Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)
Rural Health Care Pilot Program (RHCPP)
Quarterly Report
Reporting Dates: July 1, 2010 to September 30, 2010
Report Due: October 30, 2010

1. **Project Contact and Coordination Information for Geisinger Health System ("Geisinger") and its physician practice plan, Geisinger Clinic[1]:**

Project Coordinator
Judith Argon
Chief Administrative Officer, Research, Geisinger Health System
100 N. Academy Avenue
Danville, PA 17822-0044
(570) 214-5106
jkargon@geisinger.edu

Associate Project Coordinator/mailing contact
Mary Honicker
Geisinger Health System
100 N. Academy Avenue
Danville, PA 17822-1701
(570) 214-4664
mhonicker@geisinger.edu

2. **Identify all healthcare facilities included in the network.**

Lewistown Hospital
Evangelical Community Hospital
Schuylkill Health (formally Pottsville Hospital)
Moses Taylor Hospital (Mid Valley Hospital)
Marian Community Hospital
Memorial Hospital
Mount Nittany Medical Center
Pottsville Geisinger Medical Group
Lock Haven Geisinger Medical Group
Lycoming Geisinger Medical Group
Lewistown Geisinger Medical Group
East Stroudsburg (Pediatric Specialty)
Bloomsburg Reichart Road Geisinger Medical Group
Bloomsburg Hospital Drive Geisinger Medical Group
Catawissa Geisinger Medical Group
Kulpmont Geisinger Medical Group
Northumberland Geisinger Medical Group
Selinsgrove Geisinger Medical Group

[1] The acronym "GHS" or the terms "System," "Geisinger" or "Geisinger Health System" shall refer to the entire Health Care System comprised of the Geisinger Health System Foundation (the "Foundation") as parent and all subsidiary corporate entities comprising the Health Care System.

Selinsgrove Adult Specialty Outreach Geisinger Medical Group (Clinic closed and line was terminated)
Sunbury Geisinger Medical Group
Hazleton Oncology Geisinger Medical Group
Hazleton Geisinger Medical Group
Mahanoy City Geisinger Medical Group
Kingston Geisinger Medical Group
Mountaintop Geisinger Medical Group
Milton Geisinger Medical Group
Mountain Home Geisinger Medical Group

3. **Network Narrative. Network goals include the following:**
When Geisinger originally applied for FCC funds, the immediate focus was on trauma image transfer, tele-echo, and improving bandwidth of poor-performing or non-existent digital connections. As Geisinger's telemedicine program broadens, the project direction will change to fit the needs of the outlying hospitals in our region.

Geisinger has developed the FCC Rural Health Care Pilot Project in three phases. Phase I laid infrastructure for the telestroke program by installing 1.5 Mbps lines to three neurologists' home offices (not funded by FCC) to provide telestroke services 24-hours a day and gear-up for anticipated partnerships with additional outlying hospitals. Phase II extended to seven (7) medically underserved area hospitals; some of which already receive tele-echo services. Where T1 lines were present, we increased the lines to 10 Mbps. If no lines were present, a new 10 Mbps connection was installed. As part of this phase, high-volume Geisinger clinic sites were upgraded to include redundant lines to ensure availability of our electronic health record (EHR).

4. **List of Connected Health Care Providers**
Evangelical Community Hospital
Schuylkill Health (formally Pottsville Hospital)
Moses Taylor Hospital (Mid Valley Hospital)
Marian Community Hospital
Memorial Hospital
Mount Nittany Medical Center
Lewistown Hospital
Lewistown Geisinger Medical Group
Pottsville Geisinger Medical Group
Lock Haven Geisinger Medical Group
Lycoming Geisinger Medical Group
East Stroudsburg (Pediatric Specialty)
Bloomsburg Reichart Road Geisinger Medical Group
Bloomsburg Hospital Drive Geisinger Medical Group
Catawissa Geisinger Medical Group
Kulpmont Geisinger Medical Group
Northumberland Geisinger Medical Group
Selinsgrove Geisinger Medical Group
Sunbury Geisinger Medical Group
Hazleton Oncology Geisinger Medical Group

Hazleton Geisinger Medical Group
Mahanoy City Geisinger Medical Group
Kingston Geisinger Medical Group
Mountaintop Geisinger Medical Group
Milton Geisinger Medical Group
Mountain Home Geisinger Medical Group

5. **Identify non-recurring and recurring costs**

FRN 42541	Non-Recurring $0/Recurring $485,163 (old FRN 36218)
FRN 35578	Non-Recurring $563.55 /Recurring $75,190.32.
FRN 36217	Non-Recurring $5,000/Recurring $115,560.
FRN 44469	Non-Recurring $1275/Recurring $164,213.78

6. **Describe how costs have been apportioned and the sources of the funds to pay them:**
A number of our telemedicine programs, including pediatrics and tele-stroke, have self-sustaining business models; these have become models for the development of the business practices for this partnership.

