



### Letter from AIRA's Executive Director

AIRA Community,

This year has been a remarkable testament to the strength of the IIS community, showcasing our collaboration and resilience as we've reached new heights in fulfilling AIRA's mission. This past year:

- AIRA expanded its course offerings, with participants logging over 2,000 hours of learning on provider onboarding and HL7.
- The AIRA 2024 National Meeting achieved record attendance, welcoming 587 participants from 55 jurisdictions and 5 countries, marking the highest turnout in AIRA's history.
- AIRA's Measurement and Improvement (M&I) Initiative continued to support IIS in meeting or exceeding community standards for interoperability, functionality, and data quality, with engagement from 100% of IIS.
- AIRA significantly broadened its reach by actively participating in new initiatives, such as the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Project and partnering with pharmacies, fostering collaboration and innovation within the community and beyond.

As we conclude another impactful year, I want to thank our incredible community. To our members and corporate partners: your engagement and contributions are instrumental in propelling us forward. A special thank-you to the AIRA Board for their guidance and to our staff for their dedication and commitment to our mission. Looking ahead, I'm excited about the future and confident our collective efforts will continue to make a lasting impact on public health.

Thank you all for being an integral part of this journey.

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 that prompted the development of immunization registries in communities across the country. AIRA became an effective and prominent advocate for immunization registry development. With members from all states and local and territorial jurisdictions, AIRA promotes standards, develops and shares best practices, and collaborates on policy, technical, and educational initiatives.

Today, AIRA unites the IIS community, offering invaluable education, advocacy, standards development, and measurement and improvement to drive collective success.



### **VISION**

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



### **MISSION**

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



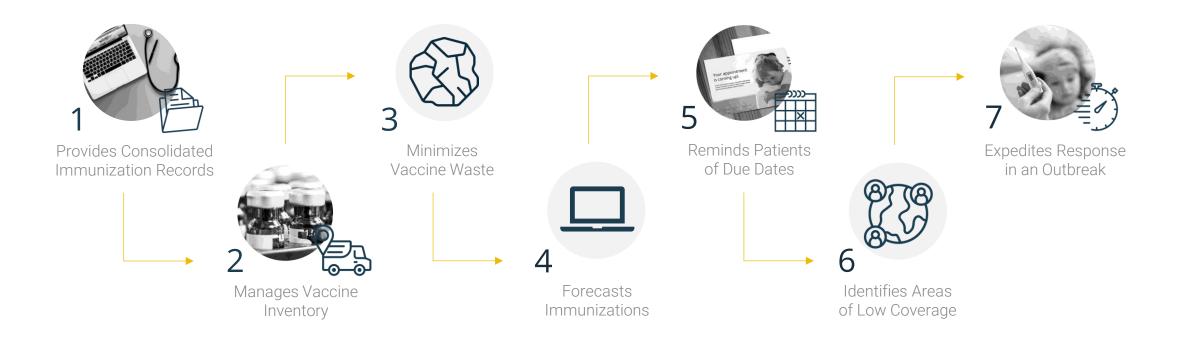
### **PURPOSE**

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.



#### **COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

### Board of Directors

The AIRA Board provides leadership and guidance to the organization, overseeing AIRA's budget and strategic direction.

**Heather Roth**, Colorado

**PRESIDENT** 

Melissa Mickle-Hope, New York City

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Miriam Muscoplat, Minnesota

GOVERNANCE CHAIR

David Crowell, Nevada

**SECRETARY** 

**Steve Murchie**, Envision Technology Partners

**TREASURER** 

Mike Berry, HLN Consulting

**Jeff Chorath**, Washington

Marie Hartel, Tennessee

David Mattiko, Pennsylvania

Nancy Sharova, Connecticut

John Robison, Philadelphia



#### **OUR VOLUNTEERS**

### Subject Matter Experts

AIRA supports several 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.



of IIS volunteered with AIRA or participated in an AIRA meeting in FY 2024.



