

# September 2023 eNewsletter

Volume 133



## New SHIN-NY Spotlight Video Highlights Care Coordination for Older Adults in Rochester

NYeC recently completed the newest video in the SHIN-NY Spotlight series, this time highlighting Lifespan of Greater Rochester, which is a non-profit serving about 30,000 older adults and caregivers every year. Lifespan connects to the Rochester RHIO to access the SHIN-NY.

Founded in 1971, Lifespan offers more than 30 services for older adults in the community, including assistance for caregivers of people with dementia/Alzheimer's, assisting with Medicare, health and wellness classes and workshops, and elder abuse intervention and prevention programs.

In the video, Lifespan leaders talk about how access to real-time health data in the SHIN-NY through the Rochester RHIO improves the services they provide and assists in ensuring better healthcare outcomes for their clients.

Watch the video at the link below.

[Watch the Video](#)

[More SHIN NY Success Stories](#)

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## The SHIN-NY Selected as a Gravity Project Pilot Site to Further Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Data Exchange

The SHIN-NY [was selected by Civitas Networks for Health, in partnership with the Gravity Project and with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#), as one of four new early-stage pilot projects addressing public health and/or health equity use cases. Selected pilot sites are receiving one-to-one technical assistance from Gravity Project Subject Matter Experts in Gravity deliverables, social care data standards and social care interoperability, and are participating in a learning community that allows for shared learning across the sites.

[From the Civitas Networks for Health Press Release](#): “The purpose of this initiative is to improve accessibility, knowledge, and capabilities for exchange of Gravity terminology standards with a focus on public health and health equity use cases; strengthen capacity for viable, cross-sector data sharing partnerships; and increase communication and collaboration for coordinating health and social care services among integral parties such as health care payers, providers, patients, community members, vendors, public health, health information exchanges, and community-based health and social service.”

With efforts led by the Bronx RHIO and New York eHealth Collaborative, all six QEs across the SHIN-NY are working together to implement statewide standards for the ingestion and handling of social risk data, utilizing Gravity Project terminology and coding standards to ensure a consistent approach across the state.

## Calling All Associations: Join Us Quarterly for the Multi-Sector Associations Meeting

NYeC works with a diverse group of stakeholders from across the state, nation, and care continuum to advance health information technology (HIT) and health information exchange (HIE) in New York.

Health information exchange (HIE), the sharing of clinical data across the boundaries of healthcare institutions and other health data repositories, is imperative to efforts to improve care delivery.

Many stakeholder groups realize that if such data is shared, healthcare processes can improve with respect to safety, quality, cost, and other indicators.

Our Multi-Sector Associations Meeting convenes representatives of healthcare-related associations with an interest and investment in health information exchange via the SHIN-NY to discuss topics such as:

- State and Federal Updates
- DOH Updates
- SHIN-NY Strategy Updates
- Policy Updates
- 1115 Waiver Updates

The group meets quarterly and if you would like to join us, please reach out to Nicole Casey, Director of SHIN-NY Partnerships and Initiatives, via email at [info@nyehealth.org](mailto:info@nyehealth.org) for more information.

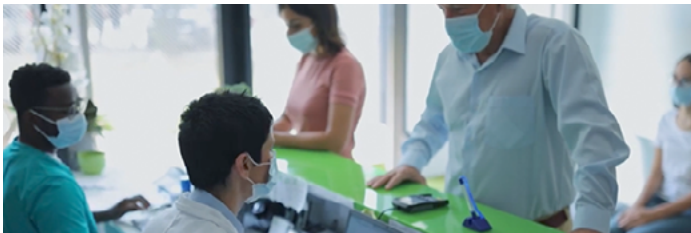
Contact Us

## Recent Webinar: An Overview of the Statewide Health Information Network for New York (SHIN-NY)

The Statewide Health Information Network for New York (SHIN-NY), pronounced “shiny”, facilitates the secure electronic exchange of patient health information and connects healthcare professionals statewide.

We recently held an informational webinar on Wednesday, September 27th about the SHIN-NY and how it enables collaboration and coordination of care to improve patient outcomes, reduce unnecessary and avoidable tests and procedures, and lower costs. A webinar recording will be available soon.





## Share Your Experience with NYeC's Stakeholder Engagement Team

The SHIN-NY helps to facilitate the secure electronic exchange of patient health information to connect over 100,000 care professionals statewide, including 100% of New York hospitals. NYeC's Stakeholder Engagement Team continues to gather meaningful feedback from across the continuum of care to learn how end-users interact with, and rely upon, SHIN-NY services including:

- Routine use and awareness of SHIN-NY services for patient care
- Usefulness of the information obtained via the SHIN-NY
- Potential improvements to SHIN-NY services that would increase the usage and value of the data

If your organization is connected to the SHIN-NY and you are interested in sharing your experiences, please email us at [info@nyehealth.org](mailto:info@nyehealth.org).

Contact Us



## Rochester RHIO: Healthcare Sector HRSN Solution Workgroup Convened in Finger Lakes Region

The Rochester RHIO and Finger Lakes Performing Provider System (FLPPS) have convened a community workgroup to begin collaborative solution design on sharing, standardizing, and exchanging Health-Related Social Need information across the healthcare sector and beyond. As our communities continue to develop workflows and screenings to support care transitions and coordination efforts, the healthcare sector is focused on identifying and addressing the social needs of their patients. There is a critical need to share this data from provider to provider across healthcare sectors for effective and timely care.

