

Issue: Telehealth/Telemedicine

## ALERT: FCC Funding Going Fast! The COVID-19 Telehealth Program

As part of the CARES Act, Congress appropriated funds to the FCC for a \$200M Telehealth program. Through the “COVID-19 Telehealth Program”, the FCC will provide immediate support to nonprofit and public eligible health care providers to enable connected care services to patients at home or mobile locations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. They will “fully fund” telecommunications services, information services and devices necessary to provide critical connected care services “until the funding is exhausted or until the current pandemic has ended”.<sup>1</sup>

Applications are being accepted now on a rolling basis. No single award will exceed \$1M. For maximum flexibility, applicants may purchase any necessary eligible services and connected devices, not just those written into their applications.<sup>2</sup>

Applications accepted now at the Wireline Competition Bureau. Find information here:  
<https://www.fcc.gov/covid-19-telehealth-program>

Awards are made weekly. As of May 28, 2020, nationwide 185 awards have been made, totaling over \$66M, over 25% of total funds already. To date, three awards have been made in Arizona:

Awards Locations in Arizona	Health Care Provider	Amount	As Described
Tucson	El Rio Santa Cruz Neighborhood Health Center, Inc., dba El Rio Health	\$444,462	To provide video telehealth services and remote patient monitoring of chronic diseases to ensure continued care for these high-risk patients
Tucson	Jewish Family and Children’s Services	\$27,320	To provide mental health telehealth services to individuals suffering from significant forms of mental health disorders, including at risk low-income, older adults and individuals with disabilities, to prevent social isolation, depression, anxiety, and other stress due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Window Rock	Navajo Nation Department of Health	\$954,990	To provide home health care and remote monitoring services throughout the Navajo Nation to patients who are isolated and under shelter-in-place orders.
		<i>Total: \$1.43M</i>	
<a href="https://www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/covid-19-telehealth-program-recipients.pdf">https://www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/covid-19-telehealth-program-recipients.pdf</a>			

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.fcc.gov/covid-19-telehealth-program>

<sup>2</sup> <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-44A1.pdf>