#### **OUR COMMUNITY**

### AIRA Members

AIRA's members include IIS and immunization program staff working in health departments, IIS implementers, nonprofits, and other organizations with an interest in IIS. In FY 2024, AIRA had **100** organization members representing over **1,270** individuals.



### **MEMBERS**

#### **Nonprofit Members**

- Altarum Institute
- Immunize.org
- National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)
- NORC at the University of Chicago
- Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
- Public Health Informatics Institute (PHII)
- San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (TX SAIRS)
- The Network for Public Health Law
- University of Michigan Child Health Evaluation & Research Center

#### **Reciprocal Members**

- Association of Immunization Managers (AIM)
- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention/NCIRD
- Indian Health Services Immunization Program
- National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
- Vaccinate Your Family
- World Health Organization (WHO)

#### **Individual Members**

- · Dr. Floyd Eisenberg
- Alean Kirnak
- Nadja Alexandra Vielot
- Susan Kressly



#### **OUR COMMUNITY**

### AIRA Corporate Partners

In addition to IIS staff, IIS implementers, and nonprofits, AIRA's membership also includes corporate partners. Corporate partners are private sector organizations that support AIRA and its mission to enhance public health.

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 www.immregistries.org/membership-info.



#### **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

### Member Spotlight: Texas

AIRA is dedicated to partnering with jurisdictions to improve Measurement and Improvement results and their overall interoperability. Texas has been working with AIRA to improve Clinical Decision Support (CDS) assessment results. Texas shared that it is striving for continuous improvement in the Clinical Decision Support content area, and AIRA is committed to helping members like Texas achieve their goals.

Texas Immunization Registry In her own words, **RENUKA ICCHAPURAPU**, epidemiologist:

How did your jurisdiction get involved with AIRA? Texas has been involved with AIRA since the 2000s.

### What work do you do with AIRA?

I am part of the Tableau User group, IIS data analyst group, and HL7 user group. I work with the AART (Aggregate Analysis Reporting Tool) analysis team with AIRA to work towards meeting the thresholds for the percentage of test cases needed to meet failed CDS measures.

How has working with AIRA positively impacted your jurisdiction and the work that you do? Working with AIRA created a nurturing environment that facilitated learning about AART analysis.

### What have been some positive experiences you've had when working with AIRA?

AIRA has been instrumental in helping me understand and explore the complex nature of AART analysis results in relation to CDS assessment. They were always available to meet and discuss any questions or concerns.

### Any additional comments?

We are a work in progress and hope that our current efforts will help us meet and exceed the measurement criteria in the next round of testing.



#### **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

### Member Spotlight: Indiana

Indiana Immunization Division Indiana's journey to improve its Measurement and Improvement (M&I) results is a testament to the power of collaboration and innovation in public health. Facing gaps in data quality and alignment with national standards, the state's immunization program manager, **Dave McCormick**, recognized the need for a new approach. Partnering with AIRA and Indiana's IIS vendor, STChealth, Indiana embarked on a transformative journey to elevate its IIS performance.

The collaboration kicked off at the AIRA 2024 National Meeting, where Indiana participated in an on-site AART (Aggregate Analysis Reporting Tool) clinic facilitated by AIRA technical staff. There, a comprehensive AART matrix was developed to pinpoint specific areas for improvement. This matrix became a road map, detailing action steps for both STChealth and Indiana's IIS team. STChealth worked closely with Indiana's IIS team to outline the specific technical adjustments required, while Indiana refined its internal processes to align with the identified improvements. AIRA staff released updated reports in AART and organized several virtual meetings to provide additional technical assistance and subject matter expertise to inform and guide this collaborative effort.

By June 2024, the results were evident. Indiana's latest report showed a significant leap in performance, with the state now passing 25 out of 27 data quality measures, up from 23 just months earlier. This achievement highlights AIRA's ability to foster collaboration, provide expert guidance, and drive continuous improvement through supporting its members. Indiana's success story serves as an inspiring example of how AIRA's resources and collaborative spirit can drive impactful results, transforming challenges into opportunities for growth.

