

**Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Program**

***Annual Report to the Governor and General Assembly***

***Under Act 76 of 2016***

***for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020***



**Pennsylvania Department of Human Services | eHealth Partnership Program**

Room 515 Health & Welfare Building | 625 Forster Street | Harrisburg, PA 17120

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***Letter from the Secretary***

To: Governor Tom Wolf

 President pro tempore, Jake Corman

Speaker of the House of Representatives, Brian Cutler

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) is pleased to present the Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Program (PA eHealth) Annual Report, which covers state fiscal year 2019-2020 from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Fiscal Year 2019-2020 was marked by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, which provided unique opportunities to leverage the investments Pennsylvania has made in regional and statewide health information. Beginning in March 2020, PA eHealth began facilitating weekly ADT Operations Team meetings of the five Pennsylvania Patient and Provider Network (P3N) Certified Health Information Organizations (HIOs) to encourage learning from each other’s experiences and to respond to COVID-19 data calls from the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH). The five HIOs agreed to PA eHealth’s use of P3N Encounter Notification Service (ENS) data for daily reports to DOH of exposed and confirmed COVID-19 cases. To expedite reporting of COVID-19 test results to DOH, many additional providers onboarded to the Public Health Gateway (PHG) through their HIO for Electronic Lab Reporting.

During this year we added the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections to the P3N and Medical Assistance Fee-For-Service Case Managers began accessing the P3N for immediate access to their clients’ health records. PA eHealth also made great progress in enriching services offered by the statewide health information exchange (HIE). Finally, DHS leveraged managed care contracts, value-based payment programs, and federal Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH) funding to substantially increase provider and payer participation in HIE in Pennsylvania.

This report provides a summary of PA eHealth’s activities and accomplishments, a summary of receipts and expenditures, a list of contracts entered, and a summary of reportable breaches.

PA eHealth is instrumental in helping DHS achieve its goals of delivering integrated whole-person care and controlling health care costs. We are proud of the progress we’ve made this year, and we look forward to continuing to do our part to make HIE a key element in improving the health care and well-being of all Pennsylvanians.

**Sincerely,**



Teresa D. Miller

Secretary

Department of Human Services

***Act 76 of 2016 and the Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Program***

The Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Program, created under Act 76 of 2016, is required to “submit an annual report to the Governor, the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for distribution to appropriate legislative committees on the activities of the program for the year, including a summary of the receipts and expenditures, a list of contracts and a summary of any reportable security breaches that occurred and corrective actions that were taken.”

***Transition from Authority to Department of Human Services***

The Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Authority (Authority), the Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Program’s (PA eHealth) predecessor entity, was created by Act 121 of 2012. The authorizing legislation included a 2017 expiration and prescribed that, one year prior to that expiration, the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LBFC) “shall evaluate the management, viability and performance of the health information exchange and shall provide a report to the Communications and Technology Committee of the Senate and the Health Committee of the House of Representatives and the Human Services Committee of the House of Representatives. The report shall include recommendations as to reauthorization of the Authority, dissolution of the Authority or assumption of the Authority’s responsibilities and assets by another entity.”

The LBFC evaluation and subsequent report occurred concurrently with the introduction and subsequent passage of legislation moving the Authority into the Department of Human Services (DHS). The [**full report**](http://lbfc.legis.state.pa.us/Resources/Documents/Reports/562.pdf), and [**report highlights**](http://lbfc.legis.state.pa.us/Resources/Documents/Reports-Highlights/563.pdf), are available on the LBFC website, and provide extensive background and history of the Authority and its work toward developing the state’s health information exchange.

In 2016, Act 76 created PA eHealth within DHS. Concurrent with the passage of Act 76, Act 121 of 2012 was repealed, and the Authority and its governing board were disbanded. All the programmatic responsibilities of the Authority transitioned to PA eHealth in the Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP).

