

# **What Telehealth Means for Rural Oregon Communities**



# How can telehealth benefit your rural clinic or hospital?

- Increased success in recruitment and retention of providers
- Helps to alleviate provider shortages
- Connects rural providers to resources and their peer community
- Provides clinician access to training and education without the need for travel and replacement
- Allows diagnostic testing to be performed locally

# How can telehealth benefit your patients?

- Reduces the need for patient travel and associated costs
- Reduces lost work/school time
- Improves patient access to services not available in the community
- Allows people to age in place

# How can telehealth benefit your community?

- Economic benefits
  - the telecommunications vendor can bring additional bandwidth to the community. Costs can then be spread among the subscribers.
  - it strengthens the viability of the hospital or clinic, thereby strengthening the economy of the community
  - employee productivity is not lost due to absences for health care visits

# How can telehealth benefit your community?

- Economic Benefits
  - Businesses can train staff on site reducing travel and replacement costs or costly closures
  - It is easier for the community to attract new businesses.
  - Keeps health care dollars in the rural community (pharmacy, therapy, etc.)

**Telehealth is economic development!**