



# eHealth Collaborative Newsletter

April 2009

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## Upcoming Events

### May 14, 2009

Treatment Group Kickoff Meeting  
in Pierre

### May 15, 2009

eHealth Collaborative Special  
Meeting in Pierre

### September 16 & 17 2009

eHealth Collaborative Fall Meeting  
at the AmericInn in Chamberlain

### October 7 & 8, 2009

3rd Annual SD Health Information  
Technology Summit in Sioux Falls

## eHealth Collaborative Update

The South Dakota eHealth Collaborative will meet May 15, 2009 in Pierre. The group will hear reports from the FCC Broadband Ad-Hoc Workgroup and the Technical Advisory Ad-Hoc Workgroup. The Collaborative will also hear updates on the status of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, CMS Electronic Health Record Demonstration Project, and the HISPC IOA projects. The group will also learn about the progress on the Center for the Advancement of Health Information Technology (CAHIT).

The draft meeting agenda, meeting location and additional meeting information can be found on the Collaborative's website <http://www.eHealth.dsu.edu>. Attendees are asked to RSVP by May 13 via the website.

## Survey Tracks HIE Practices by Joseph Goedert April 04, 2009 ([HealthData Mgmt](#))

Sixty-one percent of 21 health information exchanges recently surveyed expect to depend on grants and contracts to maintain long-term sustainability, according a recent study.

A task force of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society in Chicago conducted the survey in late 2008. Other results:

- \* Primary HIE stakeholders at this stage of development are health systems, primary care physicians and specialist physicians.
- \* Seventy-one percent of surveyed HIEs have chosen to buy rather than build their I.T. platform. And most respondents have the vendor host the platform.
- \* Many surveyed HIEs did not follow a model or guide during formation, believing their resources, regions and charter were unique. Yet the organizations often are similar in purpose and formation.
- \* Sixty percent of respondents permit patients to opt in or opt out of the HIE.

To view the article online [click here](#).

## NASCIO publishes compendium of state health IT works by

Peter Buxbaum April 21, 2009 ([Govt Health IT](#))

State governments are involved in a diverse array of healthcare IT initiatives, ranging from participation in stakeholder councils to facilitating local health information exchanges, leading statewide health information exchange efforts, and subsidizing the adoption of health IT.

A state-by-state description of these projects was released today by NASCIO, the National Association of State Chief Information Officers. Emblematic of the projects is Iowa's Electronic Health Information Advisory Council, a public-private effort to promote the adoption and use of health information technology.

The council makes recommendations to the Iowa Department of Public Health on promoting the adoption of health IT and has organized workgroups to address issues—such as interoperability, provider adoption, infrastructure, privacy, and financing—in the formation of an Iowa eHealth network.

Similar efforts are also under way in Arizona and Louisiana.

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services has taken the approach of facilitating decentralized planning and implementation efforts for health information exchanges in 16 localities. The primary goal of the effort is to secure the commitment of a majority of healthcare providers within each local area to

## **\*Sebelius confirmed as health chief (boston.com) (04/28)**

### **SPOTLIGHT on State Health Information Exchange Efforts**

#### **Alaska**

- Health IT State Profile  
[http://www.ruralcenter.org/hit\\_profiles/ak/](http://www.ruralcenter.org/hit_profiles/ak/)
- Alaska EHR Alliance  
<http://www.aehra.org/>

#### **Hawaii**

- Health IT State Profile
- Hawaii Health IT – discussion draft

#### **Massachusetts**

- Health IT State Profile
- Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative

### **Links**

- **\*\*\*HealthIT.hhs.gov\*\*\***
- **HIMSS STATE DASHBOARD**
- **eHealth Initiative**
- **AHIC**  
American Health Information Community
- **AHRQ**  
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- **HHS**  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
- **ONC**  
Office of the National Coordinator  
<http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=1263&mode=2>
- **HITSP**  
Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel
- **SLHIE**  
State-level Health Information Exchange Consensus Project
- **NHIN**  
National Health Information Network
- **HRSA**  
Health Resources and Services Administration
- **NCSL**  
National Conference on State Legislatures

participate in a health information exchange which will operate as a component of a state-level HIE in the future.

