**ATTENDANCE**

1. **Welcome and Introductions/Roll Call**

The call kicked off with a welcome from the TAMHSC Anchor teams, and then standard roll call of those on the conference line.

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| **Organization** | **Name(s)** |  | **Organization** | **Name(s)** |
| Bell County Public Health District | Renee Carter | Scott & White – Brenham | Gabrielle Menz |
| Bluebonnet Trails | Morgan Starr, Meghan Nadolski  Corinne Turmelle, Amber Hillanbrand, Beth McClary, Raven Thousand | Scott & White – Llano | Blake Barnes |
| Brazos County Health District |  | Scott & White – Memorial | Gabrielle Menz |
| Brazos Valley Council of Governments |  | Seton Harker Heights |  |
| Center for Life | Ranita Oliver | Seton Highland Lakes | Cindy Sanchez |
| Central Counties Services |  | St. David’s Round Rock Medical Center |  |
| College Station Medical Center/ Washington County EMS |  | St. Joseph Regional | Martha Fuentes |
| Conroe Regional Medical Center & Kingwood | Shannon Evans | St. Luke’s |  |
| Health for All |  | Texas A&M Physicians | Leigh Rhodes, Samuel Towne, Carly McCord, Debbie Muesse |
| Hill Country MHMR | Kristie Jacoby-Tupling | Tri County Behavioral Healthcare |  |
| Huntsville Memorial Hospital |  | Williamson County and Cities Health District | Matt Richardson |
| Little River Healthcare | George DeReese | Williamson County EMS | Pauline VanMeurs |
| MHMR Authority of Brazos Valley | Robert Reed | RHP 8 Anchor Team | Jennifer LoGalbo, Shawna Jiles |
| Montgomery County Public Health District | Andrew Karrer | RHP 17 Anchor Team | Shayna Spurlin, Carmela Perez |
| Prenatal Clinic | Lynn Yeager | Other Stakeholders | Speakers Texas HHSC: Hope Morgan, Steve Eichner, and Deb Morris |

**Minutes**

1. **Raise the Floor – Focus Area and Open Discussion**
   1. **Health Information Exchange and Health and Human Services Agencies in Texas**The presentation began with Ms. Hope Morgan and Ms. Deb Morris providing a background on Health Information Technology (HIT), Healthcare Landscape and HHS eHealth Advisory Committee. The discussion included:
      * Uses of Health IT
      * Select Texas and Federal Action on HIT
        + Texas Legislative Actions: Texas Health Services Authority (THSA), HIE system for Medicaid
        + Federal Actions: EHR Incentive Programs (Medicaid & Medicare), State HIE Cooperative Agreement
      * Impact of HIT on Triple AIM
      * Meaningful Use initially promoted at the federal level through EHR Incentive Payment Programs
      * Payment Approaches – Value Based Payments, Accountable Care Organizations
      * Select Texas HHS HIT/HIE Resources
      * HHS eHealth Advisory Committee
        + Replaces Medicaid HIE Advisory Committee
        + Committee must produce formal recommendation to HHS on how to implement HIT
   2. Lastly, Mr. Steve Eichner provided detailed information about HIEs and the advancements of HIEs in Texas. Highlights including:
      * What is a HIE?
      * Why should providers connect?
      * How has HIE been advanced in Texas?
        + Present: Support through Regional Extension Centers
        + Future: Secure Federal funding to increase connectivity & provide limited support to providers connecting to their local HIE
      * Where can providers connect to HIEs in Texas?
        + Public and Private HIEs
      * How can a provider connect to an HIE?
        + Select Approach: Community Based HIE or Vendor Based HIE
   3. **Open Discussion**Share feedback, concerns, and experiences working with HIEs, and anticipated challenges related to reporting on HIE engagement/involvement during DY6.
      * Question – Williamson County and Cities Health District: As a local health department with an HIE that is available but not usable, do you have tips to make it usable?
        + Answer - HHSC: We are still looking at best approach moving forward for flow of data to the state
      * Comment – Bluebonnet Trails Community Services: Our organization falls in different HIE regions; we have had similar experiences as WCCHD, difficult to get information out of HIE. A challenge in working with HIEs is that it can only be good as what goes in it; therefore, it is hard to invest in HIEs based on information we are able to receive.
      * Comment - CHI St. Joseph: We have researched and explored joining an HIE, however, it is very costly compared to the benefits.
      * Comment - RHP 8 Anchor: If an organization is considering switching to an EHR system, we strongly recommend you reach out to other providers who have an EHR system.
      * Question - Little River Healthcare: We currently participate in Meaningful Use incentive funds and wanting to know how we can use it to provide ways to report on metrics and milestones in DSRIP?
        + Answer - HHSC: Requirements for Meaningful Use are set at the federal level and pertain only to the EHR incentive program. Any additional add-on or help with features in an EHR system would need to be discussed with the vendor of the EHR.
      * Question - RHP 17 Anchor: Common theme is in relation to cost of participation, is there some sort of state programs or grants to help providers get started (seed-funding) or to see how the data exchange could benefit the providers?
        + Answer - HHSC: I can only speak at a high level, we are working on a few initiatives to get federal funds that would help with connectivity costs initially. Another initiative not related to seed funding is to help providers who participate in HIEs is an ER notification system that would let providers know when their patient is in the ER.

The learning collaborative portion of the call was adjourned. Anchor Teams provided brief regional update.

1. **Upcoming Regional Events**
   1. **RHP 8 & 17 Learning Collaborative Cohort**

* Date: Thursday, May 11, 2017
* Time: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. \*\*brown bag lunch\*\*
* Location and RSVP:
  + RHP 8 – Texas A&M Health Science Center, Round Rock - RSVP: [jiles@tamhsc.edu](mailto:jiles@tamhsc.edu)
  + RHP 17 – Tri-County Behavioral Healthcare, Conroe - RSVP: [spurlin@tamhsc.edu](mailto:spurlin@tamhsc.edu)
  1. **RHP 8 Regional Face to Face Meeting**
* Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2017
* Time: 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
* Location: Texas A&M Health Science Center, Round Rock
  1. **RHP 17 Regional Face to Face Meeting**
* Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2017
* Time: 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
* Location: Texas A&M Health Science Center, Bryan/College Station

1. **Next Steps & Adjourn** 
   1. Next joint call scheduled for **Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 10 a.m.**