

PROSSER PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Project Title: "Prosser Washington Community Paramedics Program"

Geographic Reach: Washington

Funding Amount: \$1,470,017

Estimated 3-Year Savings: \$1,855,400

Summary: Prosser Public Hospital District, serving a large, rural area in Washington State, is receiving an award for a program through which physicians can send a community paramedic (CP) to visit a patient of concern, providing in-home medical monitoring, follow-ups, basic lab work, and patient education. The area has high rates of obesity, high cholesterol, diabetes, heart attacks/coronary disease, and angina/stroke. Emergency room visits and readmissions are high and preventive care is limited, with poor follow-up care for chronic illnesses and frequent missed appointments. By expanding the role of the emergency medical services, CPs can increase access to primary and preventive care, provide wellness interventions, decrease emergency room utilization, and improve outcomes.

Over a three-year period, Prosser Public Hospital District's program will train an estimated 10 workers including community paramedics, medical information coordinators, RN case managers and medical doctors.