

ROCK COUNTY HOSPITAL RECEIVES UPGRADES TO ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD SYSTEM

Outline of Need:

Rock County Hospital in Bassett, Nebraska needed to begin the transition to an electronic health record system which would allow them to qualify for additional Medicare reimbursement through the incentive program. Their dictation/transcription equipment was dated and becoming unreliable from both a provider and facility standpoint.

How Rural Development Helped:

USDA Rural Development provided \$29,530 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant funds leveraged with \$24,140 from the hospital to acquire the needed equipment. Funds were used to purchase eight desktop computers, four laptop computers and to implement Phase 2 of the Physicians Documentation Operating System with digital compatible phones.

The Results:

Following receipt of the USDA Rural Development grant, the health information management (HIM) department at Rock County Hospital successfully installed a digital transcription system that allows its medical providers to phone in transcription to the facility from any location. The new system allows providers more flexibility, saves time and has increased the providers' satisfaction with this process. The system also allows the hospital staff to prioritize reports. The HIM department is now able to transmit reports from the system directly to the providers for their e-signature, saving staff time and facility resources. With the installation of these new methods, the length of time for report processing has been decreased by an estimated four days. Records are completed faster and insurance companies billed more quickly, resulting in better cash flow.

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