

Communications Infrastructure Working Group Meeting December 14, 2006

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Welcome and Introductions

Ayeshia Ellington welcomed the group and all attendees introduced themselves.

Communications Infrastructure Need in Ohio

Members discussed the communication infrastructure needs in Ohio. They questioned if organizations knew when to use different methods of communication? Access to high speed internet is an issue in some rural communities. Do we have infrastructure to facilitate exchange effectively? The group identified issues and challenges that they may want to further explore.

Issues

Cost

Connectivity

Basics of communication: Who is communicating what? Is information coordinated?

Collect data once and use it many times

Security

Consumer: Are they being included in these conversations?

Consumers should be kept at the forefront of the conversation

Minimum hardware standards and education of standards

Certify regions of the state as being ready for interoperability.

What is required to overcome disparities and create capacity?

Challenges

What regions would be more challenging to set up a backbone?

How do we bring these areas up to a certain level?

How do we make sure every area is interoperable?

Exchange organizations will be helpful here

Creation of standards, training of staff will also be helpful

Next Steps

What do we need to develop a plan?

Who do we need in the room?

Individuals with an IT focus and/or background

Utility and Telecommunications background

Goal: Develop a clear concept for legislative officials and the governor's budget.

Conduct a site survey of regions in the state and identify strength and weakness of each area.

Strickland's is working on Broadband Ohio and may be ready to have a conversation around communications infrastructure. Bill Hayes will talk with Strickland's team about their plan and see how it fits into the HIT Roadmap.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be announced via e-mail.