



National Health IT Week 2011
September 12-16, 2011
Washington, D.C.

2011 NATIONAL HEALTH IT WEEK DIGITAL PRESS KIT

The Sixth Annual National Health IT Week (NHIT Week) is a collaborative forum where public and private healthcare constituents work in partnership to educate industry and policy stakeholders on the value of health IT to the U.S. healthcare system. Held September 12-16, 2011, NHIT Week is an opportunity for the health IT community to come together under one umbrella to raise awareness of jobs creation, cost savings and improved healthcare delivery benefits of health IT. The following document is the digital press kit for the 2011 NHIT Week.

National Health IT Week 2011 Presidential Proclamation

National Health IT Week Press Conference Agenda

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National Health IT Week Partners

Statements from National Health IT Leaders and bios



The White House

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 12, 2011

Presidential Proclamation--National Health Information Technology Week

NATIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK, 2011

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Technological advances have always driven America's economy forward and improved the lives of our people, from the industrial innovations of the nineteenth century to today's cutting edge science. Progress in our Nation's health care system is no different, and hinges on the work of hospitals, private practices, and information specialists as they modernize our health information systems. During National Health Information Technology Week, we highlight the critical importance of secure and efficient information systems to improving the delivery of health care in the United States.

Health information technology connects doctors and patients to more complete and accurate health records. Tools like electronic health records and electronic prescriptions help patients and providers make safer, smarter decisions about health care. This technology is critical to improving patient care, enabling coordination between providers and patients, reducing the risk of dangerous drug interactions, and helping patients access prevention and disease management services. It is currently being used with great success to coordinate and improve care for members of our Armed Forces, as well as our Nation's veterans. Better technology can also cut costs for providers by reducing paperwork and duplicative tests.

Ensuring the security of health information records is a top priority for my Administration. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, passed in 2009, promotes the use of Health IT while significantly strengthening Federal laws protecting patient privacy. Entities violating privacy laws are now subject to increased penalties. The Recovery Act also provides landmark financial incentives to eligible professionals and hospitals that adopt and meaningfully use electronic health records while protecting the privacy and security of health information.

Everyone can play a role in improving our health care system. An important part of this vision is recognizing the pivotal role patients play in maintaining and improving their own health. Patients can work with their doctors to access information about their care. And those who design and implement Health IT systems can enable software that puts patients and their families at the center of their own care, empowering and engaging them in reaching their health goals.

America is home to the world's best universities and technical schools, and the most creative scientists and entrepreneurs. As we challenge ourselves to push forward into a new century of health technology, we will continue to foster and promote the innovative spirit that has made our country what it is today.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 11 through September 17, 2011, as National Health Information Technology Week. I urge all Americans to learn more about the benefits of Health IT by visiting HealthIT.gov, take action to increase adoption and meaningful use of Health IT, and utilize the information Health IT provides to improve the quality, safety, and cost effectiveness of health care in the United States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-sixth.

BARACK OBAMA

NATIONAL HEALTH IT WEEK PRESS CONFERENCE AGENDA

11:00 a.m. Welcome

11:05 Statements from Members of Congress

- Representative Phil Gingrey, M.D. (R-GA)
- Representative Allyson Y. Schwartz (D-PA)
- Representative Ted Deutch (D-FL)
- Representative Corrine Brown (D-FL)

11:20 National Health IT Leaders:

- Charlene S. Underwood, MBA, FHIMSS, HIMSS Board Chair; and Senior Director, Government and Industry Affairs, Siemens Medical Solutions
- Justin T. Barnes, Co-Chair, Accountable Care Community of Practice and Vice President, Marketing, Corporate Development and Government Affairs, Greenway Medical Technologies, Inc.
- Joanne Sunquist, CIO, Hennepin Co. Medical Center, Minneapolis; and The College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME)
- Charlie Jarvis, VP, Healthcare Services and Government Relations, NextGen Healthcare, Inc.; and the Electronic Health Records Association (EHRA).

