



healthcurrent

Update

December 2019

Arizona Shines as National Leader in Healthcare Collaboration at Annual Health IT Summit

The 2019 Health Current Summit & Trade Show brought together over 300 attendees for two-days of presentations and discussions with the theme of An Interoperable Arizona: The Progress and the Promise. Held November 13-14, 2019 at the Renaissance Phoenix/Glendale Hotel & Spa in Glendale, Arizona for the third straight year, the two-day event was designed to provide national, regional and local updates in the interoperability space, and to share HIE best practices.

The event drew a broad audience of attendees, including hospital and health plan leaders, health IT staff, providers, practice managers and vendors.



The 2019 Summit event kicked off with a keynote presentation on the interoperability landscape by **Mark Vafiades, Senior Advisor with the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health IT** (above photo). Afterwards, attendees learned about the benefits of HIE participation from forward-thinking organizations like Arizona Community Physicians, North Country HealthCare, and CommonSpirit Health (Dignity Health).

Additional highlights from the two-day Summit included panel discussions, presentations, and breakout sessions on:

- Health IT/HIE Legislative Updates
- Innovative Technology, Services & Solutions
- Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances
- Care Transitions & Leveraging the HIE
- The Future of Interoperability – The Trusted Exchange Framework & Common Agreement (TEFCA)

The two-day event featured over 30 speakers, 12 breakout sessions, an exhibit hall with many technology solution providers and the presentation of the Health IT Leader and Innovation Awards.



2019 Health IT Leader award winner, Heather Carter, Arizona State Senate, District 15.



Pendleton Pediatrics proudly accepts the 2019 Health IT Innovation Award. Jodi Brigola, practice manager, and Melissa Kotrys, CEO, Health Current.

Health IT Leader and Health IT Innovator Recognized at the 2019 Summit

The Health Current Health IT Awards recognized an outstanding individual and an outstanding organization at the 2019 Summit & Trade Show. Both awards were presented after the general session on Thursday, November 14, 2019.

The Health IT Leader Award recognizes an outstanding leader in advancing healthcare through health information technology and health information exchange. The Health IT Innovation Award recognizes an organization for outstanding innovation and achievement in advancing healthcare through health information technology and health information exchange. [Read more](#)

Knowledge is Power—and Love—at Pendleton Pediatrics

“Beyond knowledgeable,” is how one loyal parent describes the team at Pendleton Pediatrics. “I wouldn’t trust anyone else but Dr. Pendleton and her office staff to care for my kids,” the mother said after experiencing two frustrating visits to urgent care and the emergency room for her daughter’s persistent fever. Mom ultimately took her sick child to Pendleton Pediatrics and there, armed with more complete patient data provided by Health Current, the Pendleton team was able to correctly diagnose her daughter. Within 12 hours

This is just one of many examples of how the team at Pendleton Pediatrics uses reliable, thorough and timely clinical patient information from Arizona’s HIE to deliver the best care possible.

[**Read more about Pendleton Pediatrics Success Story.**](#)



the child was fever free.



AHCCCS Announces the New Whole Person Care Initiative

AHCCCS is focusing their future strategic planning on how to better address social determinants of health (SDOH) within the Arizona Medicaid population.

In support of this objective, on November 22 they announced the new Whole Person Care Initiative (WPCI), an all-inclusive strategy to address SDOH for certain AHCCCS members.

You can read the announcement about this new initiative on the [AHCCCS website](#) and the [new WPCI microsite](#).

Specific to Health Current, the WPCI announcement states:

“In an effort to support providers, health plans, community-based organizations, and community stakeholders who collaborate to address the social service needs of AHCCCS members, we are partnering with Health Current, Arizona’s Health Information Exchange (HIE), to explore technology that will facilitate screening for social risk factors and seamlessly refer members to community resources. In 2020, AHCCCS anticipates that Health Current will undertake the evaluation of available solutions seeking a single, statewide, electronic, closed-loop referral platform for social service fulfillment. Such technology will allow

set of minimum elements), submit electronic referrals to local agencies, and see when a member’s social service needs have been successfully fulfilled.”

The WPCI is still in the planning stages and Health Current is working with AHCCCS, Arizona 2-1-1 and the Vitalyst Foundation to iron out the finer details. As specifics are finalized, we will share more information with you all.

Furthermore, in the near future we will also engage with HIE Participants who are interested in becoming involved in this effort.

Until then, we appreciate your overall support for this new initiative, and your patience as we align Health Current resources to fully support AHCCCS in the launch of the WPCI.

If you have questions about the WPCI, please contact Health Current at (602) 688-7200 or info@healthcurrent.org.

health care providers to screen patients for social risk factors using existing systems (as long as they capture a standard



The Practice Innovation Institute Successfully Concludes

The **Practice Innovation Institute (Pii)** was Arizona's Practice Transformation Network (PTN) under the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (TCPI). In 2015, Health Current was awarded a four-year grant under the TCPI program, and in collaboration with Mercy Care, Pii was formed.

Established to assist Arizona clinicians in developing innovations in clinical practice and care delivery in order to prepare for successful participation in value-based, alternative payment programs, Pii was **comprised of 435 practices**. The Pii organizations represented several areas across the care spectrum including Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), behavioral health providers, integrated care clinics, and other primary and specialty services.

At the conclusion of the four year grant, **Pii was able to report achieving (and in most cases exceeding) expectations** established for the program. [Read on.](#)



Practice Innovation Institute
Engage. Transform. Reward.

Health Current Holiday Hours

The Health Current office will be closed the following days:

- Tuesday, December 24, 2019 - Christmas Eve*
- Wednesday, December 25, 2019 - Christmas Day
- Tuesday, December 31, 2019 - New Year's Eve*
- Wednesday, January 1, 2020 - New Year's Day

**Office closes at noon*

If you are an HIE participant and need technical support, email: hiesupport@healthcurrent.org



Happy Holidays!

