

## Introduction

This report is designed to meet the requirements for yearly reporting for the FCC’s Rural Healthcare Pilot Program as described in FCC Order 07-198 as updated by FCC 12-150 (the HCF Order) for the period ending 6/30/2013 for the North Carolina Telehealth Network (NCTN). The report format is modeled after the reporting requirements in the 07-198 order and subsequent advice from USAC.

Each major section has the term “UPDATED” or “NOT UPDATED” inserted after the section number. “UPDATED” indicates that some material change to the section has been made since the last report.

**The updates are visible by looking at the document in “Final Showing Markup” mode. Otherwise, reviewing the document in “Final” mode will hide the distinction between updated and prior material. For sections that explicitly ask for updates only, an updated section will contain only the updated materials.**

### 1. Not UPDATED : Project Contact and Coordination Information

a. Identify the project leader(s) and respective business affiliations.

The project’s coordinator is Dr. William F. Pilkington in his role as the Director of the Cabarrus Health Alliance and the lead agency for the NC Southern Piedmont Partnership for Public Health. Mr. David Kirby, President of Kirby Information Management Consulting, LLC (Kirby IMC) is the Assistant PC. Mr. Jason Baisden, CTO for the NC Association of Free Clinics is an active participant representing the NCAFC members. The e-NC Authority has been contracted as of September to participate as a major part of the program management effort during the network development phase in collaboration with Kirby IMC. The e-NC Authority is a part of state government whose mission is to promote broadband usage throughout North Carolina. Ms. Jane Patterson is the Executive Director of e-NC.

b. Provide a complete address for postal delivery and the telephone, fax, and e-mail address for the responsible administrative official.

Dr. William F. Pilkington

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Kannapolis, NC 28081

704-920-1203  
William.Pilkington@CabarrusHealth.org

c. Identify the organization that is legally and financially responsible for the conduct of activities supported by the award.

The Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County (d.b.a Cabarrus Health Alliance)

d. Explain how project is being coordinated throughout the state or region.

The NCAFC represents the free clinics in the state both generally and for the purposes of this project.

The local health departments who are participating in the state are to be formally represented by CHA (Cabarrus Health Alliance). The NC Association of Local Health Directors and the NC Division of Public Health are also significantly involved in the project as coordinating organizations for the local public health departments.

Oct 09 - The four NC RHCPP recipients are now formally merged with the leaders of the other three former projects continuing as advisers to the merged project. The newly merged discount opportunities are to be used to support a program to provide broadband services to NC's hospitals. We plan to offer this to both the for public non-profits and private hospitals- with the private hospitals who accept service not having access to the RHCPP discounts.

A collateral benefit of e-NC's involvement in the project is that it also operates development efforts for broadband deployments of various types throughout NC and so will be well positioned to advise how to best leverage the RHCPP effort in the larger context of these other broadband projects.

Jan 10- The NC Institute for Public Health is now leading the development of the NCTN Hospital Phase in collaboration with the NC Hospital Association.

April 2010- The NCTN-H phase has convened an advisory group (i.e. leaders from several NC hospitals) to confer with on various aspects of development of the NCTN-H.

**2. UPDATED: Identify all health care facilities included in the network.**

a. Provide address (including county), zip code, Rural Urban Commuting Area (RUCA) code (including primary and secondary), six-digit census tract, and phone number for each health care facility participating in the network.

Additions From January 2013 through June 2013:

SI FCC App#	HCP Site Name	Address # 1	City	State	ZIP	County	Census Tract	RUCA Code	FCC Classification	Phone #
17235-00-0126	Moore County Health Department	705 PINEHURST AVE	Carthage	NC	28327	Moore	950400	5	Non Rural	910-947-3300
17235-00-0139	Pasquotank County Health Department	711 ROANOKE AVE	Elizabeth City	NC	27909	Pasquotank	960300	4	Rural	252-338-4400
17235-02-0192	Rex Hospital - Raleigh Campus (HUB)	4420 Lake Boone Trail	Raleigh	NC	27607	Wake	052504	1	non-rural	
17235-02-0204	Piedmont Health Services: Prospect Hill Community Health Center	322 Main St	Prospect Hill	NC	27314	Caswell	990600	2	non-rural	336-562-3311
17235-02-0205	Piedmont Health Services: Siler City Community Health Center	224 South 10th Ave	Siler City	NC	27344	Chatham	020400	7	non-rural	919-663-1744
17235-02-0199	Piedmont Health Services: Carrboro Community Health Center	301 Lloyd St	Carrboro	NC	27510	Orange	010702	1	non-rural	919-942-8741
17235-00-0098	ICPTA Building	110 KITTY HAWK LN	Elizabeth City	NC	27909	Pasquotank	960700	5	Rural	252-338-4480
17235-02-0203	Piedmont Health Services: Moncure Community Health Center	7228 Pittsboro-Moncure Road	Moncure	NC	27559	Chatham	020600	6	non-rural	919-542-4991
17235-02-0200	Piedmont Health Services: Charles Drew Health Center	221 North Graham-Hopedale Road	Burlington	NC	27217	Alamance	020300	1	non-rural	336-570-3739
17235-02-0201	Piedmont Health Services: Piedmont Senior Care	1214 Vaughn Rd	Burlington	NC	27217	Alamance	020300	1	non-rural	336-532-0000
17235-02-0176	CarolinaEast Internal Medicine	2604 Martin Luther King Blvd	New Bern	NC	28562	Craven	960600	4	non-rural	252-633-8798
17235-02-0197	CarolinaEast Thoracic Vascular Bldg	960 Newman Rd	New Bern	NC	28562	Craven	960400	4	non-rural	252-633-8798
17235-02-0196	CarolinaEast Urology	705 Newman Rd	New Bern	NC	28562	Craven	960400	4	non-rural	252-633-8798

**3. NOT UPDATED Network Narrative: In the first quarterly report following the completion of the competitive bidding process and the selection of vendors, the selected participant must submit an updated technical description of the communications network that it intends to implement, which takes into account the results its network design studies and negotiations with its vendors. This technical description should provide, where applicable:**

- a. Brief description of the backbone network of the dedicated health care network, e.g., MPLS network, carrier-provided VPN, a SONET ring;
- b. Explanation of how health care provider sites will connect to (or access) the network, including the access technologies/services and transmission speeds;
- c. Explanation of how and where the network will connect to a national backbone such as NLR or Internet2;
- d. Number of miles of fiber construction, and whether the fiber is buried or aerial;
- e. Special systems or services for network management or maintenance (if applicable) and where such systems reside or are based.

July 2012 – The NCTNEX Phase (RFP 02) is supported by MCNC using the same network facilities as in the prior NCTN-PH phase. In a few cases, MCNC is able to use facilities that have been newly built around the state as part of the BTOP grants that it leads

April 2012 –

The NCTN-H (hospital) phase is supported by MCNC using the same network facilities as in the prior NCTN-PH phase. In a few cases, MCNC is able to use facilities that have been newly built around the state as part of the BTOP grants that it leads.

**October 2010 –**

- a. **We have leased services (rather than specify technology). The services generally are 10 mbps IP-based connections and typically run on fiber-based facilities of various kinds.**
- b. **We generally have 10Mbps services accessed via a single Ethernet connection per site to a vendor supplied router.**
- c. **Internet2 connection is provided via the Microelectronics Center of North Carolina (MCNC).**
- d. **Not applicable; We did not build any facilities.**
- e. **Services are provided by MCNC. Primarily from their headquarters in RTP, NC.**

**4. UPDATED: List of Connected Health Care Providers: Provide information below for all eligible and non-eligible health care provider sites that, as of the close of the most recent reporting period, are connected to the network and operational.**

- a. Health care provider site;
  - b. Eligible provider (Yes/No);
  - c. Type of network connection (e.g., fiber, copper, wireless);
  - d. How connection is provided (e.g., carrier-provided service; self-constructed; leased facility);
  - e. Service and/or speed of connection (e.g., DS1, DS3, DSL, OC3, Metro Ethernet (10 Mbps);
  - f. Gateway to NLR, Internet2, or the Public Internet (Yes/No);
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- g. Site Equipment (e.g., router, switch, SONET ADM, WDM), including manufacturer name and model number.
  - h. Provide a logical diagram or map of the network.

