

## **Highlights of Florida HIE Cooperative Agreement Application**

The Florida application was submitted on October 15, 2009 to the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. Program commencement is expected in January or February, 2010.

The Agency will receive federal funding of \$20.7 million (expected) over a four-year period for the purpose of supporting statewide health information exchange. The Agency has requested \$8,330,904 in Year 1 (beginning February 1, 2010) with an in-kind match of \$257,000.

### **Governance and Management**

In 2010, the Agency will announce a grant opportunity to be awarded to a not-for-profit, vendor neutral Florida Health Information Organization that will be responsible for managing the technical and business operations of health information exchange. The Agency's Health Information Exchange Coordinating Committee (HIECC) will review the proposed HIO grant requirements and participate in evaluating applicants.

The HIO will issue an RFP to build the technical infrastructure required. This organization will be responsible for contracting with IT vendors and day-to-day management of the network. There will also be an evaluation contract with a State University.

### **Planning and Stakeholder Outreach**

Significant planning work remains which will occur prior to and after the cooperative agreement program is initiated. This includes determining:

- (1) initial HIE services to be offered (clinical messaging, patient look-up and quality reporting) and prioritization of implementation stages,
- (2) the technical architecture to support the HIE services and federal meaningful use requirements,
- (3) legal policy and approach to ensure appropriate levels of privacy, achieve maximum participation, and keep administrative burden to a minimum, and
- (4) long-term financial sustainability models once HIE services are determined and ongoing operational costs are more certain.

The Agency is committed to engaging stakeholders in this process. The application is posted on [www.FHIN.net](http://www.FHIN.net). It includes a one-page abstract, project budget and strategic plan.