Federal Programs Catalyzing Health Equity Initiatives

The ONC STAR HIE Grant Program

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The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

STAR HIE Program Overview

- Program is designed to strengthen uses of health information via HIEs to support public health agencies, including for COVID response.

- $5 million from the CARES Act (signed March 27, 2020), announced in two tranches:
  - Sept. 30, 2020: $2.5 million to support 5 HIEs in creating services that benefit public health agencies.
  - Jan. 19, 2020: Supplemental $2.5 million to support 17 HIEs (including 4 of the original 5 recipients) to specifically support increased data sharing between immunization information systems and HIEs.

- The program has the following objectives:
  - Build innovative health information exchange services that benefit public health agencies.
  - Improve the health information exchange services available to support communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

STAR HIE Program – Health Equity

- STAR HIE Program recipients have deployed services to increase health information exchange among communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Leveraging HIE data for vaccine reporting and to identify the impact of COVID-19 on underserved groups that have low testing and vaccination rates.
- Improving HIT infrastructure to securely exchange patient data to address significant health inequity issues in one population that is amongst the poorest and medically underserved in the U.S.
- Helping rural practices report their COVID lab results and COVID vaccines electronically to Departments of Health.
- Improving COVID-19 reporting from correctional facilities and using new functionality to develop enhanced metrics reports to include ethnicity, race, veteran military status, and zip codes.

Speakers

Bill Marella, MBA, MMI
Vice President, Value Based Care and Data Analytics, HealthShare Exchange

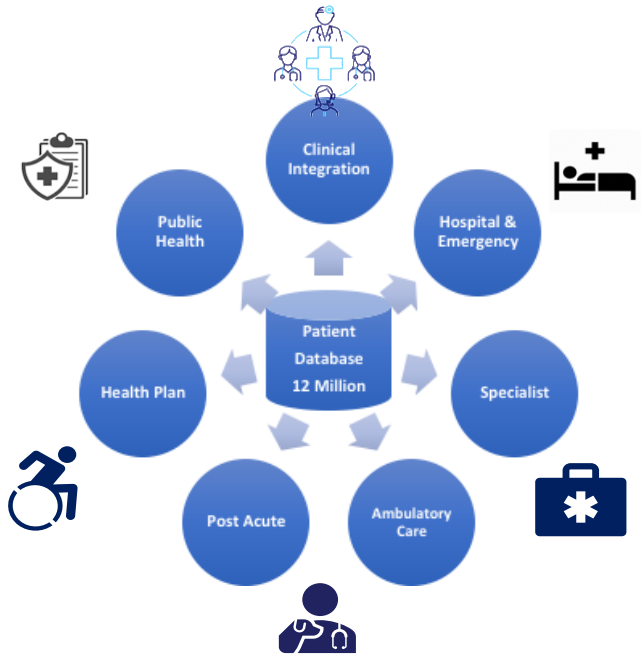
Denise Hines, DHA, PMP, FHIMSS
Chief Executive Officer, Georgia Health Information Network

Sonia Chambers
Executive Director, West Virginia Health Information Network

George Gooch
CEO, Texas Health Services Authority

HealthShare Exchange: Delaware Valley Region HIE

Created To:
Ensure Health Data Gets to Where People Need it Most



Dedicated to Health Record Interoperability Since 2012

HITRUST CSF Certified

Backed By:
Every Major Health Care Institution in the Region

CVS Health | aetna | AmeriHealth Caritas | Independence
Health Partners Plans | United Healthcare
Jefferson Health | Penn Medicine
Main Line Health | Trinity Health Mid-Atlantic | labcorp
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NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HEALTH | Quest Diagnostics
Genesis | BAYADA Home Health Care | Merakey

