

COMMHIT RECEIVES \$44.9 MILLION TO BUILD FLORIDA'S NEXT GENERATION RURAL HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

Statewide initiative strengthens preventive, in home, and connected care.

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FL, UNITED STATES, October 8, 2026 / EINPresswire.com/ -- CommHIT (CommunityHealth IT, Inc.), a 501(c)(3) headquartered at the Kennedy Space Center, has spent 15 years bridging advanced technology and clinical practice across rural communities. Across Florida's rural counties, long distances to hospitals and specialists often delay care and make preventive, in home services essential. To close that distance, CommHIT is taking healthcare directly into rural patients' homes through its newly funded statewide initiative: CommHIT Everywhere.

Administered by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) under Florida's Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP), CommHIT received a subaward of \$44.9 million across four key regions, representing the largest share of the state's \$188 million investment in rural health transformation. The funding is anchored by a \$19 million award in Northeast Florida, alongside major allocations supporting regional care transformations across Southwest (\$13.8 million), Northwest (\$8.4 million), and Southeast (\$3.7 million) Florida.

"CommHIT Everywhere is a practical, connected infrastructure of care rooted in collaboration, financial sustainability, human centered technology, and the trust of rural partners—built to give every community a clear path to better health," said Dr. Kendra Siler, Co-Founder and CEO of CommHIT. "It ensures distance no longer stands between people and the care they deserve."

CommHIT Everywhere is designed to weave care provided by over 70 existing clinical partners



and local governments into a responsive safety net across 36 rural counties.

It's a five-layered rural care system where each function strengthens the next, moving patients toward resolution rather than crisis.

Layer 1: Mobile Health Screening Vans

CommHIT Everywhere is bringing mobile screening vans to Florida's rural care landscape. These units travel scheduled routes, offering preventive, prenatal, and chronic disease screenings that surface health needs early. Equipped with structured tools, real time data exchange, and direct referral pathways, they connect patients to local clinicians, MIH teams, and community pharmacies the moment a concern is found, ensuring people get timely support right where they live.

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Kendra Siler, PhD

Layer 2: Community Paramedicine – Mobile Integrated Health

CommHIT Everywhere builds on the Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) programs already woven into the fabric of Florida's rural care. CommHIT's infrastructure helps these programs do more—giving paramedics and EMTs the tools, real time data, and coordinated referrals they need to reach more patients. MIH teams bring non-emergency care straight into people's homes. They steady patients after

hospital stays, help manage chronic conditions, and act on referrals from screening vans, medical practices, and community pharmacies, catching issues early and keeping people well, wherever they live.

Layer 3: Smart Home Health Devices

Rural patients managing chronic conditions, recovering after a hospital stay, or facing high risk pregnancies get support right in their homes through simple, automatic medical devices and sensors. Paramedics or other health professionals set up what each patient needs—blood pressure cuffs, blood sugar meters, oxygen sensors, weight scales, pregnancy monitors, mattress-based safety sensors, and small stick-on patches that track temperature, heart rate,



Florida rural partners gathering for Centers for Medicare and Medicaid on-site visits

and breathing around the clock—giving care teams a clear picture of health as it changes. Each device connects automatically through built in cellular chips, with no Wi Fi or smartphone required. Readings send themselves straight to the care team, and if any vital signs cross preset safety limits, an alert goes out immediately so someone can check in before a small issue becomes a serious problem.

Layer 4: Community Pharmacies with Clinical Services

CommHIT Everywhere turns community pharmacies into small, practical clinical touchpoints. Community pharmacies will soon offer telehealth kiosks where rural residents can walk in, have their vitals checked, get quick tests for flu, COVID, strep, or blood sugar, and connect immediately with a licensed clinician by video. Clinicians see results in real time, send prescriptions straight to the pharmacy's system, and can even continue follow-up care through a secure link on the patient's phone. Paramedics and pharmacists stay tightly coordinated after hospital discharges—reviewing medications together and enrolling eligible moms and people with chronic conditions into daily home-monitoring programs right at the counter—creating a simple, local, and connected care pathway for rural residents.

