



Agency for Health Care Administration

The Florida Health Information Network Promoting Telehealth Services to Rural Hospitals in Florida's Panhandle

**Georgia HITT Advisory Board Health
Information Exchange Standing Committee
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The Proposed Florida Health Information Network

- The Florida Health Information Network vision will integrate clinical health information exchange in Florida through a network architecture that will empower physicians to access timely and accurate medical records in order to deliver high quality medical care for their patients.

Executive Order Initiates the Florida Health Information Network

- The impetus for the Florida Health Information Network came from the Legislature and Governor Bush
- In 2004 Governor Jeb Bush signed *Executive Order Number 04-93*, which addressed the need for state leadership in the area of health information technology infrastructure development



The Governor's Health Information Infrastructure Advisory Board

- Advisory Board formed to create “a plan to promote the development and implementation of a Florida health information infrastructure”
- The Board's 2005 Interim Report of the GHIIAB called for the creation of the Florida Health Information Network

Health Information Networks Included as an Innovative Idea

- In 2007 House Speaker Marco Rubio's 100 Innovative Ideas listed health information exchange as idea number 85
- "Improve patient care through technology by expanding electronic health records and regional health information networks"



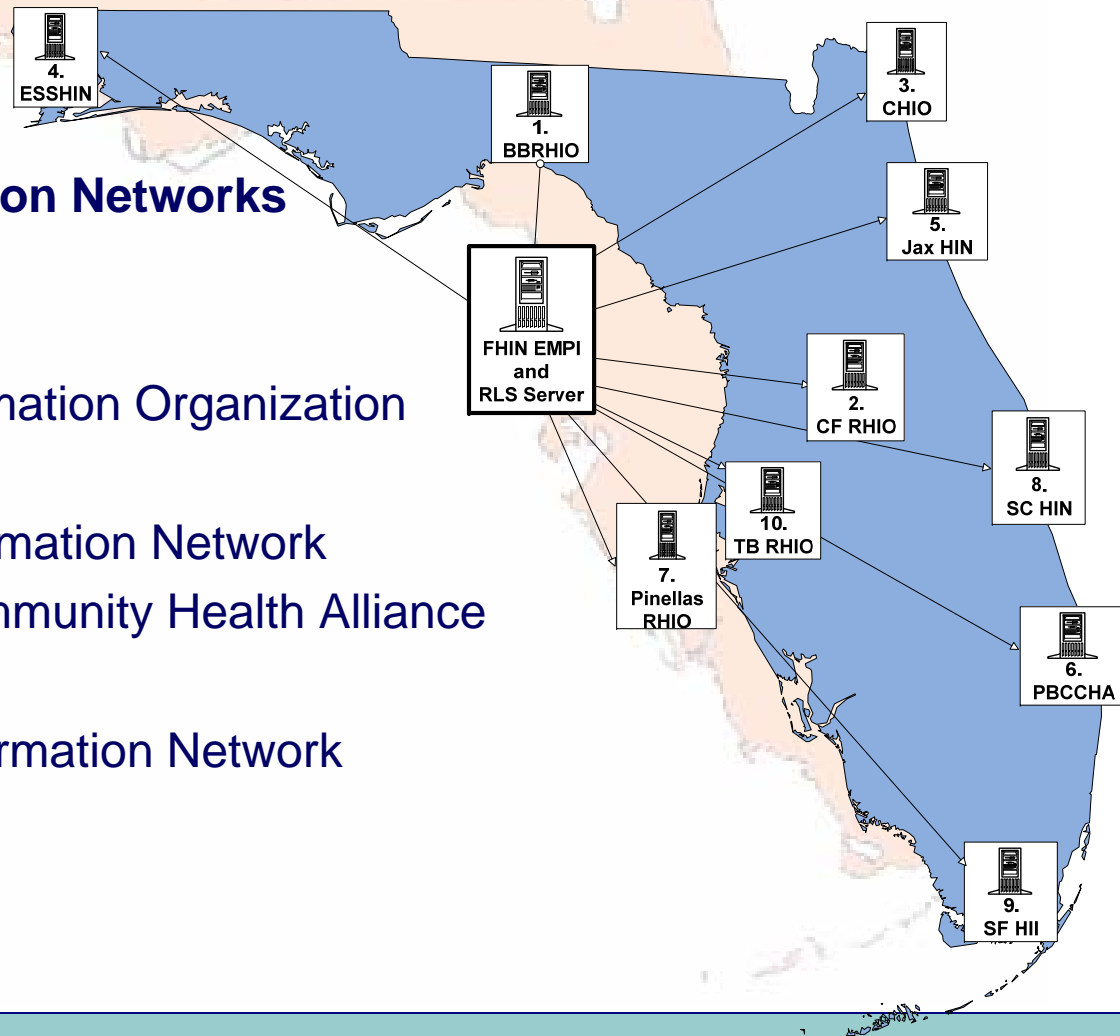
Functions of the Florida Health Information Network

