



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 2021

For additional information, contact:

Emily Mata | Marketing & Communications Manager
Michigan Health Information Network Shared Services
517.745.8835 | emily.mata@mihin.org

Michigan Health Information Network Awarded Funding From the HHS Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT

Funding will allow for greater collaboration with the City of Detroit on COVID-19 vaccination efforts

LANSING, Mich. – [The Michigan Health Information Network Shared Services \(MiHIN\)](#), a public and private nonprofit created to coordinate and build bridges between healthcare providers, announced today that it has been awarded funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) as part of its Strengthening the Technical Advancement and Readiness of Public Health Agencies via Health Information Exchange Program (STAR HIE Program).

The STAR HIE Program will support innovative health information exchange services that benefit public health agencies and improve the health information exchange services available to support communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding will support efforts to increase data sharing between jurisdictional Immunization Information Systems (IISs) and Health Information Exchanges (HIEs). This cooperative agreement is funded through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The CARES Act responds to the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) outbreak and its impact on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

MiHIN, along with 20 other HIEs across the country, was awarded the ONC STAR HIE Program Cooperative Agreement through funding from the CARES Act.

“We are thrilled to be recipients of ONC STAR HIE Program,” said Tim Pletcher, DHA, Executive Director of MiHIN. “MiHIN is doing important work throughout Michigan and this funding will allow us to make an even more meaningful impact both in metro Detroit and throughout the state by supporting the exchange of health information, making valuable data available at the point of care, and getting more people immunized.”

The new investments will provide opportunities to track vaccination progress, help clinicians contact high-risk patients, and help identify individuals due to receive the second dose of the vaccine. It will also help provide a statistically and clinically robust way to measure vaccination outcomes. In collaboration with HIEs, the ability to individually correlate every patient who has received the vaccine with all of their clinical data both pre-and post-vaccination could offer more detailed insight into any adverse events and long-term health outcomes than is currently possible.



“Since last March, MiHIN has been invaluable to Detroit's COVID-19 response, thanks to its collection, management, and sharing of the data we need to effectively operate our regional testing site, which has been cited as being one of the best-run sites in the nation, said Mayor Mike Duggan. “With this additional funding, MiHIN will be able to assist us with data management associated with our program to vaccinate and protect Detroiters against this terrible virus. We are deeply appreciative to MiHIN for its ongoing partnership and support.”

###

About Michigan Health Information Network Shared Services

The Michigan Health Information Network Shared Services (MiHIN) is Michigan’s state-designated entity to improve healthcare quality, efficiency, and patient safety by sharing electronic health information statewide, helping reduce costs for patients, providers, and payers. MiHIN is a nonprofit, public-private collaboration that includes stakeholders from the State of Michigan, Health Information Exchanges serving Michigan, health systems and providers, health plans/payers, pharmacies, and the Governor’s Health Information Technology Commission. For more information, visit <https://mihin.org>.

