

May 2022 eNews

Welcome to the Office of Health Information Technology (IT) eNewsletter! Here you will find updates on health IT in Oregon and at the federal level. If there are specific items you would like to see in this newsletter, please send ideas to HITOC.INFO@dhsoha.state.or.us.

Updating Oregon's Strategic Plan for Health IT

The Health Information Technology Oversight Council ([HITOC](#)) is engaged in reviewing and updating [Oregon's Strategic Plan for Health IT](#), and will be looking to identify strategies to ensure that health IT can support Oregon's health system transformation and goal to eliminate health inequities by 2030. There will be many opportunities to get involved in the strategic planning process over the next year. If you have thoughts to share with HITOC please email HITOC.INFO@dhsoha.state.or.us. HITOC meetings are open to the public, and public comment is always welcome at the meeting, in workgroups, or in writing at any time. For more information, please see the [meetings page](#).

New Health Information Exchange (HIE) Workgroup

HITOC chartered the HIE Workgroup in April 2022 to provide recommendations to HITOC and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) on strategies to accelerate, support, and improve HIE across the state. Recommendations should reflect perspectives from all interested parties and partners, specifically including those serving communities that face health inequities. The HIE Workgroup recommendations will inform HITOC's HIT Strategic Plan for Oregon and other OHA efforts. See the goals and full scope in the [HIE Workgroup Charter](#). For more information on HIE, see the [HIE Overview](#) and the OHA [HIE Workgroup website](#).

The HIE Workgroup kicked off on May 16, 2022. The Workgroup reviewed their purpose and timeline, discussed the state of HIE in Oregon, and began to brainstorm potential areas where state legislation could be needed to support the vision of HITOC and the Workgroup. The next meeting is on June 24. Future monthly meetings will be scheduled on a recurring basis. Meeting information will be posted on the OHA [HIE Workgroup website](#). Meetings are open to the public and available virtually.

Community Information Exchange (CIE) Workgroup

HITOC chartered a [CIE Workgroup](#) to recommend strategies to accelerate, support, and improve CIE across the state. Members represent a broad array of roles and backgrounds within Oregon's diverse landscape of health care, social service partners, and communities that are impacted by development in this area. Workgroup recommendations will inform HITOC's Health IT Strategic Plan for Oregon and OHA efforts. This work aligns with [House Bill 4150](#) that passed earlier this year.

The CIE Workgroup held their third meeting on May 17, 2022. Meeting topics included reviewing a concept paper of [Preliminary Recommendations to Support Community-based Organizations \(CBOs\)](#) to participate in CIE, and discussion of two additional legislative concept areas: Support for additional partners to participate in CIE, and Potential OHA and ODHS roles in supporting statewide CIE. The CIE Workgroup will meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month throughout 2022; the next meeting is June 21, 2022. [Meetings](#) are open to the public and available virtually. Please see the [CIE Workgroup website](#) for details and below for upcoming events.

HITOC welcomes new members

HITOC is pleased to announce the appointment of four new members as approved by the Oregon Health Policy Board on May 3, 2022. The new members fill important gaps in behavioral health, social determinants of health, and rural health, as well as improve racial and ethnic representation and geographic diversity. Their first meeting will be June 9th. Welcome to Romney Cortes of Central City Concern, Ann Kasper of Community Counseling Solutions, Kristina Martin of Curry Health, and Dave Perkins of Yakima Valley Farmworkers Clinic! See the HITOC roster [here](#).

Highlights from HITOC's April Meeting

At HITOC's [April 7th](#) meeting members reviewed and approved the [proposed HIE Workgroup charter](#) and membership slate, discussed a proposed vision statement for the Strategic Plan, and heard from Representative Maxine Dexter on [House Bill 4150](#). Members also began learning about potential strategies and legislative actions, and participated in breakout groups to begin revising goals for the Strategic Plan.

HITOC's June Meeting

HITOC's next meeting is [June 9th](#) from 12:30-3:30 and will focus on laying the groundwork for legislative recommendations. Members will hear a brief overview of the Health IT Data Report, updates from both the HIE and CIE Workgroups, and will explore potential legislative priorities.

HITOC Education Sessions:

OHA has held a series of education sessions for HITOC and members of the public to orient to key topics that will come up in the HITOC strategic plan work. These sessions are informational only. They are optional for HITOC members, and no official HITOC action (deliberation or decisions) will be made.

July Education Session: 2022 HITOC Data Report

On July 21st HITOC will hold an education session on the 2022 HITOC Data Report. This report will be shared ahead of HITOC's June 9th meeting and features updated data on electronic health record (EHR) and HIE adoption and use across Oregon, gaps and challenges, and potential implications for HITOC's strategic planning work. This one-hour webinar will provide a high-level orientation to the health IT tools in use in Oregon and allow opportunity for members to ask in depth questions about the report.

