

A Symposium in the **NIC** of Time: Moving Upstream to Improve Health and Well-Being

Unique New England Event Will Highlight Benefits of Embedding and Broadening Information-Sharing, Collaboration and the Social Determinants in Our Everyday Work

The National Interoperability Collaborative (NIC) is proud to announce that it will hold a unique, highly interactive symposium on Nov. 26-28, 2018, in Avon, CT. This invitation-only event will provide a singular opportunity for participants to focus on concrete, actionable ways in which information-sharing, integration, interoperability and cross-systems approaches can – and do – enhance the delivery and effectiveness of health and human services for people of all ages, especially the least-served and most-vulnerable among us.

“A Symposium in the NIC of Time: Moving Upstream to Improve Health and Well-Being” will convene a select group of senior officials from the public and private sectors, thought leaders, luminaries and subject-matter experts from New England and other parts of the country where NIC is currently working. Additional participants will include NIC’s partners, including federal agencies, academia, associations, industry and other organizations.

Information at the event will be shared through diverse presentation formats and interactive activities to engage participants in meaningful discussion, ideation and planning. Key topics for discussion include:

- Early childhood programs integrating health and human services intervention
- Prevention models in child welfare that reduce opioid use disorder and addiction
- Upstream strategies that integrate two-generation models and the social determinants of health and well-being by leveraging existing and new technology

The event is being organized by NIC and the New England States Consortium Systems Organization, with the support of the [Kresge Foundation](#), [IBM](#), the [Connecticut Department of Social Services](#), the [New England Association of Child Welfare Commissioners and Directors](#), the [Milbank Memorial Fund](#) and others.

About The National Interoperability Collaborative: NIC is a new “Community of Networks” led by Stewards of Change Institute (SOI) and AcademyHealth. It is designed to advance collaboration among a broad spectrum of fields encompassing the Social Determinants of Health and Well-Being, and across the six domains in which NIC primarily works. NIC was launched with seed funding from the Kresge Foundation and additional support from IBM, Microsoft and the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

NIC’s symposium in New England will build on its first regional convening in California last March, which included participants from NIC’s inaugural partners (CA, VA, CT and the Healthcare Information Management and Systems Society). NIC has been building its California chapter since then. Similarly, we plan to use the November event to extend NIC’s activities in Connecticut into all of New England. Like every SOI national and regional symposium over the past dozen years, this one will offer an uncommon opportunity for attendees to share their knowledge and experiences with other acclaimed and accomplished professionals.

Special thanks for financial support from:

The symposium “faculty” includes prominent leaders in the field:

- Connecticut DSS Commissioner Rod Bremby
- California HHS Secretary Michael Wilkening
- Former Virginia Health and Human Resources Secretary Bill Hazel, MD
- Jessica Kahn, Senior Expert, McKinsey & Co
- John Ohanian, CEO, 2-1-1 San Diego
- William York, Executive Vice President, 2-1-1 San Diego
- Rhea Boyd, MD, director, Equity and Justice for Children’s Trust
- Ken Kaplan, Senior Health Systems Advisor, MIT
- Federal ACF officials leading the agency’s new Interoperability Action Plan

Key Presentations will include:

The View from the Top. Senior leaders in the field discuss what innovations and changes are needed to integrate the Social Determinants into HHS ecosystems.

Reality on the Ground. From a practice perspective, how design thinking, technology and predictive analytics are advancing innovation and whole-person care.

Health Equity and Intrinsic Bias. A provocative examination of the impact on shaping solutions, and on outcomes, when the underlying research isn’t impartial.