

An Opportunity for Vendors to Participate in MA HIE Workgroups

Posted At : April 9, 2010 10:46 AM | Posted By : Kristina Mulholland

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The Massachusetts e-Health Institute (**MeHI**), a Division of the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, is the designated entity spearheading health information technology (HIT) initiatives within the Commonwealth. MeHI released a draft Health IT plan in January and accepted public comments through February which are now under evaluation. Further, the state was awarded \$10,559,719 in Health Information Exchange (HIE) Cooperative Agreement Program (CAP) grant funding under the stimulus package. More recently, the Institute in conjunction with the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) set-up ad hoc workgroups to engage stakeholders in the planning process for HIE development and maintenance. The workgroups will serve as a primary source for recommendations and guidance. For example, the HIE Workgroup will assist with the development of the HIE operation plan which is due in August 2010, as well as, evaluate vendors and existing capabilities. Upcoming public meetings held in Boston include:

- Clinical Quality and Public Health Workgroup- April 8, 2010
- Health Information Exchange Workgroup- April 13, 2010
- Consumer Education Workgroup- April 14, 2010
- Privacy and Security Workgroup- April 16, 2010

For further information on the Commonwealth's HIE project please see GovWin Opportunity #[59998](#).

GovWin's Take:

Vendors need to get involved with ground-level discussions and participate in HIT workgroups to strengthen relationship with states and better understand their needs. In addition, participating in workgroups could potentially impact decision making.