HRSA’s Office of Health Information Technology

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Health Resources and Services Administration
Office of Health Information Technology
Office for the Advancement of Telehealth
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

- Helps provide a safety net of health care services to 20 million people each year - about 1 in every 15 Americans. Budget of approximately $7 billion in FY09.


- 14 offices including Offices of Rural Health Policy, Minority Health and Health Disparities, International Health, Health Information Technology, and the Center for Quality.
Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT)

► Formed in December 2005

► Mission:

The Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT) promotes the adoption and effective use of health information technology (HIT) in the safety net community.

OHIT Includes:

- Division of Health Information Technology Policy
- Division of Health Information Technology State and Community Assistance
- Office for the Advancement of Telehealth
HIT Goals for the Safety Net Providers

Bring HIT to America’s safety net providers which will:

- Improve quality of care
- Reduce health disparities
- Increase efficiency in care delivery systems
- Increase patient safety
- Decrease medical errors
- Prevent a digital divide
- Allow providers to participate in pay for performance
What OHIT Does

► Award planning and implementation grants for telehealth, electronic health records, and other health information technology innovations

► Provide technical assistance to HRSA grantees and staff (e.g., project officers and Office of Performance Review) related to effective HIT adoption and Federal and state policies and legislation

► Provide leadership and representation for HRSA grantees with Federal and state policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders
DSCA FY 09 Grant Opportunities

- Division of HIT State and Community Assistance offers the following grant opportunities in FY 2009:

1. Electronic Health Record Implementation for Health Center Controlled Networks Grant
2. Health Information Technology Implementation for Health Center Controlled Networks Grant
HRSA Telehealth Grant Awards

► First awards made by ORHP in 1989
► Awarded over $250 million in grants since 1989
► HRSA created Office for the Advancement of Telehealth as a focal point for Telehealth activities in 1998
► Competitive and Congressionally-mandated projects
Office for the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT) offers the following grant opportunities in FY 09:

- Telehealth Network Grant Program
- Licensure Portability Grant Program
- Telehealth Resource Center Grant Program
HRSA Health IT Toolbox

► A comprehensive online compilation of health IT planning, implementation and evaluation resources to support the implementation of health IT for safety net providers.

► The HRSA Health IT Toolbox is available to the public at:  http://healthit.ahrq.gov/toolbox
HIT Workshops 2009

- In 2009 OHIT is planning to provide 12 regional workshops including:
  - EHR implementation
  - HIE
  - Open source EHR solutions
  - EHR that focuses on child health and pediatric EHR functionality
  - E-prescribing or tele-pharmacy
  - “Meaningful use” of EHRs to improve quality and patient outcomes
  - Sustainability, personal health records, and other advanced topics for operational networks
  - Critical Access Hospitals and other Rural HIT
  - Telehealth for rural and urban communities and health centers
The Recovery Act has directed $2 billion to HRSA to expand some of our primary health care programs, and another $300 million to support the National Health Service Corps and $200 million for our health professions programs.
On March 2, HRSA announced grants worth $155 million to establish 126 new health centers.

Those grants mean another 750,000 people in 39 states and two territories will have access to health care.
On March 27, HRSA released $338 million to expand services offered at the nation’s community health centers.

The grants -- titled Increased Demand for Services (IDS) grants -- will be distributed to 1,128 federally qualified health center grantees.

Health centers will use the funds over the next two years to create or retain approximately 6,400 health center jobs.

Later this year, HRSA will award about $1.5 billion in health center grants to fund capital improvements and support health information technology investments.
Today, more than 3,800 Corps physicians, dentists, advance practice nurses and mental health professionals treat 4 million patients in underserved communities nationwide, about half of them in health centers.

With the Recovery Act dollars, we are projecting the ability to place another 4,000 clinicians this year, which will effectively double the number of clinicians we have in the field.
ARRA authorizes funds to support Section 330L of the Public Health Act

330L supports grants to states to work together to overcome licensure barriers to telemedicine practice
Contact Information

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