(Please see Appendix A for confidential sustainability plan.)

7. **Identify any technical or non-technical requirements or procedures necessary for ineligible entities to connect to the participant's network:**
We have no plans at this time to connect ineligible entities.

8. **Provide an update on the project management plan:**
There have been no changes to Geisinger's project management plan. The mission of Geisinger's Rural Healthcare Pilot Project is to provide leadership for the development and regional implementation of an open-standard health information technology infrastructure to improve the healthcare quality, efficiency, and emergency response and efficiency of healthcare in our region.

9. **Provide detail on whether network is or will become self-sustaining. Selected participants should provide an explanation of how network is self sustaining:**
As part of the work plan assessment (and with experience), our partnership has developed a cost structure for sustaining the network based on usage and scaled for size of the institutions and participating practices.

A number of our telemedicine programs, including pediatrics and tele-stroke, have self-sustaining business models; these will become models for the development of the business practices for this partnership.

(Please see Appendix A for confidential sustainability plan.)

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

Geisinger's FCC Rural Health Care Project advances telemedicine by providing funding to promote high quality, cost effective healthcare to rural and medically under-served areas. Through this cost-effective opportunity, Geisinger is able to

branch out and provide specialty services to multiple community hospitals. The program funding allows Geisinger to increase existing bandwidth and implement new infrastructure to grow the supported network. In turn, new services will be added to the telecommunication lines as additional specialty departments implement telemedicine programs providing greater resources and medical expertise throughout the region. Geisinger's Telemedicine Task Force is planning several telemedicine initiatives that will benefit the communities that participate in this Rural Health Care Pilot Program (RHCPP).

Geisinger is a leader in the formation of the Keystone Health Information Exchange (KeyHIE®), a regional health information exchange (HIE). As such, we are the recipient of an award from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) for the development of this regional HIE, which provides healthcare clinicians with access to patient records from participating healthcare providers.

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

Geisinger's telemedicine program provides comprehensive management of medical information and its secure exchange between health care consumers and providers to improve health care quality, prevent medical errors, reduce health care costs, decrease paperwork, and expand access to affordable care. Some examples of these Geisinger IT initiatives are:

EpicCare, Geisinger's electronic health record. Geisinger has spent $120 million invested to create an integrated electronic health record providing real-time access to critical information about a patient's health to doctors and other healthcare providers throughout central and northeastern Pennsylvania. Geisinger offers patients confidential access to portions of their electronic health record and secure and regulatory-compliant electronic messaging with their doctors' practices. Geisinger is conducting research studies on the quality and efficiency enhanced by an electronic health record; additional studies are under development.

Keystone Health Information Exchange (KeyHIE®) is a regional health information organization established in 2005 to enable high quality, convenient, efficient, healthcare in central and northeastern Pennsylvania. This region encompasses 31 counties, 53 hospitals, approximately 9,000 physicians, and over 2.6 million patients. Thirteen organizations have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to move forward to create a regional health information exchange in central and northeastern Pennsylvania. This project has been funded in part by a $1.5 million grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) with matching funds ($1.5M) committed by the participants. Geisinger is one of 16 grantees selected by AHRQ to complete projects considered key to the nation's 10-year strategy to bring healthcare into the 21st century by advancing the use of information technology. KeyHIE also received $500,000 in funding from the State. This health information exchange will help providers in Pennsylvania achieve meaningful use for their EHRs' by facilitating the exchange of required healthcare information.

The Clinical Lab Interface project provides a standardized electronic laboratory exchange between healthcare providers through the use of a universal standard, Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC), to describe the test being performed. The standard LOINC code acts as an intermediary between the unique local codes of the health care facilities.

