

Information Technology Capital Investment Program  
Project Status Report

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**To:** Information Technology Strategy and Investment Committee  
John Vittner, Office of Policy and Management

**From:** Steve McConaughy - Department of Public Health

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**Agency:** Department of Public Health

**Project:** Immunization Information System (IIS) Modernization and Physician On-Boarding

**Project Manager:** Nancy Sharova

**Reporting Period:** Project Inception through 12/31/2019

**Total Funds Requested:** \$300,000

**Total Funds Allotted to Agency:** \$300,000

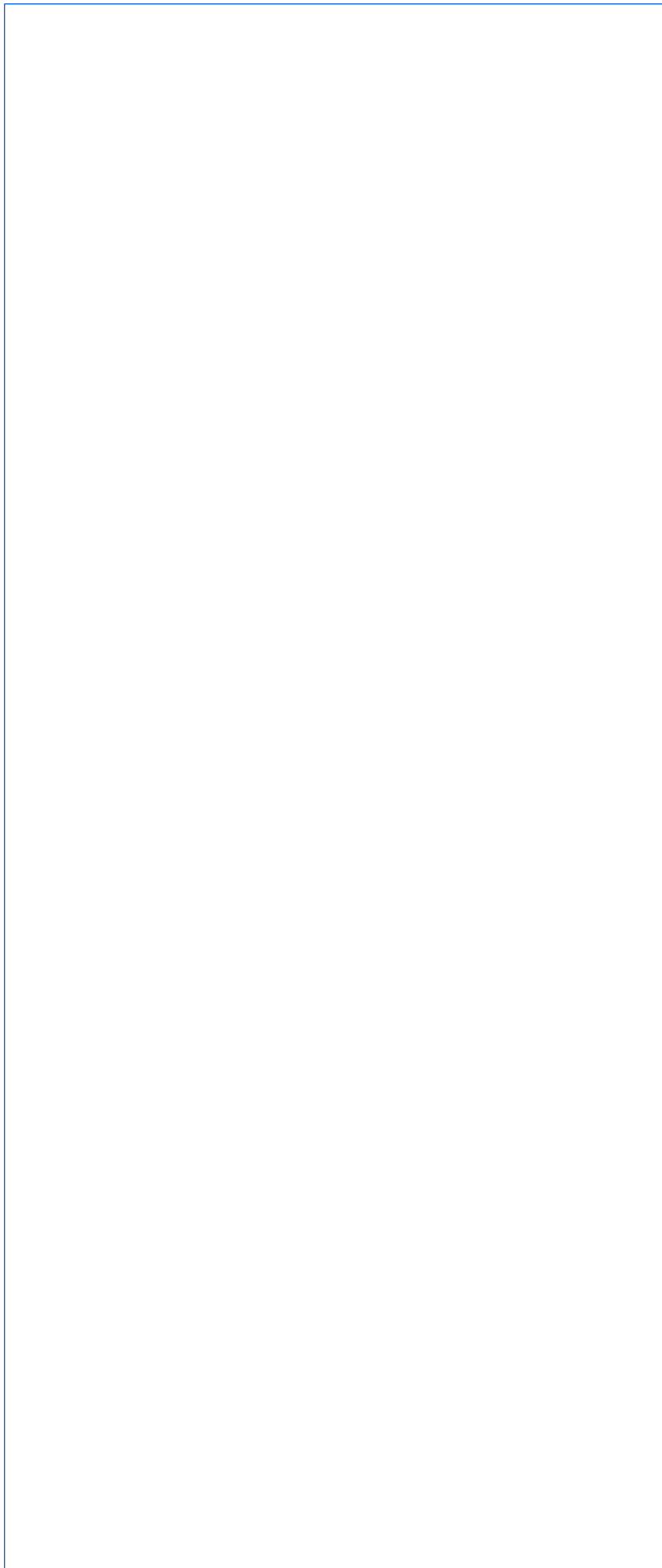
**Accumulative Total Capital Fund Expenditures to Date:** \$25,260

**Brief Project Description/Summary:**

To Convert the current CTCIRTS Immunization Registry to a new Off Site SaaS service model installation.

The project will implement the functionality of the newly modernized Immunization Information System (IIS) to meet public health reporting requirements for Meaningful Use (MU) Stage 3, which supports healthcare providers to ensure that electronic health records (EHR) are connected to the IIS in a manner that provides for direct bidirectional electronic exchange of immunization data to improve the quality of care for Connecticut Citizens, to expand the IIS to a lifetime registry while ensuring the quality of the information contained therein. The new IIS is called CT WIZ. This will link with the State Health Information Exchange (HIE), once available.