The Pennsylvania Patient and Provider Network (P3N) Health Information Exchange Trust Community Committee (HIETCC), comprised of leaders within the five P3N Certified Health Information Organizations (HIOs), has met on a monthly basis since November 2013. PA eHealth worked with HIETCC to review and update the P3N HIO Certification Package in 2019; DHS and all five HIOs have fully executed Version 4.0 of the P3N Participation Agreement, which binds all parties to a common set of standards and data uses to enable statewide health information exchange. The Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Advisory Board held three in-person quarterly meetings and one virtual quarterly meeting, in May 2020, due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

This 2019-2020 Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Program Annual Report covers accomplishments and activities of PA eHealth during state fiscal year 2019-2020 from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

***Summary of Activities and Accomplishments***

During the report year, state fiscal year 2019-2020, PA eHealth executed against the eight strategies of the Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Program Strategic Plan, January 1, 2018-June 20, 2021. PA eHealth’s summary of activities and accomplishments is organized according to these eight strategies, as outlined below.

1. **Improving existing services by leveraging other state services and resources**
* PA eHealth supported production connections to four Department of Health (DOH) public health registries and one DHS registry.
* PA eHealth onboarded 3 HIOs to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) through the Public Health Gateway (PHG) and Lancaster General Health began using the RxCheck PDMP gateway.
* PA eHealth continued to work with IBM in developing a robust provider directory leveraging data from DHS, DOH, Department of Aging, Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Department of State, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
1. **Expanding the coverage area of providers exchanging data**
* In September 2019, PA eHealth completed onboarding to the P3N the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections’ (DOC) electronic health record (EHR) system, which covers all 25 state correctional institutions.
* DHS awarded $4.45 million in HIE Onboarding Grants to connect 62 inpatient (including 52 nursing homes) and 53 ambulatory providers to P3N Certified HIOs.
1. **Increasing bi-directional access to the Public Health Gateway**
* DHS awarded $65,000 to HIOs to support their efforts to connect their member organizations (MOs) to public health registries through the PHG.
* In the last week of June 2020, DOH processed through the PHG more than 140,000 total DOH PHG messages, including more than 50,000 Pennsylvania Statewide Immunization Information System messages.
* All five P3N Certified HIOs achieved production status with respect to one or more PHG registries, including production connection by all five to the Electronic Lab Registry (eLR).
* Thirty HIO MOs are reporting the results of COVID-19 tests to the eLR through the PHG.
* PA eHealth also provided funding to DOH to support ongoing development of the PHG and public health registries, including Electronic Case Reporting.
1. **Improving data quality through analytics**
* Worked with the National Center for Quality Assurance and P3N HIOs to explore certification strategies for leveraging their clinical data repositories to support payer members’ clinical quality measure analytics that would supplement, or even replace, paper chart reviews.
* Provided to HIOs, on a monthly basis, an HIO demographic data fill-rate report and, on a weekly basis, a report that identifies individual patient registrations with missing demographic information.
* As a result of Pa eHealth’s efforts, patient matching or linking has steadily increased from 21.6% in June 2019 to 30.5% in June 2020.
1. **Enhancing the types of data exchanged**
* PA eHealth was able to leverage P3N ENS data to support daily COVID-19 reports of exposed and confirmed COVID-19 cases to DOH.
* Three of the P3N Certified HIOs began sharing real-time inpatient (IP) Admission/Discharge/Transfer (ADT) information with the P3N in addition to emergency department (ED) ADTs so that a patient’s care team can be alerted to a patient’s ED and IP encounter even if that patient receives care by a different HIO.
* Began collecting opioid use disorder (OUD) Continuity of Care Documents in the DHS electronic clinical quality measure registry for select Medicaid OUD ED encounters.
* Three P3N HIOs began sharing discrete clinical documents in response to P3N queries.
* The new P3N Advance Directive Registry went into production in June 2020, providing a statewide centralized registry available to healthcare providers in Pennsylvania.
* In state fiscal year 2019-2020, PA eHealth awarded funding to the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) to support its work with Western Pennsylvania’s two largest health systems to implement an open-source population analytics and visualization software tool for conducting population health analysis of EHR data aggregated from the participating systems. ACHD epidemiologists are using the software and EHR data to analyze geographical distribution of diabetes and hypertension, looking at disease progression, treatment, and control.
1. **Updating the certification program**
* PA eHealth reviewed the P3N HIO Certification Package with HIETCC and added a new Downtime Notification Policy effective January 1, 2020.
* HIETCC also adjusted HIO insurance requirements to align with current insurance industry practices and added new P3N services.
* PA eHealth worked with DHS, the five HIOs, and DOC to update the coding used to prevent super-protected information from being shared across the P3N.
1. **Offering expanded system access**
* Medicaid Fee-for-Service Case Managers began using the P3N Portal to improve the timeliness and completeness of their care plans for new and vulnerable enrollees.
* PA eHealth has been in discussions with the DOH Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants and Children to provide their pediatric nutritionists with access to the P3N Portal to support a new telehealth model.
* PA eHealth awarded onboarding grant funding for the Department of Aging’s PACE Program to connect to a P3N Certified HIO.
1. **Facilitating inter-state and federal exchange**
* PA eHealth is engaging in discussions with Maryland, West Virginia, and Delaware on options for alerting a patient’s home care team when that patient crosses state boundaries in obtaining health care services.
* Secured a no-cost contract change request with IBM to onboard the Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients to the P3N ADT Service.

