
Brief History of Missouri Health Connection doing business as Midwest Health Connection

- ✦ In February, 2009, Congress passed the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) which included the Health Information Technology for Economic & Clinical Health (HITEC) Act to promote the adoption and meaningful use of health information technology. The State was granted \$13.8 M to design, develop and implement the infrastructure and organization that would create a statewide health information highway.
- ✦ In November, 2009, Missouri Governor Jay Nixon signed Executive Order 09-27 which created the Missouri Office of Health Information Technology (MOHIT) to promote the development and application of an effective health information technology and Health Information Exchange (HIE) infrastructure in Missouri; a state-designated entity (SDE) Information Exchange Network for Missouri.
- ✦ 2010: Governor-appointed Advisory Board which began an open and public process of engaging more than 200 stakeholders (health care leaders, physicians, consumers, payors and IT experts) to determine the best health information exchange solution to serve all Missourians. They recommended and the Governor approved a public/private approach to building the State's health information highway.
- ✦ 2011: Missouri Health Connection (MHC) was established as a Missouri non-profit corporation.
- ✦ 2011-2: In 2011, a RFP for a technical service provider was issued and resulted in Cerner being selected; however, after a protracted period, the parties were unable to reach a mutually acceptable contract. The second highest scoring respondent to the RFP, InterSystems, was then approached and a contract for exchange technical services was reached.
- ✦ March 2013: MHC deployed its HIE network. Consumer protection and empowerment is an essential value of the MHC; information is shared only with the written consent of the patient. MHC is the state's only Opt-In HIE network.
- ✦ March 2017: MHC amended its bylaws to remove the provisional contingencies that required the approval of the Missouri Governor. With this change, MHC removed its governmental relationship that included three ex-officio members from the State of Missouri including the Directors of Social Service, MO HealthNet Division and Health and Senior Services.
- ✦ May 2020: MHC changed its operating organizational name to "Midwest Health Connection" to better reflect the Midwest territory that it represents more accurately.

