



LOUISIANA
HEALTH CARE
QUALITY FORUM

PRESS RELEASE

Jamie Davis, Marketing/Communications Coordinator
225 300 4837 ▪ jdavis@lhcf.org

For Immediate Release

EAST CARROLL PARISH HOSPITAL NOW LIVE WITH LOUISIANA HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Baton Rouge, LA – May 7, 2013 –East Carroll Parish Hospital is now actively exchanging data via the Louisiana Health Information Exchange (LaHIE).

LaHIE is the mechanism that allows for the secure exchange of health information among authorized providers and across Louisiana’s health care system to help improve patient safety, quality of care and health outcomes. LaHIE is administered by the Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum, a private, not-for-profit organization that serves as the State-Designated Entity for the development and oversight of the statewide health information exchange.

Located in Lake Providence, La., East Carroll Parish Hospital is a 23-bed acute care facility with two rural health clinics. The hospital was the first in northeast Louisiana to enroll in LaHIE. As a participating member of LaHIE, East Carroll’s physicians and employees are now able to better serve their patients by securely accessing necessary information designed to provide coordinated care.

LaDonna Englerth, Administrator at East Carroll Parish Hospital, says, “I am very excited about the partnership with LaHIE and the hospital’s ability to share health information with other facilities in the state. And I am also thrilled to be the first hospital in Northeast Louisiana to join LaHIE in this worthwhile project.”

“East Carroll Parish Hospital is advancing patient-centered care in northeastern Louisiana,” said Cindy Munn, Forum Executive Director. “The hospital’s ability to share health information through LaHIE enables the facility and its providers to connect with the larger health care community throughout the state and introduce a new level of care, safety and savings to Louisiana patients.”

Benefits of LaHIE include timely access to patient records, improved patient safety, increased security of records, enhanced coordination of care and patient management, reduced health care costs and improved public health reporting.

The exchange officially launched in December 2011 with Lafayette General Medical Center and Opelousas General Health System as pilot facilities in the Acadiana region. There are currently more than 130 hospitals, specialty providers, school-based health centers and other health care companies across the state enrolled in LaHIE. Twelve hospitals and specialty providers in Louisiana are now live with the exchange.

For more information, please visit <http://lhcf.org/lahie-about> or call 225.334.9299.

8550 United Plaza Blvd. | Suite 500 | Baton Rouge, LA 70809

About the Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum

The Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum is a private, not-for-profit organization, dedicated to advancing evidence-based, collaborative initiatives to improve the health of Louisiana residents. Its focus areas include quality measurement and analytics, clinical quality improvement, the patient-centered medical home/care coordination model, Louisiana Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (LaPOST), outreach/education and health information technology (IT). The Quality Forum is the State- Designated Entity to lead the planning and implementation of the state’s health information exchange and to support health care providers and critical access/rural hospitals as they adopt and meaningfully use electronic health records. For more information, visit www.lhcqf.org.

#