Access to Health Care Through Telehealth

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Rural Health Innovations (RHI), LLC, is a subsidiary of the National Rural Health Resource Center (The Center), a non-profit organization. Together, RHI and The Center are the nation’s leading technical assistance and knowledge centers in rural health. In partnership with The Center, RHI connects rural health organizations with innovations that enhance the health of rural communities.
Overview

• Introduction to Telehealth
• Examples of how Telehealth is being used
• Challenges and solutions
• Introduce our two grantees who will be presenting
Telehealth has been around for a while...
Intro to Telehealth

• **Very** broad topic!
  ◦ Home health monitoring
  ◦ Inpatient ER/ICU/Etc
  ◦ Behavioral health
  ◦ Dermatology, cardiology, other “ologies”
  ◦ Remote patient monitoring

• Strong evidence for efficacy, cost-savings, and customer satisfaction
American Telemedicine Association

• “The leading telehealth association”
• Industry research
  ◦ “Georgia Partnership Uses Telemedicine and Centering Pregnancy Model to Significantly Decrease Preterm Labor Birth Rate in High Risk Areas”
  ◦ “Increasing Medication Compliance in High Risk Patients by Utilizing Electronic Medication Dispensers”
• Educational content
• Practice guidelines
• Buyer’s guide
• Annual and regional conferences
Challenges and Solutions

• Interstate licensure
  ◦ Multi-state compacts are solving some of these

• Clinic workflow
  ◦ Workflow and process redesign is very important
  ◦ Consider end-to-end testing

• Reimbursement
  ◦ Your TRC will be able to help

• Technology
  ◦ Not as significant a barrier really
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