11:40 Q&A/Conclusion

MEDIA ADVISORY

Congressional News Briefing to Mark National Health IT Week
Reps. Gingrey, Schwartz, Deutch, Brown Scheduled to Speak at Press
Conference, Tues., Sept. 13, 2011, 11:00-11:45 a.m.; Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.

WHAT

Representatives Phil Gingrey, M.D. (R-GA), Allyson Y. Schwartz (D-PA), Ted Deutch (D-FL), and Corrine Brown (D-FL) are among the members of Congress that are scheduled to speak at the National Health IT Week press conference on Tuesday, September 13, 2011 House Triangle, Capitol Hill, 11:00 to 11:45 a.m. These congressional representatives have shown their support for health IT solutions to rising healthcare costs and the safety of healthcare delivery. A few of the more than 190 NHIT Week partners also will speak at the press conference.

To mark the important role health information technology plays in improving healthcare delivery in America, the **Sixth Annual National Health Information Technology (NHIT) Week will be held September 12-16, 2011**. The press conference is one activity among others taking place across the country to highlight how health IT is part of the overall solution to improve America's healthcare. Congress, the President, and various federal agencies have made a commitment to leveraging the benefits of the health IT and management systems to address the rising costs and safety of healthcare delivery throughout the U.S.

WHO

Members of Congress:

Representative Phil Gingrey, M.D. (R-GA)
Representative Allyson Y. Schwartz (D-PA)
Representative Ted Deutch (D-FL)
Representative Corrine Brown (D-FL)

National Health IT Leaders:

Charlene S. Underwood, MBA, FHIMSS, HIMSS Board Chair; and Senior Director, Government and Industry Affairs, Siemens Medical Solutions
Justin T. Barnes, Co-Chair, Accountable Care Community of Practice, and Vice President, Marketing, Corporate Development and Government Affairs, Greenway Medical Technologies, Inc.
Joanne Sunquist, CIO, Hennepin Co. Medical Center, Minneapolis; and
The College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME)
Charlie Jarvis, VP, Healthcare Services and Government Relations,

NextGen Healthcare, Inc.; and the Electronic Health Records Association (EHRA)

WHEN Tuesday, September 13, 2011, House Triangle, Capitol Hill. 11:00 to 11:45 a.m.

CONTACT Credentialed media should RSVP to: Sheri Singer, sheri.singer@verizon.net; 703-346-7111. For additional information, visit www.healthitweek.org/.

About National Health IT Week

The Sixth Annual National Health IT Week is a collaborative forum where public and private healthcare constituents will work in partnership to educate industry and policy stakeholders on the value of health IT to the U.S. healthcare system. Held September 12-16, 2011, NHIT Week is an opportunity for the health IT community to come together under one umbrella to raise awareness of the cost savings and improved healthcare delivery benefits of health IT.



National Health IT Week 2011
September 12-16, 2011
Washington, D.C.

NEWS RELEASE

For Release: September 13, 2011

Contact: Sheri Singer, sheri.singer@verizon.net; 703-346-7111

**Congressional News Briefing Marks National Health IT Week
Reps. Gingrey, Schwartz, Deutch, Brown Speak at Press Conference,
Tues., Sept. 13, 2011, 11:00-11:45 a.m.;
House Triangle, Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.**

Washington, D.C. -- Representatives Phil Gingrey, M.D. (R-GA), Allyson Y. Schwartz (D-PA), Ted Deutch (D-FL), and Corrine Brown (D-FL) are spoke at the National Health IT Week www.healthitweek.org press conference on Capitol Hill. These congressional representatives have shown their support for health IT solutions to rising healthcare costs and the safety of healthcare delivery.

“Health Information Technology (HIT) has the potential to not only improve the quality of care received by American patients, but to create jobs and reduce healthcare costs and waste in the process. During this difficult economy, I am especially pleased to advocate on behalf of this critical improvement for our healthcare system. I look forward to the positive impact that HIT will have on healthcare delivery in the United States,” said Rep. Phil Gingrey, M.D.