#### **FINANCIALS**

# Revenue, Assets, and Liabilities

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

### **Total Revenue**

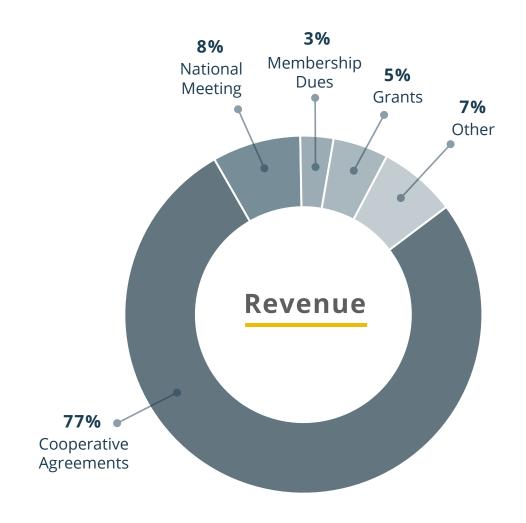
\$8.55 million

### **Assets**

\$3.68 million

### Liabilities

\$742,000



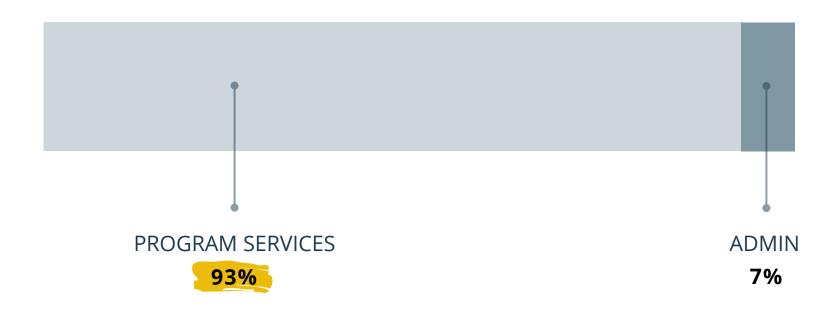


### **FINANCIALS**

### Expenses

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

### **Expenses**





### Our Work

AIRA provides invaluable support to advance IIS, with funding from CDC that supports many of AIRA's programs. Working collaboratively with the IIS community, AIRA brings together key partners and stakeholders to identify challenges and opportunities facing the IIS community and to 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.

AIRA distinguishes itself through its unwavering dedication to **COLLABORATION**.

AIRA had meeting participants from 148 different organizations in FY 2024.



### 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 250 individuals from 90 organizations attended AIRA's quarterly Members and Partners meetings in FY 2024.

#### NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS























FEDERAL AGENCIES







### 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* publication, 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 National Meeting Orlando, FL

The AIRA 2024 National Meeting convened hundreds of participants to discuss the latest in IIS best practices. The agenda highlighted data analysis and use, onboarding, interoperability, IIS data quality, partner and provider engagement, workforce development, and more.

- + 587 individuals registered, including 97% of IIS jurisdictions.
- + **100%** of participants were likely or very likely to use the meeting's content in their work or share it with others.
- + Over 100 individuals from 50 organizations attended the AIRA 2024 National Meeting New Member Orientation.



### AIRA National Meeting

Orlando, FL 7% 8% **Immunization Technical Staff Program Managers** (e.g. IT) • 10% 7% IIS Managers CDC Staff **Attendees** 11% 19% Other IIS Staff **IIS Implementers** by Type 16% Other Immunization Program Staff 22% Other



Fantastic conference, AIRA! New attendees and returning attendees said they learned new ideas to bring back and were feeling motivated!

Anonymous Participant





### Measurement and Improvement

### IIS Modernization Through Standardization

AIRA's Measurement and Improvement (M&I) Initiative partners with 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.