Additions/upgrades From January 2013 through June 2013

SI FCC App#	HCP Site Name	Address # 1	City	State	ZIP	County	Eligible Provider?	Type of Connection	How Connection is Provided	Speed	Gateway to I2?	Site Equipment	Site category
17235-00-0126	Moore County Health Department	705 PINEHURST AVE	Carthage	NC	28327	Moore	Y	Fiber	leased	24: 10 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	Critical PHS site
17235-00-0139	Pasquotank County Health Department	711 ROANOKE AVE	Elizabeth City	NC	27909	Pasquotank	Y	Fiber	leased	25: 20 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	Critical PHS site
17235-02-0192	Rex Hospital - Raleigh Campus (HUB)	4420 Lake Boone Trail	Raleigh	NC	27607	Wake	Y	Fiber	leased	11: 1 Gbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	Hospital-clinic
17235-02-0204	Piedmont Health Services: Prospect Hill Community Health Center	322 Main St	Prospect Hill	NC	27314	Caswell	Y	Fiber	leased	24: 10 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	FQHC
17235-02-0205	Piedmont Health Services: Siler City Community Health Center	224 South 10th Ave	Siler City	NC	27344	Chatham	Y	Fiber	leased	24: 10 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	FQHC
17235-02-0199	Piedmont Health Services: Carrboro Community Health Center	301 Lloyd St	Carrboro	NC	27510	Orange	Y	Fiber	leased	27: 100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	FQHC
17235-00-0098	ICPTA Building	110 KITTYHAWK LN	Elizabeth City	NC	27909	Pasquotank	Y	Fiber	leased	25: 20 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	Critical PHS site
17235-02-0203	Piedmont Health Services: Moncure Community Health Center	7228 Pittsboro-Moncure Road	Moncure	NC	27559	Chatham	Y	Fiber	leased	24: 10 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	FQHC
17235-02-0200	Piedmont Health Services: Charles Drew Health Center	221 North Graham-Hopedale Road	Burlington	NC	27217	Alamance	Y	Fiber	leased	24: 10 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	FQHC
17235-02-0201	Piedmont Health Services: Piedmont Senior Care	1214 Vaughn Rd	Burlington	NC	27217	Alamance	Y	Fiber	leased	18: 50 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	FQHC
17235-02-0176	CarolinaEast Internal Medicine	2604 Martin Luther King Blvd	New Bern	NC	28562	Craven	Y	Fiber	leased	27: 100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	Hospital-clinic
17235-02-0197	CarolinaEast Thoracic Vascular Bldg	960 Newman Rd	New Bern	NC	28562	Craven	Y	Fiber	leased	16: N/A	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	Hospital-clinic
17235-02-0196	CarolinaEast Urology	705 Newman Rd	New Bern	NC	28562	Craven	Y	Fiber	leased	16: N/A	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TSM	Hospital-clinic

December 2012

465 FCC Site Number	HCP Site Name	Address # 1	City	State	ZIP	County	Eligible Provider?	Type of connection	How connection is provided	Speed	Gateway to I2	Site equipment
17235-02-0191	Ocracoke Health Center	305 BACK RD	Ocracoke	NC	27960	Hyde	Y	Fiber	leased	24: 10 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-02-0190	Engelhard Medical Center	33270 US HWY264	Engelhard	NC	27824	Hyde	Y	Fiber	leased	24: 10 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-02-0134	Ashe Memorial Hospital, Inc.	200 Hospital Avenue	Jefferson	NC	28640	Ashe	Y	Fiber	leased	27: 100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M

July 2012 – The sites below are site/service subs

HCP Site Name	County	Address #1	Qty	State	ZIP	Eligible Provider	Type of connection	How connection is provided	Speed	Gateway to I2	Site equipment
Lincoln County Health Department	Lincoln	151 SGMON RD	Lincolnton	NC	28092	Y	Fiber	leased	20mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
Hertford County Public Health Authority	Hertford	801 N KING ST	Winton	NC	27986	Y	Fiber	leased	20mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
Greene County Health Department	Greene	227 KINGOLD BLVD, SUITE B	Show Hill	NC	28580	Y	Fiber	leased	50mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
Haywood County Health Department	Haywood	157 Paragon Parkway, Suite 800	Clyde	NC	28712	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M

April 2012- The three tables immediately below show the sites added since July 2011.

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NCTN-PH Round 2

465 FCC Site Number	HCP Site Name	Address # 1	City	State	ZIP	Eligible Provider	Type of connection	How connection is provided	Speed	Gateway to I2	Site equipment
17235-00-0002	Alleghany County Health Department/ Business Office	157 HEALTH SERVICE RD	Sparta	NC	28675	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0005	Watauga County Health Department	126 POPLAR GROVE CONNECTOR	Boone	NC	28607	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0003	Ashe County Health Department	413 McConnell Street	Jefferson	NC	28640	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0034	CCPHD, Chatham County Animal Control	725 COUNTY LANDFILL RD	Pittsboro	NC	27312	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0058	Davidson Medical Ministries Clinic, Inc.	420 N SALISBURY ST	Lexington	NC	27292	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0136	Northampton County Health Department	9495 STHY 305	Jackson	NC	27845	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M

NCTN-H Round 1 (part 1)

465 App Number	DEMARC CONCATENATED SITE NAME	DEMARC SITE ADDRESS LINE 1	DEMARC SITE CITY	ST	ZIP	Eligible Provider	Type of connection	How connection is provided	Speed	Gateway to I2	Site equipment
17235-01-0002	Appalachian Regional Healthcare System: Charles A. Cannon, Jr. Memorial Hospital, Inc.	434 Hospital Drive	Linville	NC	28646	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0003	Appalachian Regional Healthcare System: Watauga Medical Center, Inc.	336 Deerfield Road	Boone	NC	28607	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0028	FirstHealth of the Carolinas: FirstHealth Montgomery Memorial Hospital	520 Allen Street	Troy	NC	27371	Y	Fiber	leased	1 Gbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0029	FirstHealth of the Carolinas: FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital	155 Memorial Drive	Pinehurst	NC	28374	Y	Fiber	leased	1 Gbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0030	FirstHealth of the Carolinas: FirstHealth Richmond Memorial Hospital	925 Long Drive	Rockingham	NC	28379	Y	Fiber	leased	1 Gbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0064	University Health Systems of Eastern NC: Pitt County Memorial Hospital	2100 Stantonsburg Road	Greenville	NC	27835	Y	Fiber	leased	1 Gbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0064	University Health Systems of Eastern NC: Pitt County Memorial-UHS DR Center on Campus (Data Center)	2100 Stantonsburg Road	Greenville	NC	27835	Y	Fiber	leased	1 Gbps, FR	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0070	WakeMed Health & Hospitals: WakeMed Cary Hospital	1900 Kildaire Farm Road	Cary	NC	27518	Y	Fiber	leased	1 Gbps, FR	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0074	Angel Medical Center, Inc.	120 Riverview Street	Franklin	NC	28734	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0076	Beaufort County Medical Center	628 East 12th St	Washington	NC	27889	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0078	CarolinaEast Medical Center	2000 Neuse Boulevard	New Bern	NC	28561	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0079	Carteret County General Hospital	3500 Arendell Street	Morehead City	NC	28557	Y	Fiber	leased	1Gbps, FR	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0083	Gaston Memorial Hospital (CaroMont Health)	2525 Court Drive	Gastonia	NC	28054	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0087	High Point Regional Health System	601 North Elm Street	High Point	NC	27262	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M

465 App Number	DEMARC CONCATENATED SITE NAME	DEMARC SITE ADDRESS LINE 1	DEMARC SITE CITY	ST	ZIP	Eligible Provider	Type of connection	How connection is provided	Speed	Gateway to I2	Site equipment
17235-01-0089	Iredell Memorial Hospital, Inc.	557 Brookdale Drive	Statesville	NC	28677	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0092	Lenoir Memorial Hospital, Inc.	100 Airport Road	Kinston	NC	28501	Y	Fiber	leased	1 Gbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0094	Morehead Memorial Hospital	117 East Kings Hwy	Eden	NC	27288	Y	Fiber	leased	1 Gbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0096	Nash Health Care Systems	2460 Curtis Ellis Drive	Rocky Mount	NC	27804	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0097	New Hanover Regional Medical Center	2131 South 17th Street	Wilmington	NC	28402	Y	Fiber	leased	1 Gbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0100	Pender Memorial Hospital, Inc.	507 East Fremont Street	Burgaw	NC	28425	Y	Fiber	leased	1 Gbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0103	Randolph Hospital, Inc.	364 White Oak Street	Asheboro	NC	27204	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0104	Rutherford Hospital, Inc.	288 South Ridgecrest Avenue	Rutherfordton	NC	28139	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-01-0106	Southeastern Regional Medical Center	300 West 27th Street	Lumberton	NC	28359	Y	Fiber	leased	100 Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M

NCTN-PH – post round 2 site subs

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465 FCC Site Number	HCP Site Name	Address	City	State	ZIP	Eligible Provider	Type of connection	How connection is provided	Speed	Gateway to I2	Site equipment
17235-00-0232	Kannapolis	300 Mooresville Rd.	Kannapolis	NC	28081	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0230	Chowan County Health Department	202 West Hicks St	Edenton	NC	27932	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0220	Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center	113 HERTFORD COUNTYHIGH RD	Ahoskie	NC	27910	Y	Fiber	leased	50mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0231	Benson Area Medical Center	3333 Hwy 242 N.	Benson	NC	27504	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M

July 2010 – We are now collecting subscription agreements for the first round of NCTN-PH subscribers and expect to have this first round list and likely a second round list (about 100 sites) by the next reporting period.

