

2013 Alabama-Georgia Rural Health Clinic Conference

Telehealth Integration & Utilization Among RHCs

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A network diagram featuring several orange human figures connected by white lines, set against a blue background with a faint world map. The figures are arranged in a roughly circular pattern, with lines connecting them to form a network. The background is a gradient of blue, with a faint world map visible. The overall theme is global connectivity and telehealth.

Telehealth

Resource Centers

Rena Brewer, RN, MA, SETRC Director
Southeastern TeleHealth Resource Center

14 TRC's are located across the country.....

www.telehealthresourcecenter.org



2 National Resource Centers

12 Regional Resource Centers



**On August 20, 2010,
Georgia Partnership for TeleHealth
was awarded a grant from
the Office for the Advancement of TeleHealth
to become the
Southeastern TeleHealth Resource Center.**

***Goal: To offer technical assistance in order to advance
TeleHealth in the Southeast: GA, FL, AL, SC.***





SETRC provides an **applied approach to telehealth education and technical assistance services** in order to streamline implementation and better utilize telehealth applications and technology in the region.

Strategies:

- 1. Form State TeleHealth Workgroups:** To provide insight and direction regarding the advancement of telehealth in Florida and to encourage collaboration among existing telehealth networks and programs.
- 2. Provide TeleHealth Education:** The National School of Applied Telehealth
- 3. Promote TeleHealth Awareness Summits / Conferences**



NATIONAL SCHOOL
OF APPLIED
telehealth

Sign up and get certified today!

Certified Telemedicine Clinical Presenter
CTCP

Certified TeleHealth Coordinator
CTC

Certified TeleHealth Liaison
CTL

The National School of Applied TeleHealth provides healthcare information and education for providers and consumers through the development of a virtual "School for Applied Telehealth." This Southeastern Telehealth Resource Center (SETRC) initiative is in collaboration with California Telemedicine and E-Health Center (CTEC). The National School of Applied Telehealth certification courses will teach the essentials of TeleHealth and prepare individuals to become valuable members of a Telemedicine Team. These certifications offer CEUs and are being offered through HomeTown Health, LLC, IACET Authorized Provider.

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www.nationalschoolofappliedtelehealth.com



**Let SETRC
be your
TeleHealth GPS!**

1-888-738-7210 www.setrc.us



History and Accomplishments

1. **Began in 2004**

(WellPoint / BCBS-GA funded the GA Telemedicine Program x 3 yrs.)

2. **Foundation set..... 40 sites established / 8 clinical encounters**

3. **GPT Formed in 2007 as a nonprofit.**

Became Georgia's state-wide TeleHealth Network.

Has Grown to include 250+ partners & 150,000+ encounters.

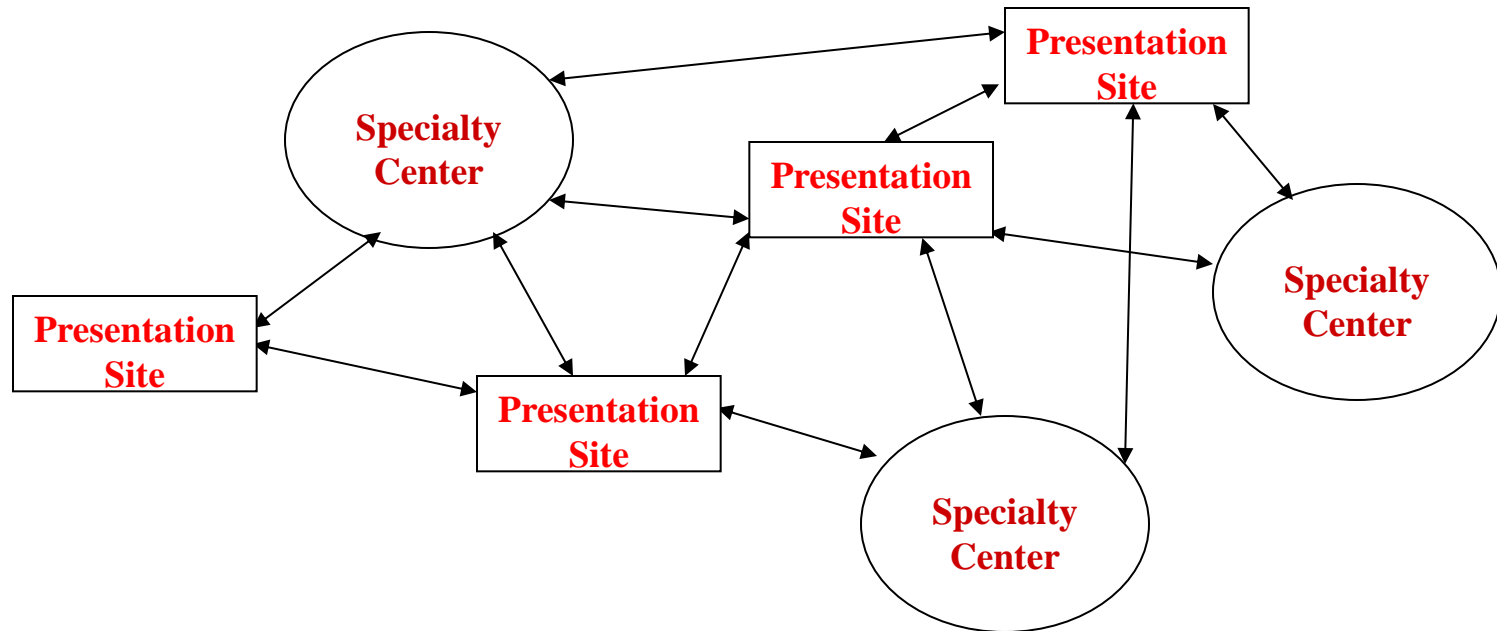
One of the most comprehensive robust networks in the nation.

