

July 26, 2013

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* in WC Docket Nos. 02-60 and 02-6

Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this letter provides notice of an *ex parte* presentation in connection with the above captioned proceedings. On July 24, 2013, Kim Lamb, OCHIN VP of Marketing, and Kim Klupenger, OCHIN VP of Business Development and Account Management, on behalf of the Oregon Health Network ("OHN") (now a wholly owned subsidiary of OCHIN¹), and undersigned counsel met separately with: Nicholas Degani, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Pai; Priscilla Argeris, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Rosenworcel; and with Linda Oliver, Deputy Chief of the Telecommunications Access Policy Division of the Wireline Competition Bureau ("Bureau"), Attorney Advisors Christianna Barnhardt, Mark Walker, and Maya Uppaluru, interns Jaimie Douglas and Erica Larson, and Matt Quinn, FCC Director of Health Care Initiatives.

We thanked the Commission for its efforts establishing and implementing the Healthcare Connect Fund and discussed OHN's accomplishments and plans to expand using the new program. We expressed a desire to continue to work with the Commission and USAC as it implements the Healthcare Connect Fund and to work with the Bureau in its assessment of the new program.² We noted that many of OHN's members depend heavily on OHN for technical

¹ Headquartered in Portland, Oregon, nonprofit OCHIN is one of the nation's largest Health Information Networks and is recognized for its innovative use of Health IT to improve the integration and delivery of healthcare services across a wide variety of practices. With an historical emphasis on safety net clinics and small practices, OCHIN has expanded to include private practice provider and specialists. To date, OCHIN operates in 14 states and supports 70 health center networks and over 4,500 medical providers who serve over a 2.5 million patients.

² See *Rural Health Care Support Mechanism*, WC Docket No. 02-60, Report and Order, ¶ 63 (directing the Bureau to report to the Commission on the Healthcare Connect Fund's rural participation rate by September 15, 2015).

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support in utilizing their RHC-supported broadband connections and that the resulting administrative costs have continued to be a challenge for OHN and its members. We noted that the acquisition of OHN by OCHIN has improved this picture somewhat by creating administrative efficiencies that will better support long-term sustainability.

We reviewed the challenges OHN and one of its vendors have overcome deploying a 10 GB fiber build in an extremely remote and mountainous part of the state. We noted how competition had substantially reduced the cost of implementing this section of the network and how the resulting fiber would bring needed redundancy across a wide area of the OHN network. We explained how health care provider anchor tenants, facilitated by OHN, were supporting this investment and how communities across a large and remote area of Oregon and California would benefit. We noted this as an example of how the Rural Health Care program can complement the Commission's overall universal service objectives. We discussed the value of ensuring that reforms to the E-rate program recognize and encourage synergies with the Rural Health Care programs.³

We discussed the continued and growing importance of the Rural Health Care program in light of federal mandates for Health IT and the need for maximum alignment with these other federal programs.⁴ By combining together, OCHIN and OHN are fostering that alignment in their own business and among their members and customers. Finally, we stressed the importance of allowing the Rural Health Care program to grow based on the need for affordable broadband capable of supporting health care applications, especially in rural areas.

A copy of our presentation is enclosed. If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Mitchell
Counsel for Oregon Health Network

Enclosure

³ For example, the Commission could consider allowing E-rate support for schools and libraries purchasing services from Rural Health Care program approved contracts. This would make reciprocal the rule that now allows health care providers to receive RHC support when purchasing from USAC-approved E-rate master contracts. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 54.642(h)(5).

⁴ OHN recognizes that certain statutory limitations at this time prevent complete alignment.

An FCC RHCPP Success Story

A Status Report from OHN on how it leveraged RHCPP funding to create middle and last mile infrastructure for healthcare providers and educators

Presented by:

