



05/04/2010 08:58 PM

HEALTHeLINK cashes in on federal stimulus money

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The Western New York health care community has won a multi-million dollar federal stimulus grant that will increase the use of electronic records.

On Tuesday, Congressman Brian Higgins announced that the region's HEALTHeLINK program has been awarded \$16.1 million dollars to serve as a pilot community for wide-scale use of health information technology.

The grant is aimed at making it easier for medical providers to coordinate with each other and share patient information electronically, as well as cutting the costs of health care.

It's also expected to create several new jobs.

HEALTHeLINK received the largest grant of the 15 awarded nationwide.

HEALTHeLINK is made up of almost a dozen area health care providers including Kaleida Health, the Catholic Health System, and Roswell Park Cancer Institute.