#### Benefits:

- National recognition for validated IIS
- Help with making progress on community alignment
- Increase in IIS credibility
- Actionable reports for each measurement area
- Personalized technical assistance to focus on improving M&I results

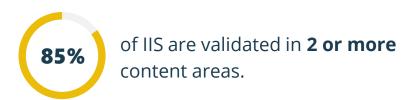




### Measurement and Improvement

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 highlights how IIS are meeting or exceeding community standards for interoperability, functionality, and data quality.





IIS can achieve Validation in the five following content areas:

1. Transport

2. Submission/Acknowledgment

3. Query/Response

4. Clinical Decision Support

5. Data Quality Incoming/Ongoing



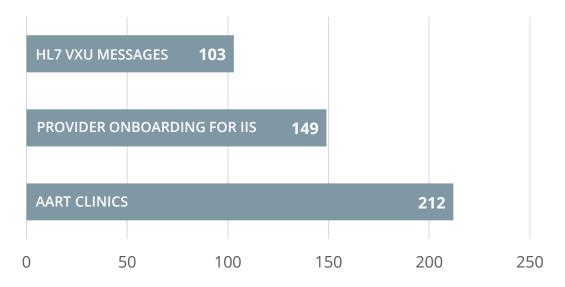
Thanks to M&I, our IIS has demonstrated remarkable progress on closing the gap on standards alignment, especially with each new measurement area. It's inspiring to be a part of the collective impact of our efforts towards a common goal.

> Valentin Sostaric, Arizona IIS Program

### Empowering IIS Through Training

AIRA provides invaluable training opportunities for the IIS community, including the new HL7 v2.5.1 Immunization Update (VXU) Messages Course (launched in August 2024), the Provider Organization Onboarding for IIS Course, and Aggregate Analysis Reporting Tool (AART) clinics.

### **AIRA Course Participants**





AIRA's trainings provide immense **VALUE** to the community. In FY 2024,
64 organizations participated in an
AIRA course, including 85% of IIS.

### 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 <u>Onboarding Consensus-Based Recommendations</u> for improving and standardizing onboarding and is designed to address several challenges including:

- Establishing or improving onboarding processes and/or documentation
- Training staff in provider onboarding and onboarding best practices
- Decreasing large queues of providers waiting to onboard

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



AIRA has been *the resource* for finding information that is relevant to improved processes for IIS. AIRA also makes it easy to build relationships with other IIS jurisdictions to improve methodologies.

Illinois Immunization Program

**357 hours** of onboarding technical assistance was provided to **10** jurisdictions.

The overall presentation had rapid fire information. The training kept me engaged and I did not want to miss the live sessions.



Anonymous

# Provider Organization Onboarding for IIS Course

AIRA's Provider Organization Onboarding for IIS Course was held for the third time in spring 2024. AIRA also developed and piloted an on-demand version of the training in summer 2024.

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.

Thank you for this learning opportunity, it was incredible! As someone who is very new to this topic and process, the way the course was taught made it very easy and simple to follow.

**IIS Participant** 

108 participants



including **93** IIS staff representing **29** jurisdictions



of attendees would recommend AIRA's live courses

### IIS Data Analyst Offerings

In 2024, AIRA continued data visualization user groups and expanded upon its offerings for IIS data analysts. New endeavors included a bimonthly IIS Data Analyst Collaborative, an online IIS Data Analyst Forum for analysts to connect, and an IIS Data Analyst Network which pairs data analysts across IIS for peer-to-peer support. AIRA also provided Epidemiological Staff Augmentation to supplement technical assistance.

These efforts bring the IIS community together in support of new hire onboarding, education, and the advancement of skills among IIS data analysts and epidemiologists.

		Participants	% of Jurisdictions
<u>@</u> -@	Data Visualization User Groups	268	84%
	IIS Data Analyst Collaborative	107	67%
	IIS Data Analyst Forum	142	70%
	IIS Data Analyst Network	67	52%
	Epi Staff Augmentation	10	6%

### IIS Data Analyst Offerings

In 2024, AIRA continued to support data analysis, visualization, and reporting through the Tableau User Group and Power BI User Group. These bimonthly user groups bring the IIS community together to share how Tableau and Power BI can be used to achieve data visualization goals.

