HIE in Arizona: Policy Updates & Priorities

Az Rural Health Policy Forum
February 1, 2022
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Chief Executive Officer
Agenda

- Health Current + CORHIO = Contexture
- Health Current Basics
- HIE Policy Priorities
- CommunityCares: Az’s SDOH Referral System
- Az Healthcare Directives Registry
- Questions
Health Current + CORHIO = Contexture
About Health Current

- Founded in 2007
- Arizona’s Health Information Exchange (HIE), home of Arizona Healthcare Advance Directives Registry (AzHDR) and social determinants of health (SDOH) referral system
- Joined forces with Colorado-based CORHIO in 2021 to form regional organization, Contexture
About CORHIO

- Founded in 2010
- Provides HIE and Healthcare Quality Improvement Services throughout the Front Range and rural Colorado
- Joined forces with Arizona-based Health Current in 2021 to form regional organization, Contexture
Creating connections. Improving lives.

Contexture is two visionary, innovating leaders in health information exchange (HIE); CORHIO and Health Current. Together we advance individual and community health and wellness through the delivery of actionable information and analysis.

Our Mission

Advancing individual and community health and wellness through the delivery of actionable information and analysis.
Contexture Merger

Why merge?

- The HIE landscape is changing
- Similar geographies and cultures
- Two large HIEs coming together means leveraging different skillsets, knowledge and processes; economies of scale and greater efficiencies
- Larger data set at a regional level supports more opportunities to improve population health
- Better positions us to compete at a national level and meet federal policy changes

- In essence...we are #BetterTogether!
Health Information Exchange
Who is Participating with Health Current?

- Over 980 HIE Participants and growing
- Over 275 data sources sending patient medical records for sharing, including 98% of all hospitals
- Data available on 14+ million individuals

As of 01/25/22
Governance Structure

- Executive Committee
- Finance Committee
- Nominating & Governance Committee

- Executive Advisory Council
  - 7/1/21 Creation
- Clinical Advisory Council - AZ
  - 1/1/22 Transition
- Clinical Advisory Council - CO
  - 1/1/22 Creation
- Data Governance Council
  - 1/1/22 Transition
- Policy Advisory Council
  - 1/1/22 Transition

- SDOH Workgroup (AZ)
  - ~1 year
- Advance Directives Workgroup (AZ)
  - ~1 year
- Claims Strategy Workgroup (AZ)
  - ~1 year
- Public Health Workgroup (AZ)
- OeHI Workgroups (CO)
  - Future
  - External
HIE Policy Priorities
State Legislative Priorities

- Promoting the integration of public health data into the HIEs, especially to support crisis services such as immunization data for the COVID-19 pandemic and prescription drug data for the opioid overdose epidemic responses;
- Improving rural, Tribal and Critical Access Hospital HIE connectivity;
- Expanding HIE permitted purposes to include research related work; and
- Responding to the rapidly changing patient consent, data access, and privacy rights environment.
Arizona Priorities

- Amend key Arizona public health statutes to enable Health Current to redisclose communicable disease related information and child immunization data to HIE Participants without an enhanced surveillance advisory being in effect.

- Amend A.R.S. 36-3805(C) to remove restrictions on using HIE data to support research.

- Work with Arizona's hospital associations and key stakeholders to advance and incentivize data reporting from certain key senders to the HIE (e.g., clinical laboratories, pharmacies, LTPACs)

- Advance additional statutory amendments to A.R.S. 36-3291 et. seq., as needed, to improve utility of the Arizona Health Directives Registry operated by Health Current
Colorado Priorities

- Monitor any attempts to codify the authority of the Office of eHealth Innovation and ensure any statutory authority is positive for health information exchanges / Contexture.

- Understand the impact of the Colorado Privacy Act on Contexture's operations and push for legislative changes (up to and including an exemption for Contexture) in FY2022 if required; cultivate allies for 2023 legislative session.

- Support legislative efforts to increase provider enrollment in, compliance with, and use of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

- Monitor and support legislative efforts to broaden CDPHE's authority to share public health data, including immunization information system (IIS) data, with HIEs for distribution to clinical participants.
Federal Priorities

- Engage directly and via our trade organization, Civitas Networks for Health (formerly SHIEC), on key issues related to HIE programmatic funding and beyond

- Advance legislation that would create new funding opportunities for a “public health data utility” program and to secure related supportive appropriations report language and to facilitate the flow of information between public health and clinical health IT systems
Current Az Bills

• HB 2100
  Public health statutory changes to allow communicable disease and immunization data that is shared by AzDHS to HIE to be shared with HIE participants in accordance with federal (HIPAA) and state laws. Mirrors SB 1167 and has emergency clause.

• HB 2155
  Adjustments to the HIO statute to allow for the transfer of HIE data for research, in alignment with HIPAA and other federal laws and regulations.