***Summary of Receipts and Expenditures***

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| **Receipts Detail Report**  |
| **PA eHealth Partnership Authority** |
| **(July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020)** |
| **Business Area 21** |
| **Description** | **Transaction Amount** | **Notes** |
| Budget Amount  | $ 13,010,134.00 | SFY 19/20 Budget Across all Funds |
| Deposit - Interagency  | $ 620,000.00 | SFY 19/20 P3N HIO User Fees |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 13,630,134.00** |  |

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| **Summary of Expenditures**  |
| **PA eHealth Partnership Authority** |
| **(July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020)** |
| **Business Area 21** |
| **Expenditure Type** | **Expended Amount** |
| Personnel  | $ 583,054.54  |
| Operational | $ 1,525,662.68 |
| Grants | $ 3,501,505.17 |
| **Total** | **$ 5,610,222.39** |

***List of Contracts***

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| **List of Contracts Executed by the Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Program** **(July 1, 2019- June 20, 2020)** |
| **Business Area 21** |
| **Contract Type** | **Grantee Name** | **PA Vendor #** | **Contract #** | **Contract Amount** | **Notes** |
| Grant | Clinical Connect | 793238 | 21OB20202 | $50,000 | AmbulatoryOnboarding Grant Program |
| Grant | Clinical Connect | 793238 | 21OB20102 | $100,000 | Hospital/Facility Onboarding Grant Program |
| Grant | CPC HIE | 117652 | 21OB20200 | $175,000 | AmbulatoryOnboarding Grant Program |
| Grant | CPC HIE | 117652 | 21OB20100 | $550,000 | Hospital/Facility Onboarding Grant Program |
| Grant | HealthShare Exchange  | 777978 | 21OB20103 | $1,050,000 | Hospital/Facility Onboarding Grant Program |
| Grant | HealthShare Exchange  | 777978 | 21OB20203 | $725,000 | AmbulatoryOnboarding Grant Program |
| Grant | KeyHIE | 793863 | 21OB20201 | $375,000 | AmbulatoryOnboarding Grant Program |
| Grant | KeyHIE | 793863 | 21OB20101 | $1,400,000 | Hospital/Facility Onboarding Grant Program |
| Grant | HealthShare Exchange  | 777978 | 21PHG20200 | $5,000 | PHG Grant Program |
| Grant | KeyHIE | 793863 | 21PHG20201 | $60,000 | PHG Grant Program |
| SS | KeyHIE | 793863 | 4100085889 | $300,000 | Radiology Image Sharing Project  |
| IGA | Allegheny County  | 159001-002 | 4100085860 | $500,000 | Allegheny County Pop. Health Project  |
| MOU | PA Department of Health | 689874 | 400021833 | $1,062,520 | Public Health Gateway Projects  |
| **TOTAL** |  |  |  |  **$6,352,520** |  |

***Summary of Reportable Security Breaches***

The Pennsylvania Patient and Provider Network experienced no reportable security breaches in 2019-2020.



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