



# eHealth Collaborative Newsletter

August 2009

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## Upcoming Events

**September 14 & 15 2009**  
eHealth Collaborative Fall Meeting  
at the AmericInn in Chamberlain

**September 23-25 2009**  
SDAHO's 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fall  
Convention at the Sioux Falls  
Convention Center

**October 8, 2009**  
3rd Annual SD Health Information  
Technology Summit

## Greetings from the SD eHealth Collaborative,

I hope that as of this issue you all have been having an enjoyable summer. As summer begins to wind down work of the Collaborative is starting to gear up again. The Collaborative continues to work in the four advisory committees and each distinct committee has been working to address areas related to them by creating mission statements and working on living timelines. These timelines begin to put into actionable steps the work that has been done in the last 18 months with the release of our roadmap in 2008.

As each committee works through the issues related to them we are also beginning to think about the implications of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act on South Dakota. We are planning in many areas to create a strategic plan that addresses many things, chief among them adoption of health information technology, and how to advance toward health information exchange. I encourage you to check our website at <http://www.eHealth.dsu.edu> frequently as the main page is updated often with up to the minute articles and information. In addition meeting information, agendas, and much more can be found there.

Many of you may know Sarah Zinter has left us for the high paced world of law school at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. She has been a valuable asset to the work that we have done so far and we wish her well as she continues her education and new ventures.

I look forward to working with you all over the upcoming months and providing you as much information as I can about the topic of Health IT and Health Information Exchange. We are in a very unique point in time with our work and our past work has placed us well to catapult forward.

Finally, I'd like to take just a moment to thank the Collaborative Members and their organizations for their continued support and valued expertise. Without them this effort would not have been as successful as it has been so far, and will continue to be in the future.

Best Regards,  
Kevin DeWald, Senior Director  
SD eHealth Collaborative

## State CIOs advised to catch-up with federal HIE funding streams

by Mary Mosquera - August 26, 2009 ([govhealthit.com](http://govhealthit.com))

The head of the health IT committee of the National Association of State Chief Information Officers warned its members to ramp up preparations for building state health information exchanges or risk missing out on over a billion dollars in federal HIE and training grants to the states announced last week.

"The Department of Health and Human Services has placed the bet and state CIOs need to play the hand," said NASCIO health IT working group chairman Otto Doll in an e-mail.

To that end, NASCIO released a report Aug. 20 laying out a roadmap for CIOs to prepare for statewide HIEs. "The funding is now beginning to catch up with the large-scale healthcare reform policy of incorporating information technology into healthcare practices," said Doll, the CIO of South Dakota.

The number of state CIOs involved with statewide HIEs is largely unknown at this point, he said.

## SPOTLIGHT: State HIE Efforts

### Georgia

- Office of Health Information Technology and Transparency (HITT)
- GA State Profile

### Idaho

- Idaho Health Data Exchange
- Idaho HIE Selects Axolotl to Link Clinicians
- ID State Profile

### Oklahoma

- OK State Profile
- Oklahoma Health Information Exchange

## 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

- **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

Dr. David Blumenthal, the national coordinator for health IT, announced Aug. 20 that the Health and Human Services Department will provide \$1.2 million in grants to states to build HIEs and health IT training centers. Blumenthal called the states "ground zero" in the administration's goal of making all health records electronic by 2013.

In order to take advantage of the grants, state CIOs must align state IT policies and architectures with the health IT requirements of the federal economic stimulus plan, according to the NASCIO report. Among its recommendations: CIOs should bring together all stakeholders involved in health information exchange to pin-point state needs; evaluate their state's existing IT infrastructure and grade their state's readiness to support a large-scale HIE.

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

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## HHS explains funding plan for regional IT centers aimed at helping docs

by Joseph Conn - August 28, 2009 (modernphysician.com)

The HHS officials in charge of setting up a national extension service to aid office-based physicians and other providers in the deployment and "meaningful use" of health information technology fleshed out details of the \$694 million program during a Web-and-telephone conference Thursday.

As many as 1,250 participants logged- or dialed-in to hear and ask questions about the ground rules to apply for \$643 million in grant money to be awarded over a four-year period to about 70 not-for-profit organizations that will run the regional extension centers.

The bulk of the money, \$598 million, will be spent in the initial two years, beginning in 2010, getting the regional centers up and running. During that startup period, an estimated 90% of the funding for the regional extension program will come from federal dollars, with the balance coming from state or local matching government funds, foundation grants or fees the centers will be allowed to charge providers for their services.

The government estimates its subsidies of the centers will shrink to \$45 million during the second, two-year period, as the centers move to self-sustainability and obtain 90% of their funding from local sources and fees. After four years, the regional centers will be on their own, expected to continue operations on whatever revenue streams they can muster without federal support.

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

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## Funding News

**Grant supports EHRs in HIV/AIDS initiative to highlight meaningful use** (HC IT News) (08/27)

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## Governance News

**CCHIT proceeds with limited HER certification** (Gov't Health IT) (08/26)

**FDA will require electronic drug, device safety reports** (Gov't HealthIT) (08/24)

**Civil rights office to enforce HIPAA security** (Gov't HealthIT) (08/4)

**FAH asks HHS to drop pay, quality improvement requirements for HER subsidies** (ModernHealthcare) (08/27)

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## Education News

**The feed what government is twittering now** (nextgov)

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## Technology News

**Hospitals Update Data Centers** (HealthData Management) (08/26)

**Stimulus funds inspire relaunch of implantable chip** (HC IT News) (08/27)

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## More News

**Minnesota nonprofit posts cost of care online** (HC IT News) (08/26)