• SB 1190
  Adjustments to healthcare directives registry to allow surrogate access, as designated by individual.

• SB 1167
  Public health statutory changes to allow communicable disease and immunization data that is shared by AzDHS to HIE to be shared with HIE participants in accordance with federal (HIPAA) and state laws. Mirrors HB 2100 and has emergency clause.
Other Policy Considerations

- Continued expansion of AHCCCS Differential Adjusted Payment (DAP) incentive program
  - CYE 2023 DAP Preliminary Public Notice posted on January 28, 2022
  - [DAP Preliminary Notice - CYE 23-Final for Posting (azahcccs.gov)](azahcccs.gov)
- Addressing other known data gaps
  - Long term post acute care
  - Lab data – particularly commercial labs other than Sonora Quest
  - Medication fill history
CommunityCares: Az’s SDOH Referral System
AHCCCS Whole Person Care

- Moving from medically-focused concepts of health to whole person health & wellness
- Focus Areas
  - Housing
  - Social Isolation
  - Employment
  - Food
  - Non-Emergency Transportation
  - SDOH Closed Loop Referral System (CLRS)
CommunityCares
SDOH Closed Loop Referral System

- Partnership between AHCCCS and Health Current to procure a technology vendor to facilitate and track referrals by healthcare providers to community organizations addressing SDOH

- System capabilities:
  - Facilitates screening for social risk factors
  - Seamlessly refers individuals to highly matched community resources
  - Serves as a closed loop referral platform for social service fulfillment
CommunityCares

- Connecting our communities.
- Improving health outcomes with a whole-person care mindset.
- Data-driven approach.

Now in general launch phase – get signed up TODAY!
What is CommunityCares?

- CommunityCares is a resource database that organizations can adopt and access to find resources for their members/patients/clients
- CommunityCares is a referral management tool used to send and receive referrals, provide referral feedback, and “close the loop”
- CommunityCares contains social needs screening tools that can identify SDOH needs and maps those needs to available services in the community
- CommunityCares is free of cost to all who want to adopt it
- CommunityCares houses over 10,000 services (and counting)
For More Information

- Learn more about CommunityCares at: healthcurrent.org/sdoh
  - Videos and Demos
  - FAQs
  - Media about CommunityCares initiative
Az Healthcare Directives Registry
Arizona Healthcare Directives Registry (AzHDR)

- A secure platform for uploading and accessing an individual’s advance directives and related documents
- Ensures the individual’s wishes are known when they cannot speak for themselves
- Documents transferred from Az Secretary of State’s database
- General launch began October 2, 2021
- More information? Contact us or visit www.AzHDR.org
Understanding
advance directives.

• Who should have advance directives?

I want to complete my
advance directives. How do I start?

Advocate.

Advocate for your wishes
by working with your family and
care team to discuss and agree on
your preferences for healthcare.

1. Decide what is most important to
you. Consider your values, beliefs,
and how you want to live your life.

2. Discuss your wishes with your
family, close friends, and healthcare
providers. Let them know what
matters most to you.

3. Document your wishes in writing.
This can include a living will or a
Medical Power of Attorney.

4. Share your wishes with your
healthcare providers and family.

5. Review your wishes periodically.

Advocate for your wishes by
communicating them clearly to
your healthcare providers.

Advocate for your wishes by
involving your family and friends in
the decision-making process.

Advocate for your wishes by
ensuring that your wishes are
respectfully and appropriately
implemented.

Advocate for your wishes by
considering the legal implications
of your wishes.

Advocate for your wishes by
ensuring that your wishes are
communicated to all relevant
parties.

Advocate for your wishes by
ensuring that your wishes are
implemented in a timely manner.

Advocate for your wishes by
ensuring that your wishes are
implemented in accordance with
state law.

Advocate for your wishes by
ensuring that your wishes are
implemented in a manner that
honors your preferences.

Advocate for your wishes by
ensuring that your wishes are
implemented in a manner that
respects your autonomy.

Advocate for your wishes by
ensuring that your wishes are
implemented in a manner that
respects your dignity.

Advocate for your wishes by
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Coming Soon! New Az Healthcare Directives Registry (AzHDR) website

Plan Now. For Later.

Making decisions about critical and end-of-life healthcare can seem daunting. Our guide to Getting Started With Advance Directives is here to help.

Download
AzHDR Participation

- Organizations fill out an interest form.
- The AzHDR team will reach out to discuss how participation in the AzHDR will work in their organization.
- Organizations complete and sign the agreement, provide a W-9 and a registration form.
- Organizations choose their organization’s AzHDR administrator. This person will manage setting up staff access, running analytics, etc.
- The AzHDR team will provide training and onboarding as well as ongoing support and materials on the AzHDR program and advance care planning.
Questions

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  www.contexture.org
  www.healthcurrent.org
  www.corhio.org