

**Northeast HealthNet
Quarterly Report
October 30 2008**

**Submitted by Saint Vincent Health Center, Lead Entity
WC Docket No.02-60**



1. Project Contact and Coordination Information

Project Leader	Affiliation
Robin Stursa, MBA Project Coordinator	Saint Vincent Health Center Vice President and Chief Information Officer 232 West 25 th Street Erie, Pennsylvania 16544 814/452-5799 (p) 814/452-5779 (f) rstursa@svhs.org
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Lead Entity: Saint Vincent Health Center, Erie Pennsylvania
Saint Vincent is providing project coordination and using facilitating this project in the region through the establishment of a Telehealth Advisory Council with representation of each of the participating entities in the Northeast HealthNet (NEHN). The advisory council meets quarterly to discuss project status, set goals for the upcoming quarter, establish priorities and as a general forum to keep participating entity CEO's, engaged and involved in the development of the NEHN Network.

2. Health care facilities included in the network.

Entity	Street Address	County	City	State	Zip	Phone	Profit	Public	RUCA	Census Tract	Eligibility
Saint Vincent Health Center	232 West 25th Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16544	814-452-5799	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1.0	0019.00	Saint Vincent Health Center is a 501-c3 non-profit entity. SVHC is JCAHO accredited and DOH Licensed.
Albion Family Practice	155 East State Street	Erie	Albion	Pa	16401	814-756-4917	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #2.0	101.07	Albion Family Practice is a rural clinic participating in Medicare and Medicaid. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
Edinboro Medical Center	450 Erie Street	Erie	Edinboro	Pa	16412	(814) 734-1618	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code# 7.1	122.02	Edinboro Medical Center is a rural clinic participating in Medicare and Medicaid. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.

Entity	Street Address	County	City	State	Zip	Phone	Profit	Public	RUCA	Census Tract	Eligibility
Union City OP Center and UC Family Practice	130 N Main Street	Erie	Union City	Pa	16438-1068	(814) 438-7208	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code # 2.0	120.02	UC OP Center is licensed by the PA DOH as an outpatient diagnostic and treatment facility. Union City FP is a physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
Elk Valley Medical Center	5165 Imperial Parkway	Erie	Girard	Pa	16417	(814) 774-3128	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code # 1	102.01	"Urban Health Clinic" Elk Valley Medical Center is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
Saint Vincent Family Practice-Fairview	7678 West Ridge Road Po Box EE	Erie	Fairview	Pa	16415	(814) 474-2663	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1	103.04	"Urban Health Clinic" Saint Vincent Family Practice-Fairview is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
Children's Healthcare West	4671 West Lake Road	Erie	Erie	Pa	16505	(814) 835-4838	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1	104.00	"Urban Health Clinic" Children's Health Care West is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.

Entity	Street Address	County	City	State	Zip	Phone	Profit	Public	RUCA	Census Tract	Eligibility
East Harbor Primary Care	4950 Buffalo Road	Erie	Erie	Pa	16509	(814) 899-7000	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1	110.01	"Urban Health Clinic" East Harbor is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
Great Lakes Family Medicine	3530 Peach Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16508	(814) 864-6039	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #2	0024.00	"Urban Health Clinic" Great Lakes is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
Greater Erie Niagara Surgery	2626 Sigsbee Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16508	(814) 454-1142	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #2	0024.00	"Urban Health Clinic" Greater Erie Niagara Surgery is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
Hillside Family Medicine and Digestive Diseases of NW Pa (Co-located Sites)	238 West 22nd Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16502	(814) 452-0158	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1	0019.00	"Urban Health Clinic" Hillside Family Medicine is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.

Entity	Street Address	County	City	State	Zip	Phone	Profit	Public	RUCA	Census Tract	Eligibility
Liberty Family Medicine; Diabetes Resource Center and Allergy Clinic (Co-Located Sites)	3413 Cherry Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16508	(814) 868-9828	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #2	0024.00	"Urban Health Clinics " These are non-profit clinics owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
McClelland Family Practice	2240 East 38th Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16510	(814) 825-4262	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1	0027.00	"Urban Health Clinic" McClelland Family Practice is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
Millcreek Family Practice	145 West 23rd Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16502	(814) 461-6626	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1	0019.00	"Urban Health Clinic" Millcreek Family Practice is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
West Ridge Family Practice	4535 West Ridge Road	Erie	Erie	Pa	16506	(814) 833-2902	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1	0109.02	"Urban Health Clinic" West Ridge Family Practice is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.

