

## Health care and social services June review

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Arkansas made great strides in the Medicaid and health information technology (HIT) arenas in June, with the release of three requests for proposals (RFPs) for the planning, development, and implementation of its **Arkansas Medicaid Enterprise (AME)**. The state initially planned to release 23 individual RFPs, but after multiple revisions to its strategic plan, the state settled on just three RFPs for an **AME core system**, **AME professional services**, and **AME products**. The state also released a request for information (RFI) that takes the place of an RFP for an **integrated electronic health record (EHR) solution** for the Department of Public Health. Additionally, the state awarded a **health benefits exchange consultant** contract to First Data.

Also on the Medicaid front, Louisiana – after issuing an intent to award its **Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS)** replacement contract to CNSI, Inc. – is subsequently handling protests filed by ACS State Healthcare LLC and Molina Medicaid Solutions, both of which competed for the lucrative contract. These companies speculate that CNSI, Inc. received special treatment from the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals' (DHH) Secretary Bruce Greenstein, who was employed with the company from 2005 to 2006.

Also noteworthy, the New York Department of Health (DOH), Office of Health Insurance Programs (OHIP), awarded the HIT Operational Support Services for the Provider Incentive Payment Program to Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC).

Other notable solicitations released in June include:

- **Iowa:** The state of Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME), released an RFP for IME System Services on June 6, 2011.
- **Illinois:** The state of Illinois DHS released an RFP for FY 2012 Illinois Human Services and Healthcare Framework today. The RFP covers the assistance, research, documentation, analysis, and planning for the development and implementation of the enterprise solution.
- **Rhode Island:** The Rhode Island Department of Administration/Division of Purchases, on behalf of the Rhode Island Department of Health (DOH), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Program released an RFP for a WIC Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) System Feasibility Study and Cost Analysis on June 15, 2011.
- **District of Columbia:** The District of Columbia Office of Contracting and Procurement, on behalf of the DOH WIC State Agency, released an RFP on June 20, 2011 for assisting DC WIC in developing plans for the implementation of a WIC EBT system.

Upcoming procurements in the health care and social services arena include:

- **Florida:** The Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) may have a requirement for a vendor to provide evaluation services for the statewide health information exchange (HIE). The HIE Coordinating Council (HIECC) held a meeting on May 20, 2011, in which the potential performance measures to be tracked by the future evaluation vendor were discussed.
- **Iowa:** The state of Iowa Department of Public Health, Iowa e-Health, released an RFI for Technical Assistance to Providers Adopting and Implementing EHR Systems and Connecting to the Statewide HIE on June 8, 2011.
- **New Mexico:** The New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD) may release an RFP for Child Support Enforcement System (CSES) Services. The department released an RFI on June 17, 2011.
- **Texas:** The Texas Department of Agriculture and the Texas Department of State Health Services may have a requirement for an EBT system to support the Summer Nutrition Program. The departments, in conjunction with ABT Associates, are conducting a pilot study in summer 2011 that will engage 2,500 randomly selected children in the El Paso, TX area.
- **Maine:** The Health Data Workgroup to the Maine Advisory Council on Health Systems Development identified the redesign of the All-Payer Claims Database (APCD) as a future goal for the Maine Department of Health and Human Services. According to a report by Deloitte Consulting, the current APCD is inadequate at providing timely, actionable information to providers. The future APCD must be capable of providing real-time data to all users of the APCD.

With the June federal appeals court ruling that Congress can require all Americans to carry some form of health

insurance coverage, states will certainly be busy planning for the procurement of **health insurance exchange (HIX) systems** in the coming months. While some states including **New Mexico** and **Alaska** have focused on battling the national health insurance mandate, they will likely switch gears and begin focusing on developing statewide plans for the planning, development, and implementation of these systems.