



GEORGIA'S RURAL CENTER

Powered by Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

Georgia Cotton Medical Scrubs Project

SUMMARY

Georgia's Rural Center is a proud partner in the newly launched Georgia Cotton Medical Scrubs Project, an initiative of Field to Closet. This initiative is making the concept of American grown and made, 100 percent cotton scrubs a reality. The long-term vision for this initiative is bold: Bolster the U.S. cotton farmer, increase domestic demand for cotton, and re-shore American textile manufacturing.

The kick-off project featuring the scrubs woven with cotton grown in Georgia and crafted entirely in the U.S. highlights the possibilities for achieving the initiative's far-reaching goals for both the grower and the textile industry.

The medical scrubs project, spearheaded by Field to Closet, is the result of collaborative partnerships with America Knits, Deltapine® seed, Helena® Agri-Enterprises, LLC, Nutrien AgSolutions®, Georgia's Rural Center, and HomeTown Health. To spotlight the venture, 15 hospitals in rural Georgia will receive sets of the scrubs at no cost later in spring 2021.

This project also spotlights the textile and manufacturing opportunities available in the U.S. using cotton grown in America. As the U.S. textile industry makes strides toward re-shoring American manufacturing, America Knits is already making it happen in rural Georgia. The company not only serves as the final step of manufacturing the medical scrubs, it steadfastly focuses on providing prosperity for rural, smaller communities and creating quality, environmentally sustainable products made in America.

Field to Closet partnered with America Knits in Swainsboro, Georgia, to source Georgia cotton grown from Deltapine® seed. They also selected industry partners Parkdale Mills in Rabun Gap, Georgia, to spin the cotton into yarn, and Hornwood in North Carolina to weave the yarn into fabric, before it arrives at America Knits for the final cut and sew of the scrubs.

This project demonstrates a 100 percent U.S. supply chain - one that includes crafting products from cotton grown and sewn in rural Georgia - is more than wishful thinking. A movement toward 100 percent cotton scrubs and other cotton garments creates a positive domino effect resulting in higher domestic cotton need and demand, fair compensation for farmers' sustainability efforts, and a positive light on an end-to-end U.S. supply chain, while supporting healthcare workers.

The 15 rural Georgia hospitals receiving medical cotton scrubs include:

- Brooks County Hospital
- Burke Medical Center
- Crisp Regional Medical Center
- Colquitt Regional Medical Center
- East Georgia Regional Medical Center
- Emanuel Medical Center
- Irwin County Hospital
- Jeff Davis Hospital
- Jenkins County Medical
- LifeBrite Community Hospital of Early
- Memorial Hospital and Manor
- Mitchell County Hospital
- SGMC Berrien Campus
- Southwell Medical
- Taylor Regional Hospital

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Contact the Center for Rural Prosperity and Innovation (Georgia's Rural Center) at info@ruralga.org or 229.391.4847. For more information on this specific project, please contact Scott Blount, sblount@abac.edu.

To view the promotional video for this project, you can visit <http://bit.ly/CottonScrubsProjectGRCVideo>.

For more details about the project, more information can be found on our blog at <http://bit.ly/CottonMedicalScrubsBlog>.

Photos from the event can be seen and downloaded from this Google Drive link at <http://bit.ly/CottonMedicalScrubsPhotos>.

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