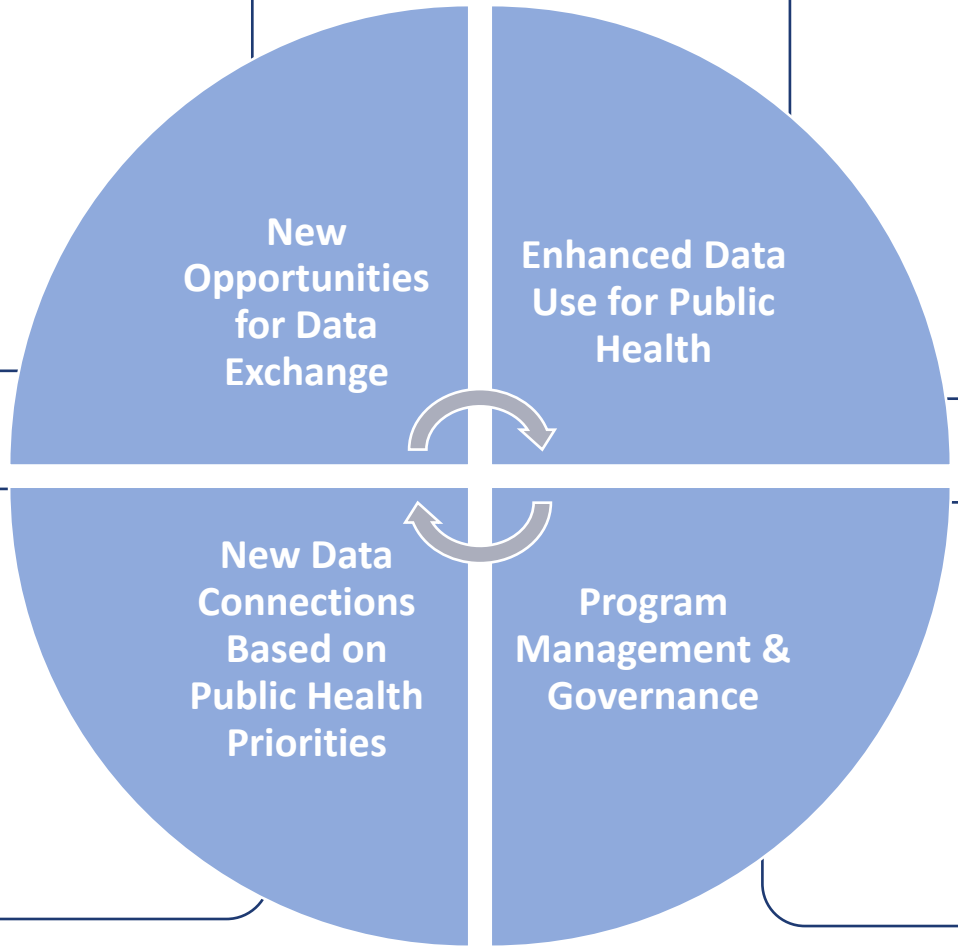
Trusted By:
+500 Companies, Public Health, and National Organizations

pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PDA pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF AGING
Department of Public Health
NJHIN | PA eHEALTH PARTNERSHIP | DHIN Delaware Health Information Network
The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology | CMS | COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER FQHC QUALITY
EDA U.S. Economic Development Administration | PACE | HHS
MANNA Delivering Nourishment. Improving Health.

HSX

ONC STAR HIE Program Accomplishments

- Case Finding
- Contact Tracing
- Immunization Status



- COVID-19 Dashboard
- RWJF Nat'l Registry
- Surveillance Reports
- Demographic Extracts
- Indexed Extractions
- Nat'l Vax Dashboard Demonstration Project
- SDOH & Health Equity

- CCD Feeds
- Electronic Lab Feeds
- Electronic Case Reporting (eCR)
- New Members