- The Florida Health Information Network will facilitate communications and data exchange among providers and Regional Health Information Organizations by coordinating their requests for medical records inside and outside of Florida

Geography of the Florida Health Information Network

Florida's Health Information Networks

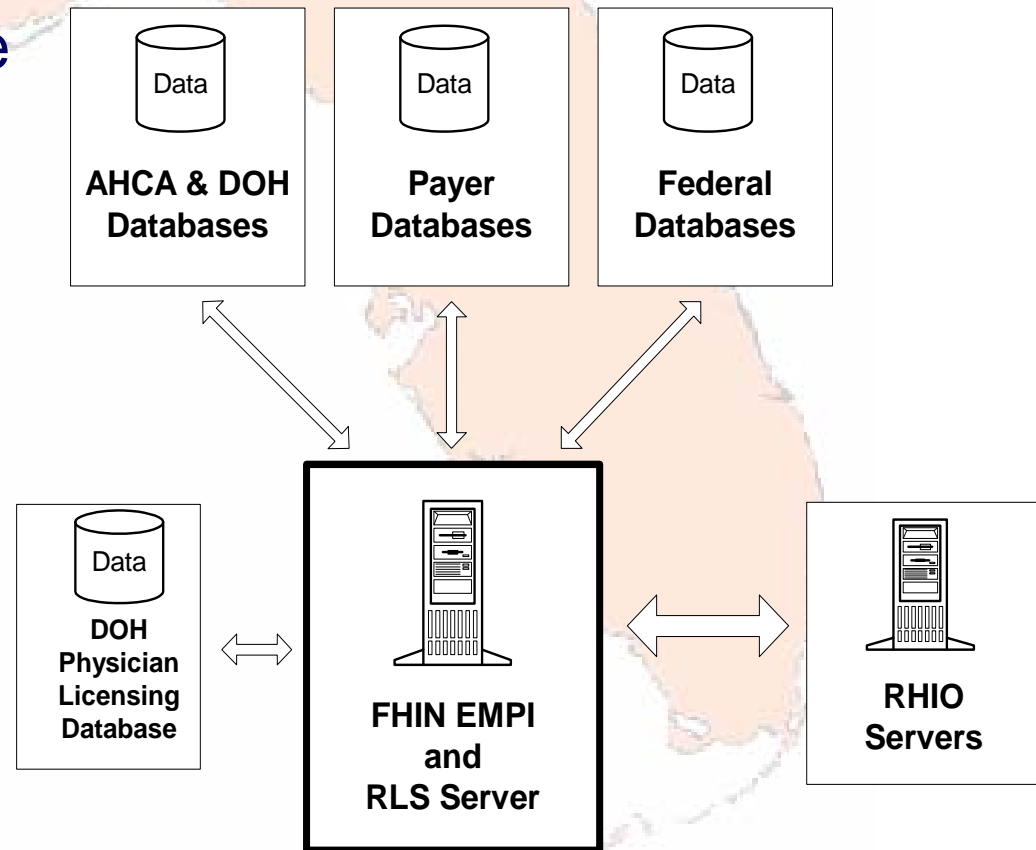
1. Big Bend RHIO
2. Central Florida RHIO
3. Community Health Information Organization
4. Escambia HIN
5. Jacksonville Health Information Network
6. Palm Beach County Community Health Alliance
7. Pinellas RHIO
8. Space Coast Health Information Network
9. South Florida HII
10. Tampa Bay RHIO



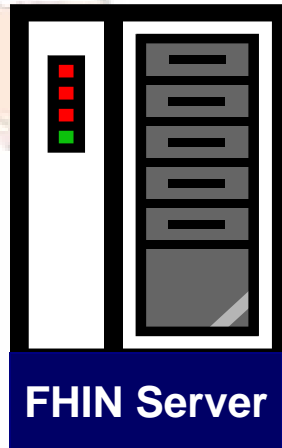
Vision for the Florida Health Information Network

The FHIN could integrate health care data from:

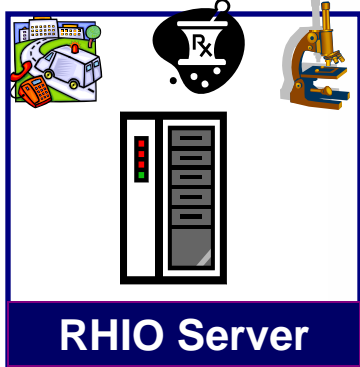
- Medicaid
- Inpatient / Outpatient / ED
- SHOTS
- Physician Licensing data
- Payers, like Availity
- Department of Defense
- Medicaid