Entity	Street Address	County	City	State	Zip	Phone	Profit	Public	RUCA	Census Tract	Eligibility
Westminster Family Practice	3822 Colonial Avenue	Erie	Erie	Pa	16506	(814) 833-5653	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1	0109.04	"Urban Health Clinic" Westminster Family Practice is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium.
Saint Vincent Neurosurgery and Behavioral Medicine-CoLocated Sites	1910 Sassafras Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16502	(814) 452-7809	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1	0019.00	"Urban Health Clinic" SV Neurosurgery is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. SV Behavioral Medicine is colocated at this site. A physician office owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
The Occupational Health Center	1607 Sassafras Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16502	(814) 877-6017	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1	0012.00	"Urban Health Clinic" The Occupational Health Center is a non-profit clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium. An occupational health clinic owned and operated as part of the SV Medical Group; and part of Saint Vincent Health System.
Saint Vincent Regional Imaging Center	52 Davis Street	McKea n	Bradford	Pa	16701	814-368-3150	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #4.0	4202.00	"Urban Health Clinic" The Regional Imaging Center is a non-profit diagnostic clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium and a part of the Regional Heart Network. A diagnostic testing and treatment clinic owned and operated as part of the Regional Heart Network.

Entity	Street Address	County	City	State	Zip	Phone	Profit	Public	RUCA	Census Tract	Eligibility
Corry Memorial Hospital-Regional Heart Network Site	612 West Smith Street	Erie	Corry	Pa	16407	814- 664-4641	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code # 9	119.00	The Corry Memorial Hospital Regional Heart Network Site is a non-profit diagnostic clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium and a part of the Regional Heart Network. A diagnostic testing and treatment clinic operated as part of the Regional Heart Network. Corry Memorial Hospital is licensed by the PA DOH.
Millcreek Community Hospital-Regional Heart Network Site	5515 Peach Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16509	814- 864-4031	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code # 1.0	110.01	"Urban Health Clinic" The Millcreek Community Hospital Regional Heart Network Site is a non-profit diagnostic clinic owned and operated by a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the consortium and a part of the Regional Heart Network. A diagnostic testing and treatment clinic operated as part of the Regional Heart Network. Millcreek Community Hospital is Accredited by the HFAP of the American Osteopathic Association.
Warren General Hospital	2 Crescent Park West	Warren	Warren	Pa	16365	814-723-3300	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code # 4.0	9710.00	Warren General Hospital is a non-profit rural hospital; a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the NEHN consortium. Warren General Hospital is a rural hospital participating in the NEHN, and licensed by the Pennsylvania DOH.
Youngsville Clinic of Warren General Hospital	400 East Main Street	Warren	Youngsville	Pa	16371	814 563 7591	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code 4.0	9705.00	Youngsville Clinic is a rural clinic owned and operated by Warren General Hospital and accredited by CMS.

Entity	Street Address	County	City	State	Zip	Phone	Profit	Public	RUCA	Census Tract	Eligibility
Titusville Area Hospital	406 West Oak Street	Crawford	Titusville	Pa	16354	814-827-1851	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code # 7.0	1102.00	Titusville Hospital is a non-profit rural hospital; a 501-c-3 charitable organization participating in the NEHN consortium, and licensed by the PA. DOH.
Regional Cancer Center	2500 West 12th Street	Erie	Erie	Pa	16505	814-838-9000	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code #1.0	0106.00	"Urban Health Clinic" The Regional Cancer Center is a free standing outpatient treatment center offering chemotherapeutic and other oncologic treatment modalities. TRCC is a participating entity in the NEHN consortium, licensed by the PA DOH and accredited by the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons.
Westfield Memorial Hospital	189 East Main Street	Chautauqua	Westfield	NY	14787	716-326-4921	Not for profit	Public	RUCA Code # 2.0	0365.00	Westfield Memorial Hospital is a non-profit, rural hospital licensed by NYS and accredited by CMS. WMH is a participating rural hospital in the NEHN consortium, licensed by the New York State Department of Health.

3. Network Narrative:

This project is posted for competitive bid anticipated completion date 11/3/2008.

4. List of Connected Health Care Providers:

At the present time, there are no connected providers.

