AMERICAN IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL
REPORT

October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023

AIRA
AMERICAN IMMUNIZATION
REGISTRY ASSOCIATION

Letter from AIRA's Executive Director

AIRA Community,

This year, we saw the official end to the COVID-19 pandemic. After more than three years of confronting a global pandemic, public health is transitioning to more routine operations. Even with this change, we know the demands of the pandemic era remain. Despite the demands, we exercised commitment and resilience as we continued serving and strengthening our communities. Noteworthy this past year:

- AIRA's Measurement and Improvement (M&I) initiative continued to expand and make strides in validating IIS content areas.

- Physician's Computer Company (PCC), a pediatric EHR, completed Immunization Integration Program (IIP) testing and achieved recognition.

- AIRA achieved record-breaking attendance at the AIRA 2023 National Meeting, and AIRA membership has continued to soar, growing 33%.

As we reflect on this year, I want to extend my deepest gratitude for the support of our members, board of directors, volunteers, corporate partners, and staff. Together, we have continued the work of promoting the use of immunization information to ensure healthy communities. While we cannot foresee what the next year will hold, I am confident knowing AIRA is backed by a remarkable community.

Rebecca Coyle, MSEd
AIRA Executive Director

About AIRA

The American Immunization Registry Association (AIRA) is a vibrant membership organization dedicated to supporting continuous advancement of the nation's leading public health information systems.

AIRA was founded in 1999 after a nationwide measles outbreak from 1989 to 1991 that prompted the development of immunization registries in communities and regions across the country. AIRA became an effective advocate and support for immunization registry development as the convener of a collaborative public health community. With members representing all states and local and territorial jurisdictions, AIRA's work encompasses policy, technical, and educational aspects, bringing together the IIS community to work together to promote standards, develop and share best practices, and share collective knowledge and successes.

Today, AIRA brings together voices across the IIS community and uses its platform to provide invaluable education, advocacy, standards development, and measurement and improvement to the IIS community.

Vision

To facilitate the sharing and use of immunization information by all partners and ensure that IIS are fully supported and represented

Mission

To promote and support the use of immunization information to ensure healthy communities

Purpose

To support and promote the development, implementation, and interoperability of immunization information systems through partnerships, peer and professional education/training, and resource development

About IIS

Immunization information systems (IIS) are confidential, population-based, computerized databases that record all immunization doses administered by participating providers to persons residing within a given geopolitical area. IIS are the most powerful tool for managing immunization records and supporting healthier communities.

1 Provides Consolidated Immunization Records

2 Manages Vaccine Inventory

3 Minimizes Vaccine Waste

4 Forecasts Immunizations

5 Reminds Patients of Due Dates

6 Spotlights Areas of Need

7 Expedites Response in an Outbreak

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors

Mary Woinarowicz, North Dakota
PRESIDENT

Heather Roth, Colorado
PRESIDENT-ELECT

Melissa Mickle-Hope, New York City
SECRETARY

Steve Murchie, Envision Technology Partners
TREASURER

David McCormick, Indiana
GOVERNANCE CHAIR

David Crowell, Nevada

Marie Hartel, Tennessee

Miriam Muscoplat, Minnesota

John Robison, Philadelphia

Nancy Sharova, Connecticut

Tiffany Dent, STChealth*

Stephen White, South Carolina*, AMCI

* Served a partial term

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Subject Matter Experts

AIRA has the following three types of volunteer groups:

Communities of practice support the creation of best practice recommendations for IIS.

Workgroups manage specific projects to support the needs of the organization and the IIS community.

User groups bring community members together to discuss specific issues that they have in common.

100% of IIS had at least one staff member participate in an AIRA workgroup in FY 2023

AIRA Members and Corporate Partners

AIRA's members include IIS and immunization program staff working in health departments, IIS implementers, nonprofits, and other organizations with an interest in IIS. AIRA's membership also includes corporate partners, which are private sector organizations that support AIRA and its mission to enhance public health. In FY 2023, AIRA had **104** organization members representing over **1,200** individuals.

AIRA's corporate partnership provides an excellent opportunity for private sector organizations to get involved in the IIS community and join AIRA in advancing IIS.