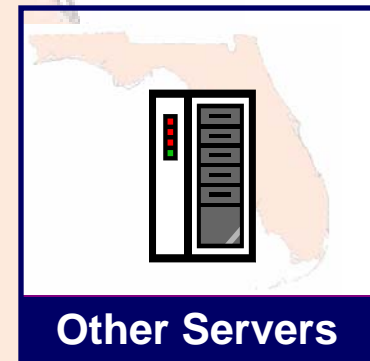
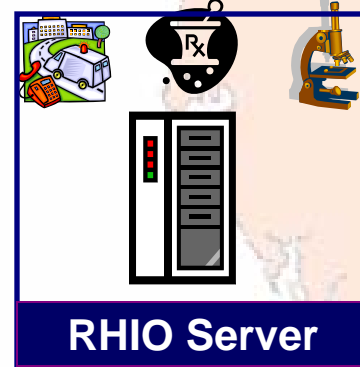
Projected Workflow of the FHIN:



3. The FHIN Server collects patient records from RHIOs and other participating servers and sends them to the authorized user.

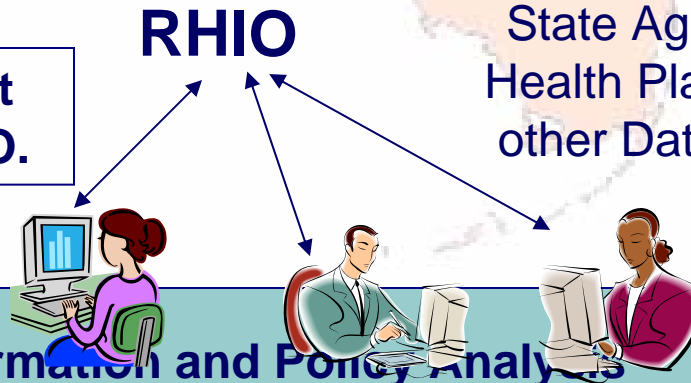
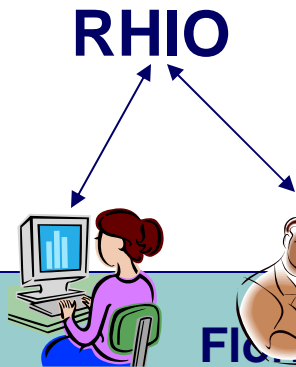


2. RHIO servers pass on authorized and authenticated queries to the FHIN Server.



State Agencies, Health Plans, and other Databases

1. Users request patient records from their RHIO.





The Florida Health Information Network Begins at the Local Level

- The Florida Health Information Network is being built from the local community up
- An essential element of the strategic plan is to empower local stakeholder collaborations focused on health information exchange
- The driver of this plan is the FHIN Grants Program and Regional Health Information Organizations in the local community