Kim Lamb & Kim Klupenger

July 24, 2012



Agenda

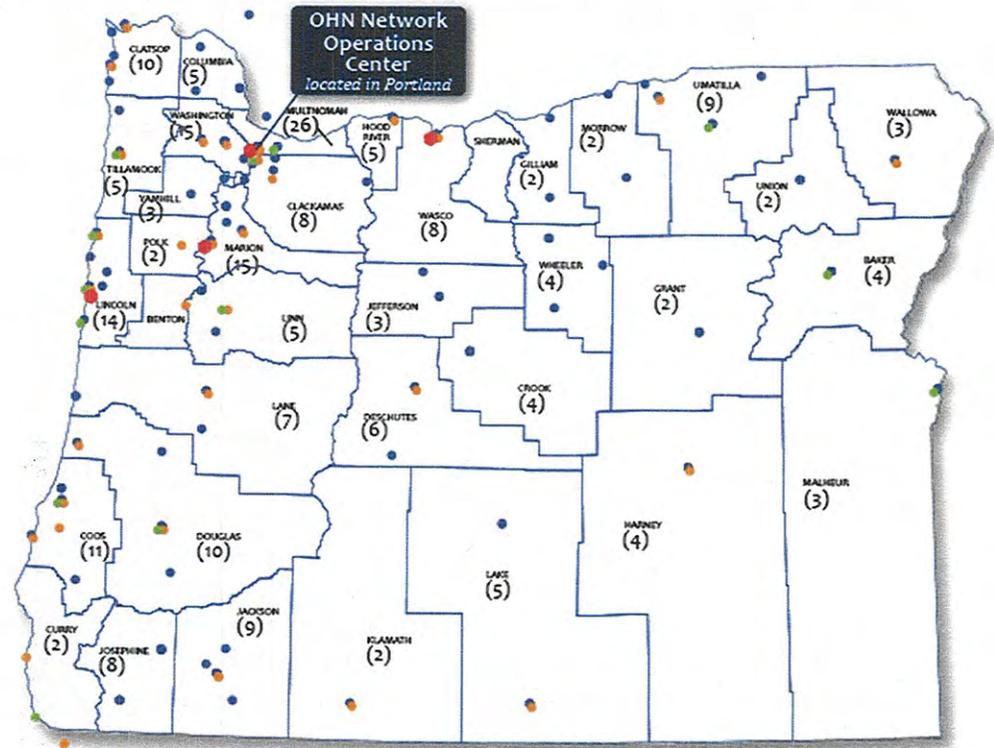
- **RHCPP Network Project Timeline, Overview & Status**
- **Member Site Profile: Sutter Coast Hospital**
- **A Natural Synergy: FCC RHCPP's & ONC REC's**



Date	Funding	Project Milestones	Network Connections
2008	\$20.182 m awarded by FCC RHCPP + \$1.35 m in State matching funds	OHN receives award and establishes board of directors	Oregon had very disparate access to broadband by healthcare providers and educators
2009	OHN obtains first funding commitment letter – 5 year project officially starts	OHN sets up the first Network Operations Center to monitor connections	6 sites
2010 - 2012	OHN successfully awards almost 100% of funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 RFP's • Almost 300 sites out to bid • 226 contracted and funded • 12 telecommunications vendors • OHN adds video conferencing and bridging to service offering • Active communication with FCC leadership to promote use and awareness of broadband 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 99 monitored connections • 226 funded sites
2013	<p>OHN merges with OCHIN</p> <p>Pending: Completion of largest fiber build to Sutter Coast Hospital - \$925k</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 1st RHCPP & REC to merge • 2.5 year project (see enclosed information) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expands network access and care coordination across two networks • This is our last site to be installed!
2013 - 2014	Applications for FCC Healthcare Connect Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention of 99% of current sites transitioning to HCF • Expanded network, redundancy and points of presences. • Inter-state connections • Addition of sites in Washington & Idaho 	We anticipate that the network will double or triple in the next 24 months

OHN Network Build-Out Status

- ✓ OHN considered one of the top 3 largest and most successful RHCPP's in the country (out of the original 62)
- ✓ OHN's approach has resulted in the expansion of broadband access to rural communities above and beyond healthcare and health education
- ✓ OHN approached and modeled by other RHCPP's on network, services and operational best practices including being the first RHCPP to merge with an ONC Regional Extension Center (OCHIN-O-HITEC)



