

Grant links NPRN, Public Policy Center

The Nebraska Public Radio Network and the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center have been awarded a grant of \$15,000 to launch a comprehensive, community-based campaign around the issues of access to quality mental health care in rural Nebraska.

The program is part of Sound Partners for Community Health, a national project of the Benton Foundation funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Sound Partners seeks to increase awareness of specific health issues and encourage citizen involvement in decisions that affect health care.

With the \$15,000 grant, the station will produce up to a dozen news pieces that will be broadcast during "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered." The grant will also allow NPRN to work closely with the NU Public Policy Center on various outreach projects focused on rural mental health issues.

The NU Public Policy Center will match about 200 percent of the value of the NPRN grant, according to Mark DeKraai, project director for the NU Public Policy Center.