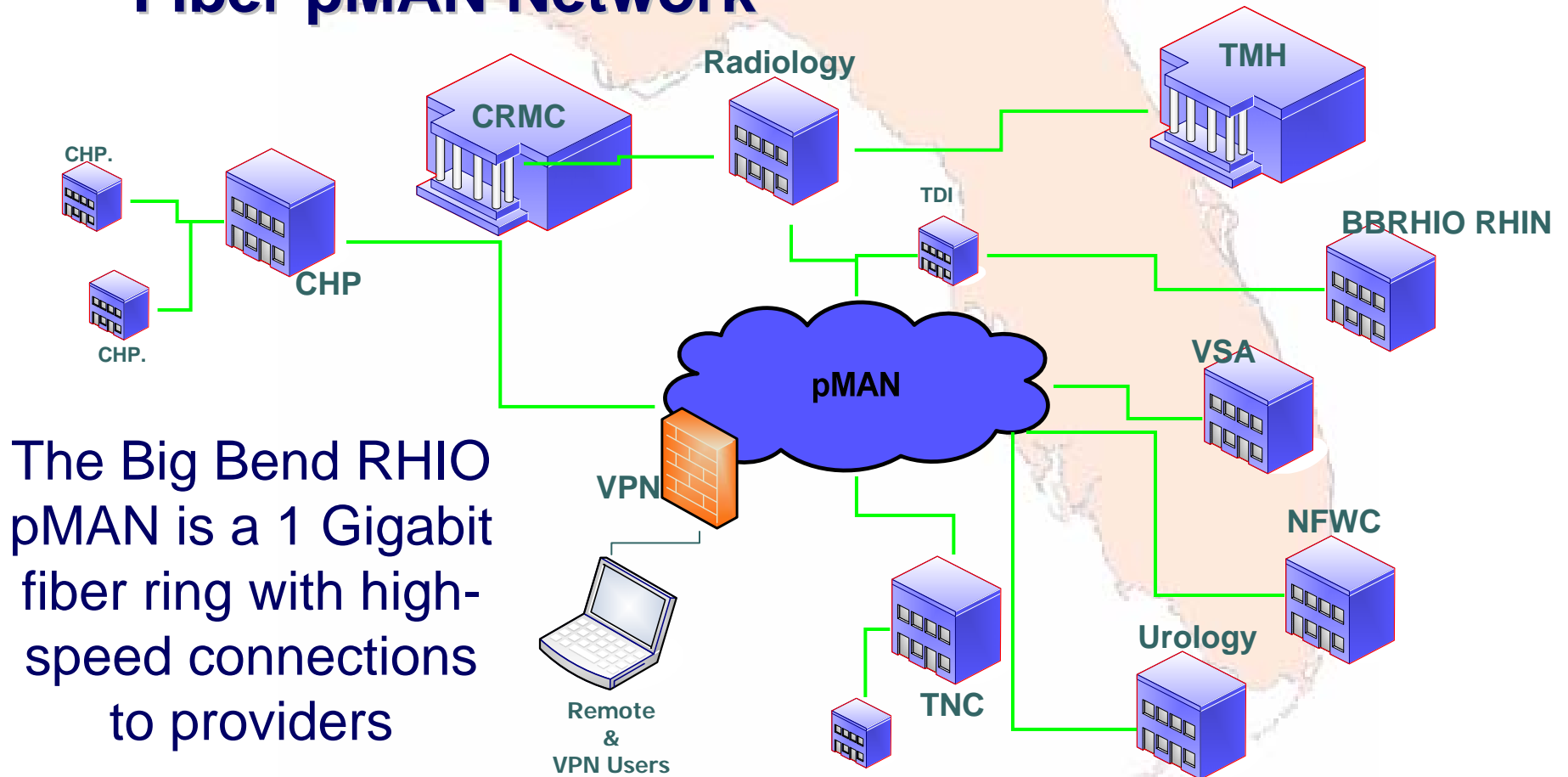
Connectivity Issues of the Florida Health Information Network

A key to the success of the Florida Health Information Network is the connectivity among providers and local health information exchanges.

Unless a provider has a broadband connection, health information exchange services will have little value.

An example is given on the following slide.

