Challenge: In October 2015, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) needed to excess 1,776 cases of pharmaceuticals consisting of Tamiflu and Relenza. The need to excess the pharmaceuticals was two-fold: CDC has limited storage space and the drugs had an expiration beginning in June 2016. The value of the property was $4.6 million.

Action: The Utilization and Donation (U&D) team of General Services Administration’s (GSA) Personal Property Management Division developed a marketing strategy drawn from previous experience with excessing pharmaceuticals. The U&D team used the marketing strategy to promote the Tamiflu and Relenza to Federal agencies during the peak flu season which is from December until February. The U&D team was able to market the property via emails, conference calls, individual calls and a program known as GSAXcess. GSAXcess.gov is the site used by the Federal Excess Personal Property Utilization Program and the Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation Program. Agencies can report excess personal property for transfer by GSA to other Federal and State Agencies for Surplus Property (SASPs) as well as search for and obtain excess personal property on GSAXcess.

Solution: The U&D team identified Federal and State agencies that were interested in the Tamiflu and Relenza, and transferred the property via GSAXcess.gov. GSA donated to the State of Kentucky 30 cases of Tamiflu which saved their donee $212,000. The donee treats low income and uninsured populations. GSA donated to the State of Georgia 1,334 cases of Relenza and 6 cases of Tamiflu which saved their donees $1.5 million. The donees are health care clinics and centers in rural and low income communities.

Result: GSA was able to transfer to other Federal Agencies and donate to the States all of the excess pharmaceuticals, and the CDC did not have to destroy any property saving Federal and State agencies a combined total of $4.6 million.

GSA transferred 404 cases of Tamiflu to the Indian Health Service (IHS) which saved the Agency $2.85 million. 394 cases was used to treat their tribal population throughout the United States and 10 cases supported Project Transam. Project Transam is a Civilian-Military Cooperative Action Program between IHS and the Department of Defense (DOD) concerning distribution of medical equipment and supplies obtained from closure of military bases as well as the GSA Excess program. GSA transferred 2 cases of Tamiflu to the Department of Energy Oak Ridge National Laboratory which saved them $14,000.

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