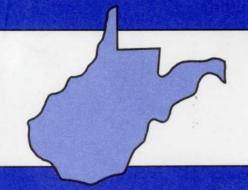
PRESS RELEASE



V.S. Congressman Nick Rahall

WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RAHALL ANNOUNCES FUNDS FOR VALLEY HEALTH SYSTEMS

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) announced today that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has awarded, to the Valley Health Systems, Inc. in Huntington, a grant to the tune of \$1.46 million.

"These funds will be used to further the Rural Health Initiative," said Rahall. "They will be used to continue the maintenance and upkeep of the Community Health Centers that these grants helped fund since 1976."

Rahall stressed that these grants were awarded on a competitive basis and that Valley Health Systems was awarded these funds because of their generous service to the community.

"Only through the continued funding of HHS and the continued strong service of health care centers, such as Valley Health Systems, will we be able to move forward with the Rural Health Initiative," said Rahall. "And we want to keep moving forward so that rural health care will be as strong as it possibly can."

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