A few of the more than 190 NHIT Week partners http://www.healthitweek.org/partners_and_cosponsors.asp also spoke at the press conference including Justin T. Barnes, Co-Chair, Accountable Care Community of Practice and Vice President, Marketing, Corporate Development and Government Affairs, Greenway Medical Technologies, Inc.; Joanne Sunquist, CIO, Hennepin Co. Medical Center, Minneapolis; and The College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME); Charlie Jarvis, VP, Healthcare Services and Government Relations, NextGen Healthcare, Inc.; and the Electronic Health Records Association (EHRA) and Charlene S. Underwood, MBA, FHIMSS, HIMSS Board Chair; and Senior Director, Government and Industry Affairs, Siemens Medical Solutions.

"NHIT Week brings together the health IT community under one umbrella to raise awareness of information technology's positive impact on increasing quality while decreasing costs. With this technology in place, providers can more effectively deliver higher quality and consistent patient care and healthcare organizations can increase efficiency and reduce costs .A positive economic impact is that new health IT jobs are added to develop and implement more and improved HIT solution to advance care delivery, " said Underwood.

The press conference is only one activity among many taking place across the country to highlight how health IT is part of the overall solution to improve America's healthcare.

Congress, the President through his NHIT Week proclamation <http://1.usa.gov/qCWZdP>, and various federal agencies have made a commitment to leveraging the benefits of the health IT and management systems to address the rising costs and safety of healthcare delivery throughout the U.S.

For more information about 2013 NHIT Week, contact nhitweek@gmail.com or log onto www.healthitweek.org.

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About National Health IT Week

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FACT SHEET SIXTH ANNUAL NATIONAL IT WEEK SEPTEMBER 12-16, 2011

What is NHIT Week?

- Held September 12-16, 2011
- Sixth Annual National Health IT Week
- Collaborative forum to educate industry and policy stakeholders about the benefits of health IT
- More than 190 partners representing public/private healthcare constituents
- Health IT improves healthcare delivery, increases patient safety, decreases medical errors, and strengthens the interaction between patients and providers.
- Providers increasingly understand the benefits for themselves and their patients, and are adopting Meaningful Use compliant electronic health records.

What are the highlights of NHIT Week?

- Partner-sponsored activities in D.C. and around the country
(For all events: www.healthitweek.org/activities.asp)
- Premier event: NHIT Week press conference
 - Feature members of Congress, national health IT leaders
 - Tuesday, September 13, 2011
 - House Triangle, Capitol Hill
 - 11:00-11:45 a.m.



National Health IT Week 2011
September 12-16, 2011
Washington, D.C.

NATIONAL HEALTH IT WEEK PARTNERS

http://www.healthitweek.org/partners_and_cosponsors.asp

(as of September 12, 2011)

3M Health Information Systems
4medica
AADE
ABILITY Network
Accenture
ACS, A Xerox Company
Advocate Technology Solutions
Agfa HealthCare
AirWatch
Alliance for Nursing Informatics (ANI)
Allscripts
Altus
America-Israel Chamber of Commerce
American College of Cardiology (ACC)
American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)
American Medical Institute for Professional Education (AMIPE)
American Osteopathic Association
Anvita Health
Apollo PACS
Arizona Health-e Connection
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU)
AT&T
athenahealth
AUXILIO, Inc.
Availity
Awarepoint
Beacon Partners
Boston Software Systems
Bottomline
BoxTone
BridgeHead Software
BridgeWave Communications
Burwood Group
CalHIPSO
CAQH
Cardiocom
Carefx
The Center for the Advancement of Health IT