171 CLINICS

39 HOSPITALS

14 COMMUNITY COLLEGES

5 DATA CENTERS

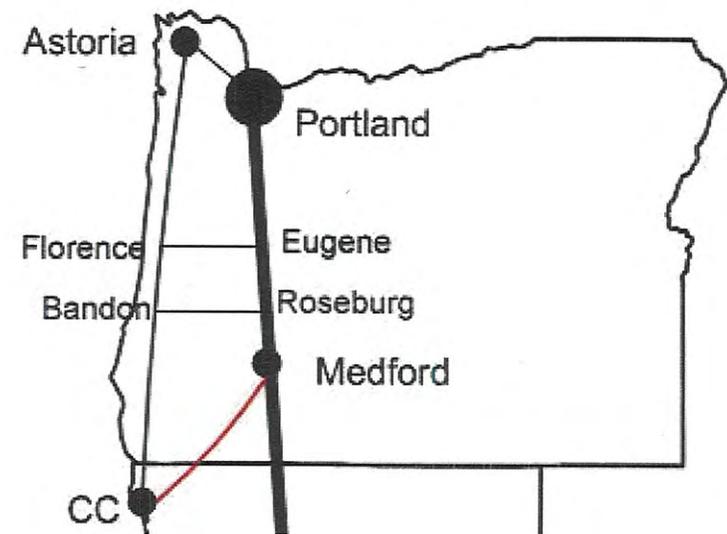
229 TOTAL MEMBERS

RHCPP Member Site Profile:
Sutter Coast Hospital, Crescent City, CA

A Story of Perseverance, Community Engagement and Route
Redundancy in Southern Oregon/N. California

A Regional Challenge: Solving a Very Complex Connectivity Access and Redundancy Problem

- The missing rung (shown in red) is between Crescent City and I-5
- There are other laterals (rungs on the ladder) between the coast and the I-5 corridor not shown here.



Sutter Coast Build: US 101 to I-5 Corridor

Status Report

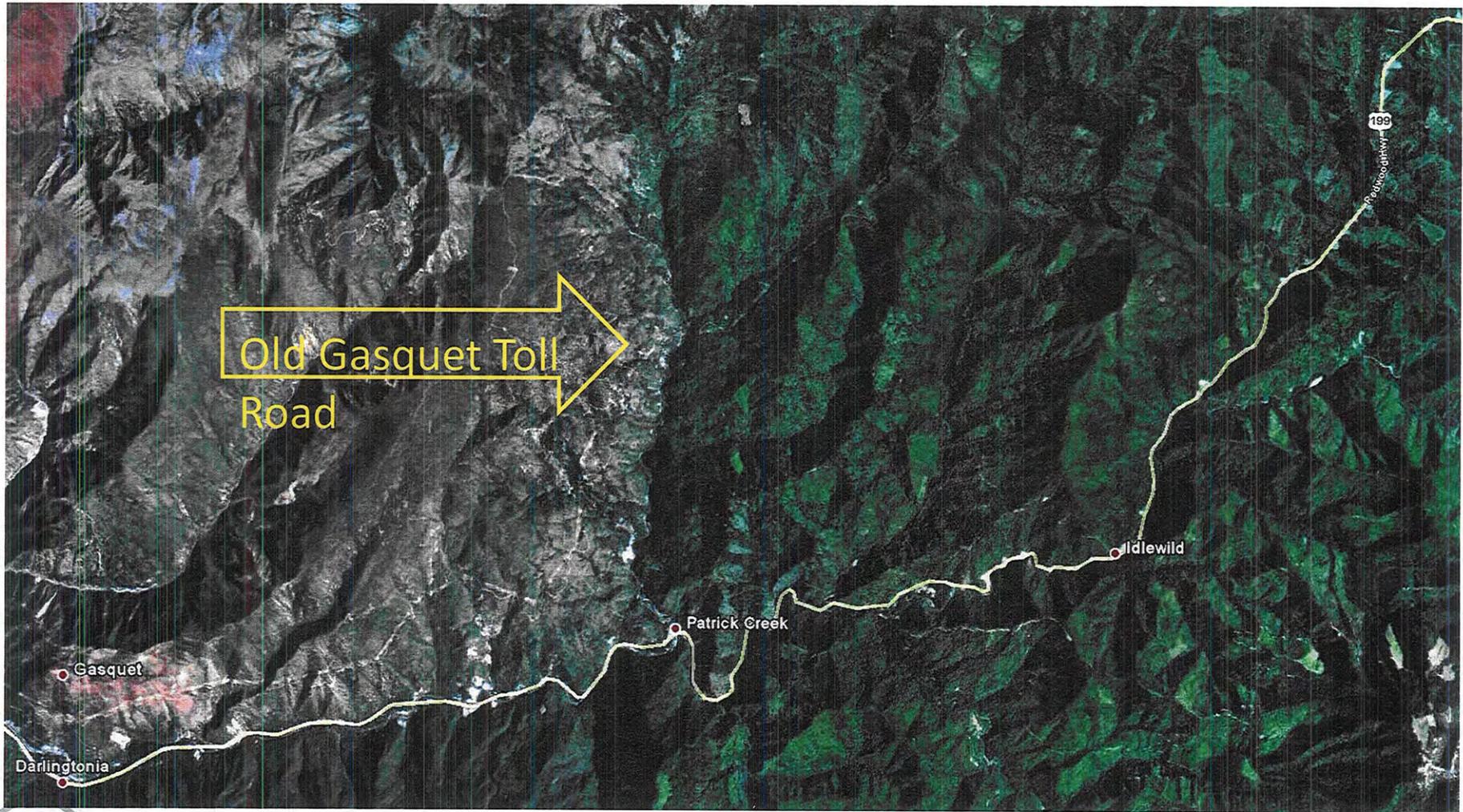
- Charter is almost done with the build from Cave Junction to Racquet
- Completion of this segment will result in an additional 10 Gb segment, completing the SW OR redundant ring
- Sutter Coast is both a California AND an Oregon registered hospital, and as such is an eligible entity



