

Family Health Center wins 2009 Davies Award Recognizing Best of the Best in Health Information Technology

Washington, D.C. (September 22, 2009) – Health information technology – specifically electronic health records – is an integral component of quality patient care for the recipients of the 2009 HIMSS Davies Award of Excellence.

“The recipients of the HIMSS Davies Award are leaders in EHR implementation as they prove that technology can be leveraged to produce value and achieve patient safety and quality outcomes with a positive ROI,” said David Collins, HIMSS director, healthcare information systems. “As the country moves closer to nationwide use of the electronic health record, these healthcare leaders should be considered as valuable examples and resources for EHR success.”

These award recipients also serve other organizations by sharing lessons learned in EHR implementation to help them achieve their vision. In addition, the healthcare organizations earning the award, which recognizes excellence in the implementation of and value from health IT, offer a valuable example of EHR success in organizational, ambulatory, community health and public health settings.

Heart of Texas Community Health Center (Family Health Center) is a Federally Qualified Health Center, supporting the oldest family medicine residency west of the Mississippi and serving the target population of 90,200 residents of McLennan County, Texas living at or below 200 percent of Federal Poverty Guidelines.

“Since implementing the EHR system in 1997, Heart of Texas Community Health Center has tripled the number of patients served, expanded from a single location to 10 sites, and shown improvement in important quality indicators such as childhood immunizations. The EHR has been a cornerstone of our expansion and quality improvement efforts,” said Roland A. Goertz, MD, MBA, CEO of Heart of Texas Community Health Center in Waco, Texas. “We are honored to be recognized with the HIMSS Davies Award as we continue to expand access to high quality health care services in McLennan County.”