YOUR INVITATION TO ATTEND!

HOSTED BY

The TEXAS ORGANIZATION OF RURAL & COMMUNITY HOSPITALS (TORCH) – a nationally recognized hospital association representing more than 160 rural and community hospitals.

The TORCH FOUNDATION – a nonprofit affiliate of TORCH that provides programs and services on health IT, network support, grant support, leadership development and education.

OCTOBER 25-26, 2018

EMBASSY SUITES DALLAS-FRISCO HOTEL CONVENTION CENTER AND SPA | FRISCO, TX

HOTEL REGISTRATION BY OCTOBER 10 - CALL (972) 712-7200
The TORCH Foundation and the Texas Organization of Rural & Community Hospitals (TORCH) are pleased to host the 13th Annual Rural Hospital Information Technology Conference & Exhibition (HITCON18).

With the accelerated use of information technology systems and the growing number of devices and applications working within a complex, multi-layered network environment, the same forces that enable new efficiencies are also opening doors to new and emerging vulnerabilities like never before! The IT threat landscape is today’s newest healthcare battleground.

HITCON is a premiere education and networking event and solutions marketplace designed specifically for rural and community hospitals and clinics. These session topics are of critical financial, operational and clinical relevance to all rural hospitals and providers and address many of the challenges facing your IT Departments every day. We hope you will make plans to join us.

ONLINE REGISTRATION
Registration for HITCON18 is available online for hospital attendees (all others, including vendors and non-profits can register using the form in the Exhibitor/Sponsor brochure.)
TORCH/Foundation Member: $150 per person
Non-member: $200 per person
Register online at: http://bit.ly/HITCON18

HOTEL INFORMATION
HITCON18 will be held at the Embassy Suites Dallas-Frisco Hotel Convention Center & Spa located at 7600 John Q Hammons Drive, Frisco, TX 75034.

A block of rooms at the special conference rate of $148 per night (single/double) is reserved for HITCON18 participants. Reserve your room before October 10, 2018 for the special rate. Register online or call (972) 712-7200.

CONTACT INFORMATION
For questions regarding registration, confirmation or cancellation, contact Rose Valenzuela at (512) 873-0045 or rvalenquelza@torchnet.org. For questions regarding the program, contact Quang Ngo at qngo@torchnet.org.

ATTEND AND SEE WHAT OTHERS ARE MISSING – REGISTER FOR HITCON TODAY!
This year’s conference will cover many topics of high financial, operational and clinical relevance, including:
Digital and transformation healthcare in Texas Promising telemedicine solutions in rural areas
Keeping your facility operational IT power and solutions
Thursday, October 25

8:00 – 8:10 AM
Opening Remarks
John Henderson, President/CEO, TORCH, Austin, TX
Quang Ngo, EVP, TORCH, Austin, TX

8:10 – 9:10 AM
The Digital Revolution and the Transformation of Healthcare
Kevin Fickenscher, MD, CEO/Founder, CREO Strategic Solutions, LLC, Boston, MA
With a confluence of technologic, societal and market forces working together to transform healthcare, the challenges and opportunities providers face today have never been greater. These catalysts are changing the traditional notion of how care is delivered, where it is delivered and by whom. Rapid change requires creative responses and strategic solutions. In this session, learn how the digital revolution and the liquidity of data are accelerating change in healthcare and what these changes mean for rural providers.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
• Learn how the digital revolution is accelerating the transformation of healthcare
• Learn how technology is enabling continuity, connectivity and integration of care (telecare)
• Understand the key drivers of change and learn how to sharpen your focus on telehealth in response to high consumer demand