This New Build is Filling
the Gap

Sutter Coast Build: Terrain for the Build

Partial View of the Rugged Route Terrain - 1

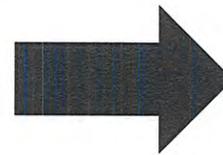


Sutter Coast Build: Challenges for a Road Less Traveled

- Obtaining the necessary capital for the build – which was solved by the FCC RHCPP and OHN Matching State Grants. Total installation cost is \$925k
- Extraordinarily rough terrain (Pacificorp already has a right of way (ROW))
- Working with Oregon & California's National Forest Services, Bureau of Land Management, Pacificorp, local landowners
- Extended environmental review process by National Forest (2 years?!)
PLUS additional barriers such as crossing protected Spotted Owl, Tree Frogs, and Native American Burial Sites
- All of the above required EXTENSIVE project management and oversight by OHN staff in addition to Charter team.

Sutter Coast Build: Local Value & Use of Connection

- Hospital Network System Support
- Electronic Health Records
- Telemedicine
- Image Transfer
- Fiber Loop Completion Create SW Oregon/ N. California Redundancy
- Middle Mile Fiber Supporting Schools, Businesses, and Other Health Care Providers



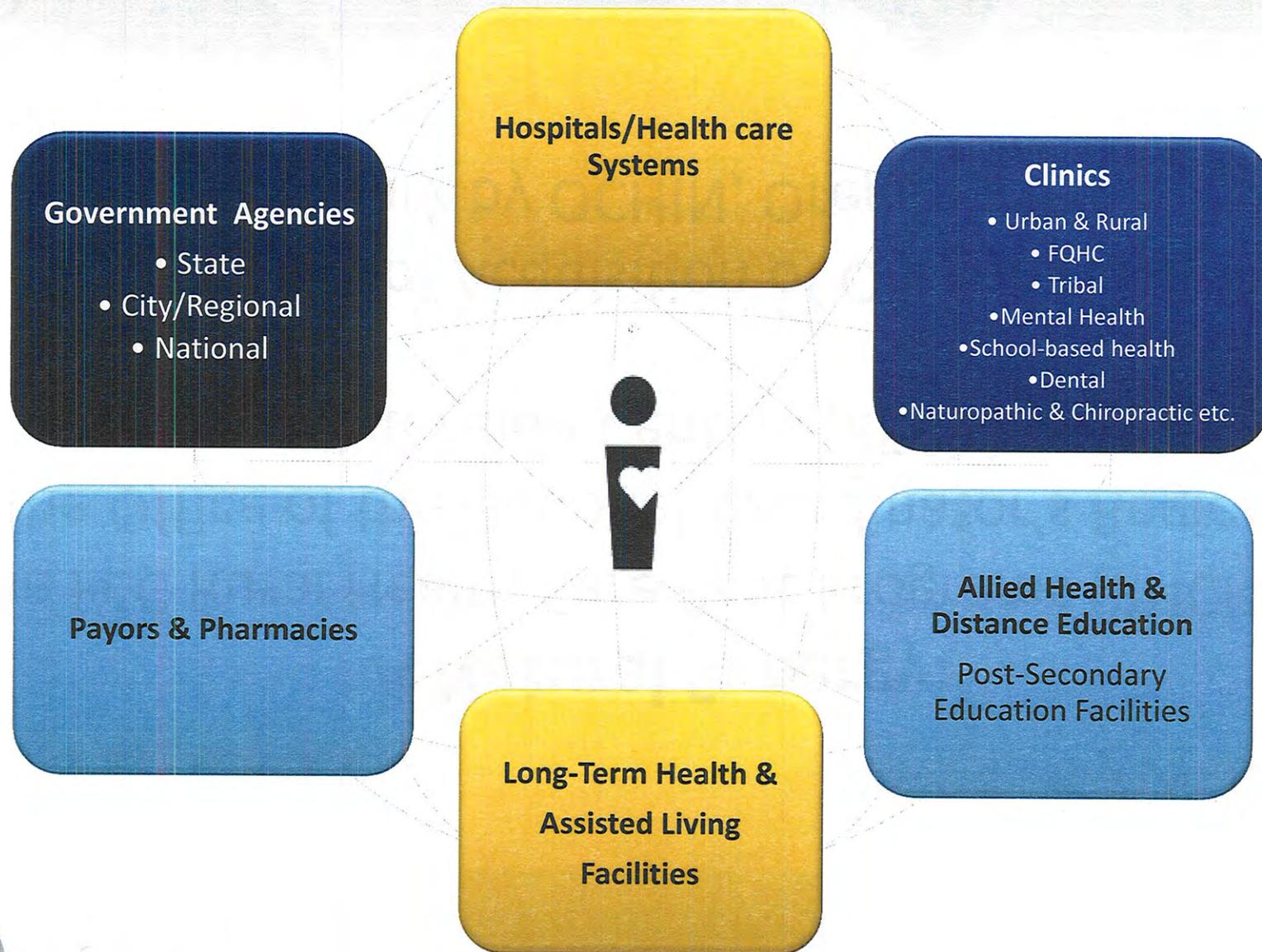
The Finish Line:
Sutter Coast Build
Completion Fall
2013 (est.)