**Summary of Progress Achieved to Date:**



12/6/2019 Update (covering July to December 2019)

- CT WIZ, the Immunization Information System, had four enhancements since July 2019.
- The Childhood Vaccine Program database has been cleaned, reducing the number of CVP participants to 649 clinics as of 11/24/19.
- Clinic access has been divided into two types of users, those sending their electronic health records (EHR) through the HL7 interface and those directly entering patient information into CT WIZ.
  - There are 22 clinics using EHR.
  - There are 59 clinic entering records through direct entry.
  - Of those clinics, 66 are also ordering vaccine through CT WIZ.
  - There are an additional 215 clinics in the process of onboarding to submit vaccinations from their EHR.
  - Immunization staff have been actively recruiting CVP clinics to onboard.
  - The July CVP Update promoted onboarding.
- There are 551 school nurses with limited access to CT WIZ.
- For clinics using CT WIZ, historical immunization records are being uploaded. Thus far, 372,501 legacy records have been uploaded.
- We have onboarded thirteen EHR vendors and are working with an additional seven vendors.
- Bi-directional exchange:
  - As clinics move through each phase (Registration, Testing and Production Go-Live), clinics receive an email from DPH they can use for Meaningful Use (MU) attestation, if applicable.
  - The bidirectional (query/response) exchange procedures were being finalized in this reporting period and will be added to the CT WIZ webpage in the next reporting period.
- Link to Health Information Exchange: DPH IIS team continues to attend the Health IT Advisory Council Meetings.
- The HITECH IAPD-U was approved 8/30/19.
- Training has been provided both on the CT Immunization webpages as well as through live online meetings for those clinics about to go live with CT WIZ for ordering vaccine.
  - The standard operating procedures and slides for clinic trainings were updated in September.
- ? Two presentation on onboarding and IIS Migration were presented at the AIRA National Meeting in August. One of these was again presented to the national IIS learning community in October.
- **Immunization Program Milestones**
  - January – June 2020
    - Objective: Enhance IIS to meet national functional standards to ensure updates/releases are implemented to support bi-directional data exchange.
      - Milestone: Enhancement releases from the IIS vendor are tested, approved by CT and implemented
      - Target: Monthly Release Schedule
    - Objective: Onboard Eligible Providers (EPs) with Electronic Health Records (EHRs) attesting to Meaningful Use/Promoting Interoperability Stage 3 for electronic data exchange with the IIS.
      - Milestone: Increase EPs with EHRs that pass into production phase of onboarding process.
      - Target: 40%
    - Objective: Ensure immunization administration data is submitted to the IIS through electronic data exchange ensure more timely and complete records.
      - Milestone: Increase EPs on-going electronic reporting in IIS production environment.
      - Target: 40%
    - Objective: Ensure EPs have access to order vaccines, manage inventory and generate reports in the IIS.
      - Milestone: Increase EPs trained on IIS functionality for vaccine inventory and reports.
      - Target: 50%
  - July – December 2020
    - Objective: Onboard Eligible Providers (EPs) with Electronic Health Records (EHRs) attesting to Meaningful Use/Promoting Interoperability Stage 3 for electronic data exchange with the IIS.
      - Milestone5: Increase EPs with EHRs that pass into production phase of onboarding process.
      - Target: 70
    - Objective: Ensure immunization administration data is submitted to the IIS through electronic data exchange ensure more timely and complete records.
      - Milestone: Increase EPs on-going electronic reporting in IIS production environment.
      - Target: 70%
    - Objective: Ensure EPs have access to order vaccines, manage inventory and generate reports in the IIS.
      - Milestone: Increase EPs trained on IIS functionality for vaccine inventory and reports.
      - Target: 70%
  - January – June 2021
    - Objective: Onboard Eligible Providers (EPs) with Electronic Health Records (EHRs) attesting to Meaningful Use/Promoting Interoperability Stage 3 for electronic data exchange with the IIS.
      - Milestone: Increase EPs with EHRs that pass into production phase of onboarding process.
      - Target: 90%

Objective: Ensure immunization administration data is submitted to the IIS through electronic data exchange to ensure more timely and complete records.

Milestone: Increase EPs on-going electronic reporting in IIS production environment.

Target: 90%

Objective: Ensure EPs have access to order vaccines, manage inventory and generate reports in the IIS.

Milestone: Increase EPs trained on IIS functionality for vaccine inventory and reports.

Target: 90%

Objective: Develop standard operating procedures for linkage with the CT Department of Social Services (DSS) information systems to enroll and update patients enrolled in Medicaid into the IIS.

Milestone: Establish a linkage with the CT HIE.

Target: linkage established

Objective: Develop standard operating procedures for EPs to access the CT Health Information Exchange (HIE) for electronic data exchange with the IIS.

Milestone: Establish a linkage with the CT DSS.

Target: linkage established

#### July – September 2021

Objective: Expand age range in the regulations to enable IIS to capture of patients' immunization records up through age 18 through electronic reporting.

Milestone: Regulations amendment approved.

Target: age range increased There continue to be regular upgrades to make the new IIS functional to meet the required national standards.

