



eHealth Collaborative Newsletter

September/October 2009

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Upcoming Events

January 2010

eHealth Collaborative Special Meeting at the AmericInn in Chamberlain

March 17-18 2010

eHealth Collaborative Spring Meeting at the AmericInn in Chamberlain



Greetings from the SD eHealth Collaborative

On Thursday, October 15, 2009, the DOH submitted an application on behalf of the state and the SD eHealth Collaborative to participate in the Federal 3013 State Health Information Exchange (HIE) Cooperative Agreement Program under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The goals of the program are to facilitate and expand the secure, electronic movement and use of health information among organizations according to nationally recognized standards, with a long-term goal of nationwide HIE and interoperability.

The DOH and SD eHealth Collaborative project will serve to coordinate disparate programs and facilitate an integrated statewide approach to HIE that builds upon the current infrastructure developed through the investment of public and private stakeholders in South Dakota. The project will rely on existing infrastructure for policy development, and work done over the last four years by the SD eHealth Collaborative. The funding provided through the State HIE Cooperative Agreement will allow South Dakota to:

- Develop and implement strategic and operational plans for HIE statewide in SD across five critical domains: governance, finance, technical infrastructure, business and technical operations, and legal/policy.
- Develop a mechanism to ensure the statewide HIE fulfills the needs of providers in achieving meaningful use.
- Develop necessary technical infrastructure to facilitate meaningful use.
- Implement strategies and outreach initiatives to connect providers.
- Coordinate and evaluate South Dakota's progress in facilitating the expanding the secure, electronic movement and use of health information among all South Dakota health care stakeholders through the State HIE Cooperative Agreement program and other Health Information Technology programs.

Award announcements are expected by December 15, and the anticipated start date of the projects is January 15, 2010.

States to play important role in healthcare reform by Kyle

Hardy - October 23, 2009 (Healthcare IT News)

WASHINGTON – The federal Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology has released “requests for proposals” to all 50 states to apply for federal grants worth \$1.2 billion.

With the grants, individual states are expected to take a more active role in healthcare reform, said Robert Wah, chief medical officer of Falls Church, Va.-based CSC, an information technology company. The government wants states and the private sector to be more involved with the reform process to help reduce health IT implementation time and healthcare costs.

“We have been talking with David Blumenthal about the HITECH provision. Blumenthal has had a challenge to stimulate the economy by spending money,” said Greg DeBor, client partner of CSC healthcare delivery. “Another concern was paying to put EHRs in physician offices and increasing data access between providers.”

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

SPOTLIGHT: State HIE Efforts

Alabama

- Mid-Alabama Information Network (MAIN)
- AL State Profile

Connecticut

- eHealth Connecticut

Florida

- Florida Health Information Network (FHIN)
- Florida Health Care Coalition
- Tampa Bay RHIO
- FL State Profile

Links

- [***HealthIT.hhs.gov***](http://www.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

Senate Finance Committee polls EHR vendors on safety by

Mary Mosquera - October 26, 2009 (Gov. Health IT)

The Senate Finance Committee sent a letter Oct. 16 to 10 major sellers of electronic health record systems seeking to know what steps they have taken to ensure their systems safeguard patient safety, according to an Oct. 25 article in the Washington Post.

The letter was sent in response to testimony the panel has received from physicians and patients reporting they were unhappy with their EHR systems, according to the story.

Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), the panel's ranking minority member, said in the letter that, "every accountability measure ought to be used to track the stimulus money invested in health information technology."

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

Funding News

[Medicare Bonuses Motivate More Physicians To E-Prescribe](#) (The Wall Street Journal) (10/05)

[Safety Nets Get Stimulus I.T. Funds](#) (healthdatamanagement.com) (09/29)

[Sebelius Offers \\$25 Million for Malpractice Projects](#) (bloomberg.com) (09/17)

[ONC Outlines Extension Center Grants](#) (healthdatamanagement.com) (09/08)

[CMS provides guidance to states on stimulus grants for health IT](#) (Nextgov.com) (09/04)

Governance News

[ONC panel wrestles with meaningful use by specialists](#) (govhealthit.com) (10/27)

[Experts call for widening scope of lab test exchange](#) (govhealthit.com) (10/20)

[Blumenthal: Standards development key to healthcare reform](#) (healthcareitnews.com) (10/14)

[MGMA: Bills Include Transaction Mandates](#) (healthdatamanagement.com) (10/13)

[Blumenthal says expect certified EHR criteria in coming weeks](#) (govhealthit.com) (10/02)

[HHS urged to rework data breach notification rule](#) (nextgov.com) (09/18)

[ONC: 2011 Criteria to be Basic](#) (healthdatamanagement.com) (09/17)

[Democrats urge changes in broadband program](#) (Nextgov.com) (09/10)

[CMS sets rules on state stimulus payment systems](#) (govhealthit.com) (09/03)

Education News

[When moms get flu shot, babies benefit too: study](#) (Reuters) (10/29)

[Blumenthal Stresses Need for Training](#) (healthdatamanagement.com) (10/07)

[A side of behavioral counseling with your visit](#) (The Philadelphia Inquirer) (09/28)

[Study: Flu Viruses Can Spark Heart Attacks](#) (ABC News) (09/21)

[Disparities toolkit features health insurance plan best practices](#) (National Health Plan Collaborative)

Technology News

[Why Your Next IT Job Will Be In Healthcare](#) (informationweek.com) (10/20)

[Report: Telemedicine Market to Hit \\$3.6 Billion](#) (healthdatamanagement.com) (10/08)

[High-tech 'scribes' help transfer medical records into electronic form](#) (USA Today) (10/07)

[Tech Companies Push to Digitize Patients' Records](#) (nytimes.com) (09/10)

More News

[Blumenthal speaks on challenges of changeover to EHRs](#) (technologyreview.com)

[Leavitt: 'This is our moon shot'](#) (healthcareitnews.com) (10/06)

[Interoperability strategies a must to qualify for HIE funds](#) (healthcareitnews.com) (10/01)

[Halamka: How to build a long distance service for healthcare](#) (govhealthit.com) (09/29)

[HIEs offer to lighten meaningful use load](#) (govhealthit.com) (09/04)

[Vendors can apply for 'modular' EHR certification Oct. 7](#) (govhealthit.com) (09/04)