

The following newsletter will be sent weekly, and include the latest information on health information technology and the federal stimulus funding.

The newsletter is organized as follows:

- Update
- Word on the Street
- Timeline
- Resources

All old newsletters can be found on the [website](#).

If you have any questions/comments about the content of the newsletter please direct your inquiry to Andie Martinez, Associate Director of Policy at [amartinez@cpc.org](mailto:amartinez@cpc.org).

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### Update

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- I. Electronic Health Records and Meaningful Use
- II. Health Information Exchange
- III. Regional Extension Center
- IV. EHR Loan Fund
- V. Workforce
- VI. Telehealth and Broadband

**I. Electronic Health Records and Meaningful Use**

No new information at this time.

**II. Health Information Exchange**

State: The California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) released the Request for Information (RFI) for Potential HIE Governance Entity on Thursday, August 20. Responses to the RFI are due September 10 and decisions are to be determined September 24.

CPCA: CPCA submitted a response to the RFI. See resources to view the comment letter.

**III. Regional Extension Center**

State: The State REC workgroup has convened a Founding Committee that met last Tuesday, August 18 to discuss lead agencies who want to apply for REC funding.

The State informed the Founding Committee that they are hearing the ONC will fund one REC per state, and perhaps even two RECs for some states.

CPCA: During a CPCA Board conference call Tuesday, August 11 the Board unanimously voted to approve CPCA coordinating with other organizations to form a

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separate non-profit that would apply for REC funding.

#### IV. EHR Loan Fund

No new information at this time.

#### V. Workforce

Federal: HRSA has released a Program Assistance Letter with vital information to ensure that your site is fully able to participate in the National Health Service Corps programs. With ARRA funds released to support the Loan Repayment program, you don't want to miss out on securing needed workforce from these programs. To take full advantage of the NHSC opportunities, ensure that you have completed the NHSC Recruitment and Retention Assistance application, reviewed your HPSA score(s) and updated your vacancy listing. See the complete [Program Assistance Letter](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Caryn Rizell, CPCA Workforce Development Coordinator, at 916-440-8170 or [crizell@cpc.org](mailto:crizell@cpc.org).

#### VI. Telehealth and Broadband

CPCA: The California Telehealth Network (CPCA sits on the Advisory Board) submitted grant applications to the USDA Rural Utilities Services (RUS) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration for Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). All clinic sites that had submitted letters of agency to participate in the CTN were included in the application, as were those that just recently joined the CTN.

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### Word on the Street

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### Timeline

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2009	Present	CPCA drafting REC concept paper/business plan
	August 20	CHHS releases HIE Governance Entity RFI
	August 21	CPCA HIT Landscape Survey Due
	August 26	CHHS releases RFI for organizations seeking to be lead agency on Workforce Funds
	August 27	HIE Advisory Board meeting (state convened)
	Late Summer/ Early Fall	Regional Extension Center guidelines/RFP released by the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC)
	September 1- 15	State draft of California HIT Strategic Plan released for comment

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	September 8	Applications for Workforce RFI due
	September 10	HIE Governance Entity RFI responses due (CHHS)
	September 21	CHHS will choose lead agency for Workforce funds
	September 24	State responds to HIE Gov. Entity RFI applications (CHHS)
	September 24-25	HRSA-funded EHR focused workshop hosted by Redwood Community Health Coalition
	September 30	State releases HIT Strategic Plan (tentative)
	October 5	Workforce grant due to federal government
	December	CMS to release definition of meaningful use (m.u.), comment period to follow
	December	CPCA EHR workgroup to draft comments on m.u. definition
	December	CPCA with California Safety Net Coalition to draft comments on m.u. definition
2010	January	Construction on the California Telehealth Network begins
	Early 2010	EHR Loan Fund (likely CHFFA) to make loans available to eligible providers in California
2011	January	Medicaid EHR Incentive Funds available to eligible professionals

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**Resources** (linked on website)

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CPCA

- RFI- Potential Health Information Exchange Governance Entity
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