Center for Health Information and Decision Systems (CHIDS), Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland
CGI Health IT Solutions
Chicago Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center (CHITREC)
Childs Advisory Partners
CHRISTUS Health
Cisco
Clearwave Corporation
CliniComp
Cogon Systems
College of Healthcare Information Executives (CHIME)
Community College of Denver
Community Health Centers Alliance, Inc.
Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute (CHLI)
Corepoint Health
Covisint
CPSI
Creekridge Capital
Cumberland Consulting Group
CureMD
dbMotion
DeJarnette
Dell
Deloitte
Diebold, Incorporated
Dodge Communications
eClinicalWorks
eGlobalTech
eHealthConnecticut
eHealthDC
Elsevier
e-MDs
Ensure Technologies
First DataBank
First Healthcare Products
Fortinet
Fujitsu America
Futura Healthcare Technology
General Dynamics
gloStream
Greenway Medical Technologies
Harris Corporation
Hawaii Health Information Exchange (Hawaii HIE)
HealthInfoNet
Health IT Now Coalition
Healthland
Health Level Seven (HL7)
HealthPOINT
HealthPort
HITArkansas
Holon Solutions

Hospira
Humetrix
Hyland Software
Iatric Systems
IEEE-USA
Impact Advisors
Indiana Health Information Exchange
Ingenious Med
Institute for e-Health Policy
Institute for Health Technology Transformation
INTEGRITYOne Partners
Intel
Intelligent InSites
Interface People, LP
Intuit
Innovative Workflow Technologies (IWT)
iSirona
Joint Public Health Informatics Taskforce (JPHIT)
Juniper Networks
KNB Communications
Lawson
Level 3 Communications
LexisNexis
Liaison
Long Term Post Acute Care Health IT Collaborative
Louisiana Health Information Technology (LHIT) Resource Center
Marymount University
Massachusetts eHealth Institute (MeHI)
McKesson Corporation
Medicity
MediQuant
MEDITECH
Meta Analytix
The MITRE Corporation
Motion Computing
National Association for the Support of Long Term Care (NASL)
National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO)
National eHealth Collaborative
National PACE Association
NaviNet
NetApp
Net New Growth
New Wave Software
New Mexico Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center (NM HITREC)
NexTech
North Carolina Healthcare Information and Communications Alliance, Inc. (NCHICA)
North Idaho College
Northrup Grumman
North Virginia Community College
Nuance

Nuvon
OFMQHIT
Ohio Health Information Partnership
Optum
Orion Health
Parker HealthcareIT
PatientKeeper
PC Connection, Inc.
Peerless-AV
PEPID
Perceptive Software
Philips
Phytel
Precyse
Profero Solutions
QlikTech
Quality IT Partners, Inc.
Rasmussen College
RCHN Community Health Foundation
Regional Extension Center of New Hampshire
RemitDATA, Inc.
Rhode Island Quality Institute (RIQI)
RTI International
Rubbermaid Medical Solutions
Sage
SAIC
Siemens
Sprint Nextel
SRS
Standard Register
Stinger Medical
Summit Healthcare
Suncoast Solutions
Sunquest Information Systems, Inc.
Surescripts
Telligen
TeraMedica Healthcare Technology
The SSI Group, Inc.
tnREC
T-System
University of Maryland Center of Excellence in Health IT Research
Vangent, Inc.
Versus
Virginia HIT Regional Extension Center (VHIT)
Visionary Consulting Partners, LLC
Vitalize Consulting Solutions
Vmware
Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA)
Wide River Technology Extension Center
Wipro Technologies
WIREC



Announcement of HIMSS Davies Awards: Charlene S. Underwood, MBA, FHIMSS

BIO: Charlene S. Underwood, MBA, FHIMSS

Charlene S. Underwood, MBA, FHIMSS is HIMSS Board Chair and senior director of Government and Industry Affairs for Siemens Medical Solutions. A nationally recognized expert in the field of healthcare informatics, Ms. Underwood directs Siemens outreach and advocacy activities in emerging market initiatives, specifically those related to government activities in healthcare information technology (HIT) including: the U.S. Government's legislative and regulatory activities related to HIT; national, state, and regional healthcare information networks; Electronic Health Record (EHR) strategies; standards and interoperability; quality, patient safety, and pay for performance; and EHR product certification.

