The California Emergency Medical Service Authority (EMSA) is pleased to announce our intent to award the Drill Participant for the Patient Unified Lookup System for Emergencies (PULSE) sub-recipient grant (RFO C16-037) to Santa Cruz Health Information Organization (SCHIE). SCHIE demonstrated in their proposal their experience and technical expertise while meeting the requirement in the RFO. The grant award is for $59,882.25, and runs through July 26, 2017.

The awardee will be attending planning workgroup meetings, onboard to PULSE, and participate in a PULSE Drill. The PULSE solution will provide interconnectivity and exchange tools to enable health information exchange to occur between Health Information Organizations (HIOs) during disaster situations.

PULSE will connect multiple local data sources (health information organizations and health systems) to a Health Information Exchange (HIE) interoperability broker (to be separately selected). During a disaster, the web portal will be activated, enabling healthcare professionals employed by health systems or participating with HIOs to access patient records through their existing systems. Other authorized healthcare professionals will be able to access the portal via a web portal user interface using single-sign-on assertion. This project will use exchange specifications, Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE) standards, and federated directory services enabled by the California Trusted Exchange Network (CTEN).

This local assistance funding supports collaborative solutions to integrate PULSE as a critical component of the health care system into the HIE landscape consistent with Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) Grant 90IX006/01-00, awarded by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology for PULSE +EMS.