On May 19, 2010, Geisinger was awarded a $2.3 million AHRQ grant to connect 8 hospitals and emergency departments and 38 ambulatory clinics to KeyHIE to exchange clinical information for safe and effective transitions of care.

Out of 130 applications nationwide, Geisinger was one of 15 communities to receive a Beacon Community Award in the amount of $16.07M. Keystone Beacon Community (KBC) is creating an integrated health IT infrastructure through KeyHIE to support community-wide care coordination for patients and their healthcare providers from hospital to home to clinic to nursing home. This infrastructure is designed to be extensible to other communities and to the needs of additional patient populations.

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 Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 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:**
N/A

QUARTERLY STATS:

April/May/June 2010
There were 14 Telestroke cases, 89 Pediatric Tele-echo consults, and 92 Tele-trauma image transfers generated over the FCC Pilot project lines this quarter.

January/February/March 2010
There were 11 Telestroke cases, 100 Pediatric Tele-echo consults, and 48 Tele-trauma image transfers generated over the FCC Pilot project lines this quarter.

PROGRESS TO DATE:
September 2010
September 2, 2010 Submitted August invoicing for Frontier lines
September 16, 2010 Request to rescind Windstream's FRN 36217 since the original 466A had an insufficient amount of support due to Windstream not honoring the original contract with D&E for the amount of taxes and surcharges agreed upon.

August 2010
August 10, 2010 Uploaded Comcast 467 to Sharepoint
August 10, 2010 Submitted July invoicing for Comcast lines
August 10, 2010 Submitted July invoicing for Frontier lines
August 17, 2010 Submitted August invoicing for PenTeleData lines

August 24, 2010 Submitted August invoicing for Comcast lines

July 2010
July 1, 2010 Submitted June invoicing for Comcast lines
July 1, 2010 Submitted June invoicing for Frontier lines
July 1, 2010 Submitted June invoicing for Windstream lines
July 1, 2010 Submitted June invoicing for PenTeleData lines
July 13, 2010 Submitted corrected June invoice for PenTeleData lines
July 20, 2010 Submitted July invoicing for Windstream lines
July 21, 201 Submitted July invoicing for PenTeleData lines

June 2010
June 3, 2010 Submitted May invoicing for Windstream lines
June 3, 2010 Submitted May invoicing for Frontier lines
June 3, 2010 Submitted May invoicing for PenTeleData lines

May 2010
May 6, 2010 Submitted April invoicing for Frontier lines
May 10-17 IP NATting and telemedicine services tested at Lewistown Hospital

April 2010
April 1, 2010 D&E Communications and Windstream merged February 2010. SPIN 143019932 will be replaced by SPIN 143030766.
April 2, 2010 Submitted March invoicing for Frontier lines
April 7, 2010 Submitted "withdraw e-mail" for Frontier February 24, 2010 invoice.
April 7, 2010 Uploaded Comcast's 466A Attachment, Network Cost Worksheet and Scoring Matrixes per 15 day letter
April 16, 2010 Resubmitted August to January Frontier invoices with new FRN 42541.
April 20, 2010 Installed network equipment at Lewistown Hospital
April 21, 2010 Submitted April invoicing for Windstream lines.
April 23, 2010 Submitted April invoicing for PenTeleData lines
April 26, 2010 Uploaded an addendum to the Lewistown GMG LOA indicating this site is a Geisinger clinic and operates at 21 Geisinger Lane, Lewistown.

March 2010
March 1-5, 2010 Termination of Lewistown Hospital (10Mbps), Lewistown Geisinger Medical Group (20 Mbps), and Gray's Woods (20 Mbps) multipoint connection by Comcast
March 1, 2010 Completion of cable spicing at Gray's Woods for Comcast lines.
March 1, 2010 Installation of service provider equipment and activate circuits at Lewistown Geisinger Medical Group and Lewistown Hospital.
March 3, 2010 Installation of service provider equipment and activate circuits at Gray's Woods
March 3, 2010 Testing of Comcast circuits.
March 4, 2010 Installation of GHS network equipment at Lewistown Geisinger Medical Group. Moved traffic to new 20 Mbps line.
March 17, 2010 Submitted Comcast's 466A Package 14-day-letter clarification.
March 17, 2010 Submitted outstanding service provider scoring matrixes from review board.
March 23, 2010 Submitted February invoicing for Frontier Communication lines.

