



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

**March 20, 2025**

**7:30 AM**

**Microsoft Teams**

### **Draft Meeting Minutes**

**Directors, Officers, and Trustees:** David Shippee – Whitney M. Young, Jr. Health Centers (Chair), Howie Architzel – Broadview Federal Credit Union, Jeremiah Benoit, MD – Highmark Western and Northeastern New York, Ashima Butler – Ellenville Regional Hospital, Scott Cohen, MD – Bassett Health Care Network, Erica Coletti – Health Alliance Foundation, Craig Dreher – Community Care Physicians, Bill Duax – Albany Medical Center, Kevin Gallagher, MD – Hudson Headwaters Health Network, Wendy Weller – College of Integrated Health Sciences, Charles Welge – Albany County Department of Health, Julie Bazell, Joan Hayner, Paul Macielak, Esq., & Wouter Rietsema, MD

**Invited Members of the Public:** Mackenzie Boushie – Adirondack Medical Center, Lyndsay Macagg – Community Health Center of the North Country, Paul Milton – Ellis Medicine, James Wellman – Nathan Littauer Hospital

**Hixny Staff:** Mark McKinney – CEO, Bryan Cudmore – Vice President, Account Management, Debra Hamway – Vice President, Finance, Taiymoor Naqi – Chief Compliance Officer & Vice President, Privacy & Security, Justin Wise – Director of Finance

**Guest(s):** Travis Smith – Dermody, Burke & Brown, Karen Sosler, Esq. – Rivkin Radler

### **Public Session Commenced: 7:31 AM**

#### **I. Welcome & Chairperson Remarks**

Mr. Shippee welcomed all to the meeting.

#### **II. Adopt Minutes from the January 16, 2025 Board Meeting**

*Mr. Shippee made a motion to approve the January 16, 2025 Board Meeting and the motion was seconded by Bill Duax. With no further comments, no opposition, and no abstentions, the motion was unanimously approved.*

#### **III. Public Session**

##### **Federal Policy Updates**

**Mark provided a summary of recent development at the federal level:**

- **HRSN Programs:** CMS has issued guidance rescinding previously approved Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) programs. Moving forward, new applications will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. These changes do not currently impact the 1115 waiver.
- **CMMI Payment Models:** The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) has discontinued eight advanced payment models, including Primary Care First, End-Stage Renal Disease Treatment Choices, and the Maryland Total Cost of Care model. The Maternity Opioid Misuse and Vermont All-Payer ACO models will end a year early. The AHEAD model remains unaffected at this time. Since AHEAD was included in the New York waiver (specifically for parts of Brooklyn), maintaining its status may benefit the waiver and the state.



- **ONC Leadership and TEFCA:** With Robert F. Kennedy Jr. confirmed as Secretary of Health and Human Services, Steve Posnack has been appointed acting director of Assistant Secretary for Technology/Policy (ASTP). ASTP retains responsibility for TEFCA and meaningful use. There are indications of a potential reduction in ASTP staff from 180 down to 30. As TEFCA is a major focus for NYeC, this leadership and staffing uncertainty could impact how the SHIN-NY model evolves.

### **HIPAA Security Rule Modernization**

The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding updates to the HIPAA Security Rule. These proposed changes aim to strengthen protections for electronic protected health information (ePHI) and include new requirements around asset inventory, annual risk assessments, change management, and patch management. Hixny currently meets or exceeds the proposed requirements.

### **1115 Waiver Implementation**

Hixny continues to lead in submitting non-SCN screenings to the SHIN-NY data lake. These screenings are submitted either through Hixny's application or directly from the provider's EHR. Hixny is the only QE submitting non-SCN screenings to the data lake. NYeC has actively promoted Hixny's screening tool, and Hixny has conducted two to three demos a week to interested organizations.

While several EHRs are submitting screening data through alternate means, reimbursement is currently only available for screenings conducted within the SCN platform. Advocacy efforts are ongoing to prompt DOH to resolve this. Initial reports indicate DOH has drafted guidance, which is currently under internal review.

### **Statewide Encounter Notifications**

NYeC has approved Hixny's proposal to support statewide encounter notifications, with modifications. Originally, the intent was for one QE to provide a statewide encounter notification service. Instead of selecting a single QE, NYeC has indicated that they will select two organizations - Hixny and HealtheConnections. HealtheConnections is partnering with a company called PointClickCare, a long-term care-focused EHR vendor, to provide this service. Given PointClickCare's representation on the NYeC board, the decision raises potential concerns around favoritism that will warrant close monitoring.

Mark emphasized the importance of maintaining our reputation as a organization that delivers and gets things done on time as this project moves forward.

### **Data Curation Services**

NYeC had previously issued an RFP for data curation services for population health. Although Hixny did not initially respond, NYeC has since invited Hixny to submit a proposal, which Hixny has done.

***A motion to close the public portion of the meeting was made by Charles Welge, and seconded by Scott Cohen, MD. With no further comments, no opposition, and no abstentions, the motion was unanimously approved.***

**Public Meeting Adjourned: 8:03 am**

**Respectfully Submitted by:**



**Linda Mensching-Quinn,  
Human Resource & Board Relations Administrator**

**NEXT MEETING DATE: May 15, 2025 at 7:30 AM**