



February Network News

Feb. 16, 2022

Housekeeping Reminders

- This is a Zoom webinar
- All webinar participants are automatically muted, and your video is not displayed
- If you would like to ask the presenters a question, please use the **Q&A** function on the task bar
- Use the **chat** feature to introduce yourself – name, organization and location, share resources, etc.
- If you have any questions following the webinar, please reach out to contact@civitasforhealth.org

Agenda

- Welcome and CEO announcements – Lisa Bari, Civitas CEO
- Civitas member news – Lisa Bari and Jolie Ritzo, Civitas Senior Director, Network Engagement
- The Health Data Utility Model and Civitas' Advocacy Work – Lisa Bari
- PCDR Update – Lisa Bari
- Councils/workgroups update:
 - Mar/Comm Workgroup, Health Data Research Workgroup
- Spotlight presentation: National Quality Forum's Measure Applications Partnership Review of Recommendations – Julie Sonier, MN Community Measurement, President and CEO

CEO Announcements

- Civitas is publishing our first SB&T member guide in order to ensure that all members are aware of SB&T solutions and technology offerings – we strongly encourage partnerships across our network and hope that members will consider checking the SB&T member guide first.
- We are representing the community on the national stage with speaking opportunities at ViVE, HIMSS22, and State Health IT Connect in March and April.
- New events page on the website! <https://www.civitasforhealth.org/events/>

We Have Our Annual Conference Name and Theme!

- **Conference name** - The Civitas Networks for Health 2022 Annual Conference, a Collaboration with the DirectTrust Summit
- **Conference theme** - Better Together: Health Data Collaboratives and Information Exchange to Advance Health Equity
- Call for proposals coming soon!
- [Sponsorship prospectus](#) available

SAVE THE DATE!

August 21 - 24

In-Person: San Antonio, Texas

Virtual Attendance Option

BETTER TOGETHER
HEALTH DATA
COLLABORATIVES
& INFORMATION
EXCHANGE
2022
**TO ADVANCE
HEALTH EQUITY**

CIVITAS
Networks for Health

 **DirectTrust™**

Special Event: SB&T Member Roundtable

Civitas will be hosting an **SB&T Member Roundtable** on **Tuesday, March 1st from 3:00-4:30 for SB&T Members**. This event will feature a detailed review of SB&T member benefits, spotlight members utilizing their benefits and a discussion on what is working well and what could be improved.

Please [use this link](#) to register.

Civitas Member News

Member News

- PointClickCare Technologies announced their intent to acquire [Audacious Inquiry](#) to help accelerate the companies' mission to address critical gaps in health care and enable better care for vulnerable patients.
- Big Sky Care Connect, Montana's premier health care information exchange platform [finalized their partnership](#) with Medicom Technologies, Inc. to image enable their provider health information network.
- 2022 marks the [10th anniversary](#) of the Colorado All Payer Claims Database.
- Lindsey Ferris, senior advisor at CRISP, and Matthew Isiogu, senior VP of Innovation at Contexture, [coauthored an article](#) on rethinking conventional wisdom on Medicaid for healthcare IT funding.
- West Health partnered with Gallup to release a [2021 Healthcare in America Report](#) uncovering how COVID-19 led to growing worry about rising costs and inequities.

Member News

- Velatura HIE Corporation announced its [newest affiliation](#), adding Georgia Regional Academic Community Health Information Exchange. The new consolidated HIE organization is one of the largest of its kind in the United States.
- Health Gorilla hired [Carol Allis as Chief Compliance Officer](#).
- HEALTHeLINK'S released their 2021 *Report to the Community* which is now available to [view online](#).
- Lyniate's Corepoint solution earned the [Best in KLAS®](#) distinction for Integration Engine Category.
- Julie Sonier, President and CEO of MN Community Measurement, [spoke with Cyrena Gawuga](#) of Preparedness and Treatment Equity Coalition to discuss her fascinating projects with MN Community Measurement. Also, MNCM recently released three [issue briefs](#) focused on important aspects of health care data.