To learn more about AIRA membership, visit **https://www.immregistries.org/membership-info**.

Corporate partners were previously called supporting members.

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Member Spotlight: Wisconsin

Wisconsin Immunization Registry

"

AIRA has had a tremendous impact on the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR), according to **MATTHEW VERDON**, WIR unit supervisor. "During my 17 years working with the Wisconsin Immunization Registry, AIRA has always been a seamless partner in the work we do. So seamless that, when pulling together my team recently to talk about how AIRA benefits us, nearly all were surprised just how widely AIRA positively impacts our work. Be it through participation in workgroups, webinars, and trainings or using the resources and tools, AIRA's impact is widespread." Newer and seasoned team members in Wisconsin agreed.

RACHEL HARVIEUX, WIR data deduplication specialist, is relatively new to IIS and public health. She has used countless AIRA resources in her training for her new role. "The AIRA resource repository has been a trusted resource for gathering background information specific to deduplication topics, helping to inform the redrafting of a manual, and procedural guidelines," Rachel said. "The AIRA Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee and HL7 User Group meetings often discuss topics immediately relevant to ongoing work and projects. These discussions have helped with problem solving and confident decision making."

According to **KEVIN SAMUELSON**, WIR implementation coordinator, AIRA has fostered important collaboration. "In my 13 years working around IIS, the collaboration between jurisdictions and other related entities (e.g., EHR vendors) has become more commonplace and has made for stronger relationships for the common good/goal of immunization management."

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Member Spotlight: Illinois

Illinois Department of Public Health

AIRA has partnered with Illinois in significant ways. Senior epidemiologist **JANAE PRICE** said, "The Illinois Department of Public Health has been an AIRA member for over 15 years. The Immunization Section frequently uses tools provided by AIRA's Measurement and Improvement Initiative and user groups and trainings to improve (1) data quality and HL7 data sharing within our IIS, (2) provider onboarding, and (3) skills in data visualization using programs such as Power BI and Tableau."

In April 2023, AIRA launched a pilot project to help Illinois develop an interactive data visualization tool to display school vaccination coverage rates. According to Janae, "AIRA has been instrumental in helping the Illinois immunizations team gain quick hands-on training and 1:1 technical assistance related to working in Tableau. This has resulted in the development of the first of many Illinois public facing immunization dashboards. The team's understanding of Tableau and its various layouts and feature options has expanded significantly and pushed our team to consider more creative ways of sharing immunization data, not only internally but also to a myriad of different external audiences (e.g., parents, school admin, local health departments)."

Janae shared how AIRA's impact is widespread. "AIRA has played an instrumental role in standardizing data systems and processing across multiple IIS programs nationally. AIRA's discovery sessions and national meetings have provided Illinois with timely opportunities to network and collaborate with jurisdictions and programs facing similar challenges." Janae said, "We greatly appreciate AIRA's dedication to providing hands-on help and assistance with data modernization. The Illinois Immunization Section shares the desire for improved and transparent data systems that can not only respond to future pandemics but also use data for public health action."

FINANCIALS

Revenue, Assets, and Liabilities

AIRA plays a critical role in the immunization landscape by increasing the impact of IIS.

Total Revenue

$7.4 million

Assets

$2.7 million

Liabilities

$842,000

Revenue

4%
NATIONAL MEETING

3%
MEMBERSHIP DUES

1%
REGIONAL MEETINGS

9%
OTHER

83%
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

Expenses

The vast majority of AIRA's funding goes toward key program services to advance IIS.

Expenses

PROGRAM SERVICES
90%

ADMIN
10%

Our Work

AIRA provides invaluable support to advance IIS. Working collaboratively with the IIS community and the CDC, AIRA brings together key partners and stakeholders to identify challenges and opportunities facing the IIS community and develop standards and best practices for IIS.

Through education, advocacy, standards development, and the Measurement and Improvement (M&I) initiative, AIRA helps strengthen all IIS to ensure healthy communities.

What sets AIRA apart is the organization's deep commitment to **COLLABORATION**. AIRA has 1,018 active AIRA workgroup members, including 644 members from all IIS.