July 2011- the following sites are connected:

465 FCC Site Number	HCP Site Name	Address	City	State	ZIP	Eligible Provider?	Type of network Connection	How connection is provided	Speed	Gateway to 12	Site Equipment
17235-00-0003	Ashe County Health Department	413 McConnell Street	Jefferson	NC	28640	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0005	Watauga County Health Department	126 POPLAR GROVE CONNECTOR	Boone	NC	28607	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0006	Hertford County Public Health Authority	801 N KING ST	Winton	NC	27986	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0008	Albemarle Home Care	311 CEDAR ST	Elizabeth City	NC	27909	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0009	Alexander County Health Department	338 1ST AVE SW	Taylorsville	NC	28681	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0010	Anson County Health Department	110 ASHE ST	Wadesboro	NC	28170	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0011	Avery County Health Department	545 SCHULTZ CR.	Newland	NC	28675	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0012	Bertie County Health Department	102 RHODES AVE	Windsor	NC	27983	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0018	Buxton Landfill	47015 BUXTON BACK RD	Buxton	NC	27920	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M

17235-00-0022	Caldwell County Health	2345 MORGANTON BLVD, SUITE B	Lenoir	NC	28645	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0023	Camden County Health Department	160 USHY 158, BLDG B	Camden	NC	27921	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0034	CCPHD, Chatham County Animal Control	725 COUNTY LANDFILL RD	Pittsboro	NC	27312	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0036	Chatham County Health Department - Siler City Clinic	1000 S TENTH AVE	Siler City	NC	27344	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0037	Children's Developmental Services Agency	1417 PARKVIEW DR	Elizabeth City	NC	27909	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0038	Chowan County Health Department	200 Luke St	Edenton	NC	27932	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0048	Community Free Clinic	528-A LAKE CONCORD RD	Concord	NC	28025	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0052	Currituck County Health Department	2795 CARATOAKE HWY	Currituck	NC	27929	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0053	Currituck Landfill	216 AIRPORT RD	Currituck	NC	27956	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0055	Dare County Landfill	1588 CUB RD 72	Manns Harbor	NC	27953	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0056	Davidson County Health Department	915 GREENSBORO ST	Lexington	NC	27293	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0058	Davidson Medical Ministries Clinic, Inc.	420 N SALISBURY ST	Lexington	NC	27292	Y	Fiber	leased	10Mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-

												24TS-M
17235-00-0060	Duplin County Health Department	340 SEMINARY ST	Kenansville	NC	28349	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0061	Edgecombe County Health Department	155 ATLANTIC AVE	Rocky Mount	NC	27801	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0062	Edgecombe County Health Department (Tarboro)	2909 MAIN ST	Tarboro	NC	27886	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0067	Franklin County Health Department	107 INDUSTRIAL DR, SUITE C	Louisburg	NC	27549	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0073	Gates County Health Department	29 MEDICAL CENTER RD	Gates	NC	27937	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0075	Granville County Health Department	101 HUNT DR	Oxford	NC	27565	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0076	Greene County Health Department	227 KINGOLD BLVD, SUITE B	Snow Hill	NC	28580	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0083	Haywood County Health Department	2177 ASHEVILLE RD	Waynesville	NC	28786	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0085	Beaufort County Health Department	1436 HIGHLAND DR	Washington	NC	27889	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0086	Lincoln County Health Department	151 SIGMON RD	Lincolnton	NC	28092	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0093	Henderson County Department of Public Health	1200 USHY 176, SUITE 100	Hendersonville	NC	28792	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0098	ICPTA Building	110 KITTY HAWK LN	Elizabeth City	NC	27909	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y		Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M

17235-00-0100	Jackson County Department of Health	538 SCOTTS CREEK RD, SUITE 100	Sylva	NC	28779	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0105	Jones County Health Department	418 NC HWY 58 N	Trenton	NC	28585	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0114	Union County Health Department	1224 W ROOSEVELT BLVD	Monroe	NC	28110	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0115	Macon County Public Health Center (MCPHC)	1830 LAKESIDE DR	Franklin	NC	28734	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0117	Madison County Health Department	493 MEDICAL PARK DR	Marshall	NC	28753	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0118	Dare County Department of Public Health	109 EXETER ST	Manteo	NC	27954	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0125	Montgomery County Health Department	217 S MAIN ST	Troy	NC	27371	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0126	Moore County Health Department	705 PINEHURST AVE	Carthage	NC	28327	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0136	Northampton County Health Department	9495 STHY 305	Jackson	NC	27845	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0139	Pasquotank County Health Department	711 ROANOKE AVE	Elizabeth City	NC	27909	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0140	PCG Regional Landfill	759 PERRY BRIDGE RD	Belvidere	NC	27919	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0142	Perquimans County Health Department	103 ARPDC ST	Hertford	NC	27944	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M

17235-00-0144	Person County Health Department	355-A S MADISON BLVD	Roxboro	NC	27573	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0147	Richmond County Health Department	127 CAROLINE ST	Rockingham	NC	28379	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0151	Rowan County Health Department	1811 E INNES ST	Salisbury	NC	28146	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0167	Urban Ministries of Wake County (Open Door Clinic Program)	1390 CAPITAL BLVD	Raleigh	NC	27603-1118	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0168	Vance County Health Department	115 CHARLES ROLLINS RD	Henderson	NC	27536	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M
17235-00-0195	Toe River Health District Business Office	861 GREENWOOD RD	Spruce Pine	NC	28777	Y	Fiber	leased	10mbps	Y	Cisco ME-3400E-24TS-M

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**5. NOT UPDATED: Identify the following non-recurring and recurring costs, where applicable shown both as budgeted and actually incurred for the applicable quarter and funding year to-date.**

- a. Network Design
- b. Network Equipment, including engineering and installation
- c. Infrastructure Deployment/Outside Plant
  - i. Engineering
  - ii. Construction
- d. Internet2, NLR, or Public Internet Connection
- e. Leased Facilities or Tariffed Services
- f. Network Management, Maintenance, and Operation Costs (not captured elsewhere)
- g. Other Non-Recurring and Recurring Costs

Costs for which discounts have been provided to date include leased services costs, installation costs, and pathway construction costs. The details for these costs appear on our NCWs for the FCLs approved for the project to date.

**6. Not UPDATED: Describe how costs have been apportioned and the sources of the funds to pay them:**

- a. Explain how costs are identified, allocated among, and apportioned to both eligible and ineligible network participants.
- b. Describe the source of funds from:
  - i. Eligible Pilot Program network participants
  - ii. Ineligible Pilot Program network participants
- c. Show contributions from all other sources (e.g., local, state, and federal sources, and other grants).
  - i. Identify source of financial support and anticipated revenues that is paying for costs not covered by the fund and by Pilot Program participants.
  - ii. Identify the respective amounts and remaining time for such assistance.
- d. Explain how the selected participant's minimum 15 percent contribution is helping to achieve both the selected participant's identified goals and objectives and the overarching goals of the Pilot Program.

October 2012 - **We have only eligible entities in the NCTN to date All of the non-discount matching funds for the project come from the eligible entities themselves in the form of an initial then monthly payment to Cabarrus Health Alliance.**

July 2012 - **We have only eligible entities in the NCTH-H phase. All of the non-discount matching funds for the project come from the eligible entities themselves in the form of an initial then monthly payment to Cabarrus Health Alliance.**

April 2011 – **We have only eligible entities in the NCTH-PH phase and don't yet know whether we will have any ineligible entities in the NCTNH phase. All of the non-discount matching funds for the project come from the eligible entities themselves in the form of an initial then monthly payment to Cabarrus Health Alliance.**

**July 2011 – We have only eligible entities in the NCTH-PH phase and don't yet know whether we will have any ineligible entities in the NCTNH phase. All of the non-discount matching funds for the project come from the eligible entities themselves in the form of an initial then monthly payment to Cabarrus Health Alliance.**

**7. NOT UPDATED: Identify any technical or non-technical requirements or procedures necessary for ineligible entities to connect to the participant's network.**

For the NCTN-PH - As of now we don't plan to offer service to ineligible entities. We may have a small number of sites who share the broadband facilities (e.g. a local county public health agency sharing with other county departments). We plan to use a "fair share" arrangement to segment the eligible and non-eligible traffic on these "sharing" sites.