Ms. Underwood is delivering Siemens solutions message to key stakeholders throughout the healthcare industry and on Capitol Hill, while developing programs that enable Siemens leadership in key government and industry initiatives. She provides valuable input and direction to healthcare and government leaders on the power of HIT to transform healthcare through her leadership in high-profile industry organizations. She served as the first chair of Healthcare Information Management and Systems Society (HIMSS) Electronic Health Record Vendor Association (EHRVA), is a member of the American Health Information Community (AHIC) Quality Workgroup and Expert Panel, and has served on many other advisory groups involved in HIT development. She recently earned the HIMSS Fellow designation and was elected to serve on the HIMSS Board. She also serves on the Delaware Valley Chapter HIMSS Board.

Ms. Underwood has a long history of actively advocating for industry involvement in defining how HIT is a means to improve patient safety, reduce cost, and improve patient outcomes. She has held leadership roles in influential organizations including HL7, in which she participated in defining the organization's EHR functional standards and model; and in the Computerized Patient Record Institute (CPRI), where she was on the founding committee of the Nicholas E. Davies award for excellence in EHR implementation.

A 35-year employee of Siemens Medical Solutions HIT division, she has participated in defining business strategies and requirements including INVISION®, the industry's most widely installed HIT system, and Soarian®, the only healthcare information solution built to streamline healthcare processes through workflow engine technology.

Ms. Underwood is a Phi Beta Kappa from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science in mathematics. She earned an MBA in marketing from Temple University.



ACCoFP Press Statement

**Justin T. Barnes, VP Marketing, Greenway Medical Technologies, Inc.
Co-Chair, Accountable Care Community of Practice**

Distinguished members of Congress and congressional staff, fellow health IT leaders and journalists, I am Justin Barnes, co-chair of the National Accountable Care Community of Practice.

Today, I invite you to foresee and support a healthcare solution not a healthcare system, wherein hospitals, primary care physicians, specialists, behavioral medicine and even elder care facilities form integrated communities of coordinated care.

In this solution, providers are not just referring patients, but sharing data and care plans, lab results, testing options, diagnoses, medication history, and equally important—patient adherence history.

Today we have a healthcare system costing upwards of \$2.5 trillion and growing annually. Within America's Medicare population of 47 million beneficiaries along, today 1 in 5 are re-admitted to hospitals within 30 days. This is not an efficient or effective system, but the model I have described can be key to the creation of a smarter, more sustainable healthcare solution to achieve this goal, well over a dozen independent and large-scale accountable care models are underway, with increased national reach expected through the finalization of the shared saving/ACO rule.

Driven by advanced health IT platforms and innovative approaches to patient engagement and provider reimbursement, accountable care is not an HMO or managed care, but a value-based, over a volume based, approach. Our congressional budget office estimates that well-constructed ACOs can save up to \$5 billion in unnecessary overlaps in patient care within a decade.

The Accountable Care Community of Practice includes 17 global leaders including Intel, Greenway Medical, HP, Dell, DE, Siemens, Cisco, PricewaterhouseCoopers, HIMSS and many more and is supported by the CMS Innovation Center.

The AC COP is committed to working closely with CMS and HSS to put forth a workable, and sustainable solution that embraces patients, payers and providers. We know that innovation can sustain our healthcare system, and turn the system into the solution.

We seek your continued support as accountable care models are formed in your district, your state, and nationwide.

Thank you.

BIO: JUSTIN T. BARNES
VP Marketing, Greenway Medical Technologies, Inc.
Co-Chair, Accountable Care Community of Practice

As a healthcare software executive and public policy expert, Justin Barnes is a Vice President with Greenway Medical Technologies and manages Greenway's Marketing, Industry Affairs and Government Affairs departments. In addition, Mr. Barnes is Chairman Emeritus of the HIMSS Electronic Health Record (EHR) Association as well as Co-Chairman of the Accountable Care Community of Practice where he assists both organizations with industry strategy and leadership.

