

Integration Strategy Summary

Vermont Department of Health and Vermont Health Information Exchange (VHIE) Integration Strategy Report Summary

Background

The State of Vermont received a grant from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) to work with Vermont Health Information Exchange (VHIE) on several projects. One project included contracting with a vendor to provide an integration strategy for public health systems and the VHIE. The hired vendor provided a strategic road map on how to integrate public health data into the VHIE, maximizing public health operations.

Integration Highlights

Briljent, the chosen vendor, interviewed stakeholders overseeing various Health Department data systems. The interviews provided Briljent an understanding of systems — like access, ownership, data collection, governance and technical capabilities. A systems register was then created to classify each data system, which are a mix of vendor hosted, created in-house, and developed by the CDC but managed in-house.

Briljent then prioritized system integrations. Briljent suggested this order of integration into the VHIE:

1. In-house systems
2. CDC developed systems
3. Vendor hosted systems

Sources: VDH-VHIE Integration Strategy Report 2023

January 2024

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VDH-VHIE Integration Strategy Summary

High level overview of the VDH and Vermont Health Information Exchange (VHIE) Integration Strategy Report

Integration Pathways

In addition to suggesting the order of system integration, Brilljent provided recommendations for data components to integrate across systems with the VHIE. Those include:

- Web applications and Single Sign On
- API Data Access and Integration into Health Care Provider Workflow
- Curated datasets
- Move to Cloud Hosting
- Interface Feed Organization/Integration Engine Optimization

Briljent listed which data system is capable of the various options. Brilljent did recommend APIs when possible and to align data collection interfaces.

Future Planning

Next Steps:

1. Meet internally with the Agency of Digital Services to identify a pilot dataset based on feasibility, resources, integration pathways and timing.
2. Meet with AHS and VHIE leadership to propose the pilot dataset project and create a mutual agreement.
3. Meet with Vermont Information Technology Leaders, the operator of the VHIE, to plan the integration of the first dataset. The plan will include work in the next state fiscal year contract for 2025. It is likely this work will take multiple years as it has never been done before.

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