Oct 09 For the NCTN-H – We plan to offer connection to private hospitals in NC. The terms of connection will be exactly the same as for RHCPP-eligible hospitals except that RHCPP discounts will not be provided to ineligible entities or to portions of otherwise eligible entities that are not eligible. These terms will be spelled out in an NCTN Subscription Agreement. The key technical connection requirement for each site is to interconnect with an ordinary Ethernet port on the service provider's CPE.

Jan 10 – With the registration deadline near, we have had 105 registrants for the NCTN-H and they have all been public non-profits.

April 2011 – No ineligible entities have been connected to the NCTN as of now.

July 2011 – No ineligible entities have been connected to the NCTN as of now.

**8. NOT UPDATED : Provide an update on the project management plan, detailing:**

a. The project's current leadership and management structure and any changes to the management structure since the last data report; and

August, September, and October 2008: The e-NC Authority has been contracted as of early October to participate as a major part of the program management effort during the network development phase in collaboration with Kirby IMC. Jane Patterson is the Executive Director of e-NC.

b. In the first quarterly report, the selected applicant should provide a detailed project plan and schedule. The schedule must provide a list of key project deliverables or tasks, and their anticipated completion dates. Among the deliverables, participants must indicate the dates when each health care provider site is expected to be connected to the network and operational. Subsequent quarterly reports should identify which project deliverables, scheduled for the previous quarter, were met, and which were not met. In the event a project deliverable is not achieved, or the work and deliverables deviate from the work plan, the selected participant must provide an explanation.

**August, September, October 2008:**

The first quarterly report noted that the provision of program management funds was a precursor to the start of Phase 1. The acquisition of the funds and their application to formal contracts with Kirby IMC and e-NC occurred in early October. This group has met and created a more detailed inventory of activities for each party and is now proceeding with Phase 1.

**November, December 2008 , January 2009-** The work group has decided to pursue a two-phase approach rather than the previous 3 phase approach by combining the net design, implementation, and operations RFP and contracting elements into phase 1 in a single RFP. We came to this decision by observing that the minimal amount of design work to be done for the NCTN would be more efficiently managed by a single RFP that included the design, implementation and operations elements. The updated project phasing is as outlined below:

The project is divided into two phases with key deliverables in each phase shown below. Completing the first phase is dependent on the delivery of non-RHCPP funding for matching funds and program management funds for that phase. Those funds are currently awaiting the completion of the state's budget process for this year. While work is ongoing in phase 1, we won't have dependable dates for its completion until the non-RHCPP funding noted above is in hand.

Phase 1- Forming RFP and subscribing NCTN members (approximately 1-2 months)

Key deliverables:

- Letters of Agency from the eligible entities
- NCTN Subscription Agreement from the eligible entities
- Completed site dataset – with data needed to support network design/implementation and needed to support formal demonstration of eligibility.
- RFP suitable for supporting competitive bidding for the network design, implementation, operation, and tracking process.
- Acquisition of funding commitment letter (FCL) for eligible work done in phase 2
- Completion of competitive bid for RFP;
- Selection process for bid award.
  
- Selection and announcement of bidder for work in phase 2

Phase 2- NCTN implementation/operations ( approximately four years total with operations starting about 3 months after the start of this phase)

Key deliverables:

- Implementation of services and financial/administrative operations.
- Operation of services and financial/administrative operations.

February, March, April 2009 – There has been significant discussion about the other three RHCPP selectees in NC merging with the NCTN project. The Southwestern Commission has agreed in writing to formally request a merger. The UHS and Albemarle Regional projects have made positive comments about merging and expect to come to a decision on a call scheduled for 4/30/09. If the decision is to merge, we will seek a formal merger soon thereafter. The nature of the merger involves using the \$6.4M from the other three projects to build out a network for eligible hospitals in NC similar to the NCTN component servicing public health and free clinic sites. We plan to develop a separate RFP (almost identical to the first RFP) for this hospital part of the network so as not delay the development of the NCTN component to support the public health and free clinic sites. The program management funds for the hospital project are expected to come from a grant. The new hospital sites will have representation at the NCTN Association to be developed as part of the sustainability plan.

July 2009- The four projects have formally requested to be merged. The FCC/USAC are completing the last elements of responding formally to the request. We are currently predicting that the formal response (and a positive one) will be forthcoming by 8/1/09.

October 2009 – The four NC RHCPP projects are now formally merged. The NCTN-H project is underway with the NC Institute for Public Health as the lead project manager for this part of the work. The work has progressed to the point that the likely hospital subscribers have been notified (by the NC Hospital Association), the project is fully staffed and has a tentative plan to complete the network by Fall 2010.

We have asked for an extension (via Tom Buckley and Ernesto Beckford) to the June 2010 deadline for FCLs in order to assure that this new part of the work (i.e. NCTN-H) will not miss the deadline for FCL issue.

The RFP for the NCTN-PH is now past the ACD. We have held a vendor conference and have received letters of intent to bid from several reputable vendors. The level of questions indicates that these

vendors have a serious interest in the project. (See <http://nctelehealthnetwork.com>) We currently plan to have proposal from vendors by 11/4/09.

Jan 10 – The NCTN-H development process is going as planned – more quickly than the NCTN-PH phase. We are near a point that progress may be stalled for lack of a formal response to our request for an extension of a year beyond June 2010 in which FCLs can be issued for the project.

April 2010 – The extension has been granted and allows the project to progress as planned.

July 2010 - The RFP for the NCTN-H has been posted on the FCC website and is progressing toward the ACD. We have held a vendor conference and have received letters of intent to bid from several reputable vendors. The level of questions indicates that these vendors have a serious interest in the project. (See <http://nctelehealthnetwork.com>) We currently plan to have proposal from vendors by 8/25/2010. Subscription agreements for the NCTN-PH phase are coming in now with enough to make our minimal network likely to be in hand within the next week. We plan to request an FCL for this first group of sites immediately thereafter followed by another group of about 50 sites a month later.

October 2010- The first round of 52 NCTN-PH sites are expected to be connected in the next 60-90 days.

January 2011 – Several first round sites (in the table above) are now operational. We expect the others in round 1 and 2 to be connected with the next 30 days. The NCTN-H phase is starting its site subscribing efforts within the next 2 weeks.

April 2011 – There are still 14 sites pending for the NCTN-PH; All but two of these are sites in which there have been delays due to local loop construction difficulties. The other two delays have been due to customers wanting to delay a few weeks to accommodate their operations.

July 2011 – There are only 4 sites pending connection for the NCTN PH phase. Two sites are delayed at customer request. Two sites are delayed by difficulties in contracting with local loop vendors. We expect one of these two to resolve in the next 30 days and the other one in the next 90 days.

October 2011 – We have 2 sites from NCTNPH round 1 and 2 that are not yet connected as originally planned, but are expected to be- local loop providers difficulties. We have two sites that have changed the level of service that they want; we are processing site/service substitutions for these. We also have a few sites that are implemented, but are now wanting to upgrade; we are pursuing this. The 24 sites in NCTNH round 1 are now being connected. We are recruiting for NCTNH Round 2. We expect to request a handful of site/service substitution. We expect to have a new RFP to extend the NCTHPPH site amounts past the contracted end date.

The project received the NC Technology Association's Public Leadership Award this year. We expect this accolade to make aspects of the network be more readily accepted among future participants in NC.

January 2012 – The first round of NCTNH sites are due to be installed within the next 30 days. The RFP for the NCTNEX (Extension phase) has been submitted for review to USAC. We expect to post that RFP and let a related contract in the next quarter. This will allow us to complete all needed FCLs before the July 1 deadline. Several site and service substitutions have been approved by USAC.

April 2012 – All of the NCTN-H Round 1 sites are installed and operational along with a few site and service substitutions. The new RFP (02) is approaching its allowable contract date (4/27/2012). We are prepared to seek an FCL under this new RFP after negotiating a contract with the chosen vendor. We are nearly done with a negotiation with I2 for an extension of the I2 service.