Other states, such as Delaware, Colorado, Idaho, Alaska, and New Mexico have established, or are in the process of establishing, statewide health information exchanges.

Colorado's statewide health information exchange went live in December 2008. Five-hundred emergency clinicians are being trained to use the system which shares information across emergency departments at the Children's Hospital, Denver Health and Hospital Authority, and University of Colorado Hospital, as well as Kaiser Permanente Colorado.

Idaho's Health Data Exchange, which is currently under developments, will allow 1,500 physicians, 30 hospitals and 10 data centers to share health information electronically.

California's Health Information Technology Financing Advisory Commission is studying whether access to capital impedes the implementation of health information technology and whether the state should be involved in addressing those impediments.

At least two states, Virginia and Tennessee, have already taken the step of providing financial assistance to technology adopters. Tennessee provides \$3,500 per physician and \$2,500 per clinician to offset the costs of purchasing of e-health-associated hardware, software and peripherals. Over 1,830 health care providers and over 420 treatment sites have received grants to date.

The report, titled "Profiles Of Progress: State Health It Initiatives," can be found at: <http://www.nascio.org/publications/documents/NASCIO-ProfilesInProgress3.pdf>

To view the article online [click here](#).

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### **Funding News**

- **Research Grants Include I.T. Projects (Health Data Mgmt) (04/14)**
- **Foundation Seeks PHR Innovators (Health Data Mgmt) (04/13)**
- **Paterson announces \$60M in health IT financing available (Business Review) (04/10)**
- **Grants jump start use of HIT in Colorado (HC IT News) (04/09)**
- **Public health IT grant seekers flood CDC program (Gov't HealthIT) (03/31)**

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### **Governance News**

- **Blumenthal cites "critical factor" in health IT adoption (WSJ) (04/21)**
- **HHS Guidance Covers Breach Notification (Health Data Mgmt) (04/17)**
- **Blumenthal signals position on key stimulus policies (Gov't HealthIT) (04/10)**
- **Blumenthal says HITECH faces challenges (HC IT News) (04/10)**

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### **Education News**

- **Experts suggest Medicare test drive health reform ideas (Google AP) (04/22)**
- **NKU pitched for e-health research (cincinnati.com) (04/17)**
- **Report: Medicare penalties, not incentives, will bolster EMR adoption (Health Data Mgmt) (04/16)**
- **Connecting the Dots of Medicine and Data (NY Times) (04/11)**
- **RI report first to measure statewide healthcare IT use (HC IT News) (04/10)**
- **How Kaiser Permanente Went Paperless (BusinessWeek) (04/07)**
- **Vermont RHIO receives IRS charity status (Gov't HealthIT) (04/03)**
- **CalRHIO gets tax-exempt status, expands funding sources (Gov't HealthIT) (04/01)**

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### **Technology News**

- **Rural California clinics to roll out Web-based EHR (HC IT News) (04/22)**
- **Mayo Clinic backs new personal health record site (Yahoo!Tech) (04/21)**
- **Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and American Well(TM) Join to Bring Online Care to Minnesota (PR Newswire) (04/13)**
- **Sam's Club Unveils EHR Details (Health Data Mgmt) (04/06)**

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### **More News**

- **Utah rolls out first U.S. open-source disease tracker (Gov't Health IT) (04/22)**
- **Federal incentives spur jump in e-prescribing (Reuters) (04/22)**
- **Telemedicine device may help docs save lives (Phoenix Business Journal) (04/17)**
- **HealthNet selects eClinicalWorks's EMR and PM system (Pharm Business) (04/09)**
- **AMA unveils ePrescribing online learning center (HC IT News) (04/01)**