5. Non-recurring and recurring costs, where applicable shown both as budgeted and actually incurred for the applicable quarter and funding year to-date.

At the present time, there are no connected sites and the RFP and scope documents have been posted for bid. A budget has been constructed for illustrative purposes using the information known about the current sites in the NEHN and relying on the information provided in a non-bid context by telecom vendors known to the lead entity.

Cost Summary	Hypothetical Annual Recurring		Capital - Networking Hardware and Install			
	New Fiber Connection	Network Equipment Maint	Network Equipment Hardware	Pro Fees Equip. Install	Pro Fees Fiber Install	Total Expense
Saint Vincent Health Center	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Albion Family Practice	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$540	\$1,000	\$24,583
Edinboro Medical Center	\$22,500	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$2,500	\$36,090
Union City OP Center and UC Family Practice	\$12,867	\$564	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$25,239
Elk Valley Medical Center	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
SV Family Practice-Fairview	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Children's Health Care - West	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$540	\$1,000	\$24,583
East Harbor Primary Care	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Great Lakes Family Medicine	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Greater Erie Niagara Surgery	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Hillside Family Medicine and Digestive Diseases of NW Pa (Co-located Sites)	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Liberty Family Medicine; Diabetes Resource Center and Allergy Clinic (Co-located Sites)	\$22,500	\$282	\$25,895	\$914	\$2,500	\$52,090
McClelland Family Practice	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Millcreek Family Practice	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
West Ridge Family Practice	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Westminster Family Practice	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Saint Vincent Neurosurgery and Behavioral Medicine-Co-located Sites	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
The Occupational Health Center						
Saint Vincent Regional Imaging Center	\$22,500	\$282	\$9,895	\$540	\$2,500	\$35,717
Corry Memorial Hospital-Regional Heart Network Site	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Millcreek Community Hospital-Regional Heart Network Site	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Warren General Hospital	\$22,500	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$2,500	\$36,090
Youngsville Clinic of Warren General Hospital	\$22,500	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$2,500	\$36,090
Titusville Area Hospital	\$22,500	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$2,500	\$36,090
Regional Cancer Center	\$12,867	\$282	\$9,895	\$914	\$1,000	\$24,957
Westfield Memorial Hospital	\$417	\$54,680	\$564	\$0	\$2,500	\$57,744
Total Expenses Related to Sites	\$367,017	\$61,730	\$254,040	\$20,804	\$35,500	\$738,673

Additional Hardware, Software and FTE	Capital Expense	Recurring Maint
FTE-Network Administration	0	\$38,000
Network Server (SVHS)	\$20,000	\$3,600
Tipping Point-Intrusion Protection Software	\$65,000	\$9,000
Redundant Internet Connection-SVHS	\$24,000	\$24,000
Clustered Firewall Solution	\$32,980	\$24,000
TOTAL	\$141,980	\$98,600

<u>Desired Year One Sites (Completed by July of 2009)</u>	<u>Desired Year Two Sites (Completed by July of 2010)</u>	<u>Desired Year Three Sites (Completed by July of 2011)</u>
Corry Memorial Hospital Liberty Circuit Sites: Liberty Family Practice, Diabetes Resource Center, Allergy Clinic Great Lakes Family Med McClelland Family Practice Saint Vincent Health Center Titusville Area Hospital Union City Family Practice and Union City OP Center Warren General Hospital Westfield Memorial Hospital Youngsville Clinic of WGH	Albion Family Practice Bradford Imaging Hub Children's Health Care - West East Harbor Primary Care Edinboro Medical Center Elk Valley Medical Center Millcreek Community Hospital Sassafras Circuit Sites: SV Behavioral Services, SV Neurosurgery Occupational Health West Ridge Family Practice	Greater Erie Niagara Surgery Hillside Family Medicine and Digestive Diseases of NW PA. Regional Cancer Center Millcreek Family Practice Saint Vincent Family Practice in Fairview Westminster Family Medicine

6. Describe how costs have been apportioned and the sources of the funds to pay them:

At the present time, there are no connected sites and the RFP and scope documents have just been posted for bid. Saint Vincent Health Center, as Lead Entity, will be funding the 15% matching funds from their operating expense budget. Please refer to tentative budget and schedule in item #5 for site completion for further information.

7. Identify any technical or non-technical requirements or procedures necessary for ineligible entities to connect to the participant’s network.