- Oversight
- Resources
- Coordination
- Legal, Compliance

Health Equity Support for COVID Response

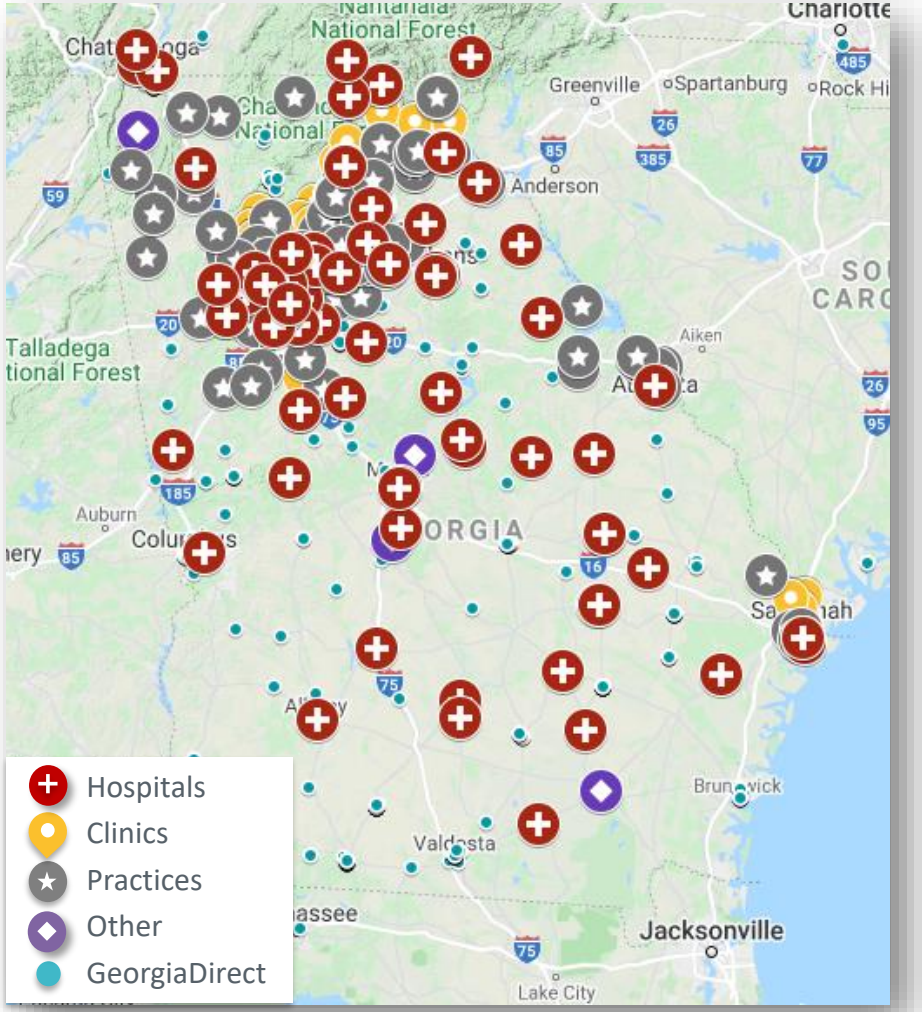
Case Finding	• Daily extracts • Demographic & clinical context
Contact Tracing	• MPI extracts • Race/ethnicity • Preferred language • COVID Risk Index
Vaccine Rollout	• Push notifications • Identifying mobility-impaired/homebound

Beyond COVID-19

- New opportunities with public health agencies
  - Expanded Public Health Use Case
  - Onboarding county health clinics
  - Medical Examiners Office/Mortality Review Committees
- Partnership with PA Dept of Aging/Benefits Data Trust--connecting residents with 19 different benefit programs
- Statewide SDOH platform for closed-loop referrals
- Incorporating health equity into population health collaboratives

Georgia Health Information Network (GaHIN)

- Georgia's state-designated HIE
  - ~15,00 connected providers
  - 10M patient queries (FY2021)
- Five connected state agencies
  - Georgia Medicaid/Department of Community Health
  - Georgia Department of Public Health
  - Georgia Division of Family and Children Services
  - Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice
  - Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
- All three Georgia Care Management Organizations
- Correctional facilities
- Registries – Immunizations, eLabs, Alzheimer's, Birth Defects, Cancer
- First in nation – American Heart Association *Get With the Guidelines*®



ONC STAR HIE Program

- Goals:
  1. Provide interoperability and reporting solutions that reduce the burden on public health
  2. Connect clinical facilities of the Veterans Administration across Georgia
  3. Connect state correctional facilities
  4. Connect hospitals that are not currently sending COVID-19 test results through GaHIN
- GaHIN outreach team has:
  - Contacted 32 hospitals to date
  - 5 connections to date (1 contributing COVID-19 data)
  - 27 hospitals referred to RHIEs for follow up (contributes COVID-19 data)
  - Additional connections for COVID-19 reporting pending the new technology implementation
- Partnered with HI-BRIDGE HIE to expand connected correctional facilities and transmit relevant data
  - 13 correctional institutions now connected to HI-BRIDGE HIE (from 4 in 01/21)
  - Contact made with additional facilities