Example of Connectivity: Big Bend RHIO Optical Fiber pMAN Network

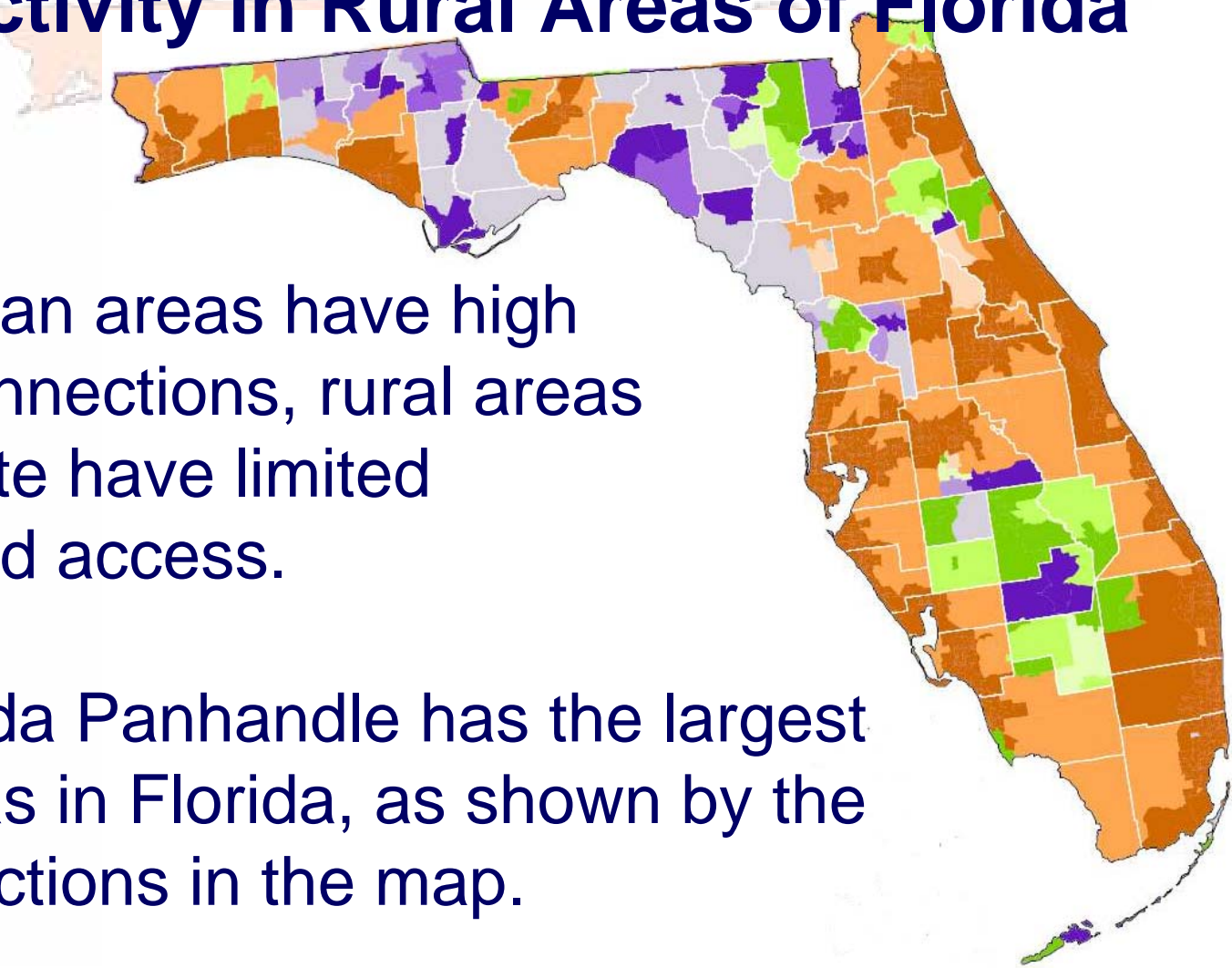


The Big Bend RHIO pMAN is a 1 Gigabit fiber ring with high-speed connections to providers

Connectivity in Rural Areas of Florida

While urban areas have high speed connections, rural areas of the state have limited broadband access.

The Florida Panhandle has the largest rural areas in Florida, as shown by the purple sections in the map.





Developing Connectivity through a Telehealth Pilot Program

The Florida Health Information Network is pursuing a grant from the Federal Communication Commission to provide broadband connections to rural hospitals.

The goal is to facilitate the creation of a nationwide broadband network dedicated to health care, health care providers in rural and urban locations.



FCC Telehealth Pilot Program

The pilot program will fund 85% of the costs of deploying a dedicated broadband network connecting health care providers within a state or region.

The broadband network will provide the health care communities access to telehealth facilities and to medical specialists in other parts of Florida.



FCC Telehealth Pilot Program

The FCC grant will cover deploying transmission facilities and advanced telecommunications and information services, including any associated non-recurring and recurring costs.

The pilot program will also support construction of telehealth audio-visual facilities.

Participants will be free to use available technology.



Collaborators on the FCC Proposal

The grant proposal includes many collaborators:

- Agency for Health Care Administration
- Department of Health
- Department of Management Services
- Office of the Governor
- Florida Hospital Association
- Florida Medical Association
- Florida State University
- University of Florida
- Association of Community Health Centers
- Rural Health Network – Big Bend
- North Florida Medical Centers, Inc.
- Big Bend RHIO
- Community Health Informatics Organization
- Florida LambdaRail



Proposed Objectives of the Project:

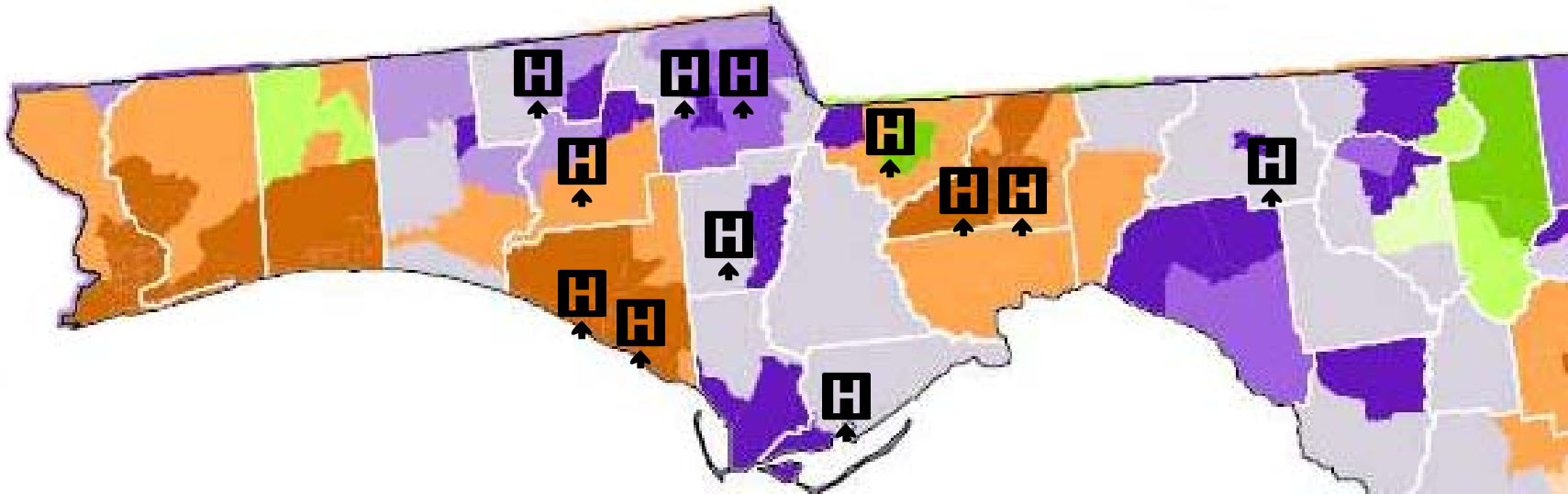
Connect rural hospitals located in the Big Bend and Panhandle with urban providers and pediatric specialists.