At the present time, there are no ineligible entities projected to be part of the NEHN.

8. Provide an update on the project management plan, detailing:

The project is presently being lead by Robin Stursa and Michelle Wieczorek as project coordinators designated by the lead entity, Saint Vincent Health Center. In addition, a Telehealth Advisory Board has been created with representation of all participating entities to provide a forum for input and collaboration into the NEHN project. The Telehealth Advisory Board has met two times since the Northeast HealthNet was established.

At the present time, the NEHN plans to phase in connectivity over a 3 year period with a tentative list of sites planned in each year as depicted below.

Desired Year One Sites (Completed by July of 2009)	Desired Year Two Sites (Completed by July of 2010)	Desired Year Three Sites (Completed by July of 2011)
Corry Memorial Hospital Liberty Circuit Sites: Liberty Family Practice, Diabetes Resource Center, Allergy Clinic Great Lakes Family Med McClelland Family Practice Saint Vincent Health Center Titusville Area Hospital Union City Family Practice and Union City OP Center Warren General Hospital Westfield Memorial Hospital Youngsville Clinic of WGH	Albion Family Practice Bradford Imaging Hub Children’s Health Care - West East Harbor Primary Care Edinboro Medical Center Elk Valley Medical Center Millcreek Community Hospital Sassafras Circuit Sites: SV Behavioral Services, SV Neurosurgery Occupational Health West Ridge Family Practice	Greater Erie Niagara Surgery Hillside Family Medicine and Digestive Diseases of NW PA. Regional Cancer Center Millcreek Family Practice Saint Vincent Family Practice in Fairview Westminster Family Medicine

9. Provide detail on whether network is or will become self sustaining. Selected participants should provide an explanation of how network is self sustaining.

It is anticipated that this network will be become self-sustaining and be funded by the Saint Vincent Health System at the termination of the pilot program. As illustrated in the cost analysis (see Figure 1), the new recurring costs for the Northeast HealthNet are estimated at \$236,874 annually. This expense will be built into the ongoing operating expense budget for the Health System entity that is utilizing the connectivity to provide service.

As Saint Vincent has a long-standing tradition of reinvesting its income over expenses into infrastructure maintenance and improvement (see Figure 2), the additional expense incurred by the new connectivity would be considered a cost of doing business. Further, it is anticipated that the expanded connectivity in the region will enable the development of new products and services in the Telehealth arena to be realized. As reimbursement for telemedicine modalities improves, so does the viability of advanced telemedicine service

offerings and thus the ability to cover the cost of the fiber optic connections to the rural partners in our program.

Figure 1:

Sustainability of NEHN Post RHCPP Funding	
Current Connectivity and Maintenance Costs (Existing Sites w/ T1 or other Mode)	\$214,802
Anticipated Connectivity and Maintenance Costs (Connected via FiberOptic)	\$451,676
New Costs to Sustain Network (Existing Plus DeMinimus Sites)	\$236,874

Figure 2:

		<i>Saint Vincent Health System Fiscal 2008 Results (000s omitted)</i>	
		Revenues	\$300,084
		Expenses	<u>296,946</u>
		Excess Revenues Over Expenses	<u>\$3,138</u>
<hr/>			
<i>Saint Vincent Health System Fiscal 2007 Results (000s omitted)</i>		<i>Condensed Balance Sheet at June 30, 2008 (000s omitted)</i>	
Revenues	\$291,474	Cash	\$39,905
Expenses	<u>290,106</u>	Accounts Receivable	29,002
Excess Revenues Over Expenses	\$1,368	Other Current Assets	11,487
Depreciation	12,800	Property and Equipment, Net	131,727
Existing Resources	<u>1,078</u>	Board, Donor and Bond Indenture Restricted Investments	49,443
Total Cash Available for Investment	<u>\$15,246</u>	Other Assets	<u>39,582</u>
		Total Assets	<u>\$301,146</u>
<i>Cash Reinvested into Our Organization to Fulfill Our Mission:</i>		Current Liabilities	\$55,364
Property, Facility and Equipment	\$12,026	Long-term Debt	99,246
Long-term Debt Reduction	<u>3,220</u>	Other Liabilities	37,357
Total	<u>\$15,246</u>	Net Community Assets	<u>109,179</u>
		Total Liabilities and Net Community Assets	<u>\$301,146</u>

10. Provide detail on how the supported network has advanced telemedicine benefits:

The NEHN is not yet functional and thus has not yet realized advanced telemedicine benefits. However, various telehealth applications have been proposed for each site.