Layer 5: The Backbone Layer ("Digital Highway")

CommHIT Everywhere is expanding the footprint of the Florida Health Information Exchange (HIE) by extending this digital highway into rural regions so healthcare partners can see the same



CommHIT Co-Founders: Kendra Siler, PhD and David C. Willis, MD



CommHIT Everywhere partner Starting Point Behavioral Health showcases its mobile health unit with peer recovery specialists to State of Florida leadership

patient story and close the loop on care. Providers receive secure, real-time alerts that keep care teams connected and responsive. When rural residents are discharged from the hospital, notifications go out immediately so paramedics can follow up before problems grow. And because every encounter feeds into one traceable care thread, rural patients finally move through a system where continuity is built in, follow up is completed, and care teams stay connected. "Rural health transforms when clinicians are equipped to act before a crisis emerges," said Dr. David Willis, Co-Founder and CMIO of CommHIT.



Kendra Siler, PhD and Michael Feinstein

"By connecting remote monitoring, mobile integrated healthcare, and primary care through real time data exchange, we create a system where early intervention and continuous, at home care become the norm rather than the exception."

Where you can learn more: [CommHIT26](#)

As CommHIT Everywhere begins operationalizing statewide, CommHIT will host a gathering of participating organizations and key stakeholders at its Kennedy Space Center headquarters on December 10 and 11.

Co-hosted by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) and First There First Care (FTFC), December 10 establishes the foundation for CommHIT26 with a statewide focus on preventive and out of hospital care, care-at-home, and health data sharing. Attendees will join leaders from more than 70 safety net hospitals and medical facilities, emergency care agencies, community pharmacies, and critical technology partners.

Michael Feinstein and Dr. Kendra Siler will lead the Music Forms Memories (MFM) Keynote Exploration, a fireside style session examining the verified impact of music on cognition and the emerging MFM technology. The memory elicitation, connection, and emotional clarity supported by MFM will strengthen care across all ages and all settings within CommHIT Everywhere.

Feinstein is a Tony Award recipient, five-time GRAMMY® nominated artist, #1 New York Times bestselling author, and the most globally celebrated performer and preservationist of the Great American Songbook.

December 11 of CommHIT26 turns toward Mental Performance: Build, Protect, and Restore, exploring how individuals and organizations can strengthen cognitive clarity, emotional

resilience, and decision-making capacity in high pressure environments. Sessions maintain the health and technology throughline while leading experts highlight neuroscience, human factors, expressive arts, technology, and practical tools that support cognitive health.

The program reflects CommHIT's commitment to supporting American life through science, strategy, creativity, and human performance—helping people move through demanding environments with steadiness and purpose.

The evening concludes with the World Premiere concert Michael Feinstein Presents: Music Forms Memories.

Seats for all activities are limited. All tickets—except for the concert—are offered at no charge and include lunch on both days as well as complimentary entry to the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. Registration will close once all seats are filled or no later than noon on November 30.

Event details, registration, and concert tickets are available at:
<https://www.eventeny.com/events/commhit26-32710/>.

About CommHIT

CommHIT (CommunityHealth IT, Inc.) is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to strengthening community health, connectivity, technology, workforce readiness, and the financial stability of healthcare systems. From its home at the Kennedy Space Center, CommHIT works across rural and resource limited communities to connect healthcare organizations, public safety agencies, technology partners, and local resources. CommHIT's NASA location reflects how it operates—disciplined, innovative, and mission-driven. Being based in a place built for readiness and precision reinforces CommHIT's focus on delivering advanced, practical technology to the communities that need it most.

Lisa Lee Mercer
CommHIT VP of Communications
+1 407-713-5437
lisalee.mercer@commhit.org

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