**Meeting Minutes**

**Health Information Technology Council**

May 1, 2023

3:30 – 5 p.m.

**Due to COVID-19 precautions, meeting was held remotely   
in lieu of in-person meeting normally held at**

**One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108**

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| Name | Organization | Attended |
| **Karen Tseng** | *Senior Advisor Health Policy (Designee for  Dr. Kiame Mahaniah Undersecretary of Health and Human Services)* | Y |
| **Deborah Adair** | *Executive Director, Enterprise Health Information Management/Privacy,  Partners Healthcare* | Y |
| **Keely Benson** | *Director, Massachusetts eHealth Institute* | Y |
| **John Addonizio** | *Chief Executive Officer, Addonizio & Company* |  |
| **Damon Cox** | *Assistant Secretary for Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (Designee for Secretary Mike Kennealy)* |  |
| **Frank Gervasio** | *Project Manager, Executive Office of Administration and Finance* |  |
| **Diane Gould** | *President and Chief Executive Officer, Advocates Inc.* | Y |
| **John Halamka, MD** | *President, Mayo Clinic Platform* |  |
| **Kelly Hall** | *Senior Director, Healthcare Transformation and Innovation, Massachusetts Health Policy Commission (HPC)* | Y |
| **Sean Kay** | *Global Accounts District Manager, EMC Corporation* |  |
| **Dicken S. C. Ko, MD** | *Chief Medical Officer/Vice President of Medical Affairs, St. Liz’s Medical Center, Steward Health Care* |  |
| **Michael Lee, MD** | *Medical Director, Boston Children’s Hospital* | Y |
| **Manuel Lopes** | *Chief Executive Officer, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center* |  |
| **Linda McGoldrick** | *Chairman and CEO, Financial Health Associates International* | Y |
| **Michael Miltenberger** | *Vice President Healthcare Team, Advent International* | Y |
| **Naomi Prendergast** | *President and Chief Executive Officer, D’Youville Life and Wellness Community* | Y |
| **Elizabeth LaMontagne** | *Chief of Staff, MassHealth* |  |
| **Emma Schlitzer** | *Manager, External Affairs, CHIA* | Y\* |
| **Pramila Yadav, MD** | *Private Practice Obstetrics & Gynecology, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center* |  |

**HIT Council Members**

*\*Andrew Jackmauh Chief of Staff CHIA Designee for Emma Schlitzer*

## Discussion Item 1: Welcome

Karen Tseng called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Kevin Mullen introduced the new members of the HIT Council and provided some EOHHS Leadership Transition Updates under the new administration.

* Kate Walsh, *new* Secretary of Health and Human Services
* Dr. Kiame Mahaniah, *new* Undersecretary for Health
* Karen Tseng, *new* Senior Advisor, Health Policy
* David Whitham, *new role* as Deputy Chief Information Officer for EOHHS

We waited on a quorum. Historically we needed 11 out of 21 but we have only 19 members now, so we needed only 10.

Kevin Mullen announced that we had reached our quorum, having 10 members present.

Karen Tseng spoke next asking for introductions from some of those present

Kevin Mullen called out names and each individual introduced themself.

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Naomi Prendergast: President and Chief Executive Officer, D’Youville Life and Wellness Community

Diane Gould: Advocates

Kelly Hall: Senior Director HPC

Michael Miltenberger: Investor in healthcare tech spaces

Linda McGoldrick: Board Advisor to a number of companies

Keely Benson: Director of MeHI

Debbie Adair: MGB

Dr. Mike Lee: Boston Childrens Hospital

Andrew Jackmauh: CHIA chief of staff

David Whitham: Deputy Chief Information Officer for EOHHS

Kevin Mullen: Executive Director, Massachusetts Health Information Exchange

Liz Reardon: Project Director, Account Manager and Consulting MeHI and the Mass HIway

Julie Creamer: Manager of Operations, Mass HIway

Pam Boutin-Coviello: Policy Analyst and ENS Program Manager EOHHS, Mass HIway

Kevin Mullen moved forward with the agenda.

Karen Tseng Shared that Kiami has a great interest in the Mass HIway and ways that we can support community health centers.  She has spent the last five years in Harris County Texas on the board of their Health connect.  She is looking forward to learning more and being a conduit.

Next, Karen Tseng solicited a motion to approve minutes for August and November HIT Council Meeting Minutes

Kelly Hall made a motion to approve the minutes, it was seconded and approved by al, with no opposition and no edits were made.

Karen Tseng announced that The Health Information Technology Council hereby approved the August and November HIT Council Meeting Minutes, as submitted. Then motioned that the Health Information Technology Council approve the 2022 Annual HITC Report to the Massachusetts Legislature

Kelly Hall motioned to approve, and the motion was seconded with all in favor, and none opposed.

Karen Tseng announced that The Health Information Technology Council approved the 2022 Annual HITC Report to the Massachusetts Legislature, as submitted.

Kevin Mullen announced the first discussion item, and that Pam Boutin Coviello would present this section.

Discussion Item 2: **Statewide Event Notification System (ENS) Framework Update**​

*See slides 7-10 of the presentation. The following are explanations from the presenter Pam Boutin-Coviello, with additional comments, questions, and discussion among the Council Members.*

Pam Boutin-Coviello thanked Kevin.

Dr. Mike Lee: asked if we were planning to do this just annually for the vendors, since

it would take time for providers to change to another vendor.

