

**New Hampshire  
Health Information Exchange Planning and Implementation Project**

**Status Update  
March 12, 2010**

**Status Update: A summary of the project's progress and future plans.**

1. Project Team Change
2. Federal Funding
3. Consulting Partner
4. Additional Contracted Support
5. Office for Health Information Technology within the Department of Health and Human Services
6. Stakeholders and Sub Teams
7. DHHS HIT/HIE Website
8. Collaborative Relationships with Neighboring States

**Project Team Change**

1. Paul Fleming served as the HIEPI project's Project Manager from late October 2009 through early January 2010 on a volunteer basis. Paul withdrew from his volunteer service in mid January.
2. Paul was the only full-time dedicated resource on the project. His absence has resulted in slower than planned progress since January. We appreciate Paul's help and wish him well.

**Federal Funding**

1. New Hampshire received a Notice of Award for the ARRA HITECH State HIE Collaborative Agreement Program from the US HHS Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health Information Technology on February 12, 2010, two months beyond the projected award announcement date of December 15, 2009.
2. The award was for the expected \$5.5M in Federal funds over a four year period, but with new requirements that necessitates a modified and accelerated approach to develop HIE Strategic and Operational Plans for New Hampshire. The HIEPI Leadership Team is evaluating this and will be recommending adjustments to our original approach to develop these Plans to establish an HIE capability for New Hampshire within the new parameters set by the ONC.
3. The Federal Award is now going through the State's process to accept and expend a portion of the funding. Final State approval is anticipated in late March.

**Consulting Partner**

1. The Consulting Partner plays a key role in the development of New Hampshire's HIE Strategic and Operational Plans. Responsibilities include:
  - a. Facilitating Sub Teams to provide HIE Strategic and Operational Plan content that is accepted by Stakeholders
  - b. Providing expertise and best practices related to establishing and operating HIEs
  - c. Create HIE Strategic and Operational Plans which are approved by the HIEPI Steering Committee and the ONC
2. An RFP was issued on February 22, 2010 and then reissued on March 10, 2010 to conform to the new ONC requirements. The reissued RFP has been published on the State's RFP website at the following URL:

**<http://admin.state.nh.us/purchasing/specRFP.asp?rfpID=5300>**

3. Several organizations, ranging from large international consulting firms to local and more specialized firms, have expressed an interest.
4. A June 1, 2010 engagement start date for the Consulting Partner is anticipated.

### **Additional Contracted Support**

1. The HIEPI Project anticipates the need for additional contracted resources to ensure the project's success. These include:
  - a. Survey of HIT/HIE current state and desired state (environmental scan)
  - b. Legal-legislation analysis assistance
  - c. HIT HIE knowledge expertise
  - d. Project management assistance
  - e. Technical assistance
  - f. Administrative assistance
2. Contractual arrangements for these services should be complete by the middle of April 2010.

### **Office for Health Information Technology within the Department of Health and Human Services**

1. Three positions have been defined to establish the Office for Health Information Technology (OHIT) within the Department of Health and Human Services.
  - a. State HIT Coordinator for Health Information Technology
  - b. OHIT Project Manager
  - c. OHIT Business Systems Analyst (BSA)
2. Job descriptions have been written and approved for these three positions.
3. Job postings for the State HIT Coordinator for HIT and the OHIT Project Manager are on the State's job opportunities website at the following URL:

<http://admin.state.nh.us/hr/employmentlisting.html>

### **Stakeholders and Sub Teams**

1. The work begun in November / December to form a broad Stakeholder Group and Stakeholder Sub-Teams halted in early January 2010 when Paul Fleming left. This work will resume in April.
2. Our goal is to have the Stakeholder Group membership finalized and Sub Teams formed by the end of May 2010. We also hope to have an initial draft of a Team Charter for each Sub Team by the end of May.

### **DHHS HIT/HIE Website**

1. A preliminary DHHS HIT/HIE website has been implemented. This website will serve as a major communication vehicle between the HIEPI Project Team and all stakeholders and other interested parties.
2. It may be found the following URL:

[http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/DHHS/DHHS\\_SITE/hie](http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/DHHS/DHHS_SITE/hie)

### **Collaborative Relationships with Neighboring States**

1. Discussions continue to take place between New Hampshire and the other New England States to seek ways to collaborate. There is a strong need and willingness among all New England states to do so.
2. Discussions will continue.

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