



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY HEALTH

NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

**HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

ARRA CHATHAM CONNECT WITH DIRECT GRANT

**POSTING DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 24 2012
INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2012**

**LLOYD RICHARDSON, GRANTS SPECIALIST
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION
2 PEACHTREE STREET, NW, 35TH FLOOR
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-3159
TEL: (404) 657-4279 E-MAIL: Lrichardson@dch.ga.gov**

DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION

ARRA CHATHAM CONNECT WITH DIRECT

AGENCY BACKGROUND	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) was created in 1999 by Senate Bill 241 to serve as the lead agency for health care planning and purchasing issues in Georgia. DCH is the single state agency for Medicaid and insures over two million people in the State of Georgia, maximizing the State's health care purchasing power, coordinating health planning for State agencies and proposing cost-effective solutions for reducing the number of uninsured.</p> <p>Within DCH, the Division of Health Information Technology (Health-IT) is responsible for leading the strategic efforts of the State of Georgia for health information technology adoption and health information exchange to improve healthcare delivery for providers, healthcare professionals and consumers.</p>
PROGRAM OVERVIEW	<p>During FY 2010, the Office of Health Information Technology and Transparency OHITT) continued its mission to advance the use of health information technology throughout Georgia to reduce health care disparities, improve health outcomes, increase the efficiency of health care delivery and reduce overall health care costs. The OHIT objectives included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completing the Health Information Exchange (HIE) Pilot Grant Program started in FY 2008• Growing and maintaining the Transparency (www.georgiahealthinfo.gov) website• Planning for the organization and implementation of a statewide HIE to allow critical patient care information to be shared between unaffiliated providers and hospital systems• Planning for the implementation of the Medicaid Incentives Program (MIP) for eligible Medicaid providers to adopt, implement or upgrade their electronic health records (EHR) technology• Educating providers and consumers on the value of HIT, HIE and EHR. <p>In January 2010, the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) approved DCH's application to participate in the State Health Information Technology Exchange Cooperative Agreement Program. The ONC awarded \$13,000,003 to DCH to facilitate the development of an operational statewide Health Information Exchange (HIE) that would serve all of Georgia. OHITT expanded its efforts to work with stakeholders across the state toward this purpose.</p>
AWARD JUSTIFICATION	<p>The Office of National Coordinator (ONC) approved Georgia Department of Community Health and the Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council, Inc. for the Consumer Innovation Challenge.</p> <p>The six month project will work towards increasing consumers' access to their health information. Specifically Chatham Connect with Direct will work with DCH to provide lab results to patients through the use of a Personal Health Record (PHR).</p> <p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council a grant in the amount of \$245,000 to assist with the development of a specific laboratory hub solution across the state, in order to unify and integrate the reporting of laboratory values. DCH presents this funding as a direct award in that Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council meets the federal requirements.</p>
AWARD(S)	TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$245,000

TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

Lloyd Richardson, Grant Specialist at Lrichardson@dch.ga.gov no later than 2:00 PM on Tuesday, May 29, 2012