Kevin Mullen replied by explaining that currently the framework has a two-year term with the ability to extend the contracts for two additional one-year terms.”

Discussion Item 3: **Clinical Gateway API Pilot Update**

*See slides 11-15 of the presentation. The following are explanations from the presenter, Julie Creamer with additional comments, questions, and discussion among the Council Members.*

Kevin Mullen announced this section and presenter Julie Creamer.

Julie Creamer thanked Kevin.

Deb Adair offered praise and stated that they were doing a nice job, and that she knows it’s lots of work- she made note that it was nice to see momentum.

Diane Gould mentioned that clinicians are very pleased, that the workforce crisis is most important- and that she’s pleased to be a part of this.

Julie Creamer thanked Deb for her assistance with facilitation.

Dr. Mike Lee inquired where is the CAMS reporting going? He asked if it was going to an individual LBHI agency? He stated that hi network is extensive, and that they’ve had luck with LBHC sites. He asked if CANS assessments were sent to LBHCs for referral? He stated that when doing assessments, he used to go in and out to do assessments.

Liz Reardon clarified the process stating it is piggybacked on to CBHI through the back end, and that reports are added there.

Dr. Mike Lee indicated he now understood the process.

Liz Reardon asked Kevin Mullen if he had anything to add.

Kevin Mullen expounded on the topic stating that CANS reporting can be a tedious process. The team is bringing on new agencies to do these processes and that we would like you all to let us know if your groups would like to streamline Public Health reporting. He added we are happy to have conversations with groups that may want to transition to APIs and that we are happy to work with them.

David Whitham added the HIway is expanding its toolbox.  He feels it is exciting to see all the hard work here. He offered congratulations to the HIway and the HIway team for making this effort- expanding the toolbox of Direct Messaging and Event Notification- now. He said he thought it was great work and offered congratulations.

Kevin Mullen thanked David. He the announced that Liz would share the work the team has been doing related to targeted outreach to HIway users.

**Discussion Item 4: HIway Operations Update**

*See slides 16-21 of the presentation. The following are explanations from the presenter Liz Reardon, and comments, questions, and discussion among the Council Members that supplement the content on the slides.*

Liz Reardon thanked you Kevin and continued with the presentation announcing that we kicked off inactive outreach last year-

Deb Adair askedwhat percentage of provider organizations with cancer reporting are using electronic reporting, and what percentage were sending to the cancer registry.

Liz Reardon explained that she didn’t know what the denominator is or who is sending electronically now, but that we did know sending the reports electronically is increasing although paper is still an option.

Additionally, Liz Reardon explained that number of paper reports has dropped significantly, and consistently.

Deb Adair offered that she thought that was great.

Kevin Mullen replied that it would be helpful to understand what that use case is when doing further research on this topic, and Deb Adair offered help if we needed it.

Liz Reardon pointed out that she did not think that Partners was on paper.

Deb Adair said she was unsure, and Kevin Mullen offered to get that information for her.

Keely Benson asked if it was possible to see the message, and which messages are coming from which CHC’s, she wondered if it could be broken down by domain. And asked if we could see which CHC s are using the HIway?”

Liz Reardon clarified that could not be achieved by domain alone, but that could bump up against the provider directory, since we have granularity in the provider directory.

Keely Benson asked if we had any information on internal training to ensure clinical staff was integrated into workflows?

Liz Reardon clarified and stated that we are having a follow up meeting related to this, to find out if they need any technical or training support.

Keeley Benson thanked Liz Reardon for this information.

Deb Adair asked Liz Reardon if we had been getting more inquiries from payors lately.

Kevin Mullen offered that Payors remain at the top of list for HIway connections we would like to make. But this would require legislative changes.  Kevin further explained that we are also engaging with the ACOs regarding context and feedback.

Kevin Mullen asked for any more questions or clarifications.

Deb Adair stated that she’s been hearing that others out of state are getting rich data for analysis on the health plan side.

Kevin Mullen replied to her statement and offered some insight explaining that a repository of data can offer that under the umbrella of the quality alignment task force. He indicated that there is some discussion about organizing centralization for a federated means to improve ECQMs, as it’s currently defined. But that it’s a bit premature. He further stated that there have been some good conversations about where improvements could be made.  Finally, he offered, there have also been conversations on Prior Authorizations. Conversations on electronic PAs for workflows. PAs for providers involving the Mass Health consortium and MeHI, to improve that exchange environment, and that that was he was aware of on this front.

Deb Adair thanked Kevin.

Once again Kevin Mullen asked if there were other questions and stated that hopefully at the next meeting, we would be able to share updates on the work we have been doing from a more strategic perspective. Kevin announced the next discussion item, and that Liz Reardon would present it.

**Discussion Item 5: CTC Success story; Community Technology Cooperative (CTC) joins the Mass HIway**

*See slides 22-26 of the presentation. The following are explanations from the presenter: Liz Reardon, and comments, questions, and discussion among the Council Members that supplement the content on the slides.*

Liz Reardon thanked Kevin.

Deb Adair thanked Kevin and Liz Reardon.

## Conclusion: Karen Tseng

Karen Tseng asked for comments and questions next. As there were no more she closed out the meeting giving thanks for all joining and announcing the next meeting date and time; August 7 2023, 3:30 pm until 5 :00 pm then she moved to adjourn.

A motion to close was made by David Whitham, moved upon and seconded.

The HIT Council Meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.