Policy Option: Health Information Exchange Initiatives

Description: As the coordinator of health policy for the state, the KHPA should continue to be a leader in statewide HIE projects, and support HIE initiatives in other agencies as well, through information sharing and collaboration.

Background: Health information exchange (HIE) has the potential to improve efficiency, quality of care and patient safety as well as help inform health care consumers. There are a number of ongoing statewide health information exchange initiatives sponsored by the Governor's Health Care Cost Containment Commission (H4C) that the Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) staffs or is involved in, as well as initiatives being led by the agency or other state agencies, like Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) public health information exchange (PHIX).

Current HIE initiatives KHPA oversees or is involved in:
- **Kansas HIT/HIE Policy Initiative** – This is a multi-stakeholder, statewide project that will develop recommendations for the creation of a HIE infrastructure for Kansas. Four working groups will begin meeting monthly for the next six months (Sept. – Feb.) to address Governance, Financial, Technical and Clinical issues and formulate recommendations for sustainable HIE infrastructure. Kansas is one of a handful of states this far along in HIE planning. eHealth Initiative Foundation was contracted with to facilitate and manage this project for Kansas. KHPA provides project oversight on behalf of the H4C for this initiative and will provide $30,000 in direct support in FY 07. Support from Sunflower Foundation, UMHM Fund, and Kansas Health Foundation ($165,000 in total foundation funding, split equally across the foundations) has enabled this project.
- **Privacy and Security Collaboration** – KHPA staff partnered with the Kansas Health Institute, KU Center for Healthcare Informatics, Mid-America Coalition on Healthcare and Lathrop & Gage to submit a proposal on behalf of the Governor's H4C. Kansas was one of 34 states awarded a subcontract with RTI/NGA to address variations in business practices and policies around HIE, develop solutions to address barriers to HIE and an implementation plan. Kansas was awarded $305,000 for the project, with partners providing more than the award in in-kind support. The project timeline is May 2006 through March 2007.
- **Advanced ID Card Project** – The H4C commissioned this project to achieve two goals: 1) gain consensus from Kansas health plans on standardized health plan ID cards (MACHC guidelines) and 2) gain consensus from Kansas health plans to develop standards for advanced ID card technologies (e.g. magnetic stripe, bar code, etc.). Data from a previous H4C study on claims payment problems revealed that the majority of claims problems resulted from coverage issues that could be reduced or eliminated with the use of advanced technologies on the ID card. The Mid-America Coalition on Healthcare was engaged to complete this work. The KHPA is funding ($45,000 FY 06 and $45,000 FY07) and providing oversight for this initiative.
- **Community Health Record (CHR) Project** – KHPA implemented this pilot project in partnership with FirstGuard (FG) health plan and Cerner. The CHR is built from administrative claims data and is a web-based tool that presents the clinician with an individual's medical history, medication history, immunizations, allergies, and lead screening data. The tool also has an ePrescribing component that provides drug interaction and contraindication checking providing to submitting a prescription electronically to the pharmacy. The project provides a community health record to FG providers at 20 sites in Sedgwick County.

Cost: **Kansas HIT/HIE Policy Initiative** –   FY07 $30,000 SGF $40,000 In-Kind
Privacy and Security Collaboration –   FY07 $32,126 In-Kind
Advanced ID Card Project –   FY07 $45,000 SGF
Community Health Record (CHR) Project –   FY07 $250,000 SGF ($500,000 all funds) $48,000
SGF for project evaluation. Project extension figures are provided in separate document.

Staff Recommendation: Fund for Enhancement for FY 2008.

Board Action: Motion made, seconded and carried to approve for FY 2008 Enhancement funding.