ONC STAR HIE Health Equity Workgroup

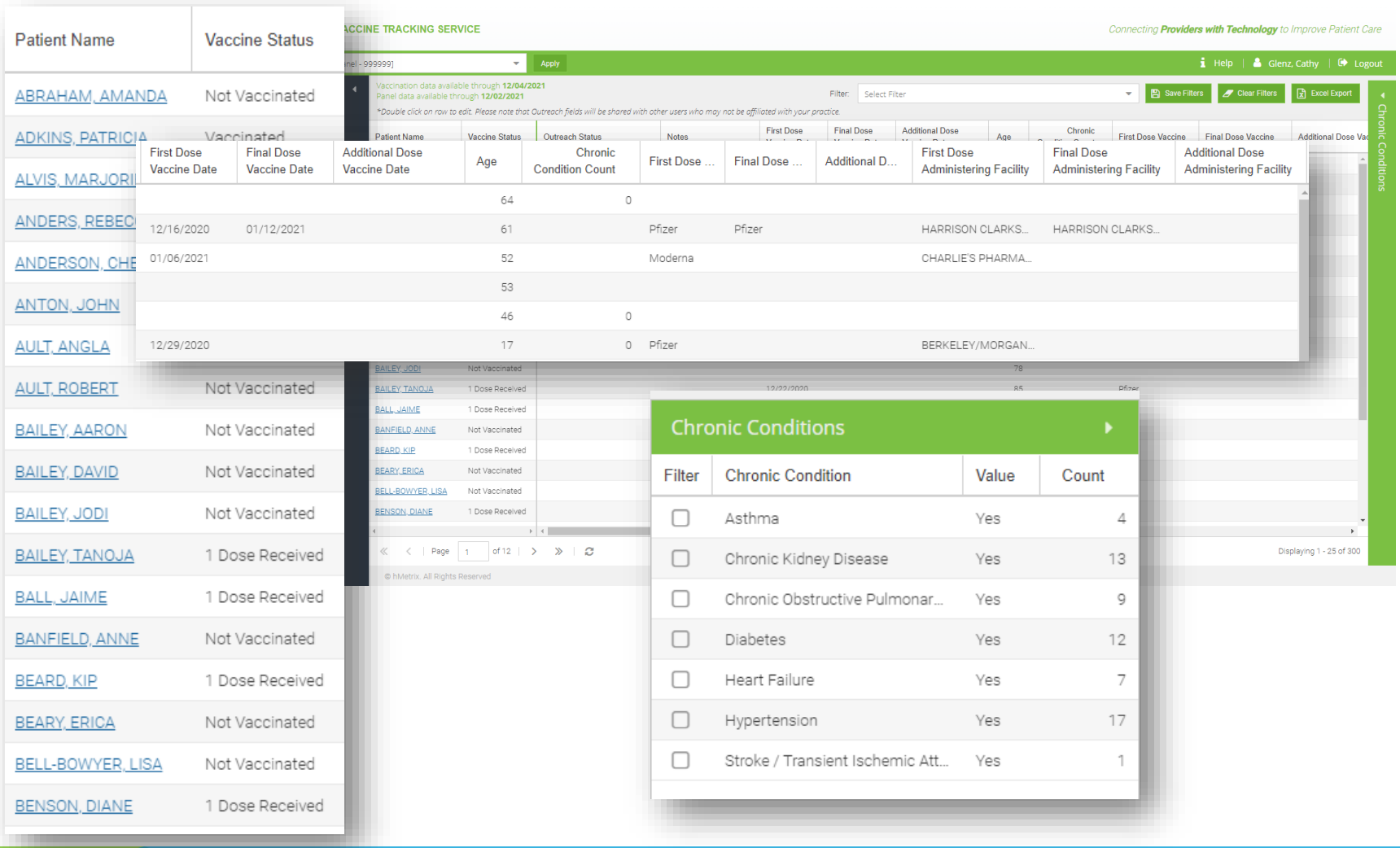
- Short-term initiative extended by popular demand
- Educational topics highlight status in different states and nationally
- Topics have included:
  - Advancing SDOH data use
  - Health equity challenges
  - Digital health equity
  - Gravity Project
  - Expanding telehealth use during the pandemic by public health
  - Recent presentation by clinicians – what we need