July 2012 – The new NCTNEX FCL is submitted and very near being issued. It commits all of the Available funds for the NCTN.

**9. NOT UPDATED Provide detail on whether network is or will become self sustaining. Selected participants should provide an explanation of how network is self sustaining.**

**January 2013**

**We intend to seek HCF funds for the existing NCTN sites and for many more eligible sites. We think that the maximum 65% discount, minimum 50% rural, and consortium requirements, and other features of the HCF program will be adequate to attract most eligible provider sites to the NCTN. We believe that the current contract with MCNC to provide network services will be acceptable to provide services under HCF.**

**Pre- 1/2013**

**NCTN Sustainability Plan**

**Overview:**

Today, each of the eligible NCTN sites obtains broadband services as an entirely local process—one free clinic at a time, one local health department at a time. This process has risks and limitations that frequently result in sites having inadequate facilities and paying higher prices for those facilities. Generally, the acquisition of these broadband facilities is not coordinated to reduce prices, improve service, or to aid program collaboration among the sites.

Yet, these programs (i.e. in free clinics and local public health agencies) are more frequently seeking to collaborate both on their own initiative and at the urging of their influential partners. The usual goal is to collaborate and cooperate at the program level in order to provide better health-related services at lower costs.

These conditions set the stage for greater cooperation in the area of broadband services among the NCTN subscribers in order to achieve the programmatic results that are being demanded of them now. Therefore, the key areas of cooperation relevant to this NCTN Project are: 1) to work for better value in broadband services per se and 2) for better program services via use of new broadband-dependent technologies at lower costs and to improve the quality of program services for the public. Item 10 below provides more detail on how the use of technology that requires the types of services planned for the NCTN contributes to meeting these program challenges.

This shift towards more need for collaboration among NCTN members and greater use of networked applications, especially in the area of operational information sharing, is the basic motive for a sustainable network. The RHCPP is a way for us to build on that motive. During the RHCPP's life, these sites and other key organizations will work to form and operate the NCTN. Doing so is expected to create the level and type of awareness, understanding, and commitment needed to continue the NCTN after the RHCPP ends.

As noted elsewhere, we plan to use some of the time and non-RHCPP funds in the early part of the project to explore forming a 501c3. It will likely be titled the NCTN Association – an association of NCTN subscribers. This association could be reasonably expected to provide the organizational focus to continue and expand NCTN operations and do so in a way that can build and leverage a level of expertise and buying power in the area of broadband services for non-profit health facilities. Such an organization would also be well positioned to respond to the current RHC program and any of the changes in FCC policy that the RHCPP is designed to foster. We expect that two likely (and welcomed) FCC policy changes fostered by the RHCPP will be: A) embellished support for discounted broadband services for public and non-profit health care providers to the extent of available funds and B) greater usage of available funds by a policy of supporting the distribution and usage of the funds through consortia of eligible entities such as the NCTN Association. However, our sustainability model does not critically depend on any of these changes.

With these trends and needs in mind as motives, the NCTN Association can be reasonably expected to combine discount support, volume buying power, reduced costs (e.g. more teleeducation vs. travel-based education), reduction of operations costs using EMR, more effective reimbursement processes, and greater expertise under the management of the public and non-profit health care providers/subscribers to create, evolve, and operate the NCTN in a sustainable manner.

These value adds alone can be expected to make the NCTN be the preferred vehicle for broadband services for these eligible sites both during the life of the RHCPP and thereafter. But, we are also aware that there are several targets of opportunity for funding in later years that we will pursue (but not depend on) for sustainability. Today, those opportunities include: 1) the traditional RHC program more than ½ of the sites are RHC eligible) 2) funds provided pursuant to (or as a consequence of) the so-called HIT stimulus elements of the bill now pending in Congress 3) an updated RHC program with opportunities based on results from the RHCPP program as the FCC intended in its initial order requesting RHCPP proposals 4) other Federal and state programs to support broadband connectivity that includes RHCPP eligible entities.

### **Key sustainability points**

While we intend to explore the other options noted above for paying for the NCTN services after the RHCPP ends, we have designed the project so that the participants can be reasonably expected to be able to pay the full price of continuing the services after the RHCPP ends.

To start, the 15% matching funds during the RHCPP come from the ordinary operating budgets of the entities who are using the NCTN broadband services. This amount will be about 15-20% of what these sites pay now for broadband services.

We have crafted the RFP so as to induce bids that will not require dramatically more funding per site than sites now pay for their existing broadband connections if the sites had to pay in full.

While we are not actively seeking ineligible network subscribers, we do allow for them. They will pay the full price for the services from the Standard Pricing Schedule plus the NCTN subscription fee. They will be represented in the NCTN Association.

The sustainability period for such an approach is indefinite (certainly 20 years, perhaps more). Our assumption is that over the long run, the cost of the needed facilities will continue to be, at maximum, what it is in nominal dollars. The costs in 2009 dollars will likely shrink at about the general rate of inflation (assumed to be 3%). While these improvements in price performance are likely, the sustainability of the network does not critically depend on them.

The NCTN is posed as more than a physical network. It is also a community of similar entities seeking to leverage their influence to assure that their networking needs are supported in the long run. Both of the key groups (the public health agencies and the free clinics) are accustomed to working as groups and with other groups to achieve such aims. Doing so in the NCTN context is, therefore, culturally normal for them. Each NCTN subscriber will be bound by a subscription agreement that includes the rights and responsibilities of each subscriber and of the NCTN Administrator (now Cabarrus Health Alliance, later the NCTN Association). The subscribers pay a subscription fee that goes to provide the long term funds for the administration of the NCTN and support for NCTN Association activities (approximately \$100k per year total).

The RFP is designed to attract proposals that will offer services based on recurring fees only. These fees will include the costs for the management of the network. Note that “management” in this

context means the technical operations of the network. Program administration is paid for as noted above and executed by CHA/NCTNA. So, we don't plan to own any facilities or excess capacity. This approach inherently depends on partnering with vendors who build the infrastructure needed to supply the services and to provide pricing that reflects the competitive price of the services. We've therefore chosen to be in a position to buy services based on competitive pricing from vendors both during the RHCPP and in the post-RHCPP era rather than be asset owners of potentially non-fungible networking facilities. We believe that this is the better approach for the types of entities that we are trying to serve in this network.

Four budgets for the NCTN-PH are shown below: Budget 1 shows the annual funds flow based on the conservative projection that the sites themselves will pay for the network services in full. Budget 2 shows the effect of participation in the current RHC program. Budget 3 shows the effect of a theoretically reformed RHC program that would provide 85% discounts. Budget 4 shows the effect of applying the model in budget 3 to all public health and free clinics in the U.S. The chief figure of note in budget 4 is the \$38,133,720 per year for the reformed RHC program to provide 85% support to all public health and free clinics in the U.S. This is a bit less than 10% of the yearly allocation available for the RHC, as we understand it. This last point is made to help better understand the practicality of a reformed RHC supporting an 85% discount.

The sustainability points for the NCTN-H are substantially the same as for the NCTN-PH.

The budgets below are embedded. So you can double click them to see them in Excel.

Jan 10 – With the bids in for the NCTN-PH it appears that we will be able to pursue a program in which we offer 57% discounts to the sites for a three year commitment. This is somewhat less than we had wanted, but adequate to meet the objectives of the project. We are expecting a similar situation to apply to the NCTN-H.

July 2011 – We are about to issue an FCL for a round one of the NCTN Hospital Phase (24 sites). We expect a round2 for NCTNH that will be about 10 sites. We are able to extend an extra year of coverage with discounts to all of the NCTN sites (PH and H phases)- resulting in a 4 year period of discounts. We are updating our contract for NCTNH to allow us to use it to aid in transitioning the NCTNH sites to the permanent RHC program – expecting that the reformed program will provide significant discounts when finalized. We are expecting to put forward an RFP in the next 30 days that will cover the fourth year of discount coverage for the NCTNPH sites and offer them a vehicle for transition of the permanent RHC reformed program. The BTOP work in NC is moving forward ahead of schedule and is expected to provide opportunities to lower base costs for broadband services for many NCTN sites in the future.

**NCTN Budget 1 - Conservative model that assumes that sites pay full costs after RHCPP ends**

Note that we assume that the cost of an adequate broadband service will stay the same in nominal dollars over these twenty years.

