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## SHIEC Establishes Social Determinants of Health Focus, Led by Jill Eisenstein, Rochester RHIO CEO

**ROCHESTER, N.Y., July 10**—The [Strategic Health Information Exchange Collaborative \(SHIEC\)](#) has established a Social Determinants Committee, led by Jill Eisenstein, president and CEO of Rochester RHIO. This operating expansion will help SHIEC better focus on identifying and linking social determinants of health (SDOH) data and best practices between societal sectors across the country.

SDOH are the complex economic and social conditions that influence health status among groups and individuals. Up to 80 percent of health status is determined by factors outside healthcare systems, including financial stability, education, neighborhood environments, and social, family, and community contexts. SDOH data is playing an ever-increasing role in unlocking the underlying causes of certain occurrences, such as life expectancies linked to ZIP codes.

SHIEC represents the nation's leading community health information exchanges (HIEs) and strategic business and technology partners, who are central to secure digital data exchange by medical, behavioral, and social service providers. Collectively, SHIEC members serve almost 75 percent of the U.S. population. In many cases, these HIEs are at the forefront of collaborating with regional 211 referral services, governmental and non-governmental agencies, and community-based organizations to support improved health.

"Meeting basic societal needs—food, shelter and safety—are most closely correlated to good health. Community HIEs are well-positioned to play vital roles in bridging the gaps between the social services and healthcare sectors, providing mechanisms and policy guidance for access to valuable data," said Eisenstein. "The committee is working to advance opportunities and overcome challenges for data exchange between health and social services entities. These efforts, in conjunction with widescale SDOH initiatives by groups such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization, will help pinpoint the greatest prospects to improve the well-being of people across the country."

For more than a decade, Eisenstein has had a central role in Rochester RHIO's success, helping it become one of the most respected, innovative and advanced health information exchanges in the United States. She collaborates with health care leaders, government officials, employers, community champions and staff—regionally, statewide and nationally.

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### **About Rochester RHIO**

*Rochester RHIO is a secure electronic health information exchange serving authorized medical providers and over one million patients in Monroe, Allegany, Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates counties in Upstate New York. The service allows a medical care team to share records across institutions and practices, making patient information available wherever and whenever needed to provide the best care. Patients benefit from fewer repeated tests, easier second opinions, a reduced risk of mistakes caused by poor handwriting or incomplete records, and more informed care during office visits and emergencies. It is a Qualified Entity of the Statewide Health Information Network of New York (SHIN-NY). Health care professionals and patients can learn more by visiting [RochesterRHIO.org](#) or by calling 877-865-RHIO (7446).*

### **About SHIEC**

*SHIEC is the national collaborative of health information exchanges (HIEs) and strategic business and technology partners. As the unbiased data trustees in their communities, SHIEC's 60+ member HIE organizations manage and provide for the secure digital exchange of data by medical, behavioral, and social service providers to improve the health of the communities they serve. Collectively, SHIEC members serve almost 75 percent of the U.S. population.*

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