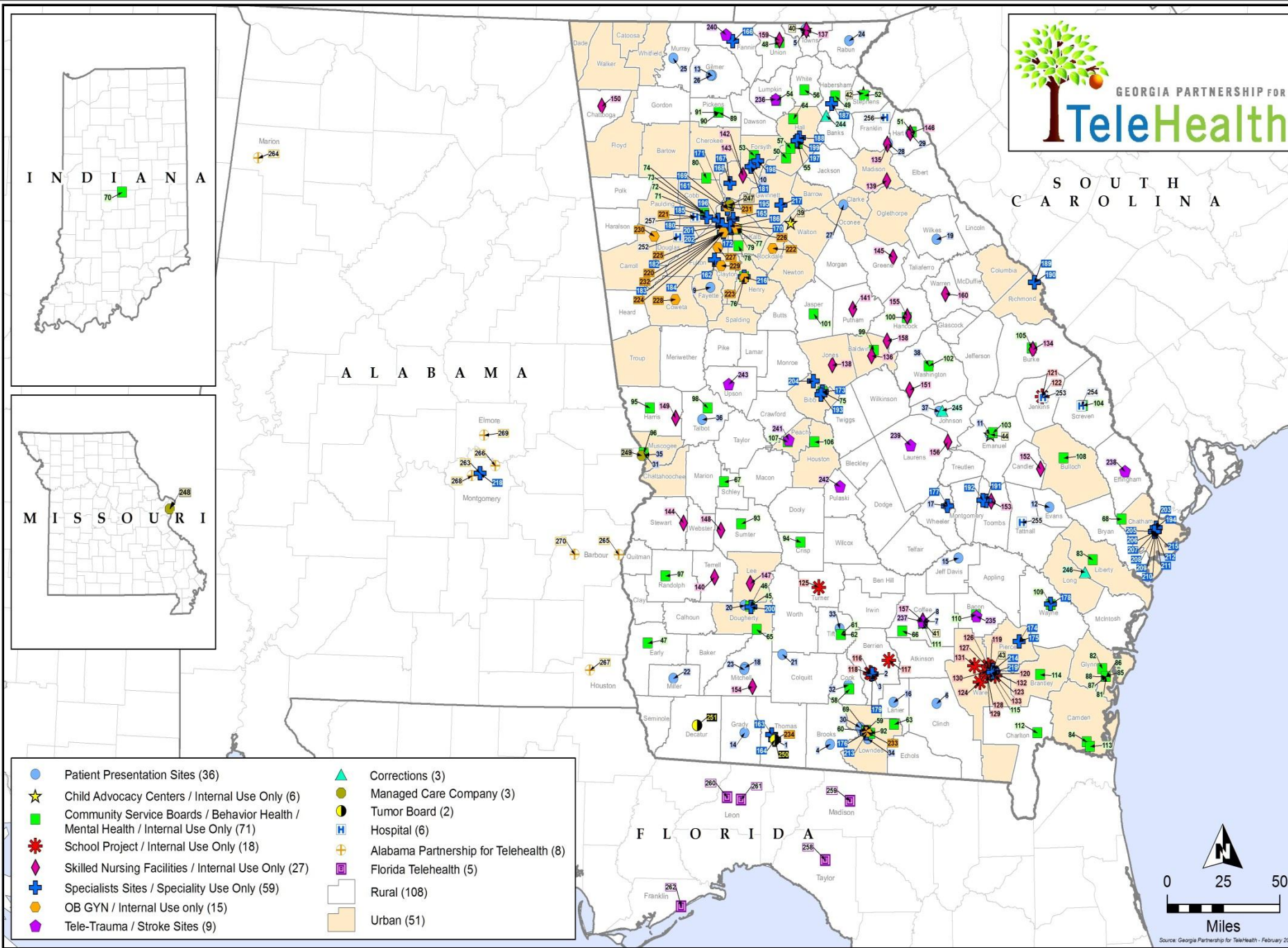
Business Model

- 501(c)3 – Not for Profit
- Network of Partners
- Services Provided:
 - Field-Based Telehealth Liaisons
 - Support for Credentialing
 - Scheduling System
 - Centralized PACS System
 - 24/7 support for network partners
 - Access to Network

