NC HealthConnex's Upcoming Outreach to North Carolina Healthcare Providers

The NC HIEA enters a new phase of its mission: providers and entities regulated by the Statewide Health Information Exchange Act have a new statutory deadline of Jan. 1, 2023, to connect to NC HealthConnex and begin sending data.

Beginning in early February, the NC HIEA will continue outreach efforts to unconnected members of the health care community, supporting the agency's mission to improve health care quality and outcomes for North Carolinians by connecting health care providers and enabling them to safely and securely share health information through a trusted network.

The NC HIEA will mail letters to unconnected health care providers and organizations encouraging them to immediately take action to meet the Jan. 1, 2023, deadline. Consistent with directions from the N.C. General Assembly, these letters will "share information with each provider or entity about the Statewide Health Information Exchange Act and how to connect to the HIE Network." The letters will encourage providers to initiate a legal agreement and/or the connection process with NC HIEA.

About the NC HIEA

Health information exchange systems have been in development nationwide since a federal law was passed in 2009 to promote the electronic movement and use of health information among health care providers.

In 2015, the General Assembly of North Carolina established the state-managed Health Information Exchange Authority to oversee and administer the N.C. Health Information Exchange Network (NCGS 90-414.7). NC HIEA is housed within the N.C. Department of Information Technology's Government Data Analytics Center.

NC HIEA operates North Carolina's state-designated health information exchange, NC HealthConnex, a secure, standardized electronic system in which providers can share important patient health information. Use of this system promotes the access, exchange and analysis of health information. The law also requires that health care providers who receive state funds (e.g., Medicaid, State Health Plan) to connect to NC HealthConnex