



Press Release

Contact:

Lori LeRoy	JoBeth Zimmerman
BioCrossroads	BioCrossroads
(317) 238-2456	(317) 331-6547
lleroy@biocrossroads.com	jzimmerman@biocrossroads.com

Collaboration of Indiana's health information exchanges, state organizations submits application for health information technology stimulus funding

Led by BioCrossroads, effort focuses on Indiana's depth, breadth and leadership in HIT, advancing it to the next level

Indianapolis, Oct. 16, 2009 – In an unprecedented collaborative effort, the State of Indiana under Governor Mitch Daniels' leadership, and Indiana's five independent health information exchanges and four state organizations, spearheaded by BioCrossroads, submitted an application today to receive federal stimulus funding for a statewide health information technology (HIT) program. If awarded, several million dollars in funding would be provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Cooperative Agreement Program (CAP) which will be used to further enhance the quality and reach of the State of Indiana's HIT delivery system.

The four-year grant would not only assist in advancing Indiana's position as a leader in sustainable, secure, standards-based health information exchange (HIE), which securely sends clinical test results, reports and other medical information, but would also improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of patient care statewide. If awarded the CAP funding, the State of Indiana will further develop a state governance structure to continue encouraging collaboration among health information exchanges, the state, and regional extension centers.

The newly formed governance organization, now known as Indiana Health Information Technology, Inc. (IHIT), will promote alliances and innovation among the State's five independent exchanges including:

- HealthBridge
- HealthLINC
- Indiana Health Information Exchange (IHIE)
- MedWeb
- Michiana Health Information Network (MHIN)

as well as four state organizations:

- Family and Social Services Administration
- Indiana Department of Health
- Indiana Economic Development Corporation
- Indiana Health Informatics Corporation

“This effort not only solidifies Indiana’s leadership position in health information technology, but illustrates the commitment we have made in both our private and public sectors to work together to improve health care,” said David Johnson, President and CEO of BioCrossroads. “Indiana is home to the strongest health IT sector anywhere in the United States today, so it makes perfect sense for us to continue pioneering this effort.”

As a precursor to this effort, BioCrossroads also orchestrated the development **Exhibit Indiana (Expanding Indiana’s Breakthroughs in Health Information Technology)**, an initiative focused on advancing the development and effective use of HIT within Indiana and across the U.S. www.exhibitindiana.com currently showcases the five independent HIEs in Indiana that include millions of patient records and thousands of physicians.

If awarded the federal funding grant, the IHIT will further enhance the availability and adoption of these critical existing services affording significant health care cost savings and improved patient outcomes for every corner of the state.

“With the help of operating health information exchanges, a roster of progressive hospitals and physicians complemented by innovative entrepreneurial organizations and a long history of groundbreaking HIT research at our universities, the State of Indiana is poised to continue leading the nation in health care IT,” said Anne Murphy, Secretary, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration. “The CAP funding will help us continue this role by enhancing the existing infrastructure to positively impact health care at all levels.”

“To promote and advance health information technology as one of our state’s true life sciences clusters, BioCrossroads assembled the coalition and orchestrated the effort to develop this extensive proposal and establish its governing organization,” said Johnson. “We look forward to the new organization leading the charge by facilitating the proposed plan for further connectivity and additional healthcare delivery improvements.”

“Indiana’s leadership in life sciences spans over decades of time and is further cultivated by the state’s significant advances in health information technology. By more effectively managing vital health information, we are creating synergies for the numerous providers and commercial partners in Indiana’s healthcare landscape,” said Mitch Roob, Indiana Secretary of Commerce and Chief Executive Officer of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. “This important collaboration by the IHIT team leverages the best in Indiana’s life sciences resources and solidifies our preeminent position in the industry.”

The State will be notified of funding availability in mid-December. The newly created IHIT will then assume full responsibility, commencing as early as January 15, 2010, to facilitate efforts with participating state organizations, HIEs, hospitals, physicians, and the national grantors.

About BioCrossroads

BioCrossroads (www.biocrossroads.com) is Indiana’s initiative to grow, advance and invest in the life sciences, a public-private collaboration that supports the region’s existing research and corporate strengths while encouraging new business development. BioCrossroads provides money and support to life sciences businesses, launches new life sciences enterprises ([Indiana Health Information Exchange](#), [Fairbanks](#)

[Institute for Healthy Communities](#), [BioCrossroadsLINX](#), and [Datalys Center](#)), expands collaboration and partnerships among Indiana's life science institutions, promotes science education and markets Indiana's life sciences industry.