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| ***FCC - News from the Federal Communications Commission***  **Media Contact:**  Katie Gorscak, (202) 763-4733  Katie.gorscak@fcc.gov  **For Immediate Release**  **FCC, MAYO CLINIC, AND AARP**  **TO HOLD BROADBAND HEALTH EVENTS IN FLORIDA**  *Connect2HealthFCC Task Force to Explore the Role of Broadband-Enabled Health Technologies and Their Potential Impact on the Health of Our Nation*  WASHINGTON, September 30, 2015 – According to the U.S. Census Bureau, by 2030, 1 out of every 5 Americans will be 65 or older. By 2060, that number will grow to 1 in 4. The state of Florida will reach that population benchmark 30 years earlier, according to population projections prepared by the Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research, a research arm of the Florida Legislature. These projections make Florida a fitting location to explore the challenges ahead as well as the opportunities broadband-enabled health technologies provide to meet the needs of a growing and aging population.  As our population ages and more Americans assume caregiving tasks for family members, broadband-enabled health technologies hold great promise to help address access to care challenges, facilitate the next-generation of caregiving, and provide new self-management tools. FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler and Commissioner Mignon Clyburn will travel to Miami on September 30, and Jacksonville on October 1, for a series of Connect2HealthFCC Task Force events addressing how broadband-enabled health solutions and next-generation communications technologies can support seniors and people with disabilities.  The events will feature Chairman Wheeler, Commissioner Clyburn, senior executives from AARP Florida, Univision's Dr. Juan Rivera, Dr. Steve Ommen, Medical Director, Mayo Clinic Center for Connected Care, and the Connect2HealthFCC Task Force. Representative Mia Jones of the Florida legislature will help to kick-off the Jacksonville Summit and Meredith Attwell Baker, President and CEO, CTIA – the Wireless Association, will offer a keynote address.  “Broadband is having a profound impact on the delivery of healthcare services and has the capacity to fundamentally transform the way we care for our communities” said Chairman Wheeler. “Broadband can provide a pathway to help patients in rural and underserved areas of the country reach the care they need, when and where they need it.”  Florida marks the third stop in the Task Force’s “Beyond the Beltway” series, an effort that has taken Commissioner Clyburn and the Task Force to diverse and remote pockets of the United States, from Charlottesville, VA to the Mississippi Delta over the past year.  “Seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities deserve the best that our health care system can offer,” said Commissioner Clyburn. “Broadband has almost limitless potential to help us work across sectors and traditional silos to address unmet needs for greater access, care coordination and consumer engagement. Working together, we can build a truly connected health and smart care future.”  On September 30 in Miami, the Task Force will host a consumer event, *Advancing Digital Health - Connecting Seniors to Care*, co-sponsored by AARP. The event will feature a “Health Tech Talk” by Univision’s Dr. Juan Rivera with Chairman Wheeler and Commissioner Clyburn as well as a caregiving segment featuring stories from caregivers, each sharing their unique and powerful experiences of caring for a loved one with and without technology enablers. In addition to the consumer event, FCC leadership and Task Force members will also visit two sophisticated broadband health technology centers: The Telehealth Command Center at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital and the Healthspot-Florida Blue Retail Center, to learn more about successful telehealth models in southern Florida.  “On behalf of Florida’s 2.7 million AARP members and millions more Floridians of all ages, I welcome this exciting and important event to Miami,” said Jeff Johnson, AARP’s Florida state director.  “As the 50-plus population grows larger, advanced technology will play a critical role in ensuring that older people get access to the services and information they need to stay healthy and achieve the real possibilities they seek.”  On October 1 in Jacksonville, the *Broadband Health Summit:* *Building Connected Health and Smart Care Systems in Florida and Beyond,* co-hosted by the Mayo Clinic, will include an executive-level discussion on how best to create a broad, cross-sector vision for the broadband-enabled future of health care in Florida and beyond; featuring prominent health and technology industry leaders. The Summit will also highlight innovative work being done in Florida by telehealth practitioners, government organizations, and community groups throughout the state.  “At Mayo Clinic, our connected care platform is trying to enable Mayo Clinic and its patients to connect with one another in newer ways,” said Dr. Steve Ommen, Medical Director, Mayo Clinic Center for Connected Care. “Expanded broadband capabilities will allow those connections to be more reliable—particularly in rural areas, thus improving care to the patient while at the same time ensuring quality care, patient convenience and cost savings.”  A complete agenda for the trip is available [online](https://www.fcc.gov/events/connect2healthfcc-beyond-the-beltway-series-florida).  **About the Connect2HealthFCC Task Force (**<http://www.fcc.gov/health>)  The Connect2HealthFCC Task Force is a senior-level, multi-disciplinary Task Force that was created by Chairman Tom Wheeler in 2014. Recognizing that technology innovations in clinical practice and care delivery are poised to fundamentally change the face of health care, the Task Force is charged with exploring the intersection of broadband, advanced technology, and health. The Task Force focuses on further charting the broadband future of health care in order to ensure that the FCC stays ahead of the health technology curve.  ###  **Office of Media Relations: (202) 418-0500**  **TTY: (888) 835-5322**  **Twitter: @FCC**  [**www.fcc.gov/office-media-relations**](http://www.fcc.gov/office-media-relations)  *This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).* |