80%

of Power BI user group participants agreed or strongly agreed that the group helps advance their data visualization knowledge and skills.

I really love the Tableau User Group sessions and enjoy the opportunity to network and discover what other jurisdictions are doing with their dashboards.

Anonymous Participant

### **Tableau User Group**



**154** individuals

across **43** state and local IIS jurisdictions



**26** individuals

representing **16** IIS implementers and other AIRA member organizations

### **Power BI User Group**



**145** individuals

across **52** state and local IIS jurisdictions



**32** individuals

representing **16** IIS implementers and other AIRA member organizations

### Technical Assistance

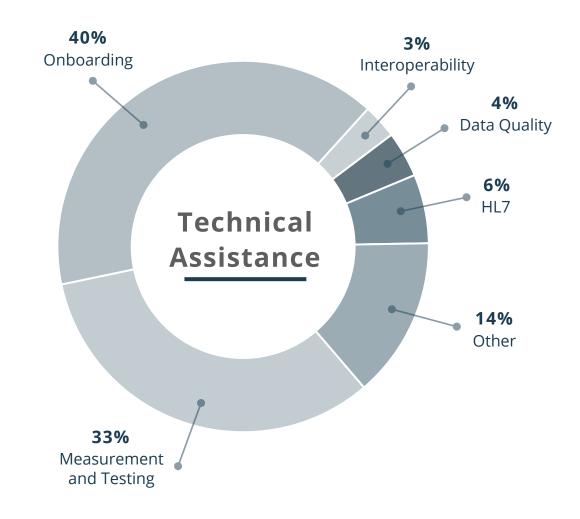
AIRA has a team of experts who provide technical assistance to help the IIS community align with national standards. An improved IIS ultimately allows health care providers to better serve their patients and the community, advancing public health nationwide.

92%

of IIS received technical assistance from AIRA in FY 2024. 908

hours of technical assistance was provided across all organizations. 93

organizations received technical assistance in FY 2024.

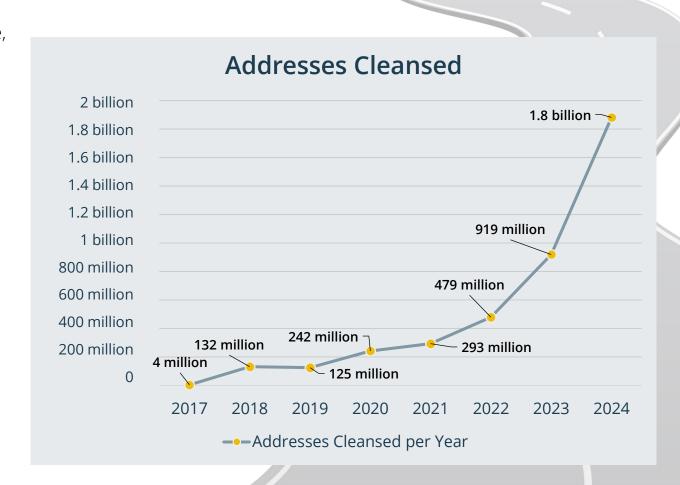


### Address Cleansing

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 and standardize addresses against United States Postal Service data and obtain the most accurate address, a United States Core Data for Interoperability data element.

Output from Smarty can be analyzed using software like Tableau and Power BI to quantify address validity and identify other trends that can improve data quality.

To date, over **4 billion** addresses have been cleansed.





