



About GSS:

Serving the elderly and others in need, the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society (GSS) offers housing options, healthcare services, and various other services through the Christian Communities of Care that it owns or manages in 25 states. All Society centers are organized to provide spiritual ministry to residents, families, and the surrounding communities. GSS opened its first center in 1923, and now employs 24,000 staff members and serves more than 28,000 residents.



Recognizing the need to provide continuous, high-quality training to their geographically dispersed staff members, GSS developed and deployed a satellite based Distance Learning Network (DLN). Using the DLN, GSS broadcasts live, interactive courses from their studio in Sioux Falls, enabling employees in over 200 centers throughout the United States to participate in the same course at the same time. The DLN now broadcasts a full schedule of training and education programs daily.

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Good Samaritan Society

In Christ's Love, Everyone Is Someone.



Good Samaritan / Savant

Healthcare DLN

Distance Learning Network



Staff training, which may include continuing education credits, delivered directly to your facilities via satellite.

Savant Technology Group and the Evangelical Good Samaritan Society (GSS) are collaborating to distribute GSS' interactive distance learning courses to long-term healthcare organizations. The Good Samaritan / Savant Healthcare Distance Learning Network broadcasts up to 11 hours of training and education programs daily to over 200 centers across the United States.

Cost-Effective Training for Long-Term Healthcare

GSS recognized the need to provide continuous, high-quality training to their centers located in 25 states. After exploring several alternatives, GSS developed and deployed the Healthcare Distance Learning Network (DLN), providing interactive distance learning via satellite broadcasts.

The Healthcare Distance Learning Network can assist you in addressing the following challenges in a cost-effective manner:

- High turnover rates due to limited career options
- High cost of training and continuing education
- Lack of qualified instructors
- Difficulty in reaching those who need training
- Lack of good training content
- Expense of developing in-house training programs
- Scheduling problems for time off work for training
- Travel time and costs for both students and instructors

GSS has made tremendous progress in the past few years in addressing many of their challenges through the development and implementation of the Healthcare Distance Learning Network. As the DLN and the course catalog continue to expand, GSS expects to see even more positive results in the future.

Distance Learning Network



Course Catalog

The courses offered through the Healthcare DLN focus on in-service training to improve the knowledge, skills and competencies of your staff. The course content provides the information that CNA, Nursing, Dietary, Activity, and Social Work staff members need to excel in their jobs and advance in their careers. Many of the in-service training courses may be eligible for Continuing Education Credits.

In addition to the in-service training courses, the Healthcare DLN provides access to other types of courses to support "career ladder" initiatives. Staff can take advantage of the GED course portfolio, or of college-level courses such as: Psychology, Physiology, Anatomy, Microbiology and Algebra. Eligible staff members may be able to register through the University of South Dakota for Nursing courses leading to an associate or bachelor's degree.

A key objective of the Healthcare DLN is to demonstrate a sincere interest in supporting the staff to achieve their career goals, by improving their education, skills and competencies. This commitment to excellence serves to increase retention of competent personnel.

Interactive Distance Learning

The DLN uses the CADE Virtual Classroom to provide students with the ability to directly participate in interactive courses or presentations. The interactive nature of the Virtual Classroom facilitates learning by allowing students to communicate directly with the instructor during the course, and includes:

- Satellite and Receiver to view satellite broadcast courses on a TV set
- Virtual Classroom Software with online Chat to contact the instructor
- Wireless Handheld Remotes to respond to queries and talk to the instructor

Participants are actively involved in the learning process, from requesting clarification or further discussion on a given topic to hearing other participants share their experience and knowledge, all of which significantly contribute to the learning experience.

Learning Management Web

The CADE Learning Management Web (LMW) provides a central portal for both users and administrators of the CADE system. It provides the ability to manage, track, and disseminate information for all CADE-related activities. Users access a database of information using a standard web browser. The LMW provides capabilities for:

- Course Schedules, Descriptions
- Messaging, Discussion Groups, Chat
- Recording/Playing Audio from Topic Experts
- Registration, On-Line Courses & Exams
- Student Exam Results and Tracking
- "Programs of Study" or Training Paths for students

Technology

The DLN uses the latest technologies for satellite broadcast, delivery, and reception. EchoStar, the largest provider of "dish" enabled satellite delivery, provides the satellite transmission from the GSS studio to each virtual classroom. CADE software uses current computer technologies, requiring only Microsoft® Windows and a current browser.

Invitation to Participate

If your organization is feeling the pressure of increasing government regulation, rapid turnover of staff, high costs associated with the training of employees, or poor quality training programs, consider using the Good Samaritan / Savant Healthcare Distance Learning Network to meet your needs.



About Savant:

Since 1985, Savant Technology Group's mission has been to create competitive advantage for our clients. Savant achieves this mission through the use of experienced personnel, proven processes and the latest technologies designed to support our clients' core business processes. Savant delivers high impact results in these areas:

- Communication And Distance Education (CADE)
- Advanced Information Technology Solutions
- Applied Professional Services
- Communications and Network Services



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