March 23, 2010 Resubmitted August to January invoices for Frontier Communication lines (minus late fees).
March 23, 2010 Submitted February invoicing for PenTeleData lines
March 23, 2010 Submitted March invoicing for PenTeleData lines
March 23, 2010 Submitted 467 form for Windstream lines.
March 23, 2010 Submitted March invoicing for Windstream lines
March 30, 2010 Submitted January invoicing (Mt. Nittany only) and February invoicing for Windstream lines

February 2010
D&E Communications has been acquired by Windstream. SPIN 143019932 was merged into SPIN 143030766 February 2009.
February 4, 2010 Reissued new FCL for Frontier 42541.
February 9, 2010 Submitted invoicing errors to Windstream for correction.
February 9, 2010 Resubmitted PenTeleData invoices (all pages) to USAC coach.
February 18, 2010 Approval of one-year extension of Request for Funding Deadline
February 19, 2010 Construction of fiber underway for Comcast lines.
February 22, 2010 Submitted 466A package for Comcast lines.
February 22, 2010 Submitted January invoicing for PenTeleData lines (minus $16.99 for December bill overpayment)
February 22, 2010 Submitted January invoicing for Windstream lines.
February 22, 2010 Submitted revised 467 for Frontier Communications.
February 22-26 Splicing of fiber for Comcast lines
February 23, 2010 Received Support Acknowledgement Letter for Frontier Communications.
February 25, 2010 Resubmitted August to January invoicing for new Frontier FRN 42541

January 2010
January 15, 2010 Submitted December invoicing for PenTeleData lines (overpayment of $16.99)
January 19, 2010 Submitted August to December invoicing for D&E Communication lines
January 20, 2010 Quarterly Report Submitted.

December 2009
December 4, 2009 Upgraded network equipment at Schuylkill Health
December 9, 2009 Submitted November invoicing for Frontier Communication lines.
December 9, 2009 Submitted November invoicing for PenTeleData lines.
December 9. 2009 Resubmission of Frontier 466A package.

November 2009
November 5, 2009 Submitted October invoicing for Frontier Communication lines.
November 11, 2009 Technical site visits at Lewistown Hospital, Lewistown GMG, and Gray's Woods
November 27, 2009 Selinsgrove Adult Specialty Clinic Closed. Line terminated.

October 2009
October 5, 2009 Submitted September invoicing for Frontier Communication lines.
October 5, 2009 Submitted September invoicing for PenTeleData lines.
October 20, 2009 Submitted October Quarterly Report.

October 23, 2009 Submitted October invoicing for PenTeleData lines.
October 23, 2009 Signed Comcast contract for RFP 08-002.

September 2009

September 2, 2009 Submitted 467 Form for Frontier Communications.
September 2, 2009 Submitted August invoicing for PenTeleData lines.
September 8, 2009 Submitted August invoicing for Frontier Communication lines.

August 2009

August 18, 2009 Termination of Marian Community Hospital's 10 Mbps line.
August 18, 2009 Termination of Memorial Hospital's 10 Mbps line.
August 18, 2009 Termination of Moses Taylor's 10 Mbps line.
August 18, 2009 Termination of Mount Nittany's 10 Mbps line. All existing telemedicine services were moved to the new telecom line.
August 18, 2009 Termination of Schuylkill Health's 10 Mbps line.
August 18, 2009 Termination of Lock Haven Geisinger Medical Group's 6 Mbps line. All existing line traffic was moved to the new telecom line.
August 18, 2009 Termination of Lycoming Geisinger Medical Group's 10 Mbps line. All existing line traffic was moved to the new telecom line.
August 18, 2009 Termination of Pottsville Geisinger Medical Group's 10 Mbps line. All existing line traffic was moved to the new telecom line.

July 2009

July 8, 2009 Termination of Mountain Home's 6MB down/2 MB up connection as a redundant back up line.
July 16, 2009 Termination of Evangelical's 10 Mbps line.
July 30, 2009 July invoicing submitted for PenTeleData lines

June 2009

June 5, 2009 15 cable modem back-up lines were installed by PenTeleData. The 467 Connection Certificate was uploaded to SharePoint.
June 5, 2009 PenTeleData's first (May) invoice processed.
June 8, 2009 Support Acknowledgement Letter received for PenTeleData.
June 18, 2009 D&E Communications Funding Commitment Letter received.
June 18, 2009 Frontier Funding Commitment Letter received.
June 26, 2009 Comcast 466A form uploaded to SharePoint. Under contract negotiations with service provider.
June 30, 2009 PenTeleData June invoice processed.

