

I. Session Name

HIT in the 'ARRA' of Gobs of Money

II. Session Attendees

Moderators

David Ahern, HITRC

Judy Phalen, HITRC

Panelists

Shelley Hirshberg, P2 Collaborative of Western NY

Pat Montoya, Albuquerque Coalition for Healthcare Quality

Lisa Letourneau, Quality Counts (Maine)

Approximately 30 attendees.

David Williams on Twitter @HealthBizBlog

III. Session materials

HITRC, Hirshberg, & Montoya Presentation Slides (Letourneau's will be incorporated into the slide deck for posting on the AF4Q portal)

NCQA Meaningful Use Crosswalk

IV. Content/activities of the session

Judy Phalen began the session by reviewing several different funding opportunities from ONC

- Strategic Health IT Advanced Research Projects (SHARP) Program - \$60mil
- Health IT Workforce Development Program - \$82mil
- Meaningful Use - \$42bil

Regional Extension Centers received \$665M to help w/meaningful use. 11 AF4Q alliances are participating in REC activities:

1. Albuquerque
2. Central Indiana
3. Cincinnati
4. Detroit
5. Greater Boston
6. Kansas City
7. Maine
8. Puget Sound
9. Western New York
10. West Michigan
11. Willamette Valley

Three AF4Q alliances are participating in Beacon Community activities:

1. Central Indiana
2. Maine
3. Western New York

Shelley Hirschberg discussed the challenges of managing the "feeding frenzy" related to so much money being available. David Ahern remarked that leadership is the key to ensuring that funding is used efficiently and meaningfully when there are so many unknowns. Pat Montoya discussed the happenings in ABQ. She and Shelley pointed out differences between Western NY and ABQ with respect to who has the "boots on the ground." In ABQ, the Loveless Clinic Foundation Research (LCF Research) is the holder of the regional extension center, while in NY there are two regional extension centers (RECs): the New York eHealth Collaborative (for which the P2 Collaborative is the regional agent), and one specifically for New York City (Fund for New York City Public Health). In the respective states, LCF Research and New York e-Health Collaborative are the official health information exchange (HIE) grantees. The audience questioned Pat's overview of the NMHIC, as it did not seem to include payer systems. Pat acknowledged this issue of payer systems not being part of NMHIC and noted it is a considerable problem. All and all, ABQ has witnessed many benefits from HIE/HIT especially with respect to coordination of care.

Then Lisa Letourneau discussed Maine's approach for social media using an RWJF communications grant. They are on Twitter (@HealthyME2) and Facebook (HealthyME) and continue to evolve. Using Twitter during a conference they were able to reach well beyond the 200 attendees and actually reach nearly 9000 people. Alliances

expressed during the discussion a great interest in the dissemination capability of social media, as well as interest in doing more with it, but are unsure of where to begin.

V. Follow-up items

HITRC is working to map the Meaningful Use guidelines to AF4Q activities as it relates to QI. In addition, they are looking to identify synergies between REL data collection and HIE and Meaningful Use guidelines. Also they will continue to share lessons learned through Alliances' experiences with Beacon, RECs and social media.