



The Future of Health Care Is Now

Bringing quality care to all Oregonians



High-speed broadband connectivity for health care professionals, statewide.



Imagine living in a rural community, fifty or more miles from your doctor and 200 miles away from the nearest full-service hospital.

Now imagine being diagnosed with a chronic illness requiring weekly visits to specialists, taking time off from work and away from your family, and the added physical and financial stress of traveling to get the care you need. This was reality for pioneers 150 years ago, and is still reality for roughly 80% of all Oregonians.

A number of economic, cultural and social factors are contributing to huge disparities in regional healthcare delivery. The prospect becomes even more complicated when governmental regulations and pending health care reform policies rely heavily on the ability to provide comprehensive healthcare within a patient's immediate community. Without advanced telehealth services and related technologies, rural health care providers in Oregon (and nationally) will not be able to deliver the same type of care currently available to larger urban populations. Of course, laying the groundwork for even

the most basic broadband connectivity is cost prohibitive. With additional layers of complexity required by our health care system, smaller communities simply can't fund these activities on their own.

INTRODUCING: OREGON HEALTH NETWORK

Dedicated teams of technology, telecommunications, and health care experts have joined forces to build the state's first telehealth superhighway. Thanks in large part to Federal Communications Commission (FCC) subsidies and in cooperation with dozens of industry leaders, government leaders and non-profit organizations across the state, the Oregon Health Network (OHN) provides the -broadband infrastructure needed to ensure that all Oregonians have equal access to the best possible health care regardless of their location. Upon full realization, OHN will interconnect all Oregon hospitals, clinics, public health offices, physicians, mental health, dental and optical clinics, and health education institutions with a level of interactive service delivery and access to resources only imagined in our rural and underserved communities.

OREGON HEALTH NETWORK

CONNECTING TO BETTER HEALTH is better for everyone.



Who We SERVE

The Oregon Health Network is connecting all those with a vested interest in the business and science of healthcare, including leaders in education, treatment delivery, and legislation, as well as payers and related technologies. Essentially, if you help patients, we help you.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MANY WAYS OHN IS CONNECTING OREGONIANS TO BETTER HEALTHCARE:

www.oregonhealthnet.org

THE OHN STORY

In late 2006, the Federal Communications Commission announced its plans to establish the Rural Healthcare Pilot Program (RHCPP). This program was designed to deploy a regional broadband network infrastructure connecting various health centers across the country, and would fund up to 85% of the infrastructure design, construction and ongoing costs for the 5-year duration of the program.

In response to this opportunity, visionary leaders from Oregon's existing telehealth community (including the Telehealth Alliance of Oregon and the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems) collaborated in the design of an organization capable of expanding the telehealth network throughout the state. However, the organization wouldn't end with the network. This team of forward thinkers intended an ongoing evolution to include additional services that will be beneficial to its participants, now and in the future. With support from Governor Kulongoski, the Legislative Assembly and Oregon's Congressional Delegation, the Oregon Health Network was created in the early fall of 2007.

By November of the same year, the FCC had selected its recipients for the program and allocated \$417M over three years to 69 applicants. Together, the RHCPP recipients would have the ability to reach over 6,000 health care centers across 42 states and 3 U.S. territories. As the fifth largest award recipient, principal funding for building OHN's broadband infrastructure comes from the unprecedented \$20.2 million subsidy. This 5-year program pays 85% of all installation and service fees. OHN and its participants are then responsible for the remaining 15% in matching funds. As a result, installation is free for qualifying participants, and their monthly fees are covered at 85%.

The matching funds raised to date are coming from multiple sources, including the State of Oregon, various health care providers, insurers, community colleges, private foundations, and dedicated individuals looking to build a strong, healthy Oregon.

MORE THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS

This is a huge undertaking and OHN is not doing it alone. More than 150 individuals and

Who is OHN?

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organizations are collaborating in the design of the Oregon Health Network. Among these are the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (OAHHS) and their member hospitals, the Telehealth Alliance of Oregon (TAO), Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), the Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD), and the Oregon Department of Education (HDES).

