

Project Abstract Summary

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Advancing Tennessee's Health Information Exchange - State of Tennessee, Department of Finance and Administration, Office of eHealth Initiatives, Melissa Hargiss, HIT Coordinator, 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 13th Floor, Nashville TN 37243; PH: 615-532-1553; FAX: 615-532-2849; Melissa.hargiss@tn.gov, website: <http://www.tn.gov/ehealth>

The State of Tennessee, in collaboration with Health Information Partnership for Tennessee (HIP TN), supports this four (4) year project to develop the growth and capacity for health information exchange (HIE) through the use of health information technology (HIT). The goal of the project is to drive improvements in healthcare outcomes through a coordinated statewide HIE that will enable vital, secure, decision-ready information to be available to clinicians at the point of care and benefit public health in general. The approach is to establish a cost-effective statewide architecture that supports the exchange and use of clinical information by expanding the adoption and use of Electronic Health Records (EHR) by providers who deliver their medical care in Tennessee. The strategies are: 1) deploy an over-arching statewide HIE framework, including Master Patient/Provider/Facility Indexes and a document registry that allows healthcare providers the ability to identify patients and locate sources of patient records; 2) expand provider adoption of EHR through the Medicaid/Medicare incentive payments and the deployment of Application Service Provider -based EHR systems; 3) collaborate with the Regional Extension Center for training and workforce development; 4) expand the interoperability of clinical data sources and registries; 5) expand broadband to unserved/under-served areas; 6) ensure the protection of health information; 7) drive quality improvement through quality measures; 8) provide necessary infrastructure for meaningful use incentives; 9) engage consumers so they can make well-informed decisions about their own health and participation in HIE; and 10) communicate among key healthcare stakeholders. The expected outcomes are: 1) enabling the delivery of HIE services that increase the quality and efficiency of healthcare, including ePrescribing, care coordination and quality reporting; 2) enabling providers to demonstrate meaningful use in order to qualify for incentive payments under both Medicaid and Medicare; 3) enabling necessary protections to ensure the privacy and security of individual health information; 4) enabling the improvement in population and public health, including accurate and timely access to registries, public health reporting, biosurveillance and emergency preparedness; 5) ensuring ongoing and broad stakeholder participation in the development and continuous improvement of the technical and policy infrastructure supporting HIE; and 6) advancing HIE services in a manner that assures eHealth is sustainable, and contributes to the overall economic efficiencies of the healthcare delivery system. The products from this project are: a cost-effective, efficient technical approach, privacy/security policies; schemas for oversight and evaluation; and a report on a sustainable governance and financial model.

* Estimated number of people to be served as a result of the award of this grant

6200000