For Immediate Release

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HL7® Da Vinci Project Names Seven Health IT Professionals ‘2023 Community Champions’

ANN ARBOR, Mich. – June 27, 2024 – The Health Level Seven® International (HL7®) Da Vinci Project recently named seven healthcare technology experts as its 2023 Da Vinci Community Champions. The individuals recognized for this prestigious honor represent the diverse membership of the HL7® Da Vinci Project, a collaborative multi-stakeholder effort including health plans, hospital systems, accountable care organizations (ACOs) and technology vendors. This is the fourth year in which the HL7® Da Vinci Project has recognized innovative leaders in health IT who are helping to guide the evolution of the HL7 Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®) standard.

As a designated HL7 FHIR accelerator program, the Da Vinci Project is a private sector consortium dedicated to improving the healthcare delivery system by accelerating interoperability standards to support value-based care, reduce administrative burden, automate workflow and improve provider teams’ ability to impact health outcomes. The Da Vinci Project leadership created the Community Champions Program to recognize and celebrate the talented problem solvers advancing interoperability within the industry. The Community Champion Program puts a spotlight on individuals who display the unique traits of “industry above self, a passion for making the healthcare system work better, supporting others, and promoting change.”

The HL7 Da Vinci Project’s 2023 Community Champions are:

- Karen Ashton, Director, Population Health Digital Solutions, MultiCare Health System
• **Hans Buitendijk**, Senior Director, Interoperability Strategy, Oracle Health

• **Daniel Cawood**, Senior Manager, Product Management, MCG Health

• **Naomi Miao**, Business Operations Manager, athenahealth

• **Linda Michaelsen**, Director, Healthcare Interoperability Standards, Optum

• **Alexandra Mugge**, Chief Health Informatics Officer, and Director of Health Informatics and Interoperability Group (HIIG), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

• **Sreekanth Puram**, Chief Technology Officer, Mettle Solutions

The awards were announced at the HL7 Working Group Meeting in Dallas and at Da Vinci’s virtual May Community Roundtable, where Anna Taylor, HL7 Da Vinci Project Steering Committee chair and the associate vice president, Population Health and Value Based Care for MultiCare Connected Care, presented the awards. Taylor was recognized as a 2020 Community Champion in the inaugural class of health IT professionals who were given this award.

“The dedicated professionals we recognize were nominated by their peers and selected by a committee of prior Champions based upon their day-to-day contributions and exemplary achievements to the Da Vinci Project in 2023,” Taylor said.

“Their efforts are helping Da Vinci to significantly transform the healthcare landscape by building a standards-based foundation to enable real-time data exchange, automating processes that reduce friction, resulting in time and cost savings that ultimately benefit patients. As we recognize them, we encourage others to join us on this inspiring journey of innovation,” she said.

**About Health Level Seven International (HL7)**

Health Level Seven® International (HL7) is an ANSI-accredited, not-for-profit standards developing organization with the mission of empowering global health interoperability. With affiliates in over 30 countries, HL7’s global membership envisions a world in which everyone can securely access and use the right data when and where they need it. Widely implemented by vendor and healthcare systems, and required by governing bodies around the world, HL7 standards deliver solutions for health information technology, including HL7® Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®), Version 2 (V2) and Clinical Document Architecture (CDA®). For more information, visit HL7.org. [www.HL7.org](http://www.HL7.org).
About the HL7 Da Vinci Project

As an HL7 FHIR Accelerator, the HL7 Da Vinci Project is a private sector initiative comprised of industry leaders and health information technology technical experts who are working together to accelerate the adoption of HL7® FHIR® as the standard to support and integrate value-based care (VBC) data exchange across communities. The Da Vinci Project focuses on minimizing the development and deployment of one-off solutions between partners with a goal to help all clinicians and health plans to better deliver clinical quality, value and care management outcomes. The core focus of phase one of the project is to deliver implementation guides and reference software implementations to the public for data exchange and workflows necessary to support providers and payers entering and managing VBC contracts and relationships.

To learn more about the HL7 Da Vinci Project and to sign up for the listserv, please visit: hl7.me/davincinews.