Member News

- MyHealth Access Network announced [a partnership with The Oklahoma State Department of Health](#) aimed at enhancing tracking and reporting of the deployment of vaccinations including COVID-19 vaccines in the state.
- Onyx Health, parent company NewWave Technologies, [announced the opening of SAFFRON Labs](#), an incubation hub that will support the creation of the technical capability for a secure consumer- and community-centric, open, interoperable SDOH data ecosystem.
- Zen Healthcare IT President [Marilee Benson was selected](#) to join the Carequality Advisory Council and the HIMSS Interoperability & Health Information Exchange Committee.

Health Data Utility (HDU) Model Discussion

- Civitas is supporting member-led initiatives to advocate for federal funding for expanded HIE use cases, which we are terming “HDUs”.
- HDUs are nonprofit, multistakeholder or existing state agency entities, serving as neutral data conveners, with significant connections to providers, capable of inter- and intra-state information exchange, and combining and enhancing clinical and public health data and information.
- We are asking for funding for cooperative agreements between states and these entities, and planning grants where there are no eligible entities.
- An established, funded HDU program will help fill the gaps across the country, provide funding that is needed now that HITECH has ended, and strengthen clinical and public health data connections.

Health Data Utility (HDU) Model Discussion

- Civitas' role in the advocacy work has provided input on draft legislative language to ensure that it is as inclusive as possible for as many members as possible—provisions such as **including existing state agency HIEs**, and language to **encourage states to coordinate with multiple existing HIE organizations** in a state.
- We have also led dozens of meetings with key Congressional Committees and individual member offices to introduce Civitas and their constituents in each state.
- Currently, our efforts are focused on the Senate HELP Committee and the PREVENT Pandemics discussion draft, but we will continue to adapt our message along with action in Congress.
- **Advocacy work is always a question of timing and opportunity, and we are more likely to see *incremental gains* than big wins. Awareness and collaboration are very important.**

HDU isn't the only item on the Civitas Advocacy Agenda!

- We are working to identify and supportive legislative proposals to drive accountable care, advance health equity, and address health care affordability.
- In the immediate term we are supporting coalition advocacy efforts to extend the QPP-SURS program to 2027, which affects Civitas and RHIC members, and was scheduled to end this month.
- We track and engage with SDoH legislation through our NASDOH membership.
- Final Agenda for 2022 will be published soon. As always, we intend to pursue advocacy opportunities that benefit as many HIE/RHIC members as possible, where we have the greatest chance to educate and inform policymakers about the important work our members are doing.

Civitas Networks for Health PCDR Update

Civitas Networks for Health hosted a PCDR information session on February 9, 2022, providing background, the adopted PCDR Committee Principles, and the significance of PCDR for all Civitas Networks for Health memberships.

Why is PCDR important to all members?

- Facilitating cross-state care coordination
- Creating a stronger Civitas member-governed national networks
- Providing an ongoing national presence for Civitas and its members
- Actively engaging with TEFCA and other federal and national interoperability networks.

Use Case: Event Notifications

The goal of the PCDR committee is to recommend the best viable solution/Solution Partner(s) available which will immediately solve for the base use case of event notifications to appropriate Civitas members to support treatment, care coordination, and case management.

Next Steps

- Previous RFI respondents and other interested parties will be invited to attend a specific RFI respondent information session scheduled for Feb. 22, 2022, at 10 a.m. ET.
- Online RFP response form due by March 9, 2022.
- If your organization would like to attend as a potential RFP respondent who did not respond to the original RFI, or if you want to ensure you're on the list to receive the invite, please email us at pcdr-info@civitasforhealth.org.