“Open Access” Network Model

- Creates a web of access points
- Any Presentation Site can connect to any other site





I N D I A N A

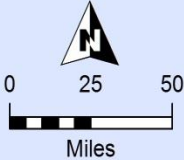
S O U T H
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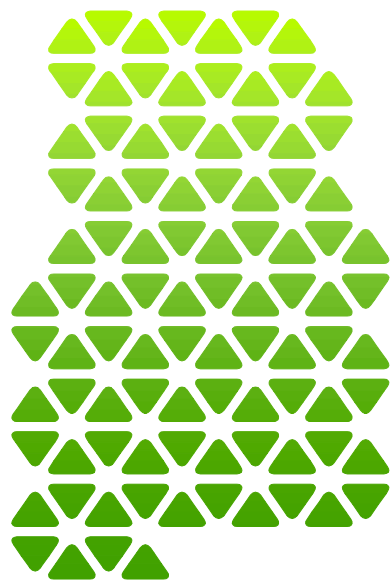
A L A B A M A

M I S S O U R I

F L O R I D A

- Patient Presentation Sites (36)
- ★ Child Advocacy Centers / Internal Use Only (6)
- Community Service Boards / Behavior Health / Mental Health / Internal Use Only (71)
- ✳ School Project / Internal Use Only (18)
- ◆ Skilled Nursing Facilities / Internal Use Only (27)
- ⊕ Specialists Sites / Speciality Use Only (59)
- OB GYN / Internal Use only (15)
- ◆ Tele-Trauma / Stroke Sites (9)
- ▲ Corrections (3)
- Managed Care Company (3)
- Tumor Board (2)
- H Hospital (6)
- ⊕ Alabama Partnership for Telehealth (8)
- Florida Telehealth (5)
- Rural (108)
- Urban (51)





ALABAMA
PARTNERSHIP FOR
TELEHEALTH

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www.alabamatelehealth.com

Who Are We?

Alabama Partnership for TeleHealth, Inc. (APT), a charitable nonprofit corporation, is a new agency in Alabama with a focus on increasing access to healthcare through the innovative use of technology.





“Serving as a physician Governor gives me a unique perspective on the health problems facing Alabama. I have seen the impact that a shortage of providers can have on a rural community. I am committed to working with the provider community, stakeholders and insurers across the state to make the telemedicine effort a success.”

Governor Robert Bentley

APT Mission

- Improve and promote the availability and provision of healthcare services in rural and underserved parts of Alabama.
- Educate and provide training and technical assistance to hospitals, clinics, and primary care providers to implement and achieve access to healthcare that is efficient, high quality and cost effective.
- Reduce the service barriers that exist for patients who live in rural parts of Alabama at a distance from hospitals and other medical facilities



The Need for Telehealth



- Clinician shortages
- Misdistribution of providers
- Rural/Urban underserved
- Aging population
- Travel time
- Delayed treatment
- Language barriers
- Clinical education programs
- Administrative meetings



Barriers

- Reimbursement
- Physician buy-in
- Infrastructure and Hardware costs
- Limited bandwidth
- Program Sustainability
- Resistance to new technology
- Political agendas that can derail progress and health system reform



Cost



Not For Every Everyone or Everything



Ethical Issues & Concerns

- Security & Confidentiality
- Diminished level of care
- Overuse or Abuse
 - Doctor shopping



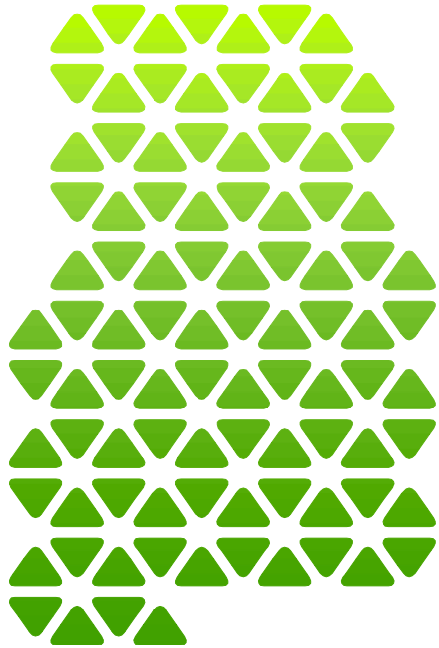
“Now inhale deeply, Mrs. Saunders.”

It's time to wake up to the advantages of TeleHealth!

1. If you snooze, you loose and.....

2. If you ignore this mode of healthcare, you are in for a *rude awakening!* (TeleHealth is not going away, it is here to stay!)





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