# Health Information Technology Oversight Council (HITOC)

December 1, 2026

Kristina Martin, Chair

Laurel Moffat, HITOC Lead Analyst

# HITOC Leadership

- Kristina Martin, Chair

  Chief Information Officer, Curry Health Network

- Jennifer Chi, Vice Chair

  Director, Digital Experience, CareOregon

# Background: Health IT Oversight Council (HITOC)

The Oregon Legislature created HITOC in 2009 to ensure health system transformation efforts are supported by health IT. HITOC is a committee of the Oregon Health Policy Board.

Advise health IT strategy and policy

Monitor health IT landscape

Develop state health IT strategic plan

# HITOC's Vision and Strategies

**Vision: Health IT empowers individuals and communities to reach their full health potential and well-being.**

| Number | Strategy |
|---|---|
| 1 | Strengthen engagement, access, and rights of patients and consumers |
| 2 | Close remaining EHR gaps |
| 3 | Spread HIE across the state |
| 4 | Support, accelerate, and improve statewide CIE efforts |
| 5 | Improve interoperability and encourage broad sharing of valuable data |
| 6 | Evolve governance of health IT efforts |

# Value of Health IT and HITOC's work

- Health IT supports patient-centered care, ensuring patients and providers have the right health information at the right time and place.
- Timely access to health information improves communication, coordination, and efficiency across care providers.
- Health IT can play a role in OHPB's major priority areas:
  - Affordability
  - Primary care

# Groups Using and Impacted by Health IT

- Individuals (consumers/patients)
- Providers and clinic staff
- The Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon
- Community-based organizations
- Hospitals
- Health systems
- Coordinated care organizations and health insurance plans (payers)
- Technology partners
- State agencies

# HITOC’s Current Major Focus Areas

# HITOC's "Year of Interoperability"

- Interoperability definition from HITOC's Strategic Plan:
  - The ability for a distinct health IT system to communicate and exchange data meaningfully with other systems without significant human intervention.
  - … so they can share needed data quickly and easily.
- 2026 interoperability topics:
  - Federal priorities for interoperability
  - Federal interoperability API requirements
  - Interoperability in Oregon: HIE and CIE, member spotlights
  - Plans for interoperability white paper

# HITOC's Interoperability Insights

- Interoperability has improved in Oregon in the past decade, but progress is uneven.
- **Challenges**: cost, EHR limitations, workflows, information overload, accessing state systems, data privacy concerns, data sharing restrictions
- **Gaps**:
  - Cross-sector data sharing with oral health, behavioral health, long-term care and skilled nursing, and transport and emergency medical services
  - Data on the extent of faxing vs. interoperability in Oregon

# Behavioral Health

- HITOC identified behavioral health as a priority area as part of their 2024-2028 Strategic Plan for Health IT
- HITOC instructed OHA to complete a survey of provider needs, use and challenges, to understand what behavioral health providers need most from health IT
- Survey is now live, and covers:
  - Electronic health records
  - Information sharing with patients and other organizations
  - Other technology and data systems
  - Reporting

# RHTP Technology and Data Modernization Catalyst Awards

**21 projects** with $19.1M in Budget Period 1 and $12.5M in Budget Period 2

**Regions**

7 South Central, 6 Central Valley, 5 North West/Coast, 4 North Eastern, 2 South Eastern, 1 South Coast, 1 North Central/Gorge, 3 Statewide

**Types of Projects**

16 Health IT adoption and enhancement, 3 Telehealth, 2 Remote Patient Monitoring

**Examples of Organization Types**

- Behavioral health clinics
- Rural Health Clinics
- Emergency medical services
- Hospital or hospital system
- Local public health authority
- Nonprofit or private health care organization

# HITOC is also monitoring

- AI use in health IT
- Monitor HIE and CIE efforts
- HR1 impacts on health IT
- Use of health IT by patients and consumers

# Looking Ahead

- Behavioral health IT survey results
- Medicaid HIE landscape assessment and recommendations
- Interoperability white paper
- Oral health challenges and needs around health IT and information sharing
- RHTP technology initiative continues
- Ongoing monitoring of AI in health IT
- Begin strategic planning for 2029-2033

# Questions?