OUR WORK

Advocacy and Partnerships

Advocacy work is one of the primary ways AIRA ensures IIS are supported and represented. With an overarching view of the IIS landscape, AIRA elevates IIS needs and concerns to a national stage, speaking as the collective voice for the IIS community.

By engaging stakeholders and partners at a national level, AIRA ensures IIS interests are championed and advanced. AIRA's strategic partnerships include various national organizations, as well as federal agencies.

AIRA's **ENGAGEMENT** is widespread. Over 240 individuals from 94 organizations attended AIRA's quarterly Members and Partners meetings in FY 2023.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

AIM — Association of Immunization Managers

American Academy of Pediatrics — DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

astho

AVAC — Global Health Advocacy, Access & Equity

HIMSS

HL7 International

IHE INTERNATIONAL — Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise

Immunize.org

NACCHO — National Association of County & City Health Officials

NIST — National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce

FEDERAL AGENCIES

CDC

CMS — CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

HealthIT.gov

Convening the Community

AIRA convenes the IIS community to foster collaboration, explore latest IIS best practices, and address key priorities for IIS.

Educational webinars provide training and education on key topics impacting the IIS community.

Newsletters, including AIRA's Weekly Update and quarterly SnapShots, highlight the progress, activities, and accomplishments of AIRA and IIS.

Regional workshops and **national meetings** advance the IIS community by providing professional education and training, developing new relationships, and strengthening long-term partnerships.

AIRA's **IMPACT** is expansive. Over 560 individuals from 132 organizations attended AIRA's Discovery Sessions in FY 2023.

AIRA National Meeting
San Diego, CA

The AIRA 2023 National Meeting convened hundreds of participants to discuss the latest in IIS best practices. The agenda included critical topics for IIS such as consumer access, onboarding and interoperability, outbreak response, policy and workforce challenges, leveraging data, and more.

(+) A record-setting **545 attendees** participated in-person.

(+) **100%** of participants agreed the content was either relevant or very relevant to the work they do.

> "This was one of THE BEST conferences I have been to. So well organized and engaging, and AIRA staff seem like a bunch of really fun people."
>
> Anonymous Participant

Attendees

- 8% Technical Staff (e.g., IT)
- 4% CDC
- 2% Presidents or CEOs
- 17% Other Immunization Program Staff
- 8% Immunization Program Managers
- 15% Other IIS Staff
- 6% IIS Implementers
- 9% IIS Managers
- 31% Other

OUR WORK

Measurement and Improvement

Through the Measurement and Improvement (M&I) initiative, AIRA partners with individual IIS to identify opportunities for improvement and offers operational and technical assistance to help each IIS align with national standards to facilitate interoperability with other health care systems.

The M&I initiative provides all IIS with information and tools to more fully align with Functional Standards. The project connects IIS test systems with AIRA's testing web application called the Aggregate Analysis Reporting Tool (AART). Within AART, each IIS has access to customized quarterly reports on how that individual IIS is doing in specific content areas, such as data quality and forecasting. Through this process, AIRA helps jurisdictions institute standards and improve their systems.

By bringing the IIS community together under broadly implemented standards, all IIS gain **CREDIBILITY** and become increasingly **SUSTAINABLE**.

M&I MEASUREMENT& IMPROVEMENT

Measurement and Improvement

The M&I initiative's final step is validation. Validation acknowledges IIS that are progressing toward or achieving alignment with community-selected measures and tests. This public-facing approach showcases how IIS are meeting or exceeding community standards for interoperability, functionality, and quality.

80% of IIS are validated in **2 or more** content areas

⊕ Although participation is voluntary, **100%** of IIS jurisdictions are actively participating in the M&I initiative.