The average site today pays \$40

Calendar Year	Number of sites	Average monthly cost per site for network services	Subscription fee per site/month	Percent of costs paid by the sites	Full cost of network services per CY (with \$600/ mo average per site)	Network service costs paid by sites per CY	Subscription fees (from subscribers) per CY	Average network service cost paid by site per month	Total average cost to site per month (i.e. service plus subscription fee)	Total monthly cost to site in 2009 dollars (assuming 3% inflation)	Total RHCPP discounts paid to vendor per CY	Accumulated RHCPP funds used
CY2009 (last quarter only)	230	600	40	15%	414,000	62,100	27,600	90	130	130	351,900	351,900
CY2010	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	126	1,407,600	1,759,500
CY2011	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	122	1,407,600	3,167,100
CY2012	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	119	1,407,600	4,574,700
CY2013	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	115	1,407,600	5,982,300
CY2014	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	112	0	5,982,300
CY2015	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	533	0	5,982,300
CY2016	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	517	0	5,982,300
CY2017	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	502	0	5,982,300
CY2018	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	487	0	5,982,300
CY2019	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	472	0	5,982,300
CY2020	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	458	0	5,982,300
CY2021	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	444	0	5,982,300
CY2022	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	431	0	5,982,300
CY2023	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	418	0	5,982,300
CY2024	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	405	0	5,982,300
CY2025	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	393	0	5,982,300
CY2026	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	381	0	5,982,300
CY2027	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	370	0	5,982,300
CY2028	230	600	40	100%	1,656,000	1,656,000	110,400	600	640	359	0	5,982,300

NCTN Budget 2 - This model that assumes that sites pay costs not covered by RHC after RHCPP ends. (assume 5% RHC support)

Note that we assume that the cost of an adequate broadband service will stay the same in nominal dollars over these twenty years.

Calendar Year	Number of sites	Average monthly cost per site for network services	Subscription fee per site/month	Percent of costs paid by the sites	Full cost of network services per CY (with \$600/ mo average per site)	Network service costs paid by sites per CY	Subscription fees (from subscribers) per CY	Average network service cost paid by site per month	Total average cost to site per month (i.e. service plus subscription fee)	Total monthly cost to site in 2009 dollars (assuming 3% inflation)	Total RHCPP discounts paid to vendor per CY through CY2013; RHC discounts thereafter	Accumulated RHCPP/RHC funds used
CY2009 (last quarter only)	230	600	40	15%	414,000	62,100	27,600	90	130	130	351,900	351,900
CY2010	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	126	1,407,600	1,759,500
CY2011	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	122	1,407,600	3,167,100
CY2012	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	119	1,407,600	4,574,700
CY2013	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	115	1,407,600	5,982,300
CY2014	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	112	82,800	6,065,100
CY2015	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	508	82,800	6,147,900
CY2016	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	493	82,800	6,230,700
CY2017	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	478	82,800	6,313,500
CY2018	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	464	82,800	6,396,300
CY2019	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	450	82,800	6,479,100
CY2020	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	436	82,800	6,561,900
CY2021	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	423	82,800	6,644,700
CY2022	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	411	82,800	6,727,500
CY2023	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	398	82,800	6,810,300
CY2024	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	386	82,800	6,893,100
CY2025	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	375	82,800	6,975,900
CY2026	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	363	82,800	7,058,700
CY2027	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	353	82,800	7,141,500
CY2028	230	600	40	95%	1,656,000	1,573,200	110,400	570	610	342	82,800	7,224,300

**NCTN Budget 3 - Model that assumes that sites pay costs not covered by reformed RHC after RHCPP ends. (i.e. 85% reformed RHC support)**

Note that we assume that the cost of an adequate broadband service will stay the same in nominal dollars over these twenty

Calendar Year	Number of sites	Average monthly cost per site for network services	Subscription fee per site/month	Percent of costs paid by the sites	Full cost of network services per CY (with \$600/mo average per site)	Network service costs paid by sites per CY	Subscription fees (from subscribers) per CY	Average network services cost paid by site per month	Total average cost to site per month (i.e. service plus subscription fee)	Total monthly cost to site in 2009 dollars (assuming 3% inflation)	Total RHCPP discounts paid to vendor per CY through CY2013; Reformed RHC discounts thereafter	Accumulated RHCPP/RHCFunds used
CY2009 (last quarter only)	230	600	40	15%	414,000	62,100	27,600	90	130	130	351,900	351,900
CY2010	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	126	1,407,600	1,759,500
CY2011	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	122	1,407,600	3,167,100
CY2012	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	119	1,407,600	4,574,700
CY2013	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	115	1,407,600	5,982,300
CY2014	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	112	1,407,600	7,389,900
CY2015	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	108	1,407,600	8,797,500
CY2016	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	105	1,407,600	10,205,100
CY2017	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	102	1,407,600	11,612,700
CY2018	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	99	1,407,600	13,020,300
CY2019	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	96	1,407,600	14,427,900
CY2020	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	93	1,407,600	15,835,500
CY2021	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	90	1,407,600	17,243,100
CY2022	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	87	1,407,600	18,650,700
CY2023	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	85	1,407,600	20,058,300
CY2024	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	82	1,407,600	21,465,900
CY2025	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	80	1,407,600	22,873,500
CY2026	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	77	1,407,600	24,281,100
CY2027	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	75	1,407,600	25,688,700
CY2028	230	600	40	15%	1,656,000	248,400	110,400	90	130	73	1,407,600	27,096,300

NCTN Budget 4 - Model for the entire U.S public health and free clinics (approx 6750 sites= 2875 LHD \* 1.75 sites/ LHD + 1200 = 6231 ) that assumes that sites pay costs not covered by reformed RHC after RHCPP ends. (i.e. 85% reformed RHC discount)

Note

Calendar Year	Number of sites (estimate)	Average monthly cost per site for network services	Subscription fee per site/month	Percent of costs paid by the sites	Full cost of network services per CY (with \$600/ mo average per site)	Network service costs paid by sites per CY	Subscription fees (from subscribers) per CY	Average network service cost paid by site per month	Total average cost to site per month (i.e. service plus subscription fee)	Total monthly cost to site in 2009 dollars (assuming 3% inflation)	Total RHCPP discounts paid to vendor per CY through CY2013; Reformed RHC discounts thereafter	Accumulated RHCPP/ RHC funds used
CY2009 (last quarter only)	6231	600	40	15%	11,215,800	1,682,370	747,720	90	130	130	9,533,430	9,533,430
CY2010	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	126	38,133,720	47,667,150
CY2011	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	122	38,133,720	85,800,870
CY2012	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	119	38,133,720	123,934,590
CY2013	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	115	38,133,720	162,068,310
CY2014	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	112	38,133,720	200,202,030
CY2015	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	108	38,133,720	238,335,750
CY2016	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	105	38,133,720	276,469,470
CY2017	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	102	38,133,720	314,603,190
CY2018	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	99	38,133,720	352,736,910
CY2019	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	96	38,133,720	390,870,630
CY2020	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	93	38,133,720	429,004,350
CY2021	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	90	38,133,720	467,138,070
CY2022	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	87	38,133,720	505,271,790
CY2023	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	85	38,133,720	543,405,510
CY2024	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	82	38,133,720	581,539,230
CY2025	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	80	38,133,720	619,672,950
CY2026	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	77	38,133,720	657,806,670
CY2027	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	75	38,133,720	695,940,390
CY2028	6231	600	40	15%	44,863,200	6,729,480	2,990,880	90	130	73	38,133,720	734,074,110

**July 2010 - We are reviewing the recent NPRM published by the FCC to reform the RHC program and expect to offer substantial comments. Our first reaction is that a program roughly as described would be an important aid to sustainability of the NCTN's planned users and represent an opportunity to add other eligible providers.**

**10. NOT UPDATED: Provide detail on how the supported network has advanced telemedicine benefits:**

- a. Explain how the supported network has achieved the goals and objectives outlined in selected participant's Pilot Program application;
- b. Explain how the supported network has brought the benefits of innovative telehealth and, in particular, telemedicine services to those areas of the country where the need for those benefits is most acute;
- c. Explain how the supported network has allowed patients access to critically needed medical specialists in a variety of practices without leaving their homes or communities;
- d. Explain how the supported network has allowed health care providers access to government research institutions, and/or academic, public, and private health care institutions that are repositories of medical expertise and information;
- e. Explain how the supported network has allowed health care professional to monitor critically ill patients at multiple locations around the clock, provide access to advanced applications in continuing education and research, and/or enhanced the health care community's ability to provide a rapid and coordinated response in the event of a national crisis.

The NCTN has not started operation, but has already produced some telemedicine benefits. Notably, the exploration of the NCTN scope has raised awareness among a critical mass of players of the near-term need for higher bandwidth and more reliable connections for the vast majority of NCTN participants.

