



Central
Nebraska
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APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER

Resources from the March 21st Broadband Virtual Event are AVAILABLE NOW!!



There are videos of the presenters from the event, PowerPoint slides, and even a resource guide! Each topic is interesting and there is so much to be learned from every engaging speaker. This information is a great start to helping your communities and counties take

the first step towards improving broadband access for everyone!

Everything can be found at:

www.cnedd.org/virtual-broadband-event-videos.

Check them out today!



Brown County Hospital Awarded an \$871,336 USDA Emergency Rural Health Care Grant



These grant funds will be used to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and support immediate health care needs, to help prepare for a future pandemic event, and increase access to quality health care services, by completing work on a COVID-19 isolation wing and providing two new generators. One generator is for the **Ainsworth Family Clinic**, to properly store vaccines. The other generator is for the **Brown County Hospital Facility** to properly maintain hospital functions including negative pressure rooms in COVID-19 wing. **Total cost of the project is \$1,161,782.**

The original base of the **Brown County Hospital facility** dates back to 1971. The building has seen multiple remodels over the years, including retrofitting one of the hospital wings into a COVID-19 isolation wing, but equipment and technological advancements and budgetary constraints have not allowed the backup power needs of the facility to be fully met. The larger generator purchase will provide full facility coverage, allowing staff to function during a power outage, or other disasters, where power might be interrupted.

Due to the lack of a backup generator for the **Ainsworth Family Clinic building**, vaccinations and key medical items are kept in a refrigerator in the hospital. Staff must exit the clinic, cross the bridge, and secure the necessary vaccines from the hospital. Having a separate generator for Ainsworth Family Clinic will allow them to function, even in the midst of a power outage, while keeping vaccinations safe in their own building. Clinic staff will be able to spend more time with patients and less time going to the hospital to secure medications, as well as keeping staff safer from often-changing weather conditions in the outdoor environment.

"April is the kindest month. April gets you out of your head and out working in the garden."

- Marty Rubin.