Extend Florida Health Information Network applications to rural providers.

Employ telehealth applications for chronic disease monitoring in the home.

Develop a funding formula for sustainability of services to eligible providers in rural counties or underserved areas.

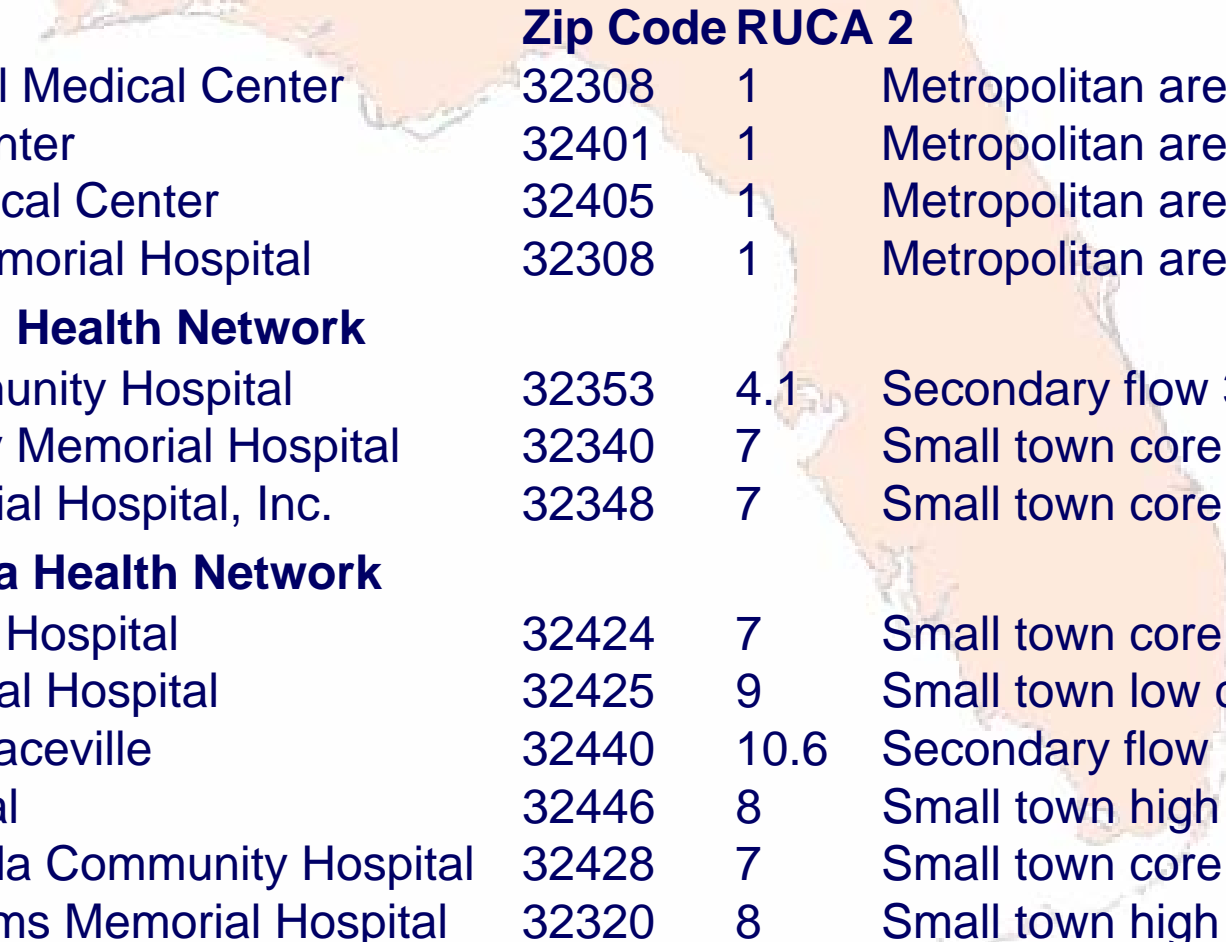
Target Rural Areas in Florida's Panhandle



Measures of population density, urbanization, and daily commuting are used to identify urban cores and adjacent territory that is economically integrated with those cores – Rural-Urban Commuting Areas, shown in purple.



