



Healthcare Information Programs Strategy

OneCleveland is all about opportunities to use high-speed broadband information technology to:

- improve the efficiency of our governments and nonprofit institutions
- improve our research and educational systems
- enhance our healthcare services
- narrow the digital divide
- create a regional competitive advantage that can transform Northeast Ohio into a generator of innovation and wealth – just as it was in the first half of the last century.

OneCleveland is a next generation regional community network that serves as a platform for many collaborative initiatives that will help improve the quality of life and prosperity in the region. Its potential is only limited by our community's imagination.

Mission and Purpose

One of the biggest challenges facing the nation and the region involves finding ways to improve the healthcare system in an effort to improve health outcomes. On a national level, there has been a recent call for the use of information technology to inform clinical practice; interconnect clinicians, personalizing patient care; and improve population health, including access to care for underserved Americans. While many people enjoy access to and the benefits of our region's world class healthcare system, there is a growing problem of poor health outcomes. A recent study conducted by the Center for Community Solutions also indicates the presence of several health disparities among minority populations.

OneCleveland provides a broadband information technology infrastructure that can provide the platform for developing innovations to improve the healthcare system and health outcomes. OneCleveland provides a foundation for developing collaborative processes for information sharing among public and private healthcare providers, health education programs, and research organizations. As a provider of ultra broadband networking services, OneCleveland provides opportunities for creating and hosting new health information technologies for use by all stakeholders in the healthcare system. OneCleveland provides a neutral ground for the exchange, mediation, security and distribution of information. Our goal is to identify opportunities and support initiatives that will benefit from the use of a high speed broadband infrastructure.

Current Initiatives

- Working in collaboration with NorTech and other sources to identify funding sources for the development of HIT (Health Information Technology) in NE Ohio
- Working with Safety Net Providers and community partners to improve the opportunities for collaboration and integration of services
- Working with the regions health organizations in the formation and development of a Regional Health Information Network (RHIO)
- Provide the technical expertise necessary to ensure interoperability amongst systems
- Establish a public/private collaborative
- Provide thought leadership in the use of a broadband infrastructure to launch such a system
- Increase collaborative communications through workshops, applications and tools
- Facilitate local business development to create and support this network



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- Ensure patient advocacy in final outcomes

Objectives

- Identify, develop and implement collaborative HIT pilot projects that will improve access to healthcare information, prevention services, and treatment
- Educate healthcare provider entities across the region about opportunities for using health information technology to improve healthcare and health outcomes
- Facilitate ultra broadband connectivity for all the healthcare institutions in the region
- Work with other stakeholders to develop and implement a regional strategy for using broadband technology to address healthcare disparities
- Identify and facilitate implementation of new methods for using broadband technology to enhance collaboration amongst healthcare providers, health education organizations and health related research entities.
- Facilitate the development and evaluation of prototype standards for information sharing among healthcare providers
- Work with other stakeholders to identify and implement pilot projects that will lead to the development of a Regional Healthcare Information Organizations (RHIO) and Healthcare Information Networks

Current Projects

- Develop health education outreach program with MetroHealth, Cuyahoga Community College and OneCleveland to address healthcare disparities in underserved neighborhoods
- Collaboration with early stage NEO RHIO organization with Metrohealth, University Hospital and a variety of community participants to address local and regional health care applications within communities ranging from local physicians, nursing and home care, emergency room and emergency response
- Establishing OneCleveland connections to major healthcare institutions in through out northeast Ohio and specifically in Greater Cleveland and Akron
- Collaborating with other stakeholders in early stage development of a work plan for establishing a RHIO/HIN in Northeast Ohio
- Developing a plan for using broadband technology to coordinate care among safety-net healthcare providers in cooperation with United Way Healthcare Vision Council
- Developing a plan for connecting small to midsize healthcare providers to the OneCleveland network

Projected Outcomes

- **Reduce Cost:** Lower the cost of deploying and utilizing interoperable HIT applications among organizations using the OneCleveland broadband platform.
- **Educational Outreach:** Improve access to healthcare education, prevention and treatment information for populations experiencing health disparities across the region
- **Standards Harmonization:** Establish regional HIT deployment best practices and standards that are aligned with practices and standards being developed at the national level for RHIO/HIN networks.



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- **Prototypes for an Internet-based NHIN Architecture:** Provide examples of effective prototype *applications that are scalable for the national health information network.*
- **Privacy and Security Solutions for Health Data Exchange:** Establish standards that enable the private and secure mediation and exchange of information between all the healthcare institutions using OneCleveland in the region.