While the NCTN design will be a network with broad telemedicine capabilities, there are four "killer apps" that the NCTN will support. These four applications also can be instrumental parts of other telemedicine applications (e.g. teleconsulting, tele-education). A short description of these five applications will do the most to illustrate these key concrete NCTN-based telemedicine benefits.

1) The Health Information System (HIS) for NC Public Health Agencies. This new system is essentially a centrally provided Electronic Medical Record system including components used during clinical visits (e.g. patient encounter data entry) as well as real-time elements to support administrative needs (e.g. appointing, claims). It is intended to rollout in late 2008 to early 2009. The HIS is designed to provide better client service at lower cost and to provide higher quality health care services through better availability and integrity of relevant patient information. The centrally served architecture of HIS requires that each public health clinic user's workstation have an active session with the central servers (in Raleigh NC) whenever the system is being used. This, of course, implies that the network between the workstation and the central server must be available and responsive.

When the broadband network is not available or is not responsive, the repercussions range from slowed clinic work to closing clinics with attendant effects on patients from delay in care, economic effects from lost job revenue (as patients are delayed or come back for additional appointments), and loss/delay of job revenue for clinic workers when clinics close. Even the low end of these potential effects (e.g. slowed clinics) is likely disruptive enough that most clinics would abandon or minimize the use of HIS until a reliable and responsive network could be put in place. So, for this critical application, an NCTN-like service is an essential need.

When the HIS system well established, the ability to serve the public in clinics, to share a patient's information quickly and accurately with patient's other providers will be established. Having this ability to share data quickly and accurately is an essential part of many types of traditional telemedicine applications – especially telemedicine-based referrals. So, the success of HIS is a good building block for other telemedicine applications as well as bringing benefits on its own.

2) NCAFC EMR – The NC Association of Free Clinics' information systems strategy includes a commitment to create and operate a centrally served EMR for its approximately 76 member sites to support better care and lower care costs. As in the HIS case, there is a need for a higher-bandwidth and more reliable broadband connection than most free clinics now have. As in the HIS case, the failure to meet these network needs will almost certainly result in disruption of clinic services followed by rejection of the system and delay of reintroduction of the EMR until adequate broadband connections can be obtained and financed. The same logic about the EMR being a building block and supporting other telemedicine applications applies to this EMR as it did for the HIS.

3) LHD DISASTER RESPONSE – Over the last few years, several networked information tools have been developed to support the coordination of public health response service during public disasters (e.g. hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, ice storms, bio-events). Many of these events by their nature are likely to disrupt ordinary broadband services. Currently, most local health departments depend on ordinary broadband services for their access to these networked disaster tools and depend on a growing list of networked information services that are needed at all times (e.g. HIS). Local health departments are thus at risk of not being able to gain the benefit of these tools at the point in time that they are most needed- during a disaster. The NCTN will be designed to support operations using these tools under these circumstances.

This enhanced level of network reliability will likely have a secondary effect on the value gained from all applications: the willingness to (rationally) depend on the network being up and responsive will encourage all users to develop and use higher-value program elements. For example, if you are going to design a program to provide remote telemedicine consults in medical emergencies (e.g. using echocardiography to evaluate newborns in distress), you can rationally base the program design only on a very highly reliable network. If implementing this teleconsulting application included gaining access to a patient's records in HIS, the benefit of the reliability of the network supporting the HIS access would be higher, though the costs would not go up.

4) NCAFC VOIP – Part of the NCAFC's information services strategy calls for the use of voice over IP services as the mainstay for voice services at the 76 free clinics. This is envisioned as a way to add services and lower costs. But, this can only be done with a broadband network with sufficiently low latency and high reliability. Ordinary broadband, especially in rural areas, does not routinely have these qualities at a sufficient level to support this use. The NCTN is the mechanism that is designed to provide these qualities.

5) Tele-education – Since the project started, many of the public health agencies have noted that they would save significant funds if they made more use of remote video-based education opportunities. The desire to make more use of tele-education has risen in the last few months as budgets are constrained at the same time that more service is being asked of the NCTN members. Today, tele-education opportunities are not viable for many NCTN members because adequate broadband facilities are either not available or are too costly. The NCTN project is designed to provide these opportunities.

August, September, October: The University of North Carolina's School of Medicine has expressed an interest in creating telehealth services for the local health departments that will depend on the NCTN as part of their legislatively funded obligation to provide outreach services in NC. The effort is

led by UNC's CIO, Lawrence Conrad. Throughout August and September we identified the UNC-internal parties who should participate in exploring the option set. A first set of potential collaborators, including e-NC and Kirby IMC, met in October to see how to move this interest forward and is proceeding now to locate the best options for meeting this service objective.

July 2009 – One recent accomplishment in this area has been the development of a recognition in the state's health IT strategy that broadband connections for providers are an essential part of succeeding at all health IT activities (especially telemedicine, HIE, EHR usage, PHR usage). This point of view was prompted partially by the visibility of the RHCPP project in the state.

October 2009 – With the merger of the three other NC RHCPP projects, the NCTN now will connect virtually all of the hospitals in NC. This additional connected group will add a new set of parties interested in various forms of telemedicine that are common in hospitals – e.g. tele-consulting with ICU, NICU patients, tele-education for hospital staff (or as a service for local providers)). This set of connections also allows us to include hospitals in IT-enabled disaster response elements along with the public health agencies and free clinics. We are also now able to provide networking support for those hospitals who wish to use ASP-modeled EHRs and other HIT/HIE services as part of their approach to meeting "Meaningful Use of EHR" criteria under the HITECH Act. Collectively, the network now is planned to support the vast majority of care providers for vulnerable populations in NC.

Jan 10 – There are several Beacon Community and SHARP program proposals going to ONC in the near future from NC. The NCTN Project has offered to support each of them.

April 2010 – The Beacon Community Grants have not been announced as of today (4/24). NC did not win either of the SHARP grants. The PHS sites in the NCTN=PH phase are now clearly in need of the NCTN as the first uses of HIS are in play. This provides extra incentive to make the NCTN-PH operational as soon as feasible.

July 2010 – The Beacon Community grants are announced and a project was funded (\$16M) in a community bounded by Cabarrus, Stanly, and Rowan counties. Offers to subscribe to the NCTN are out to the free clinics and public health departments in these counties. The hospitals in this community have registered to be made offers as part of the NCTN-H phase.

October 2010 – The first round of NCTN-PH sites (52) have a critical need to use the NCTN for HIS (see above) and more generally need it for EMR/HIE uses related to the Meaningful Use of EHR program.

April 2011 - NC recently experienced an unprecedented number of tornadoes causing great damage to property, injuries, and loss of life in the area served by the NCTNPH. Our design called for hardening the network to assure that it remained operational during and in the aftermath of such disasters – so as to serve the (increased) load of patients and support other public health functions. In fact, the network had only a handful of very short outages during this period and therefore aided these sites in continuing to care for their patients.

We have had recent discussions with some of the major care providers in the NCTN catchment area, at their request, to identify how their plans for telemedicine applications will be aided by the existence of the NCTN.

July 2011 – This quarter we've conferred with one health system (UNC) who wishes to mount a telemedicine initiative and plans to use the NCTN as the transport vehicle.

January 2012 – The NCTN project was awarded the NC Technology Association's Public Leadership Award in 2011. The award recognizes the NCTN contributions to telemedicine.

April 2012 – A state-wide telehealth program survey showed that about 60% of the existing programs are in institutions that are NCTN subscribers. Because most program managers expect to expand their programs, we plan to resurvey in the next 12 months.

July 2012 - Several of the NCTN subscribers are issuing formal Comments to docket 02-60 on this point.

**11. NOT UPDATED : Provide detail on how the supported network has complied with HHS health IT initiatives:**

- a. Explain how the supported network has used health IT systems and products that meet interoperability standards recognized by the HHS Secretary;
- b. Explain how the supported network has used health IT products certified by the Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology;
- c. Explain how the supported network has supported the Nationwide Health Information Network (NHIN) architecture by coordinating activities with organizations performing NHIN trial implementations;
- d. Explain how the supported network has used resources available at HHS's Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) National Resource Center for Health Information Technology;
- e. Explain how the selected participant has educated themselves concerning the Pandemic and All Hazards Preparedness Act and coordinated with the HHS Assistant Secretary for Public Response as a resource for telehealth inventory and for the implementation of other preparedness and response initiatives; and
- f. Explain how the supported network has used resources available through HHS's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Public Health Information Network (PHIN) to facilitate interoperability with public health and emergency organizations.