A Natural Synergy:

The FCC Rural Health Care Pilot Programs (RHCPP) &
the Office of the National Coordinator's Regional
Extension Centers (REC's)

Overview of Acquisition of Oregon Health
Network by OCHIN, Oregon's REC

OHN: Who We've Served as Oregon's FCC RHCPP



OHN-OCHIN ACQUISITION: A Strategic Alignment

We assessed the current coordinated care landscape (and timeline) and opportunity to better serve our vision and membership through a strategic partnership (or expansion, acquisition, merger).

OHN & OCHIN are complementary in the following areas:

- *Operational Framework*
 - OHN: Benefits from expanded strategic knowledge, technical support, access to state/federal grants and hosted services to better serve the immediate needs of members; access to staff and other resources so we can apply for FCC Healthcare Connect Funding
 - OCHIN: Benefits from OHN's large member/statewide infrastructure and path to integrate with other networks nationally, sophisticated marketing expertise/strategies/efforts, access to FCC funding to support existing/expanded HCP network
- *12 Health IT Best Practice Areas*
 - The only best practice area that neither organization provides some form of value/service offering is in “credentialing & privileging” – *however, there are opportunities here as it relates to Health IT*

OHN-OCHIN ACQUISITION:

What Problems Are We Each Solving for Oregon?



As a result of ability to fully access FCC program funding through acquisition:

- OHN-RHCPP Member Retention
- OHN Membership Expansion
- Expanded Value & Use of network with new EHR, HIE, HIT support and Business Intelligence services to assist members ACO/CCO landscape in next 18 months (window)

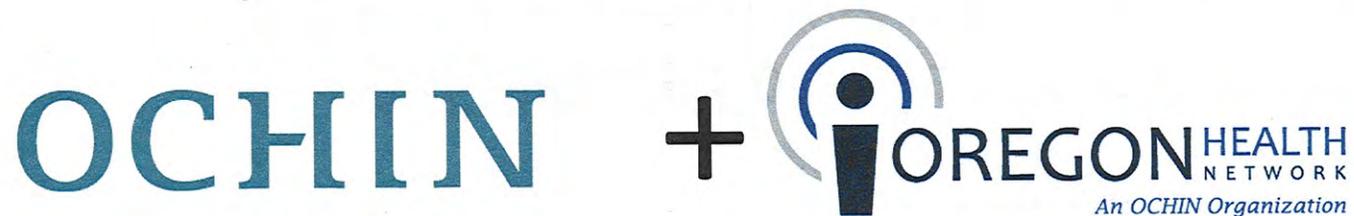
OCHIN

As a result of acquisition:

- Expanded network base/community into entire health care/education continuum to support the expedited and improved coordination of care
- Solution to statewide/nationwide broadband, HIE & data aggregation/analytics network requirements
- Affiliated with trusted health IT convener in OHN
- Telehealth VC solution to integrate into ACO/CCO landscape
- Shift from perception of EHR VAR to trusted full service coordinated care organization



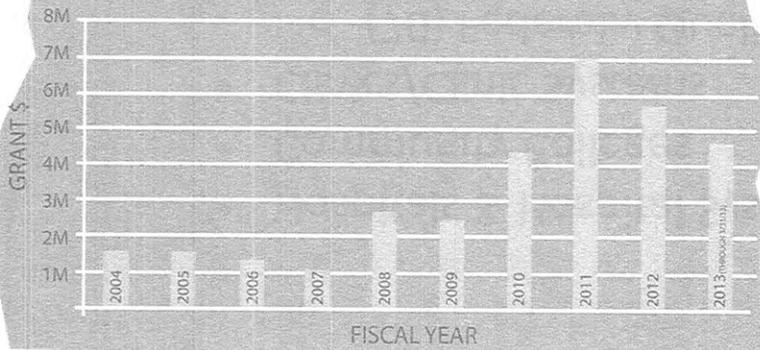
Combined Membership: Health Care Continuum



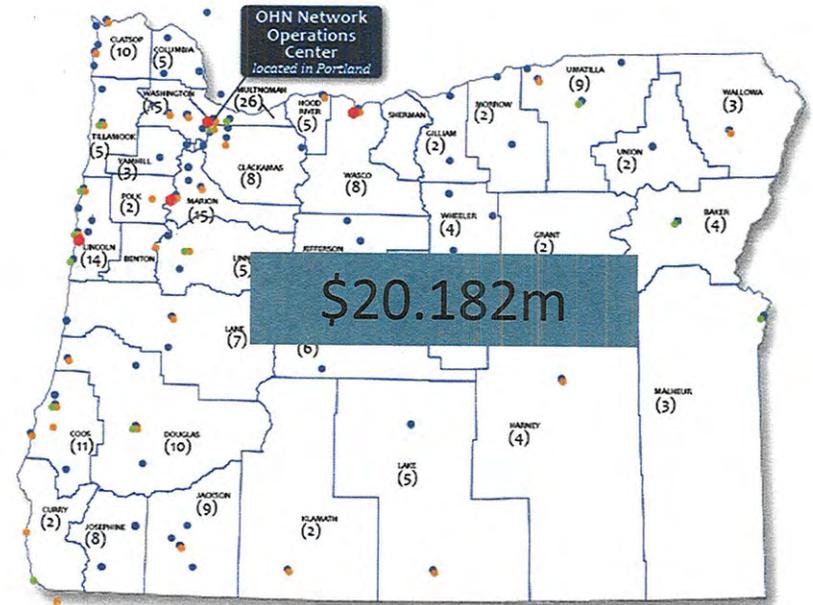
- Hospitals & Hospital Systems: Almost every one in Oregon
- Community Colleges
- Clinics/Clinic Systems
 - (70) Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
 - (6) Public Health
 - (50) Private Practices
 - (10) Mental/Behavioral Health
 - (6) Dental
- Department of Corrections
 - (14) Correction Facilities
 - (31) Oregon Youth Authority Facilities
- State Data Center