WVHIN PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH EQUITY

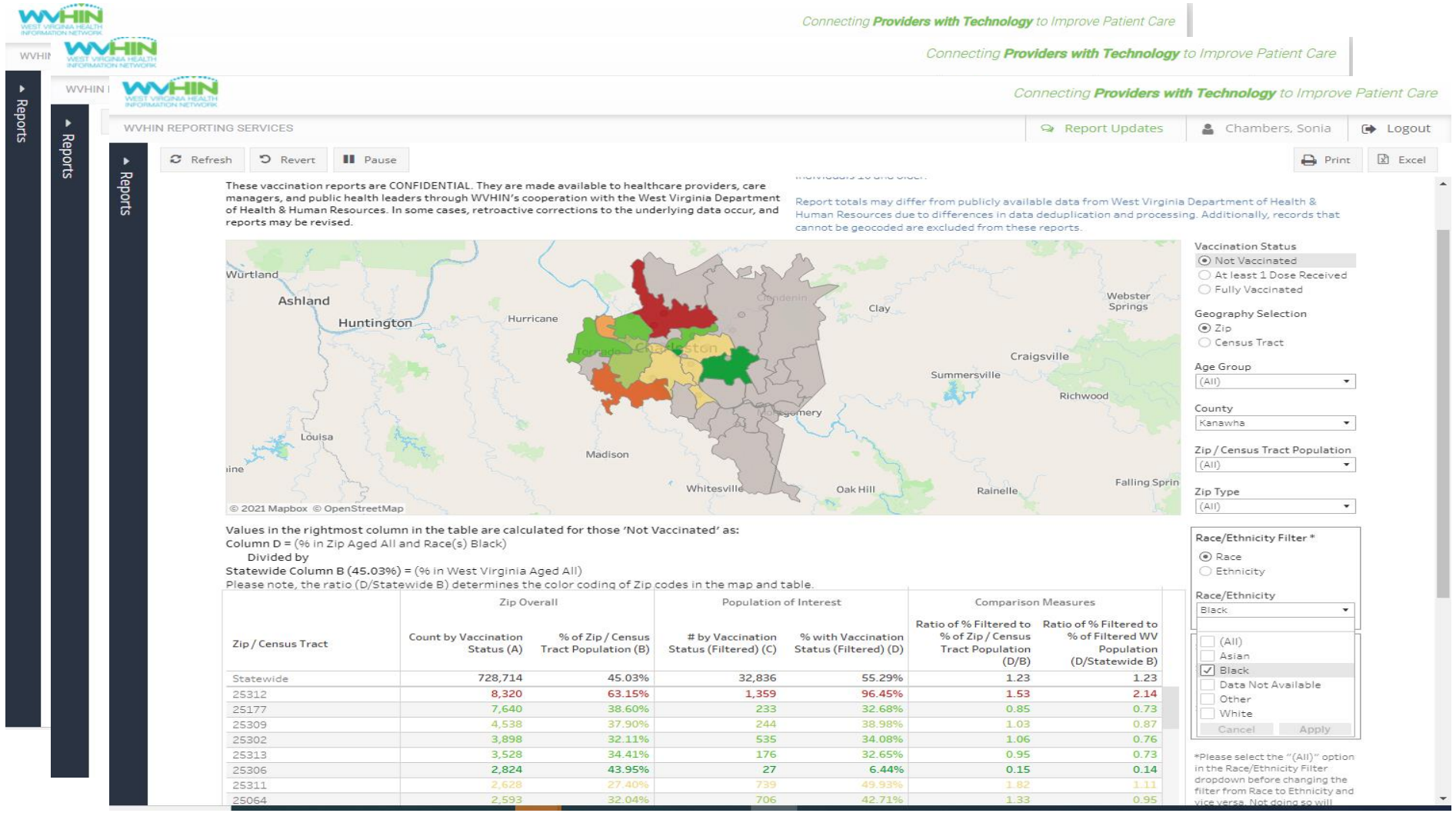
- **WVHIN Overview –** Connectivity, Technical competency, Extensive relationships
- **STAR HIE Program – Vaccine -** Catalyst, Funding, and Connections
- **WVHIN COVID-19 Activities**
  - Electronic lab reporting – various mechanisms
  - Bidirectional Immunization reporting
  - VAMS to WVSIIS
  - COVID test and vaccine notifications, care alerts, results
  - Enhance Race and Ethnicity of labs and vaccines
  - Breakthrough and Reinfection Reports
  - Immutrack and Heat Maps
  - eCase Reporting
  - Social Vulnerability Index and Disability Flags
- **Road Map** - IDEAS Learning Collaborative
  - All Immunizations, Data Integrity, Matching, Cross Border Sharing