While the NCTN is not operational yet, our plan for the NCTN design, implementation, and operation to support these initiatives is formed. Notably:

- We plan to require NCTN products/services that meet the interoperability standards recognized by HHS. We will encourage the use of such products for those who operate services that use such products over the NCTN (e.g. HL7 in health data transmissions).

- CCHIT does not yet certify products that the NCTN would directly use, but CCHIT standards require the use of various open networking protocols (e.g. SSL, IPsec) by those who may use CCHIT-certified products (e.g. EMRs) in ways that employ the NCTN (e.g. movement of lab results). Our plan is for the NCTN to support these open protocols to allow CCHIT products to operate in a certified way and to encourage the adoption of CCHIT products among NCTN subscribers.

- Many of the principal actors in forming the NCTN are also active members of organizations involved in the NHIN trials. Notably, CHA, the NC Association of Local Health Directors, the NCAFC, the NC Division of Public Health, and KirbyIMC are all active members of NCHICA (the North Carolina Healthcare Information and Communication Alliance). NCHICA is one of the NHIN Trial Implementers and this group of NCHICA members has been active in forming and following the approach to this NHIN-centric work and other related projects.

- The AHRQ's HealthIT site is a great resource for the evidence base for the use of information in health-related activities. Many of these activities include broadband networks. But, the AHRQ site does not seem to have much helpful material associated with designing or operating broadband nets to support these uses. The site's data will likely be of much more use to us as various NCTN users focus on the types of uses of broadband that are the mainstay of this web site.

- With regard to the Pandemic All Hazards Preparedness Act, we have made direct contact with the Asst. Secretary to request his guidance, which is pending. In the interim, we plan to include supportive elements in the NCTN design. Note that the reliability measures in the NCTN will

include high reliability in the face of pandemics that may significantly reduce availability of the workforce that maintains broadband facilities – especially in rural areas.

- With regard to the CDC's PHIN, we have included on our team the North Carolina PHIN Compliance Coordinator and plan to use his inputs to assure that the NCTN can support PHIN-compliant applications. We are participating with other RHCPP members in a collaboration requested by CDC (Dr. Charles Magruder) to determine how to best integrate PHIN needs with RHCPP projects.

-We have led the development of a security workshop for RHCPP members and sponsored by the VA at the upcoming (3/1) Academic Medical Center Privacy and Security Conference.

-Since the HITECH Act was passed in February 2009, the NCTN has become more important to subscribers as they move to comply with the various aspects of the Act that use broadband facilities. Notably, there are Meaningful Use objectives that relate to use of Health Information Exchange and electronic reporting to HHS. In addition, other meaningful use requirements are likely to be met with ASP-modeled facilities (which, of course, require a highly-reliable broadband connection).

Jan 10 – There are several Beacon Community and SHARP program proposals going to ONC in the near future from NC. The NCTN Project has offered to support each of them. These sort of cross-supports are listed as preferred both in all of these programs.

July 2010 – The Beacon Community grants are announced and a project was funded (\$16M) in a community bounded by Cabarrus, Stanly, and Rowan counties. Offers to subscribe to the NCTN are out to the free clinics and public health departments in these counties. The hospitals in this community have registered to be made offers as part of the NCTN-H phase. The NCTNPH contract includes an option to have a high speed connection to a data center at which we expect many public health agencies will obtain EHR services in support of complying with objectives of the Meaningful Use of EHRs program.

April 2011 – The Meaningful Use of EHR program and other regulations resulting from the HITECH Act are underway now (though some are not finalized). NCTNPH users and NCTN-H prospective users frequently have noted that their interest in NCTN is partially driven by their desire to participate in the MU program and to comply with the upcoming regs from HITECH.

April 2012 – Virtually all of the NCTN subscriber also participate in the ONC Meaningful Use of ER program, The NCTN supports the elements of that program that share data or provide access to remote resources(e.g. SAAS EHRs).

**12. NOT UPDATED 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.**

Most of the NCTN public health agency sites and even many of the free clinics are expected to be operational during a disaster both for normal services and in support of disaster response. Virtually all of the hospitals also run emergency departments with disaster response responsibilities. Many public health sites are also community centers for disaster response – partnering with other government units (e.g. the county sheriff's office) and NGOs (e.g. the Red Cross). So, being involved in preparing for, training for, and executing disaster response is part

of the basic mission of most NCTN subscribers. One key NCTN team member – the NC Division of Public Health – has an overall coordination role in the area of public health emergencies and generally requires the close cooperation of local health departments (all of which are expected to be NCTN members) in carrying out this role.

To date, our main form of specifically assuring that the NCTN can support use of the network by HHS, CDC, and other public health officials has been to make PHIN compliance a basic goal and to involve the state's PHIN coordinator as a project team member. As the design details are filled in and the network is implemented and operated, we will call on this partnership to assure that the needs to support response to public health emergencies are fulfilled.

August, September, October 2008 – The NCTN collaborators regularly work with the Internet2 working group associated with the RHCPP. As part of our effort, we composed a panel at the latest I2 meeting in October on how RHCPP participants could support PHIN and related CDC activities. A key design factor for the NCTN is to have disaster-proof reliability that can support public health agencies as they monitor and respond to disasters. This factor was described in the session for other RHCPP selectees.

Dr. Charles Magruder, a coordinator of health information exchange activities at CDC's National Center for Public Health Informatics, was recruited to present in collaboration with the panel. That interaction has led to intent to more deeply involve the interested RHCPP projects with Dr. Magruder's work and may provide some support funding for doing so.

NC PHIN: Public Health Activities and Disaster Management - Over the last few years several information systems have been implemented to create the North Carolina Public Health Network (NC PHIN). NC PHIN supports public health activities at state and local levels and also provides coordination and integration between state and local health departments with Centers for Disease Control (CDC). These activities include disaster management services during both man-made and natural disasters (e.g. hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, ice storms, pandemics, bioterrorism events). Many of these disaster events present high risks for disrupting ordinary broadband services that NC PHIN users depend on and thus would endanger lives and threaten the public well-being.

Systems that comprise NC PHIN are client/server architectures with all servers centralized in the Raleigh data center and client access at the local levels via the Internet. The NCTN will be designed to ensure availability for timely and reliable access to NC PHIN systems to provide critical tools that support local health departments' processes. Local health departments must have timely, accurate and appropriate information to effectively serve their communities, to promote health and to make potentially life-saving decisions that protect the public from health threats. A dynamic network is very important for collaboration with both other state and federal public health resource responders.

NCTN is key for NC PHIN to be compliant with the PHIN 2.0 Requirement that each local health departments ensure that its electronic information systems that support PHIN requirements have the appropriate level of availability and that an Internet connection is available to support data exchange and interoperability initiatives.

The public health systems that comprise NC PHIN and the activities supported include:

- 1) NC HAN – Provides health alerts and information between local, state public health departments, CDC and private health providers.
- 2) NC EDSS – Supports outbreak management, countermeasures and response management, routine disease surveillance and disease reporting.
- 3) NC DETECT – Provides early event detection and syndromic surveillance.
- 4) NC LIMS – Connects the NC Public Health laboratory and private laboratories with other NC PHIN Systems to provide laboratory results.

5) NC PHIN Infrastructure – Provides 24/7/365 “five-nines” high availability and fault–tolerance systems design for central servers and applications at the state-level only.

6) UNC PH Lib - very interactive and data driven public health library at the Medical and Public Health Schools at UNC-CH.?

April 2011 - NC recently experienced an unprecedented number of tornadoes causing great damage to property, injuries , and loss of life in the area served by the NCTNPH. Our design called for hardening the network to assure that it remained operational during and in the aftermath of such disasters – so as to serve the (increased) load of patients and support other public health functions. In fact, the network had only a handful of very short outages during this period and therefore aided these sites in continuing to care for their patients.

April 2012 – The NCTN has now had an operational life of over one year. So, we have experience with the reliability of the network. Our experience has been that we have very few outages even under repeated natural disasters over that year (earthquakes, tornadoes, backhoes). We have a process in which we routinely review outages for opportunities to improve reliability and have made improvements as a result in this first year. While these actions are not explicitly done to align with any specific CDC or HHS initiative, they are taken to assure that the network is reliable enough – especially in the face of natural disasters – to be counted on to support the information movement needs of NCTN subscribers- most of whom are key responders in a community emergency.

October 2012 – We note that the recently passed “Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act” in Section 618 requires that the FDA, HHS, and FCC propose a framework for health IT regulation in the next 18 months with public input. We expect to at least follow and where practical participate in this process.