### Immunization Integration Program

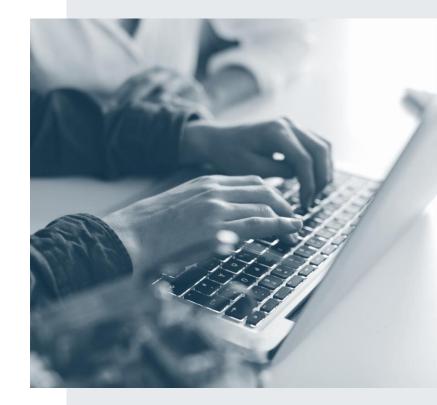
The Immunization Integration Program (IIP) is a collaborative partnership among CDC, AIRA, the Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS), and expert consultants to improve immunization data interoperability, information sharing, and management. The IIP strives to increase the quality and use 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.



IIP had the right set of requirements for an EHR who wants to implement excellent immunization workflows. This was important to us and seemed like a good way to get in alignment with best practices and to engage with the community who is making those best practices.

> Scott Kirby, Physicians Computer Company (PCC)





### Immunization Integration Program

### **2024 IIP HIGHLIGHTS**

- Redeveloped the IIP Testing and Recognition test plan in a modular format to streamline testing
- Expanded the IIP community to include pharmacy partners and delved into immunization data exchange with pharmacies
- Promoted the IIP Collaborative data validation work in multiple venues, including at HIMSS24, where 93% of participants found the session applicable to their work
- Provided 26 hours of technical assistance to 7 organizations, focused on data quality and interoperability



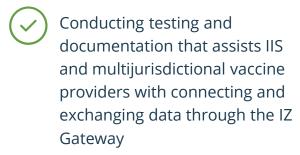
### IZ Gateway

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



of interjurisdictional IZ Gateway legal agreements (memoranda of understanding, or MOUs), were signed and submitted to AIRA by the end of September 2024.

### AIRA SUPPORTS THE IZ GATEWAY PROJECT BY:



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 champions the development of new and emerging standards to advance immunization interoperability and modernize IIS. Emerging Standards clarify existing guidelines and support the adoption of frameworks like FHIR, while fostering community collaboration.

To track and advance these efforts, AIRA employs a seven-stage process to evaluate readiness for the immunization field. The initiative currently monitors over 60 topics, including:

- International Vaccine Code Initiative: Collaborating with global partners to improve vaccine coding practices internationally
- Immunization Decision Support for All Populations: Developing a standard for personalized immunization recommendations across diverse health needs
- School Interoperability: Enhancing data exchange between public health and educational systems





### Emerging Standards

As part of the Emerging Standards initiative, AIRA develops Technical Advisory Bulletins (TABs) to clarify existing standards and collaborates with the IIS community to advance emerging standards. This year saw significant growth in developing TABs to clarify and expand on the HL7 v2.5.1 Implementation Guide, supporting better interoperability of immunization data across systems.

To learn more, visit <u>Emerging Standards Confluence</u>. AIRA will continue to lead and unite the community in advancing immunization standards, ensuring a stronger, more connected public health ecosystem.

# ADVISORY BULLETIN TOPICS



- Query Response Flexibility
- Additional "Unknown" Race and Ethnicity Codes
- Scenarios for Updates and Queries
- System Entry Date/Time (RXA-22)
- Messaging Phone and Email
- Returning IIS Patient Immunization Record Information

All TABs are published on the <u>AIRA</u> repository for IIS and EHRs alike.

### Thank You

The following organizations 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

Amazon Web Services (AWS)

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy / Office of the National

Coordinator for Health Information Technology

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

CureMed

**Deloitte Consulting** 

Docket

Drummond Group, LLC

Dynavax

Envision Technology Partners, Inc.

**Epic Systems Corporation** 

**Ernst & Young** 

Gainwell Technologies

Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS)

HLN Consulting, LLC

Immunize.org

The Joint Public Health Informatics Taskforce (JPHIT)

MITRE

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

National Association of School Nurses

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

Network for Public Health Law

NORC at the University of Chicago

**NVG LLC** 

Office Practicum

Optumserve

Oracle

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

Physicians Computer Company (PCC)

Public Health Informatics Institute (PHII)

Overa

Regenstrief Institute, Inc

STChealth

Smarty

Strategic Solutions Group

University of Michigan Child Health

US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)



# 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