Hospitals Considered for the Telehealth Pilot



Hospital	Zip Code	RUCA 2	
Capital Regional Medical Center	32308	1	Metropolitan area core
Bay Medical Center	32401	1	Metropolitan area core
Gulf Coast Medical Center	32405	1	Metropolitan area core
Tallahassee Memorial Hospital	32308	1	Metropolitan area core
Big Bend Rural Health Network			
Gadsden Community Hospital	32353	4.1	Secondary flow 30-49%
Madison County Memorial Hospital	32340	7	Small town core
Doctor's Memorial Hospital, Inc.	32348	7	Small town core
Panhandle Area Health Network			
Calhoun Liberty Hospital	32424	7	Small town core
Doctors Memorial Hospital	32425	9	Small town low commute
Campbellton Graceville	32440	10.6	Secondary flow 10-29%
Jackson Hospital	32446	8	Small town high commute
Northwest Florida Community Hospital	32428	7	Small town core
George E. Weems Memorial Hospital	32320	8	Small town high commute



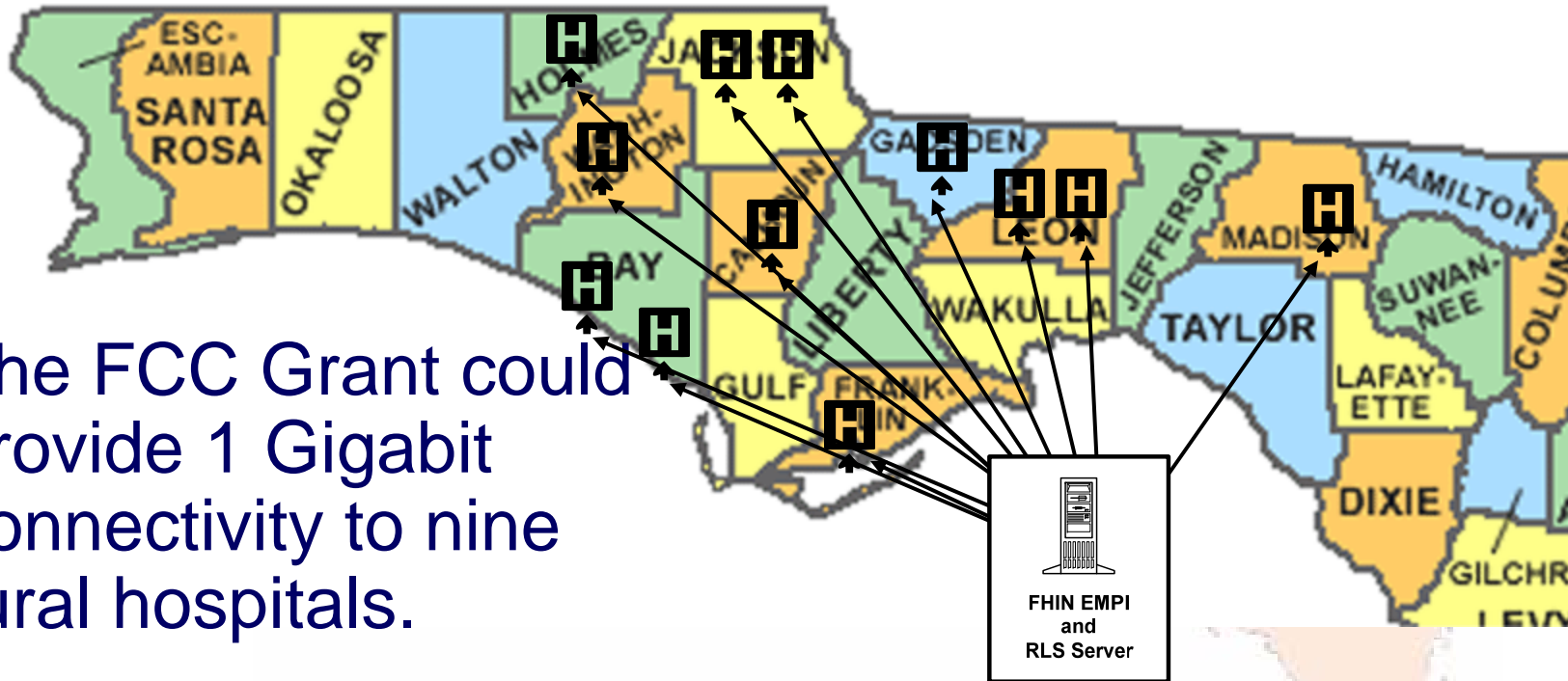
Connecting Rural Hospitals to the Florida Health Information

Providing optical fiber connections to rural hospitals will bring them into the Florida Health Information Network.