OCHIN & OHN: Federal Funding for HIT in Oregon

Total Grant Funding brought into the State of Oregon, 2004-2013 = \$36 million



+



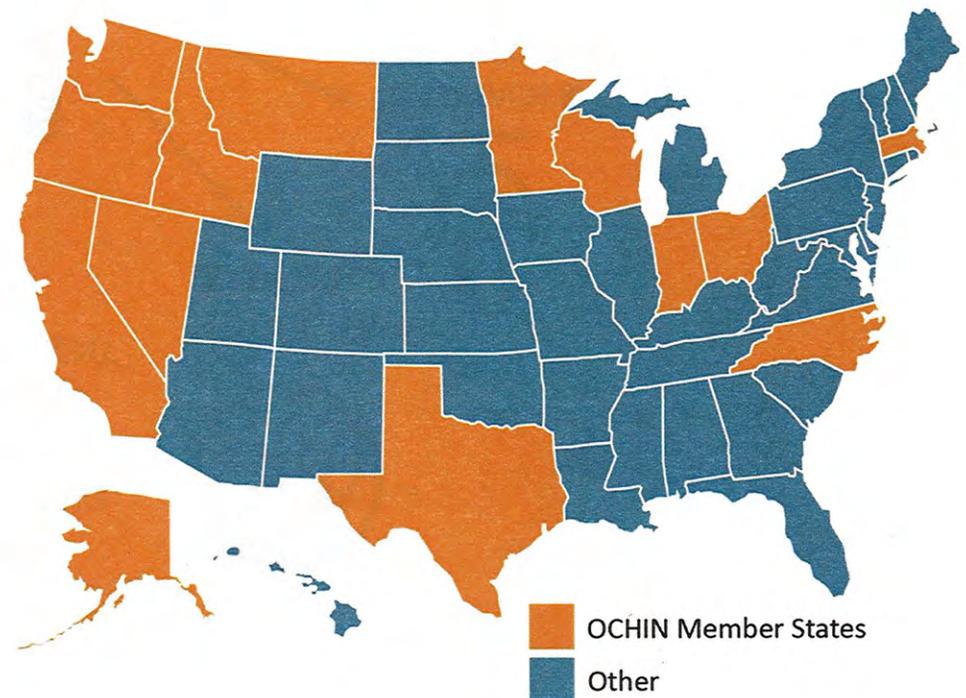
\$56,886,296 of federal funding
With the majority given straight back to
the community

About OCHIN

- As a nonprofit organization, our goal is simple:
To provide solutions that promote access to quality, affordable health care for all.

One of the nation's largest and most successful Health Information Networks

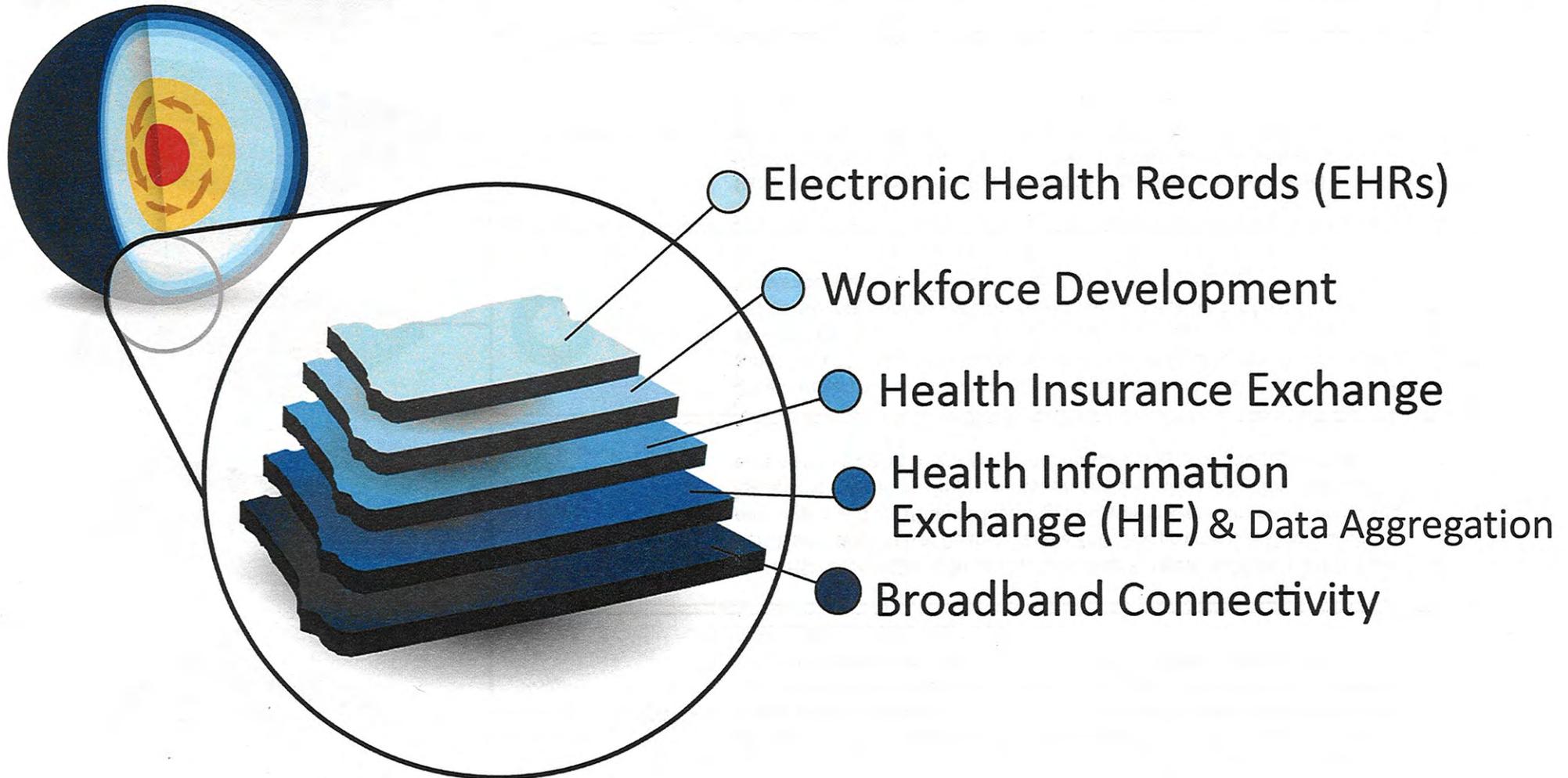
- ✓ In 14 states, coast to coast
- ✓ Touching over 4,500 physicians
- ✓ 12 years of data aggregation; 65% to 75% of physical health claims paid by DMAP in the OCHIN database