May 2009

May 26, 2009, PenTeleData Funding Commitment Letter received
May 27, 2009 Frontier 466 package submitted to USAC.
May 27, 2009 D&E Communication 466 package submitted to USAC.
May 28, 2009 Comcast notified for RFP 08-002 winning bid.

April 2009

April 1, 2009 removed Lewisburg GMG site from project list. This site is an active Geisinger Clinic and was in desperate need of additional bandwidth. We elected to take the site out of the project and buy the line outright to avoid further delay and disruption of patient care.

April 13, 2009 D&E contract signed.
April 16, 2009, Competitive bidding ended for RFP 08-002.
April 23, 2009 PenTeleData Contract signed from RFP 08-001.
April 23, 2009 PenTeleData 466 package submitted to USAC.
April 29, 2009 Frontier Contract addendum signed.

March 2009

March 3, 2009, removed Lewistown Hospital and Lewistown Geisinger Medical Group from RFP 08-001, and developed RFP 08-002 for those sites. RFP 08-002 was uploaded to USAC's SharePoint site.
March 19, 2009, RFP 08-002 was posted to the public for competitive bidding.
March 24, 2009, a primary contract with Frontier Communications was signed for Pottsville Geisinger Medical Group and Lycoming Geisinger Medical Group.

February 2009

February 5, 2009, accepted 26 out of 28 bids from RFP 08-001.
February 5, 2009, notified service providers of the winning bids for the 26 sites.

January 2009

January 28, 2009, Sustainability Report approved by USAC.

December 2008

December 19, 2008, competitive bidding concluded. Bids were received from three vendors covering 25 out of 28 sites. Competitive bidding will be extended in an attempt to receive bids on the remaining sites. Received bids on all 28 sites, but accepting all bids, would exceed our award amount. Service provider contract signing is awaiting USAC approval of sustainability plan.

November 2008

November 3, 2008, received Mount Nittany Hospital's Letter of Agency
November 14, 2008, obtained a Letter of Agency for Geisinger sites (Pottsville Geisinger Medical Group, Lock Haven Geisinger Medical Group, Lycoming Geisinger Medical Group, Lewistown Geisinger Medical Group, East Stroudsburg (Pediatric Specialty) Geisinger site, Bloomsburg Reichart Road Geisinger Medical Group, Bloomsburg Hospital Drive Geisinger Medical Group, Catawissa Geisinger Medical Group, Kulpmont Geisinger Medical Group, Northumberland Geisinger Medical Group, Selinsgrove Geisinger Medical Group, Selinsgrove Adult Specialty Outreach Geisinger Medical Group, Sunbury Geisinger Medical Group, Hazleton Oncology Geisinger Medical Group, Hazleton Geisinger Medical Group, Mahanoy City Geisinger Medical Group, Kingston Geisinger Medical Group, Mountaintop Geisinger Medical Group, Lewisburg Geisinger Medical Group, Milton Geisinger Medical Group, Mountain Home Geisinger Medical Group.)
November 21, 2008 RFP 08-001 posted to USAC's website for competitive bidding.

October 2008

October 17, 2008, received Lewistown Hospital's Letter of Agency
October 17, 2008, received Schuylkill Health's (formally Pottsville Hospital) Letter of Agency.
October 29, 2008, received Marian Community Hospital's Letter of Agency
October 30, 2008, received Towanda Memorial Hospital's Letter of Agency

October 30, 2008, posted FCC Quarterly Report and Sustainability Report for USAC approval.

September 2008

September 16, 2008, Geisinger's President and CEO, Glenn Steele Jr, MD, PhD, testified to the US senate on the need to improve healthcare quality and access. This testimony confirms Geisinger's commitment to the Rural Health Care Pilot Project initiative.
http://www.senate.gov/~finance/hearings/testimony/2008test/091608gstest.pdf
September 23, 2008, received Moses Taylor/Mid-Valley Hospital's Letter of Agency.
September 29, 2008, received Evangelical Hospital's Letter of Agency

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Argon
Chief Administrative Officer, Research

Attachments:
Request for Confidential Treatment – 47 CFR 0.459
Appendix A (Confidential): Geisinger Health System's Telemedicine Sustainability Plan