WVHIN
WEST VIRGINIA HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK

WVHIN IMMUTRACK PATIENT NAVIGATOR



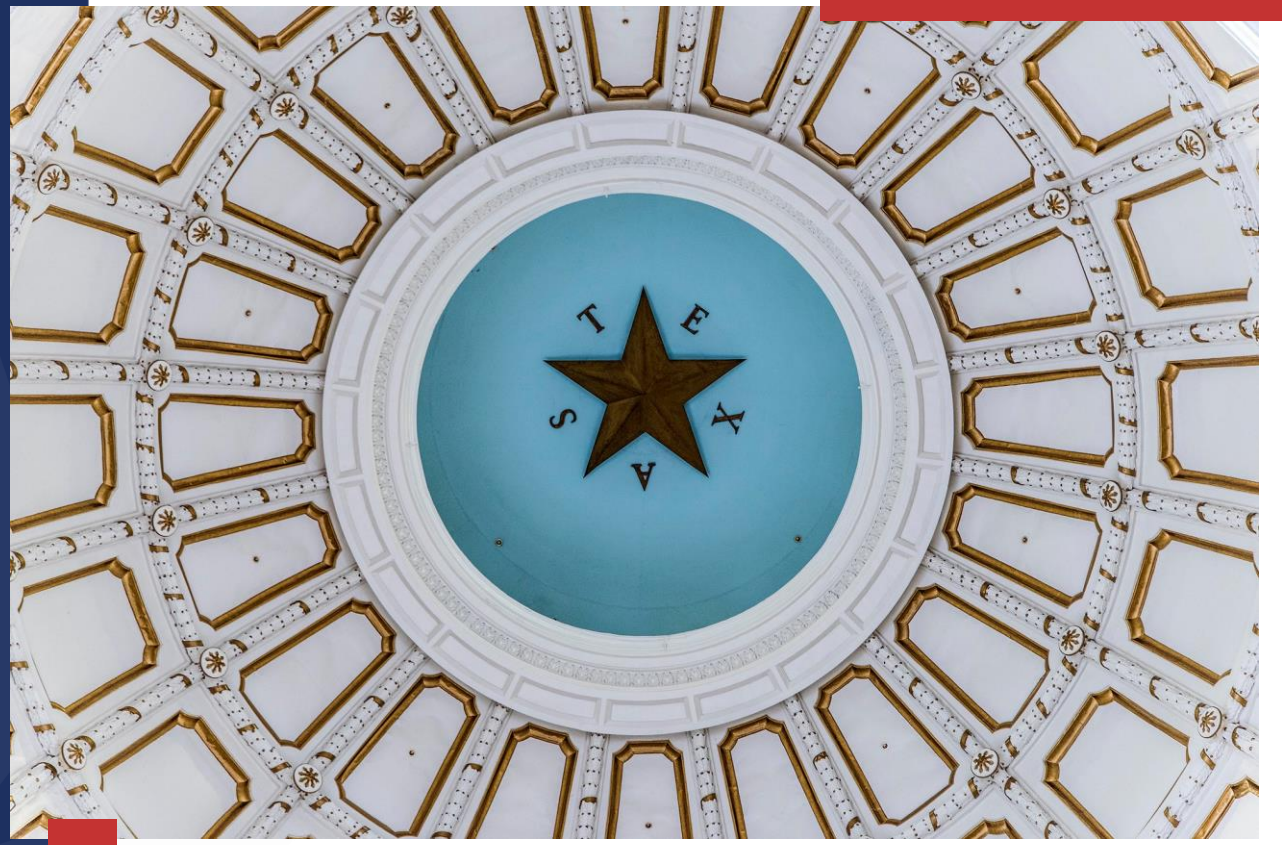
COVID-19 VACCINE HEAT MAPS



Zip / Census Tract	Zip Overall		Population of Interest		Comparison Measures	
	Count by Vaccination Status (A)	% of Zip / Census Tract Population (B)	# by Vaccination Status (Filtered) (C)	% with Vaccination Status (Filtered) (D)	Ratio of % Filtered to % of Zip / Census Tract Population (D/B)	Ratio of % Filtered to % of Filtered WV Population (D/Statewide B)
Statewide	728,714	45.03%	32,836	55.29%	1.23	1.23
25312	8,320	63.15%	1,359	96.45%	1.53	2.14
25177	7,640	38.60%	233	32.68%	0.85	0.73
25309	4,538	37.90%	244	38.98%	1.03	0.87
25302	3,898	32.11%	535	34.08%	1.06	0.76
25313	3,528	34.41%	176	32.65%	0.95	0.73
25306	2,824	43.95%	27	6.44%	0.15	0.14
25311	2,628	27.40%	739	49.93%	1.82	1.11
25064	2,593	32.04%	706	42.71%	1.33	0.95

TEXAS HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

- Created in 2007 by the Texas Legislature as the public/private entity to promote and coordinate electronic health information exchange in the State of Texas.