The four previous education sessions on HIE Basics, Oregon's HIE Programs, Oregon's HIT Programs, and Federal Interoperability Final Rules can be viewed [here](#).

Highlights from HITAG's March Meeting

The CCO Health IT Advisory Group (HITAG) met on [March 10th](#). HITAG includes health IT representatives from each CCO. The meeting included updates from the Office of Health IT, discussion of the [CCO 2022 HIT Roadmap Template](#), [2022 CCO HIT Data Reporting Guidance](#), and a [summary of CCO 2021 efforts](#) to support HIE for care coordination and hospital event notifications, including presentations from several CCOs on their work in this area.

Federal Policy

Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement

The overall goal of the Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA) is to establish a universal floor of interoperability across the country. The Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) and the Sequoia Project, the Recognized Coordinating Entity (RCE), recently announced the publication of TEFCA, marking the beginning of the implementation phase. Also available is the TEFCA Health Level Seven (HL7) Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resource (FHIR) Roadmap, which outlines how TEFCA will accelerate the adoption of FHIR-based exchange across the industry. FHIR helps healthcare data to be available for patient care securely, giving only those who have a need to access information the ability to do so.

On May 16th the RCE released the [draft QHIN](#) Onboarding and Designation Standard Operating Procedure. Organizations and individuals may submit written feedback using [the online feedback form](#) until June 15, 2022.

The RCE will host a series of webinars to help those interested in TEFCA understand how it works. [Visit the RCE's webpage](#) to learn more, find current resources, and register for upcoming webinars. Learn more from ONC [here](#).

Upcoming Events: OHA Health IT Meetings/Events

- June 9th: [HITOC](#)
 - Meeting topics will include updates from both HIE and CIE Workgroups, initial legislative concepts, and a discussion of additional legislative concepts. HITOC meetings are open to the public, and public comment is always welcome either at the meeting or in writing at any time (send to: HITOC.INFO@dhsosha.state.or.us). For more information, please see the [website](#).
- June 21st: [CIE Workgroup monthly meeting](#)
 - At this meeting the CIE Workgroup will review draft legislative concept papers that were developed based on feedback in prior meetings and begin discussions about opportunities for aggregation and use of statewide CIE data.
- June 24th: [HIE Workgroup monthly meeting](#)
 - At this meeting the HIE Workgroup will continue discussing how legislative action may impact adoption of HIE strategies in Oregon, with a focus on how HIE can help enable value-based payment strategies.
- July 21st, 12-1 pm: [HITOC education session on Oregon's Health IT Landscape](#). This one hour webinar will provide a high-level orientation to the health IT tools in use in Oregon, gaps and challenges, and potential implications for HITOC's strategic planning work.

Other Events:

- June 1st, 11:00AM-12:00PM PST: HIT Commons learning webinar – Care Coordination Tools for Behavioral Health: Collaborating through Collective Medical

- This webinar will provide an overview of Collective Medical features available and recommendations for best practice in behavioral health settings. Register for the webinar [here](#).

Want to weigh in on OHA's Health IT work? How to make public comment:

OHA's Health IT committee and workgroup meetings (i.e., HITOC, CIE Workgroup, HIE Workgroup, HITAG) are open to the public, and public comment is always welcome at the meeting during the specified time or in writing at any time. Public comment is an important part of OHA's committee work and is an opportunity for members of the public to provide input and feedback to the Committee or Workgroup.

Meetings: Typically, the public comment period is held at the end of each meeting. There may occasionally be more than one comment period. Members of the public are asked to comment or post in the chat only during this period, and to keep verbal comments to about 2 minutes. The public comment period is held solely for the public to share their thoughts with the Committee or Workgroup. Committee members are unlikely to ask questions or respond to public comment directly but give consideration to public comments during committee work. If you know before the meeting that you'd like to provide public comment, you can email HITOC.INFO@dhsoha.state.or.us to sign up. If you'd like to provide public comment during the meeting, you can message one of the hosts to sign-up. If you are unable to message, please speak up during the open public comment period.

Written Comment: You can also send written public comment to HITOC.INFO@dhsoha.state.or.us at any time, to be included in a meeting please submit the comment no less than 48 hours before the intended meeting. Please specify which group it is for – HITOC, CIE Workgroup, HIE Workgroup, or HITAG. Written comment is emailed out and posted as part of meeting materials.

Have questions about public comment? We want to hear from you! Please email HITOC.INFO@dhsoha.state.or.us.