⊕ In FY 2023, IIS were able to gain validation in the five following content areas:

1. Transport
2. Submission/Acknowledgment
3. Query/Response
4. Clinical Decision Support
5. Data Quality Incoming/Ongoing

M&I MEASUREMENT& IMPROVEMENT

Onboarding Shared Services Program

In collaboration with CDC, AIRA developed the Onboarding Shared Services program to support IIS in provider organization onboarding for immunization data exchange. The program uses the Onboarding Consensus-Based Recommendations for improving and standardizing onboarding and is designed to address several challenges including:

- Large queue of providers waiting to onboard
- Establishing or improving onboarding processes and/or documentation
- Staff training in provider onboarding and onboarding best practices

To address these needs, the onboarding program provides:

- Standardized documentation to support provider onboarding
- Onboarding templates that can be modified to meet jurisdictional needs
- Onboarding process consultation and development
- Live, instructor-led onboarding training

1,135 hours of onboarding technical assistance was provided to **16** jurisdictions across **27** TA tickets and **5** TA projects

> I would highly recommend going through the AIRA onboarding TA process since it gives your jurisdiction a clear picture on areas for improvement.

Nicole Sullivan,
Washington, D.C. IIS Program

> This process was very helpful, and it was extremely nice to work with your team to achieve our goals. The team is extremely knowledgeable on all things onboarding.

Kim Gulliver,
Colorado IIS Program

OUR WORK

Provider Organization Onboarding for IIS

AIRA's Provider Organization Onboarding for IIS Course was held for the second time in summer 2023.

The training helps IIS implement standardized onboarding processes and procedures. The course is a live, interactive, instructor-led training that dives into each step of the onboarding process and includes best practices and implementation considerations.

"This course was great! I wish I would have had something like this when I began working with onboarding 7 years ago. Even with my experience I learned a lot and love attending these classes. The person running the classes did an outstanding job."

IIS Participant

129 participants

including **102** IIS staff representing **39** jurisdictions

97%

of attendees would recommend this course to a colleague in an onboarding role

OUR WORK

Education and Training

AIRA provides invaluable training opportunities for the IIS community, including Tableau and Power BI training for data visualization, the Provider Organization Onboarding for IIS Course, AART clinics, and the IIS Interoperability: Connecting Systems Course.

AIRA Course Participants

TABLEAU
44

POWER BI
55

ONBOARDING
86

AART CLINICS
139

INTEROPERABILITY: CONNECTING SYSTEMS
217

0   50   100   150   200   250

AIRA's trainings **BENEFIT** the entire immunization community. In FY 2023, 83 organizations participated in an AIRA course, including 87% of IIS.

Data Visualization Training

AIRA hosted several trainings and user groups in FY 2023 to support data analysis, visualization, and reporting, including the Tableau User Group and Power BI User Group. These user groups bring the IIS community together to share how Tableau and Power BI can be used to achieve data visualization goals.

97%

of Power BI user group participants agreed or strongly agreed that the training was a positive and worthwhile experience

"

I really enjoyed the format of the class, as the homework and self-directed exercises allowed me to apply what we were learning in class and get comfortable with the new material.

Anonymous Participant

Tableau User Group

135

individuals

across **40** state and local IIS jurisdictions

25

individuals

representing **17** IIS implementers and other AIRA member organizations

Power BI User Group

120

individuals

across **43** state and local IIS jurisdictions

37

individuals

representing **23** IIS implementers and other AIRA member organizations

Technical Assistance

AIRA has a team of experts who provide technical assistance to help the IIS community align with national standards. An improved IIS ultimately allows health care providers to better serve their patients and the community, advancing public health nationwide.

93% of IIS received technical assistance from AIRA in FY 2023

1,793 hours of technical assistance to all organizations

94 organizations received technical assistance in FY 2023

10% Measurement and Testing

8% Data Quality

6% HL7

11% Other

Technical Assistance

65% Onboarding

Address Cleansing

Smarty is an address cleansing and geocoding service, provided with CDC's support, to help improve IIS data quality. By using Smarty, jurisdictions can validate addresses against United States Postal Service data and obtain the most accurate address, a United States Core Data for Interoperability data element.

To date, over **2.1 billion** addresses have been cleansed with **49** signed partner agreements in place for the Smarty service.

Addresses Cleansed

Year	Addresses Cleansed
2017	4 million
2018	132 million
2019	125 million
2020	242 million
2021	293 million
2022	479 million
2023	919 million

OUR WORK

Immunization Integration Program

The Immunization Integration Program (IIP) is a collaborative partnership among CDC, AIRA, the Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS), and expert consultants to improve immunization interoperability, information sharing, and management. The IIP strives to increase the quality and usage of immunization data through cross-sector collaboration and solution development, electronic health record (EHR) testing, and technical support.

