

October 22, 2014

**To:** NITC Commissioners  
**From:** Anne Byers  
**Subject:** eHealth Council Report

**NeHII Update.** In mid-October, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the request for 90/10 matching Medicaid funding to support the expansion of NeHII and development of new functionality. The request was originally submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services by Nebraska's Medicaid program in July 2013. The funding will be used to bring on additional hospitals, practices, and federally qualified health centers. New functionality funded by the request includes:

- Enabling additional hospitals and providers to exchange data with the immunization registry;
- Enabling a facility or ambulatory practice to send a Transition of Care document to the health information exchange;
- Setting up the public health gateway which will enable syndromic surveillance and lab reporting through NeHII;
- Enabling diagnosis and allergy information to be displayed for NeHII participants.

NeHII has recently begun implementing Direct secure messaging. Forty-five Direct users are currently signed up.

**eHealth Council Update.** For the past five years, the eHealth Council has focused on preparing for and implementing the \$6.8 million State Health Information Agreement received from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT. Now that the grant has been completed, the Council needs to refocus and reexamine its membership. The eHealth Council will discuss those issues at their next meeting on Nov. 13.