

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development	HB Section(s): <u>3.205</u>
Program Name: Division of Four-year Colleges and Universities	
Program is found in the following core budget(s): University of Missouri - Missouri Telehealth Network	

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Access and Success

1b. What does this program do?

The Missouri Telehealth Network (MTN) increases access to patient-centered health care via telehealth for rural and underserved Missourians by providing technical assistance to health care organizations, partnering with key stakeholders, operating telehealth programs, and supporting and developing telehealth policies.

Missouri Telehealth Network provides expertise in key telehealth domains including technical, clinical, operational, legal and regulatory, and evaluation. It was established in 1994 as one of the nation's first public-private partnerships in telehealth. A 10-site network initially was developed with federal support from the Health Resource and Services Administration's Office of Rural Health Policy and from private support from telecommunication companies as well as each telehealth site.

Today, Missouri Telehealth Network has the experience and expertise to train start-up telemedicine programs and to manage new and existing telehealth programs. Currently, Missouri Telehealth Network partners with many types of health care organizations and manages several telehealth programs. It also operates Show-Me Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO). [Show-Me ECHO](#) connects community providers with experts, building virtual learning and mentoring collaborative efforts to increase capacity for care.

2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.

MTN actively trains and educates Missourians about telehealth. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, MTN started a Telemedicine ECHO. This ECHO was initially offered twice each week with one session focused on general telemedicine and one focused on telebehavioral health. Currently, the Telemedicine ECHO is offered twice each month. Topics include: Technology, Telehealth Etiquette, Teledentistry, Telehealth addiction treatment, Telebehavioral Health, Billing and Coding, Response to Trauma, School-based Telehealth and Post-Covid Telehealth.

	Hours of Education received by participants FY22
Telemedicine ECHO	313

2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

The Telemedicine ECHO is an example of the programs and services that we provide at the Missouri Telehealth Network. Topics covered include regulation and reimbursement among others. One measure of quality is a rating of how satisfied participants were with sessions. How would you rate the Overall Telemedicine ECHO? On a scale of 0 to 5 where 0 = Poor and 5 = Excellent.

Question	Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent
How Satisfied?	0%	0%	4%	54%	42%

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2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.

The Missouri Telehealth Network's goal is to increase the use of telehealth in Missouri. One way to measure the impact of the educational programs is to ask what changes the learners will incorporate as a result of the educational programming. The following is a sampling of answers to the question: "What changes do you plan to incorporate into your practice as a result of attending this activity?" (activity is Telemedicine ECHO)

- 1 - Growing telemedicine practice
- 2 - More productive sessions
- 3 - Using available resources
- 4 - Structuring meaningful and sustainable telehealth solutions
- 5 - Sharing what I have learned with others
- 6 - Connecting the right people to the right project to increase telehealth in Southeast Missouri
- 7 - Use the information with telehealth consulting clients

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

The work of the Missouri Telehealth Network including education, training, and support is designed to be efficient. Our programming has touched all 114 Missouri counties and the City of St. Louis. Missouri Telehealth Network demonstrates efficiency through their Show-Me ECHO program that allows small expert groups to mentor dozens to hundreds of learners in any given year. The efficiency is also felt by the learners who join remotely which minimizes travel time and expenses often experienced when partaking in similar learning experiences. In calendar year 2021, more than 3,300 individuals across all Missouri counties participated in a Show-Me ECHO program. When asked via survey, many participants say that they share what they learn with others in their workplace and larger community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, telemedicine became a necessary tool in providing healthcare; however, most primary care providers have had no formal training in utilizing telemedicine. In response to the COVID 19 pandemic, the Missouri Telehealth Network leveraged its technical expertise and existing relationships to quickly organize a Telehealth ECHO to share the latest information regarding Telemedicine best practices, regulations, operations, and reimbursement. Few immersive telehealth opportunities were available before the pandemic, and many students and practitioners alike received limited exposure to telehealth in practice.

Recognizing the need for such training, the Missouri Telehealth Network has convened a committee of clinicians and telehealth experts from MU SOM Continuing Education, MU Sheldon Clinical Simulation Center, UMSL College of Optometry, MUHC Virtual Care, MU Family & Community Medicine, Sinclair School of Nursing and UMKC College of Pharmacy. Many telehealth training programs focus on only one profession; however, this effort is purposely interprofessional and aims to increase knowledge of telehealth best practices, informed consent, reimbursement/billing, and technology. Portions of this training opportunity will be asynchronous offering learners the convenience and efficiency of participating at a pace and time that works best for them.

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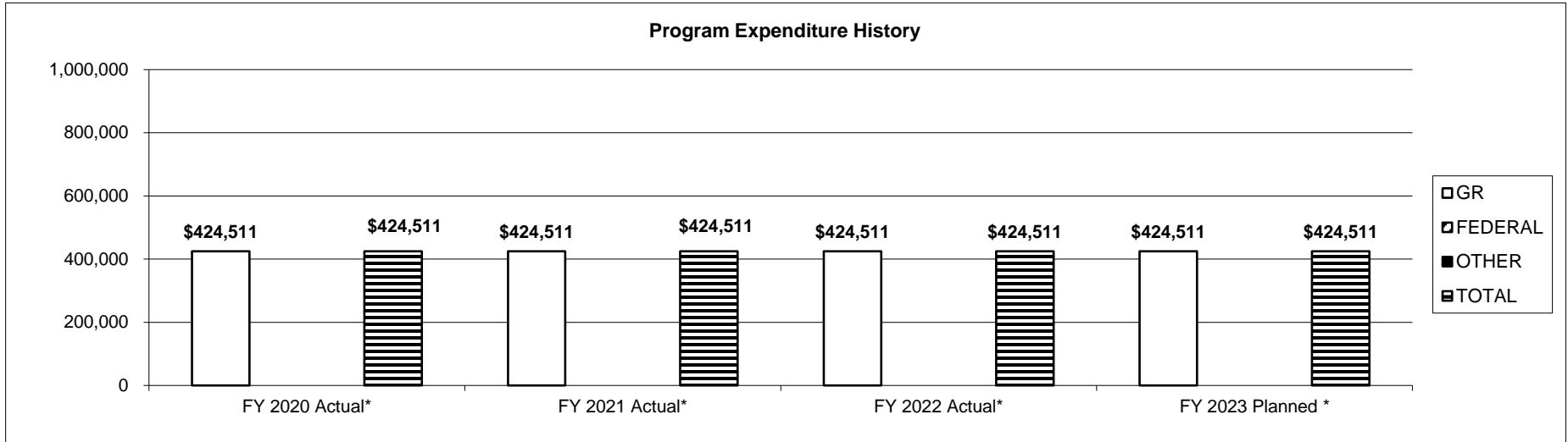
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3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)



* Net of 3% statutory withholding

4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?

N/A

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

MTN is a component of the University of Missouri Healthcare and falls under these statutes Section 172.010 - 172.830, RSMo.

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

No

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

No