Primary Care Association	
Michigan Primary Care Association	\$793,788
	\$776,620
	\$990,000
The Minnie Hamilton Health System	\$457,568
Mohawk Valley Health System	\$697,382
Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital	\$749,385
Mount Vernon Neighborhood Health Center	\$761,314
Nathan Littauer Hospital and Nursing Home	\$283,254
The North Miami Center	\$213,834
Novant Health	\$574,413
Okeene Municipal Hospital	\$221,821
Oonalaska Wellness Center	\$79,892
Palmetto Care Connections	\$782,575
Pillars Community Health	\$598,504
Prairie Ridge Health, Inc.	\$50,470
Regions Hospital	\$1,000,000
Robeson Health Care Corporation	\$495,633
Saint Joseph's Hospital	\$927,213
Skagit Regional Health	\$38,515
St. Barnabas Hospital	\$998,624
St. Bernard's Healthcare	\$547,270
St. John's Episcopal Hospital	\$372,744
Swope Health Services	*
Union Community Health Center	\$843,387
UnityPoint Health	·

Lead Health Care Provider or Applicant	Eligible Funding Amount
University Hospital of Brooklyn	\$945,421
The University of Virginia Health System	\$388,574
Wellstar Health System	\$1,000,000
Wheeler Clinic	\$91,612