Council and Workgroup Updates

Marketing and Communications Workgroup

- MarCom Workgroup meets quarterly to share tips on HIE marketing and communication
- Reminder that all are welcome so please email contact@civitasforhealth.org if you or a colleague would like to be added
- This quarter, we had a presentation about virtual conference best practices
- Working on a presentation about Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in communications for our April meeting

Health Data Research Workgroup

Purpose:

The Civitas Research Workgroup provides Civitas with a consistent, systemic and whole-organization approach to exploring data requests, data governance and connecting researchers with quality projects. This workgroup will act as a support and a feedback mechanism to facilitate health information exchange research targeted to improve health care delivery.

The goals for the workgroup include:

- Peer-to-peer support
- Mentoring for data requests and project implementation
- Collaborative opportunities to enhance and support projects
- Insight and advice to Civitas to maximize research opportunities

Launching at the end of March, more to come! Please email Heidi Penix/hpenix@civitasforhealth.org if you have questions or want to join.

Cerkl Broadcast via Civitas Shared Services



Personalized Member Communications

Whether you need to connect with on-the-go members or those opening their inbox with their morning coffee, Cerkl Broadcast helps to send important messages when and how they prefer. Your diverse, disbursed members will no longer miss important updates that get buried in their inboxes.

Deadline to sign up for the April cohort is March 15!
Contact Heidi Penix for details: hpenix@civitasforhealth.org

Spotlight Presentation

Measure Applications Partnership Structure



The Measure Applications Partnership (MAP) is a public-private partnership convened by the National Quality Forum (NQF). MAP was created to provide input to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the selection of performance measures for public reporting and performance-based payment programs.

MAP's role

- Inform the selection of measures to achieve improvement, transparency, and value in health care
- Provide input to HHS on selection of measures for:
 - Public reporting
 - Performance based payment
 - Other federal programs
- Identify measure gaps for measure development, testing, and endorsement
- Encourage measurement alignment across public and private programs, settings, levels of analysis, and populations

What is the MUC process?

- The MAP process is a way of obtaining stakeholder and public input on the MUC list prior to including measures in a formal proposed or final rule
- As part of a pre-rulemaking process, CMS publishes its MUC (Measures Under Consideration) list each year in December
 - MAP workgroups, advisory groups, and coordinating committee meet in December and January to make recommendations to CMS

How do measures get on the MUC list? CMS criteria

- Alignment with meaningful measures/gap areas – address a high-priority quality issue or meet a statutory requirement
- Measure type – preference for outcome measures, especially patient-reported outcomes
- Burden
- Complete measure specifications/endorsement
- Feasibility
- Alignment of similar measures across CMS programs and with private payers; minimize duplication

MAP assessment criteria

- The measure addresses a critical quality objective not adequately addressed by measures already in the set for the CMS program
- The measure is evidence-based and is either strongly linked to outcomes or an outcome measure
- The measure addresses a quality challenge
- The measure contributes to efficient use of measurement resources and/or supports alignment of measurement across programs
- The measure can be feasibly reported
- The measure is applicable to and appropriately specified for its intended use
- If in current use, no unreasonable implementation issues that outweigh the benefits of the measure have been identified

Four MAP recommendation categories

- Support for future rulemaking
- Conditional support (usually contingent on endorsement),
- Do not support with potential for mitigation
- Do not support the measure (example could be lack of evidence about link to outcomes)

Highlights of 2021-2022 MAP cycle

- New process this year to advise CMS on potential removal of measures from programs (September 2021)
- Evaluated 44 measures on the December 2021 MUC list
 - 10 supported for rulemaking, 32 conditional support, 1 do not support with potential for mitigation, 1 do not support
- Measures of particular interest:
 - Screening for social drivers of health (hospital and clinician programs) – conditionally supported
 - Screen positive rate for social drivers of health (hospital and clinician programs) – conditionally supported
 - Hospital commitment to health equity – conditionally supported

For more information

MAP website:

<https://www.qualityforum.org/map/>



Contact

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