E-Health Councíl

8-6-2007

Donna K. Hammack Saínt Elízabeth Health System



State 28

WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT IT?



UNIQUE SPIRIT OF COLLABORATION

Vision

Create a statewide secure communications network, which links all eligible users & is capable of supporting real-time videoconferencing & communications, data transmission & telehealth services.





Connects

- ➢Nebraska Hospitals
- Public Health Departments

➢Health care services necessary to fulfill health care mission.

Standardized Polycom equipment Specifications for firewalls and routers

the state of the

Unique Funding Mechanism

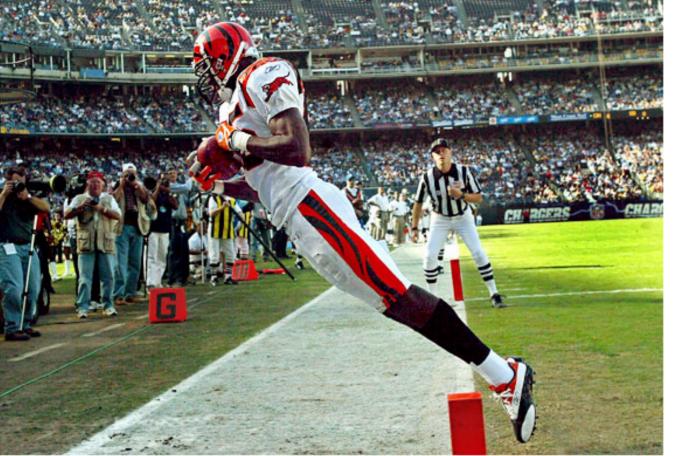
SMISSION FUNDING:

fiversal Services Administrative Umpany (USAC)

Nebraska Public Services Commission

Rural Hospitals

He I done to



In 2002, NUSF totaled

\$60 million

(Currently balance is about \$15 million -

about two months reserve.)

NEBRASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND (NUSF)

Established by LB 686 in 1997

> Surcharge (6.95%) began in 1999

www.nebraskaphotos.com



NSTN request \$900,000 annually by April 1.



USAC FUNDING IS BASIC Rural hospitals must first avail themselves of federal support.

NPS allocated a portion of funds to larger hospitals so advanced services (T1's, bridges,scheduling system) could benefit rural communities.





Rural hospitals must be responsible for a reasonable portion of costs--\$100.

TIME: 66,486 hours in travel \$1,662,161 in travel time costs

Successes in 2006: 1,824 participants in education,

administration,

& conferences

Miles & Money: 3,697,371 miles; \$1,645,330 saved.



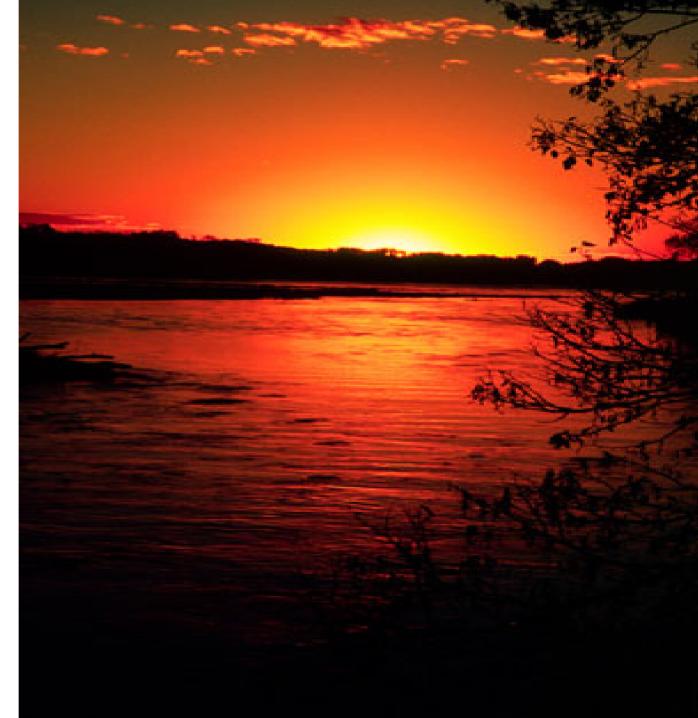
Medical Consultations

- ≻687 in 24 specialties
- ➢ Average patient 51.98 years
- Average length of consult 35 minutes



Future Use:

4.57 on 5-point scale



CHALLENGES:

Regulatory & market policies
 Adoption of technology
 Reimbursement gaps

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Great Plains TRAC Great Plains Telehealth Resource & Assistance Center

Great Plains TRAC

- Assists rural health care providers, facilities, & organizations within the region & around the nation in order to better utilize & implement telehealth technology.
- Encourages improved health care access & quality of service by fostering enhanced telehealth service functionality & availability.



If Columbus would have turned back, no one would have blamed him but no one would have remembered him, either.