To ensure a comprehensive approach to this effort in the Finger Lakes, the community workgroup, titled Healthcare Sector HRSN Solution Workgroup, convened this summer. Its membership includes health systems, FQHCs, social care networks and other critical stakeholders. As co-chairs, Rochester RHIO and FLPPS are facilitating discovery, consensus building, and solution design prototyping. The goal is to enable care workflows that address patients' social needs and improve health outcomes.

This work is in service of the social care integration goals of the pending 1115 Medicaid Waiver. This workgroup and its outputs will act as an incubator for the success of waiver readiness and HRSN workflow implementation.

Visit Rochester RHIO's website at the button below to learn more.

Learn More



## HealthConnections' Established Partnership with Lantana Consulting Group Assists CDC With Public Health Analytic Projects

Community-wide health information exchange data offers unique opportunities to inform, support, and promote initiatives aimed at improving health in our communities. HealthConnections recently completed a collaborative analytic project focused on two public health use cases for the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). Read the article to learn how HealthConnections did it.

Read More



## HEALTHeLINK Awarded \$1 Million in Federal Funding to Enable Availability of Advance Directives at Point of Care

HEALTHeLINK has been awarded a \$1 million cooperative agreement over the next two years from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) to aggregate advance care planning documents from across the community and make electronically available to treating providers who need to know a patient’s wishes at the point of care.

“While patients may have documentation in their physician’s office or a hospital medical record, studies have shown that only one third of emergency department patients have advanced planning documents such as living wills, health care proxy, do not resuscitate, and medical orders for life-sustaining treatment, to guide end-of-life treatment, and when they do exist, it’s not easily accessible when and where it’s needed” said Dan Porreca, president and CEO, HEALTHeLINK. “The need to have this documentation electronically available is important to ensure that a patient’s wishes are known and adhered to and is expected to increase as a result of the urgency in advance care planning brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and as the baby boomer population ages. In addition, the cost of care at the end of life cannot be overlooked and will be impacted by adhering to patient’s wishes.”

The funding is being provided through ONC’s Leading Edge Acceleration Projects (LEAP) in Health Information Technology program. HEALTHeLINK is the only recipient of funding in the country in the 2023 LEAP project category – “Exploring the Use of Advanced Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) Capabilities.”

For more information, visit HEALTHeLINK’s website.

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

## Bronx RHIO Supports CDC-Funded Track PCC Project

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) funded Track Post COVID-19 Complications Public Health Surveillance Project (Track PCC) is a partnership between the Bronx RHIO, Beyond HIE, Comagine Health, Utah Health Information Network (UHIN), and Boise State University (BSU) to report COVID-19 related data to CDC for public health surveillance purposes. The goal of this project is to better understand the lasting impacts of COVID-19, to track the burden and distribution of the virus among diverse communities in the Bronx and in the state of Utah, and to collect extensive data on post-COVID complications or Long COVID.

A unique aspect of this project lies in the collection of data from two health information exchanges (HIEs) for surveillance rather than traditional electronic medical record data collection from multiple sites. This collaborative effort started with supplying clinical data on past COVID cases from both HIEs. In addition, Bronx RHIO is starting an Active Surveillance protocol to collect data prospectively from patients at Montefiore Medical Center, Essen Medical and BronxCare for the next two years. People who receive care at those sites and are diagnosed with COVID can consent to participate in completion of four surveys about their symptoms and experiences. Their data will be aggregated by the RHIO and provided to CDC in de-identified form to inform them in detail about the current/ongoing experiences of COVID patients.

Visit the Bronx RHIO website at the button below to learn more.

[Learn More](#)

# Did you know?

The SHIN NY connects 100% of the hospitals in New York State, over 100,000 healthcare professionals, and represents millions of people living in or receiving care in New York.

[Learn More](#)

The Hixny logo features the word "Hixny" in a serif font, with a blue dot above the letter 'i'.

## Hixny: There's No Monopoly on Good Ideas

Below is an excerpt from The CEO's Blog. Mark McKinney, CEO of Hixny, writes:

Recently, Hixny's work was highlighted in an EHR Intelligence article, "[How a Patient Record 'Snapshot' is Driving HIE Data Access](#)". Reading the story reminded me about something so core to our identity that we often forget to talk about it: Hixny is grounded in the understanding that the best ideas always arise through collaboration. As an organization, we foster strong listening, problem-solving and leadership skills, as well as adaptability, to help the best ideas materialize. Why? Collaboration builds trust. People want to know they've been heard, and that their ideas and thoughts have contributed to the solution.

[Read the Full Blog](#)

The Healthix logo consists of a circular icon made of green and blue dots, followed by the word "Healthix" in a blue sans-serif font.

## Healthix Empowers FQHCs with VBC Toolkit

Healthix is driving innovation by supporting Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) with an online toolkit designed to facilitate value-based care (VBC). The toolkit addresses FQHCs' top priorities, improving patient outcomes and crucial UDS/HEDIS measures. It identifies external quality measures, pinpoints high-risk patient groups, and offers real-time guidance for follow-up actions. After a successful pilot, Healthix plans to showcase the toolkit at the VBC Conference in September and expand its reach to FQHCs, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), IPAs, and ACOs.

Visit the Healthix website at the button below to learn more.

[Learn More](#)



We're currently hiring for a range of roles, all with a central mission to improve the health and wellness of New Yorkers through the implementation of health information exchange.

### **Sr. Infrastructure Engineer**

Albany or NYC Office  
Albany or New York, NY, 10006

### **Information Security Analyst**

Albany or NYC Office  
Albany or New York, NY, 10006

### **Human Resources Specialist**

Albany Office  
Albany, NY, 12210

Please continue to visit the NYeC Careers button below for future job opportunities.

[Learn More](#)

*NYeC is an equal opportunity employer.*