DEFINING A NETWORK

It's important to note that, while technology is a critical component to this ambitious endeavor, we are far more than a series of switches and cables. OHN is a network in every sense of the word, introducing people to projects, need to resources, and connecting ideas to the skills that can bring them to life.

Hardware infrastructure – At the heart of everything we do is a high-speed, high-reliability network connecting all medical facilities, clinics, and higher learning centers across the state. At speeds of up to 1 Gigabit per second (1 Gbps), medical professionals will easily share a wealth of information, including real-time interaction with peers, educators and students.

Software and tools – With this unprecedented access comes the opportunity for developing new services, hardware and applications. Always brand-agnostic, Oregon Health Network will stay at the forefront of these developments, giving health care professionals improved visibility on the best new strategies for improving quality of medical care and education.

Collaboration and guidance – Every aspect of OHN is built upon our ability to connect people. Much of our initial focus is on hardware and software, but our real value is in providing a much-needed communication link between the medical community, healthcare educators, application developers, insurers, value-added service providers, public and private funding sources, and our elected leadership.



CLINICS



HOSPITALS



HIGHER ED

ABOUT THE OREGON HEALTH NETWORK

Bringing It All Together

HOW DOES IT WORK?

OHN will offer multiple service levels so participants can select the speed and degree of connectivity that will work best for their facility. But all participants are connected via Internet Protocol (IP) over Ethernet to all other OHN users through the Northwest Access Exchange (NWAX) in Portland. Some sites will also connect with the Oregon Internet Exchange (OIX) in Eugene, the Southern Oregon Exchange in Medford and/or the Central Oregon Exchange in Redmond. All sites will also have connections to the public Internet. The network will also be interoperable with Oregon government and education networks.

The OHN Network Operations Center (NOC) will provide end-to-end monitoring of network performance and technical assistance to users to resolve any network quality of service issues.

REAL NUMBERS, REAL BENEFIT

With OHN comes the potential to make state-of-the-art health care available to Oregon's 3.6 million citizens in 482 communities across the state. Of those, 396 are rural or underserved communities striving to contribute to Oregon's economy. As participants in the Oregon Health Network, these communities can be part of a health care superhighway, helping them to attract and retain businesses, residents and the very best of health care professionals. In providing for their citizens' health and education, smaller cities and towns ensure their own long term growth and improve the overall economic strength of the state.

But small towns aren't the only ones who will benefit from OHN. Larger, well-funded facilities will improve their reach on a statewide, regional and even national level. Enhanced distance learning capabilities will grow enrollment for healthcare workforce education providers. Improvements in medical records handling, billing and other communications will help lower health care costs. And a fast, stable network provides a platform for research and development of new tools that can propel healthcare into the new millennium.

SERVING ALL QUARTERS

All RHCPP-related activities focus on our underserved communities, and OHN is committed to helping every eligible recipient access these funds. But the network will be at its best when all medical education facilities and health care providers are connected and collaborating for a healthier Oregon. To that end, OHN is proud to serve both urban and rural:

- Hospitals/hospital systems
- Health clinics, mental health centers, federally qualified health centers, school-based health clinics, and tribal clinics
- Community colleges with health care workforce education programs/curriculum

In addition, OHN also hopes to serve:

- Retail pharmacies
- Health care payer groups
- Government organizations
- Assisted living facilities and skilled nursing facilities
- Residential facilities for addiction treatment and recovery from mental illness

HOW TO JOIN OR GET INVOLVED

Whether you're a likely participant, strategic partner, sponsor, or simply looking for ways to help, OHN needs you. Contact us or visit our website today to get the answers to these and any other questions you may have:

- Does my organization qualify for the FCC Rural Health Care Pilot Program subsidy?
- How do I participate if my organization does not qualify for RHCPP funding?
- How can I learn more about the OHN technical plan and network infrastructure?
- What are some of the benefits of becoming a sponsor or strategic partner?
- How do I donate to OHN?
- How do I get involved with one of OHN's 6 working committees?

Contact us: (503) 479-6029

www.oregonhealthnet.org | info@oregonhealthnet.org