- Operates two major functions: (1) HIETexas -- electronic health information exchange platform, and (2) SECURETexas – a privacy and security certification program.
- Governed by a 12-member board of directors, appointed by the Texas Governor and confirmed by the Texas Senate. Two ex-officio members representing state health agencies also sit on the board.

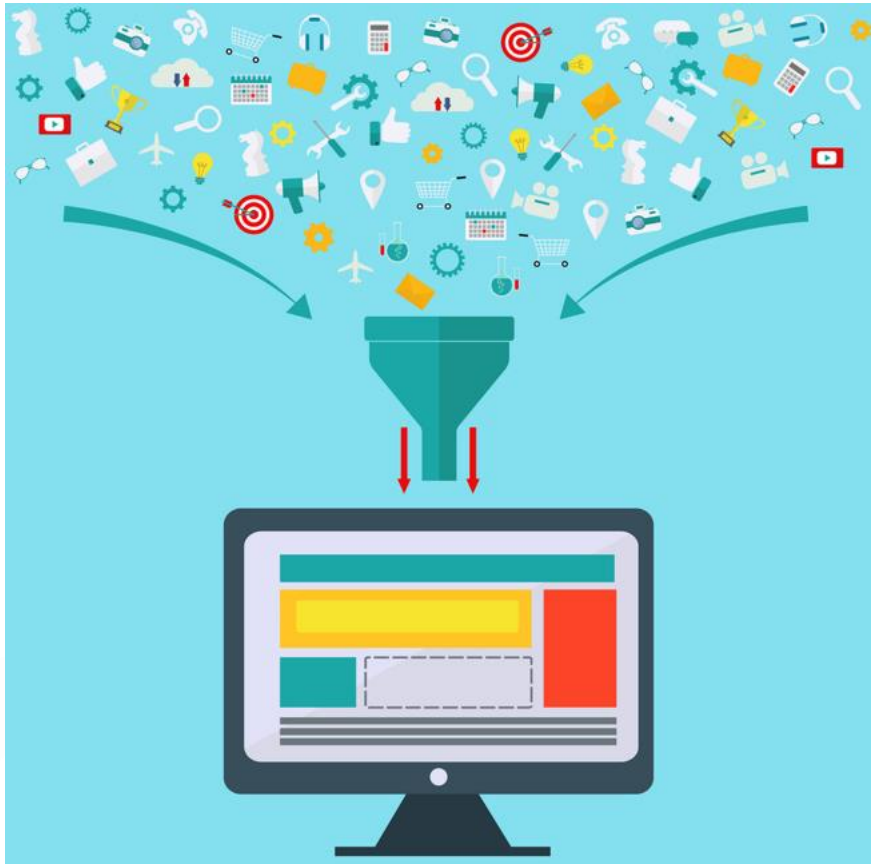


THSA AND HEALTH EQUITY

- THSA was one of five awardees under the original award of the STAR HIE Program
- Additionally awarded the supplemental award under STAR HIE Program
- THSA staff participate in the STAR HIE Health Equity Planning Council
- In addition to THSA's work in this space, there are numerous examples of local HIE contributions to health equity in Texas

HIETEXAS AND HEALTH EQUITY

- HIETexas can customize alerts to make a clinical impact
- Set up filters ("smart alerts") to alert only on specific diagnoses, admit reason text, source facilities, etc.
- Popular smart alerts include social determinants of health based on ICD-10 codes and other indicators (e.g., experiencing homelessness).



Thank you.

Questions?