Applications Proposed for Each Facility					
	Telehealth (1)	Teleradiology (2)	e Prescribing (3)	EMR (4)	Education (5)
1	Albion Family Practice		x	x	x
2	Bradford Imaging Hub	x	x		
3	Children's Health Care - West		x	x	x
4	Corry Memorial Hospital	x	x		x
5	East Harbor Primary Care		x	x	x
6	Edinboro Medical Center		x	x	x
7	Elk Valley Medical Center		x	x	x
8	Great Lakes Family Medicine		x	x	x
9	Greater Erie Niagara Surgery		x	x	x
10	Hillside Family Medicine		x	x	x
11	Liberty Family Practice		x	x	x
12	McClelland Family Practice		x	x	x
13	Millcreek Community Hospital		x		
14	Millcreek Family Practice		x	x	x
15	Regional Cancer Center		x		
16	Saint Vincent Behavioral Services	x			
17	Saint Vincent Family Practice in Fairview		x	x	x
18	Saint Vincent Health Center	x	x	x	x
19	Union City Family Medicine	x	x	x	x
20	Titusville Area Hospital	x	x		
21	Union City Outpatient Center	x	x	x	x
22	Warren General Hospital	x	x		
23	West Ridge Family Practice		x	x	x
24	Westminster Family Medicine		x	x	x
25	Westfield Memorial Hospital	x	x	x	x
26	Digestive Diseases on NW PA		x		x
27	SV Neurosurgery	x	x		x
28	The Occupational Health Center				
29	SV Allergy Clinic		x	x	x
30	SV Diabetes Resource Center		x	x	x
31	WGH Youngsville Clinic	x	x	x	
1)	Telehealth:	Telehealth is the use of electronic information and telecommunication technologies to support long-distance health care, patient education, public health and other healthcare collaboration initiatives.			
2)	Teleradiology:	Teleradiology is the electronic transmission of radiological images, such as x-rays, CTs, MRIs, and cardiac studies from one location to another for the purposes of interpretation and/or consultation.			
3)	e-Prescribing	The use of an automated data entry system to generate a prescription, rather than writing it on paper.			
4)	EMR:	Electronic Medical Records			
5)	Education:	Videoconferencing, webinars, and other learning modalities offered over a broadband connection to facilitate continuing medical, nursing or other health education.			

11. Provide detail on how the supported network has complied with HHS health IT initiatives:

At the present time, the NEHN is not yet functional. However, a number of computer applications selected to be offered over broadband connectivity provided by the NEHN do conform to the interoperability requirements of the CCHIT including the Allscripts EMR application.

12. Explain how the selected participants coordinated in the use of their health care networks with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and, in particular, with its Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in instances of national, regional, or local public health emergencies (e.g., pandemics, bioterrorism). In such instances, where feasible, explain how selected participants provided access to their supported networks to HHS, including CDC, and other public health officials.

In July 2002, Saint Vincent Health System signed a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to serve as the sponsor of a Pennsylvania DMAT. Saint Vincent has agreed to:

- o Recruit, organize, train and maintain a Disaster Medical Assistance Team, designated as "PA-3" in accordance with NDMS guidelines

- Periodically verify that credentials of all team members who are subject to state licensure/certification/registration requirements are current and valid (e.g., physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dietitians, nutritionists, EMTs, paramedics, etc.)
- Accept, maintain and safeguard equipment from federal and other sources for use in training and disaster response
- Appoint an individual from the team to serve as the point of contact for NDMS/DMAT administration and personnel paperwork
- Mobilize the team for state, regional, or local disaster service, as appropriate
- Release the team to PHS for federal disaster service when requested by PHS

Consistent with the sponsorship of the DMAT and in the spirit of ongoing cooperation with the Department of Health and Human Services, NEHN would grant access to the network in the case of any local, regional or national crisis.

In addition to the DMAT participation, Saint Vincent also contributes data to the bioterror-surveillance system managed by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center which is a cooperative research project managed by the Centers for Disease Control and the Pennsylvania Department of Health. If deemed necessary and appropriate, NEHN would grant access to the network to facilitate exchange of data in the event of a bioterror event or any pandemic or public health crisis.