

The Georgia TeleHealth Workgroup Meeting
Meeting will be held virtually
Wednesday, July 26, 2023, 10:00 – 12:00 pm

Workgroup Objectives:

1. Provide insight and direction regarding the advancement of telehealth in Georgia.
2. Encourage collaboration among existing telehealth networks and programs.

Agenda

Welcome & Introductions: Lloyd Sirmons

Thank you all for joining today's meeting. We have 24 in attendance for today's meeting.

SE Telehealth Resource Center Regional Updates: Lloyd Sirmons

- **Southeast Region Telehealth Conference – New Orleans, LA – Feb 2024**
 - The SETRC parent company, GPT, has been acquired by the Mercer University School of Medicine. It will be business as usual. There will be some minor changes in branding with color changes, etc. The SETRC will function as usual.
 - The SETRC is partnering with the SCTRC, TEXLA, the MUMC Center of Excellence and the MUSC Center of Excellence in hosting a telehealth conference in New Orleans next February. More information will come shortly. More information will be sent out as planning continues.
 - Emergency Management partners The SETRC is looking for partners in the emergency/disaster preparedness space. We are looking to partner to take advantage of the mobile learning center in disaster preparedness situations.
 - SETRC Resources
 - NSAT (www.nsat.us) (search for telehealth)
 - Telehealth In Practice <https://telehealth-in-practice.thinkific.com/courses/telehealth-training>
 - Telehealth Modalities
 - The Telehealth Team
 - Telehealth Technology
 - Telehealth and Broadband Connectivity
 - Telepresence Skills
 - Telehealth Use Cases

We are grateful to Kristina and Peter for taking the time to share with the group today.

Program Spotlight

Unite Us – Kristina Wentworth - [Unite Us](#) is the nation's leading software company enabling collaboration across sectors to improve the health and well-being of communities. Unite Us' secure solution establishes a new standard of care that identifies and predicts social care needs, helps connect people to services, and leverages meaningful outcomes data to further drive community investment. Through Unite Us' national network and software, community-based organizations, government agencies, health plans, and healthcare providers are all connected to better collaborate and meet the needs of the individuals in their communities. Follow Unite Us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#).

WNY R-AHEC – Peter Appleton - Western New York Rural Area Health Education, Inc. (R-AHEC)'s mission is "to improve health and healthcare through education." Our vision is to enrich the health of individuals and communities we have the privilege to serve, by building collaborative relationships and being a valued educational resource that implements innovative programs with passion and integrity. R-AHEC serves a predominately rural 12-county region, headquartered in Warsaw, New York. Counties include Allegany,

Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates, which covers 9,140 square miles. R-AHEC addresses the health needs of its rural and underserved communities by focusing on: Workforce Development; Housing; Education; and Health Information Technology Support.

State Policy Update

- Updated GA Medicaid Telemedicine Guidance <https://setrc.us/resources/georgia/>
 - **Lloyd put out an all call for anyone in GA DCH that could be a point of contact for telemedicine policy updates, etc.**
- CCHP Legislative update: <https://track.govhawk.com/reports/M6gz1/public>

Federal Policy Update – Lloyd Sirmons

- CCHP federal policy tracker <https://www.cchpca.org/federal/pending-legislation/>
- Mei Kwong – CCHP – 2024 proposed PFS overview - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zBhRXpoVv0>
 - **Mei has recently posted a video presentation of the 2024 proposed PFS. The video is 20 min long and does a good job of summarizing what is changes are being proposed the effects those changes could have in the telehealth space.**
- **DEA prescribing rules** – For any practitioner-patient telemedicine relationships that have been or will be established up to November 11, 2023, the full set of telemedicine flexibilities regarding prescription of controlled medications established during the COVID-19 PHE will be extended for one year – through November 11, 2024.
- **Expanded Telehealth Access Act (HR 3875)** would add physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, and other therapy providers in private practice, as well as facility-based outpatient therapy providers under Medicare Part B, as permanent authorized providers of telehealth services under Medicare.
- **CONNECT for Health Act 2023** will expand coverage of telehealth services through Medicare, make permanent COVID-19 telehealth flexibilities and make it easier for patients to connect with their doctors.

Lloyd Sirmons	Southeastern Telehealth Resource Center
Boyd Mark	SETRC
Kristina Wentworth	Unite Us
Socrates Aguayo	Unite Us
Rena Brewer	SETRC / GPT
Sara Colvin	Aya Healthcare
Jennifer Murphy	GPT
Dev Watson	GAPHC
Suleima Salgado	Southeastern Telehealth Resource Center/GPT
Keith Wages	Emory University School of Medicine
Peter Appleton	WNY Rural Area Health Education Center
Karen Lindsley	Georgia CTSA (UGA, MSM,GT, Emory)-NIH funded
Chris Scoggins	Georgia Rural Health Innovation Center
Kevin Adams	Advocate Health Charlotte NC (known as Atrium Health in SE Region)
Charles Owens	GA Southern University JPHCOPH
Senem Hinson	SRDRS - Southern Regional Disaster Response System
Heather Miller	SRDRS - Southern Regional Disaster Response System
Senetra Haywood	GCSS
Traci Edwards	Advocate Health Charlotte NC (known as Atrium Health in SE Region)
Alfonso Whitfield	Vital Living Network