What We Now Do Together



Serving the Triple Aim



State of Oregon HIT Initiatives and Resources

Electronic Health Records (EHRs)



The **Oregon Community Health Information Network (OCHIN)** is nationally recognized for its innovative use of Health IT to improve the integration and delivery of health care services across a wide variety of practices. OCHIN runs Oregon's Health Information Technology Extension Center (O-HITEC), whose goal is to help Oregon providers and practices select, adopt, and achieve the federal Meaningful Use requirements. www.ochin.org (For more information on the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs, please visit MedicaidEHRIncentives.oregon.gov.)

Workforce Development



The **OHSU Biomedical Informatics Graduate Program** includes a Graduate Certificate, two Master Degrees, and a PhD. The program, available both on-campus and via distance learning, prepares students for professional and leadership roles in the implementation of EHRs, HIE, telehealth, and health care quality measurement and improvement. www.ohsu.edu/informatics

Insurance Exchange



Cover Oregon is a central marketplace where consumers and small employers can shop for health insurance plans and access federal tax credits to help pay for coverage. This program will make it easy for Oregonians to compare their health coverage options and find out if they are eligible for financial assistance, starting in October 2013. www.coveroregon.com

Health Information Exchange (HIE)

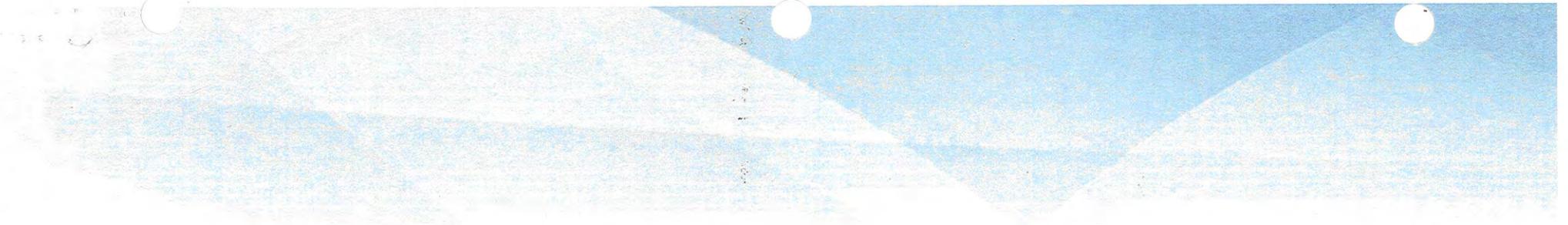


CareAccord, Oregon's Health Information Exchange, is administered by the **Oregon Health Authority**. CareAccord facilitates the secure exchange of health information between Oregon's health care organizations and providers, enabling the coordination of care for better health, better care and lower cost. www.careaccord.org

Broadband Connectivity



A nonprofit organization, **Oregon Health Network (OHN)** is Oregon's first, and only, statewide health care "highway" with over 230 connected hospitals, clinics, and community college members. Core services include: 24/7 NOC monitoring, hosted services (such as video conferencing), advocacy, and HIT best practices. www.oregonhealthnet.org



THANK
YOU!