- The IIP's Testing and Recognition initiative is a way for EHRs to be tested on immunization capabilities and to be recognized for their ability to exchange data with IIS.
- The IIP Collaborative brings together partners and creates a forum to develop recommendations and solutions to improve interoperability.

2023 IIP HIGHLIGHTS

✓ Physician's Computer Company (PCC), a pediatric EHR, completed IIP testing and achieved recognition!

✓ Immunization data exchange partners provided the IIP Collaborative with valuable input on vaccine-related code set successes and challenges.

✓ The IIP published 3 key pre-submission data validation resources and strategies:

- Top Five Strategies for Improving Immunization Data Quality at the Point of Care
- Data Entry Error Guide Template
- Training Resources for Vaccine Data Entry Users

OUR WORK

IZ Gateway

The IZ Gateway provides a centralized technical infrastructure that facilitates the flow of immunization data from IIS to vaccine providers that operate in multiple cities and states and back, as well as from IIS to consumers. The IZ Gateway Project aims to address gaps in data exchange between immunization registries, providers, and patients to provide more complete and accurate immunization records.

90%

of interjurisdictional MOUs were signed and submitted to AIRA by the end of September 2023

THROUGH A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE CDC, AIRA SUPPORTS THE IZ GATEWAY PROJECT BY:

Developing strategies to assist IIS and multijurisdictional vaccine providers with connecting and exchanging data through the IZ Gateway

Providing subject matter expertise to support IZ Gateway documentation development, review, and maintenance

Tracking and monitoring completion of IZ Gateway legal agreements, specifically interjurisdictional MOUs

Emerging Standards

AIRA has been using our rapid cycle process to gather input and develop guidance for several years. The process empowers a small group of engaged, invested partners from diverse organizations to develop guidance or recommendations over approximately 4 weeks.

In the spring of 2023, the process was used to generate and evaluate potential approaches to accelerate IIS-to-IIS connections through CDC's IZ Gateway. The workgroup generated 26 recommendations, which were reviewed by AIRA and small-group co-champions. A final list of 12 recommendations was created to move forward with evaluation and scoring, yielding a prioritized and well considered list of recommendations provided to CDC and its contractors.

In the coming year, AIRA will use this process to gather rapid and comprehensive input on additional emerging standards and technologies. We look forward to collaborating with the community to continually improve the exchange of immunization information.

Workgroup Values

- Everyone in the small group has something unique to contribute.
- Assume positive intent.
- Dare to make mistakes.
- Give your ideas away; don't own them.
- Don't let perfect be the enemy of good.

Small-Group Process

	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
Estimated Hours per Week	1	5	15	5
	Project Setup	Orientation and Discussion	Work Together	Work Finalized

Thank You

The following partners contributed their time, talents, and resources to AIRA. Thank you for your efforts to coordinate and amplify the voice of immunization information systems and public health!

Accenture

Allscripts

Altarum Institute

Association of Immunization Managers (AIM)

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)

athenahealth

Atlantic Management Center

Audacious Inquiry

AZOVA

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of North Dakota

Business Rules Solutions

CAN Immunize

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Civitas Networks for Health

Countermind LLC

CureMed

Deloitte Consulting

Docket

Drummond Group, LLC

Dynavax

Envision Technology Partners, Inc.

Epic Systems Corporation

Ernst & Young

Gainwell Technologies (DXC)

HLN Consulting, LLC

M Corp

MITRE

National Association of School Nurses

National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA)

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

Network for Public Health Law

NORC at the University of Chicago

NVG LLC

Open Door Family Medical Center

Optumserve

Oracle

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

Physicians Computer Company (PCC)

Public Health Informatics Institute (PHII)

Qvera

Regenstrief Institute, Inc

Restorasis

Scientific Technologies Corporation (STC)

Shatzkin Systems

Spokane Regional Health District

St. Luke's

Strategic Solutions Group

University of Michigan Child Health

US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Westat

AIRA

ADVANCING IIS
TOGETHER

Join AIRA as we promote the use of immunization information, collaborate, advance best practices, and drive meaningful results for public health policy.

immregistries.org