Rural clinics and physicians can benefit from the high bandwidth connection by using excess bandwidth for their own connection.

An example is shown in the map following.

Proposed Florida Health Information Network Connection to Rural Hospitals



The FCC Grant could provide 1 Gigabit connectivity to nine rural hospitals.

Clinics and physicians' offices would follow.



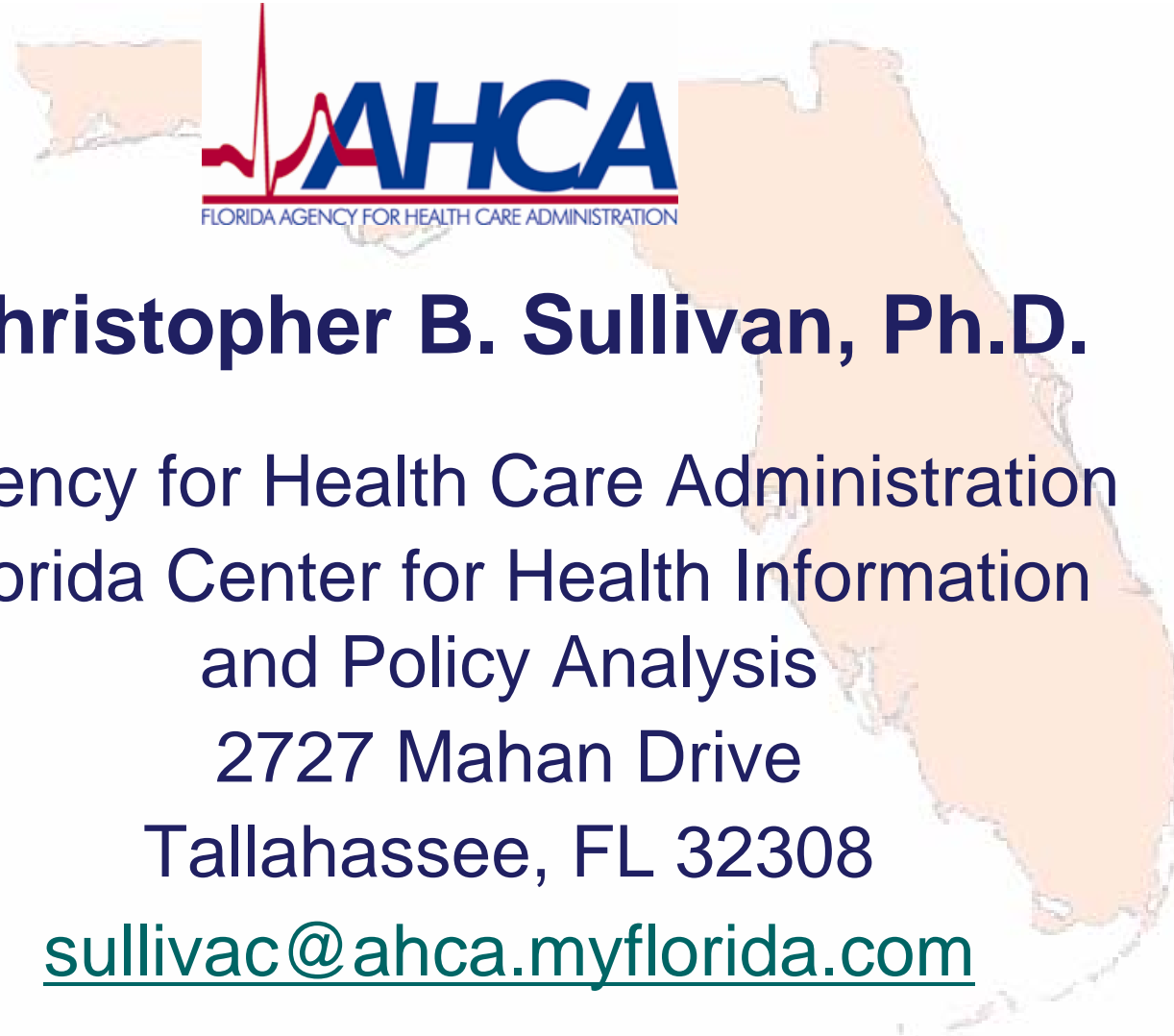
Benefits of Connecting Rural Hospitals to the Florida Health Information

Bringing high speed data connections to rural hospitals will create opportunities for telehealth care services that do not exist today.

By engaging this proposal to build broadband connections to rural hospitals, the Florida Health Information Network is establishing an integrated health care network across Florida.



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