

MINUTES

Health Information Technology and Transparency Advisory Council Meeting

Georgia Department of Community Health
2 Peachtree Street N.W., Atlanta, GA 30303
5th Floor Overflow Boardroom
August 20, 2008
9:00 A.M- 12:00 P.M.

Members Present

Robert Bush	Martha Okafor	Patty Lavelly
Diane Turcan	Denise Watson	Eleanor Brown
Joel Schuessler	Jack Chapman	Judson Hill

DCH Staff Present

Ophelia Spear	Carladenise Edwards	Romero Stokes
Denise Hines	Alicia McCord-Estes	Doris Konneh
Altamese Morris	Dana Greer	Renea Steele

HITT Advisory Board Executive Director, Denise Hines, called the meeting to order by giving a brief welcome at 9:15 a.m. The meeting was held in the 5th Floor Overflow Board Room at DCH, 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303.

The meeting commenced with introductions from the new HITT Advisory Board Members. While introducing themselves each member stated goals they would like to see accomplished during their term, as well as interest they may have regarding Health Information Exchange, Electronic Health Records, and Rx Exchange. Dr. Carladenise Edwards then gave a brief introduction of the members who were not in attendance, which were Scott Evelyn, Judson Hill, and Gayle Ransom. The new board consists of 12 members. The members are listed below along with their area of expertise they will bring to the Advisory Board:

- > Mike Adloo - Pharmacy
- > Denise Watson - Laboratory
- > Martha Okafor - Public Health
- > Joel Schuessler - Payor
- > Jack Chapman, M.D.- Physicians
- > Scott Evelyn - Government/Payor
- > Gayle Ransom - Privacy and Security
- > Judson Hill – Legislation
- > Patricia Lavelly - Hospital IT
- > Eleanor Brown - Consumer
- > Robert Bush - Elder Law
- > Diane Turcan - HIE/Telecommunications

Introductions of the new Advisory Board were followed by introductions of the staff from the Department of Community Health (DCH) Office of Health Information Technology & Transparency (OHITT). Each staff member gave a brief introduction and stated their roles within the OHITT.

Dr. Edwards then proceeded to give a brief overview of OHITT.

Patty Lavelly gave an overview of the HITT Strategic Plan which was drafted by the previous Advisory Board. Mrs. Lavelly served on the previous board, her role was secretary. During her overview of the strategic plan she discussed:

- Year 1 accomplishments
- The short-term and long-term strategy for Georgia's HITT (Years 2-10)
- The organization of the HITT Advisory Board to accomplish the objectives of the strategic plan
- Next Steps which for the new HITT Advisory Board
 - Organize Board to accomplish goals
 - Create subcommittees
 - Nominate chairpersons for the
 1. HIE Grant Program
 2. HITT Value
 3. Transparency
 4. Consumer Outreach and Education
- Start planning process

Mrs. Hines informed the Board members that their role would be to “continually update the strategic plane so that it closely aligns with the current activities represented by the new HITT Advisory Board.”

Overviews of the current project initiatives for the OHITT were given by their respective program directors. The first overview was on the Transparency Web Site which was given by Mrs. Hines. Mrs. Hines stated the goal of the Transparency Web site project is to design, develop, implement, and manage an internet accessible web site that provides healthcare consumers the following types of information:

- (1) Access to health and self-care information,
- (2) Healthcare provider comparison information, and
- (3) Consumer planning information for “episodes of care.”

The goal(s) of the Transparency Web Site was then followed by major milestones:

- Launch Phase 1 for Stakeholder Testing and Feedback by October 2008
- Launch Phase 1 for Public use by December 2008
- Launch Phase 2 May 2009.

Alicia McCord-Estes, HIE Program Director, gave an overview of the Health Information Security and Privacy Collaboration (HISPC), which is to address the privacy and security challenges presented by electronic health information exchange through multi-state collaboration.

Doris Konneh, HISPC Project Manager, gave a presentation titled "HISPC Champions "How We Can Help". During her presentation she stated the following methods of support would add value to Georgia's collaboration:

- Speakers Bureau - Subject matter experts and laypersons who share their knowledge with consumers and providers regarding aspects of electronic health information exchange.
- Facilitators/Trainers - Subject matter experts and instructors who promote education of consumers by assisting in the identification of target audiences, designing curricula materials, serving as classroom instructors, etc.
- Communities of Practice - Experienced users of health information exchange/health information technology who serve as a support group for consumers and providers.

An overview of the EHR Demonstration was given by Renea Steele, OHITT Director. During her overview, she stated:

- 12 communities have been selected
- Selected communities demonstrated
 - Active collaboration among stakeholders
 - Were of adequate size
 - Close ties to the medical community
 - Ability to work closely with CMS to recruit demonstration participants
- The project will be implemented in two phases
 - Phase I starts Fall 2008
 - Phase II starts Fall 2009
- Georgia was selected as a Phase II Community

Mrs. Steele then gave an update on the immediate next steps of the demonstration project which are to have EHR Partners Workgroup Session meetings. The first Workgroup meeting is scheduled 8/20/08. Mrs. Steele did a request for information in the form of a survey for EHR Demonstration partners. Mrs. Steele also stated during the first workgroup session partner incentives and contributions would be reviewed.

There being no further business to be brought before the Health Information Technology and Transparency Advisory Board Meeting at its August 20, 2008 session, Board Director, Denise Hines, adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

THESE MINUTES ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE _____ DAY OF _____, 2008.

Patty Lavelly,
Chairman

Jack Chapman, M.D.
Vice Chairman