Barnes has formally addressed and/ or testified before Congress as well as the last two Presidential Administrations on fifteen occasions between 2005 and 2011 with statements relating to EHR meaningful use, accountable care, ACOs, health IT innovation, interoperability, health information exchange (HIE), patient safety, quality, healthcare privacy, security, confidentiality, compliance, standards, EHR certification, health IT adoption incentives, health IT adoption modeling & forecasting, health IT return on investment (ROI) and the globalization of healthcare.

Barnes is a regular public speaker on these issues and has been published in more than 400 journals, magazines and broadcast media outlets relating to national leadership of health IT and EHR adoption efforts. In addition, Barnes has advised several U.S. Presidential campaigns on healthcare public policy, HIPAA, health information exchange, health IT and EHRs.

CHIME Press Statement

Joanne M. Sunquist,
Chief Information Officer, Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis
On behalf of *CHIME*

Firstly, I'd like to thank Congressman Gingery for hosting this event. I'd also like to thank other members of Congress, their staff and all federal employees in attendance for providing me with this opportunity to speak with you today.

As we approach the end of the first year of Stage I "Meaningful Use" I think it is appropriate to look back and relate my experience as an early attester for Eligible Hospitals. Although my organization began its journey with electronic health records nearly seven years ago, Meaningful Use has had a profound impact as a policy platform and an incentive program, reinforcing our hospital's EHR strategy while providing us with direction to make future improvements.

I am the Chief Information Officer at Hennepin County Medical Center, a 420 bed urban safety net teaching hospital in Minnesota. We also support a larger safety net continuum of care systems with an electronic health record, including Hennepin Faculty Associates (HFA) clinics, two Federally Qualified Health Centers, and Hennepin County Public Health, Mental Health, and Jail clinics. In addition, I am here today as a representative of the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) – a 1,400 member organization of hospital CIOs and other healthcare IT leaders.

Since 2004, Hennepin County Medical Center has been engaged in an ambitious strategy to implement integrated electronic health records that support standardized workflow to create an environment that enhances the patient and provider experience while improving clinical and financial performance. With the help of our partner, Epic, HCMC implemented an enterprise wide EHR solution that replaced a best of breed model and included all clinical and revenue cycle applications. We were an early adopter of Epic's CareEverywhere, which allows patient data to be shared between Epic organizations (with patient consent). And we were among the first users of Direct Project standards and protocols, allowing us to send data securely to the Minnesota Immunization Registry.

As a platform, Meaningful Use has given early adopters credence and assurance that we are on the right path. Going through the exercise of preparing to attest for

Meaningful Use highlighted areas where work was needed and reinforced work that had already been done. It forced us to improve on things like structured text, educational outreach and recording advanced directives. But it also validated much of the work we had been doing in areas like Computerized Physician Order Entry and maintaining active allergy, medication and problem lists. In addition to providing impetus to individual healthcare organizations, Meaningful Use also invigorated many of the state healthcare IT programs, including those in Minnesota.

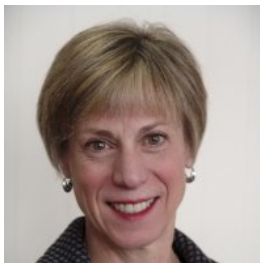
As an incentive program, Meaningful Use has helped orient various stakeholders, and provided the impetus for dealing with workflow challenges. For example, we had already undertaken a strategy with our providers to improve on medication reconciliation, but the Meaningful Use incentive helped us emphasize why it's important to embark on such efforts.

For early adopters like HCMC, Meaningful Use has given us a common platform to rally around. We have also hopefully demonstrated to others around the country that Meaningful Use is achievable and definitely worth the effort. For those hospitals just beginning this journey, Meaningful Use provides an ambitious roadmap and growing body of best practices to assist you in the process.