- The development phase of the IIS will be considered completed when 90% of VFC providers have been onboarded, as stated in our goals.
- Capital IT funds have been encumbered, but not yet spent. The HITECH 90/10 funding continues until 9/30/2021 and matching funds will be required through that time.
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#### **07/2019 Update** (covering January to June 2019):

- The new Immunization Information System, called CT WIZ, Release 1.0 = 9/17/18, Release 1.1 = 10/16/18, Release 1.2 = 11/13/18.
  - Enhancements to CT WIZ went live during this period were:
    - Release 1.3 = 1/23/19
    - Release 2.0 = 4/16/19
    - Release 3.0 = 6/20/19
- Access to the IIS user interface by June 2019:
  - 8 UI Clinics (with 50 usernames) ordering vaccines in CT WIZ
  - 518 School Nurses online in CT WIZ
  - 55 DPH Immunization Program Staff and Immunization Action Plan Outreach Coordinators
- Bi-directional exchange:
  - 109 clinics were in the EHR onboarding process with CT WIZ (registration and testing phases) with 4 clinics reporting into Production CT WIZ.
  - As clinics move through each phase (Registration, Testing and Production Go-Live), clinics receive an email from DPH they can use for Meaningful Use (MU) attestation, if applicable.
  - The bidirectional (query/response) exchange procedures were being finalized in this reporting period and will be added to the CT WIZ webpage in the next reporting period.
- Link to Health Information Exchange: DPH IIS team continues to attend the Health IT Advisory Council Meetings.
- As Clinics are onboarding and being trained in the UI, real-time data is being reported to CT WIZ. Additionally, as part of the onboarding process, a legacy load of historical records were imported to help ensure a complete record. This legacy load process was tested in the QA environment and implemented in the production environment during this reporting period.
- An EHR Survey was sent through SurveyMonkey on 2/13/19 and closed on 5/1/19. This is being used for our outreach and management of the EHR onboarding queue.
- As Clinics are onboarded, they report immunizations administered on all their patients as entered in their EHR. Additionally, the CT DPH Immunization Program submitted proposed state regulations amendment to strike written so all data will be reported in an electronic format. This moved forward and was sent to the Governor's office in July and will be reported on in the next update.

#### 6/1/2018 Update:

The new Immunization Information System is in the construction and beginning testing phase. Staff have received training on the IIS. The portion of the project that hnsi grant funds has not yet begun. The Implementation Advance Planning Document (IAPD) is funded through the Department of Social Security (DSS). Funding is awarded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) who must also approves all agreements and contracts prior to implementation. Funding has been awarded.

The new IIS will go live in late September, which is on track to meet the project plan schedule. Costs will also be on budget.

DPH is on track for being able to retire and decommission all resources current ly used at BEST fir the CTCIRTS installation by 1/31/2019.

#### 01/2019 Update (covering June to December 2018):

- The new Immunization Information System, called CT WIZ, went live in September 2018.
- Enhancements to CT WIZ were made since the initial release 1.0 went live September 17, 2018:
  - Release 1.1 went live October 16, 2018
  - Release 1.2 went live November 13, 2018
  - Release 1.3 - DPH completed user acceptance testing and scheduled go live for January.
- Access to the IIS user interface by December 2018:
  - 386 Clinic Provider Users online
  - 459 School Nurses online
  - 69 DPH Immunization Program Staff and Immunization Action Plan Outreach Coordinators

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**Issues and Risks:**

12/6/2019

- Training materials a updated to match CT WIZ since the enhancements.

7/12/2019

On 6/18/19, CT DSS sent a follow up letter to CMS on the status of the submission of the HITECH IAPD-U for review and approval by CMS from 1/31/19.

6/1/2018

- Current Build out and data migrtion appears to be on schedule.

- Training for in house administrators has been completed.

We are on target for a funtional "GoLive" of September 17. this will complet phase I. At this point wese no obsticalses to meeting this target.

Phase II Will consist of Onboarding 700+ exteranl immunization sites. this will involve coordinating training schedules and integrating external data connections that are not completely wthin the controll of DPH. Successful onboarding will be dependent on developing efficient workign relationships wiht our public sector clients

**Next Steps & Project Milestones:**

12/6/2019

- We are exploring creating an interface between CT WIZ and the DSS database.
- Training materials need to be updated to match the changes that have been made in CT WIZ through the enhancements.
- A public portal is planned. This will allow parents or guardians to access the official immunization record through two-factor authentication.

July 12, 2019

CT WIZ enhancement and version upgrade releases are scheduled for Fall and Winter of 2019. CT WIZ is on track with the project plan.

Contractors will continue to be hired to conduct trainings on CT WIZ as the onboarding queue increases.

September 17, 2018 - Funtional "GoLive" of the SaaS CTWIZ Immuniization system. Convert current system to "Read Only" for reference.

October 1 2018 - Begin Onboarding Private Sector Immunization sites  
- December 2018 - Decomissionand return BEST resources used by the legacy CTCIRTS appliciaotn