9:10 – 10:10 AM
Healthcare Information Technology Lightning Round
Jeffery Daigrepont, EEMP, CMPE, Senior Vice President, Coker Group, Alpharetta, GA (invited)
To mimic the rapid pace at which health IT is advancing, this rapid-fire session will focus on four key topics: IT innovations trends, with leading momentum around telehealth; IT policy trends (changing/shifting requirements from Meaningful Use to Advancing Interoperability and MIPS/MACRA); IT strategy trends, focusing on cyber crime and ransomware; and, IT market trends, focusing on hospital/physician IT alignment. The session will also be a bonus round on protecting your IT investments and EHR optimization and new consideration for vendor contracting and/or marking amendments to existing contracts.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
• Learn about the top issues facing healthcare providers – IT innovation trends, IT policy trends, IT strategy trends and IT market trends
• Learn practical tips for protecting your IT investments and how to optimize your EHR system to meet the new compliance requirements and user demands

10:10 – 11:00 AM
Networking Break – Exhibit Hall

11:00 – 12:00 PM
Cutting Edge Technologies: Keeping Healthcare in the Community
Bryan Merckling, CEO/Founder, THINaër, Richardson, TX
William Hoffman, MD, Chief Medical Officer, THINaër, Richardson, TX
Kurt Heiss, SVP Operations/GM of Healthcare, THINaër, Richardson, TX
James Wellman, CHCIIO, CIO & Compliance, Comanche County Memorial Hospital, Lawton, OK
Rapid advances in consumer-facing technologies and digital health tools are shining a brighter spotlight on consumer centricity in healthcare — and for good reasons. Patients want their providers to use technologies that would simplify patient-facing aspects of healthcare services to enhance patient experience and engagement. In this session, learn about how real-time technologies, like remote patient monitoring, combined with data and predictive analytics, are enabling the continuity of care and drive better outcomes and patient satisfaction.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
• Learn how telehealth technologies like remote patient monitoring can help keep care in the community and enhance the patient experience
• Hear about the imperative of how patient-centric technologies combined with analytics can positively impact the continuum of care, increase clinician engagement, improve operational efficiencies and improve patient satisfaction

12:00 – 1:00 PM
Lunch (all welcome)
Presentation of IT Awards

1:15 – 2:15 PM
The Promise of Telemedicine: Bringing Care to the Patient
Wendy Layton, Director, Telehealth Program, St. David’s Healthcare, Austin, TX
Many rural hospitals serve in communities with low patient volume, making it extremely difficult to recruit providers to offer essential primary care and specialty care services. Moreover, transportation is a big barrier for rural patients. Telemedicine has the potential to counterbalance these challenges — it is the great geographic leveler. In this session, learn about the promise of telemedicine and how it may improve access to much-needed care to your community. Hear about the “what” and “why” and see an example of how one model is working to remotely connect patients to providers.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
• Discuss key principles, opportunities and challenges with telemedicine
• Learn about the promise of telemedicine as a strategy and means to expand access to specialty care to patients in your community
• See a demonstration of one model and how it is working to remotely connect patients to providers
Friday, October 26

7:00 – 8:00AM
Breakfast
Exhibit Hall
PRODUCT INNOVATION LAB
(Registrants can pick from one of two options to learn more about various technology solutions)

8:00 – 10:00AM
OPTION 1: MEDITECH EHR product showcase and demonstration
OPTION 2: Athena EHR product showcase and demonstration

10:00AM – 12:00PM
OPTION 1: XFERALL, LLC product showcase and demonstration (patient transfer solution)
OPTION 2: TBD

12:00PM
Adjourn
A certificate of attendance will be provided to all participants, which can be used to claim CE credits from professional associations and state licensing boards. This program provides: 8 hours of CE units for CPAs from the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy: sponsor #04763, no preparation required; and 8 hours of preapproved ACHE Qualified Education credit for this program toward advancement or recertification in the American College of Healthcare Executives. Participants in this program wishing to have the continuing education hours applied toward ACHE Qualified Education credit should indicate their attendance when submitting application to the American College of Healthcare Executives for advancement or recertification.

The Healthcare Administrators Credentialing Commission www.haccomm.org has authorized 8 hours of Continuing Education Credit for HITCON18. Credential holders should retain their certificates and list the meeting on their renewal or application form. DO NOT submit the certificate unless directed as part of the HACC random audit process.