For all healthcare stakeholders, Meaningful Use will continue to be a platform to challenge and reinvigorate debate about health IT's role in improving patient outcomes, while encouraging broader payment and delivery reforms started since the passage of HITECH. For instance, it would be quite difficult to be successful hospital participating as an ACO if you aren't capable of meeting Meaningful Use. I have strongly supported this initiative since its inception and look forward to the evolution through Stages 2 and 3.

And for its part, CHIME will continue to work closely with our federal, state, industry and community partners so the benefits of an e-enabled healthcare system can be realized.

BIO: JOANNE SUNQUIST, RN, MS



Joanne Sunquist, RN, MS, Chief Information Officer
Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, MN

Joanne Sunquist joined Hennepin County Medical Center in 2004 from Allina Health System where she held senior management positions in Information Services for eight years. Prior to that, she was a health care IT consultant with Andersen Consulting (Accenture). Sunquist has a BS in Nursing from the College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, Minn., and a master's degree in Nursing Administration from the University of Minnesota. Joanne is a former CHIME Board Member, a current member of the CHIME Advocacy Leadership Team and she serves as the CHIME StateNet Coordinator for the State of Minnesota.



EHRA Press Statement

Charlie Jarvis

Vice President, NextGen Healthcare

Vice Chair, Electronic Health Record Association

Hello, I'm Charlie Jarvis, Vice President at NextGen Healthcare, and Vice Chair of the Electronic Health Record Association, a trade group comprised of 42 companies – large and small, employing tens of thousands of individuals, and creating thousands of sustainable jobs as a result of the HITECH Act. We supply the vast majority of operational EHRs to physicians' practices and hospitals across the United States.

First of all, thank you all for your support of National Health IT Week, now, like our Association, celebrating its sixth year of bringing together a variety of stakeholders to educate, collaborate, and advance the adoption of health IT toward the betterment of healthcare delivery for every American. We are proud of the contribution the EHR Association has made, along with all of the attendees of National Health IT Week, in contributing our expertise through outreach to legislators and policymakers. I believe we've seen great progress in establishing standards-based, interoperable health IT as an essential component of a transformed healthcare system.

Representing not only our customers – thousands of hospitals and tens of thousands of physicians who work in practices of all sizes and specialties – but also in our roles as purchasers of healthcare for our employees and as consumers of healthcare, we encourage Congress to maintain its bipartisan support for HIT, and preserve the Medicare and Medicaid EHR meaningful use incentive program. In these challenging economic times, it is important to ensure that our investments delivery benefits to taxpayers. As an industry, we are committed to working with our customers to ensure that they and their patients achieve the potential of health IT to improve both the quality and the efficiency of healthcare delivery. Proof that the program is working is provided by KLAS, a "consumer reports"- type of organization that watches the health IT industry, in its report, "CPOE 2011: The ARRA Effect." They report that the average number of hospitals implementing CPOE (computer-based provider order entry) has increased from 87 to 233 annually since HITECH was enacted. Anecdotally, we're seeing a similarly dramatic increase in the adoption of EHRs among ambulatory providers.

In addition to maintaining a robust health IT incentive program, we also encourage Congress to support legislative initiatives that promote the adoption of health IT through

non-incentive means – for example, small business loans for health IT purchases and liability reform that encourages adoption. We believe Congress can identify other means of motivating providers to begin or expand their use of EHRs that incur minimal or no additional costs and continue the momentum created by HITECH.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of the EHR Association. I'd be happy to take questions.

BIO: CHARLIE JARVIS

Charles W. (Charlie) Jarvis is vice president for Healthcare Services and Government Relations at NextGen Healthcare. His responsibilities include community and partnership development, support to the company's payer initiatives, and oversight of the company's grants and client funding assistance program. He's also responsible for internal and external education on the evolution of the healthcare industry with a focus on healthcare information technology, economic stimulus and healthcare reform. Charlie is, currently the Vice Chairperson of the Electronic Health Record Association (EHRA) and serves on the Policy Development Committee of the e-Health Initiative.