

Vermont Health Information Exchange (VHIE) Onboarding Materials

Prepared by the HIE Program Team

What is Health Information Exchange (HIE)?

 Official Website of The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC)

HealthIT.gov

TOPICS

BLOG

NEWS

DATA

ABOUT ONC



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Health IT and Health Information Exchange Basics

Benefits of EHRs

Benefits of Health IT

Case Studies

Frequently Asked Questions

Health IT Terms and Definitions

Health Information Exchange

Interoperability Training Courses

Star HIE Program

What is HIE?

HIE Benefits

What is HIE?

What is HIE?

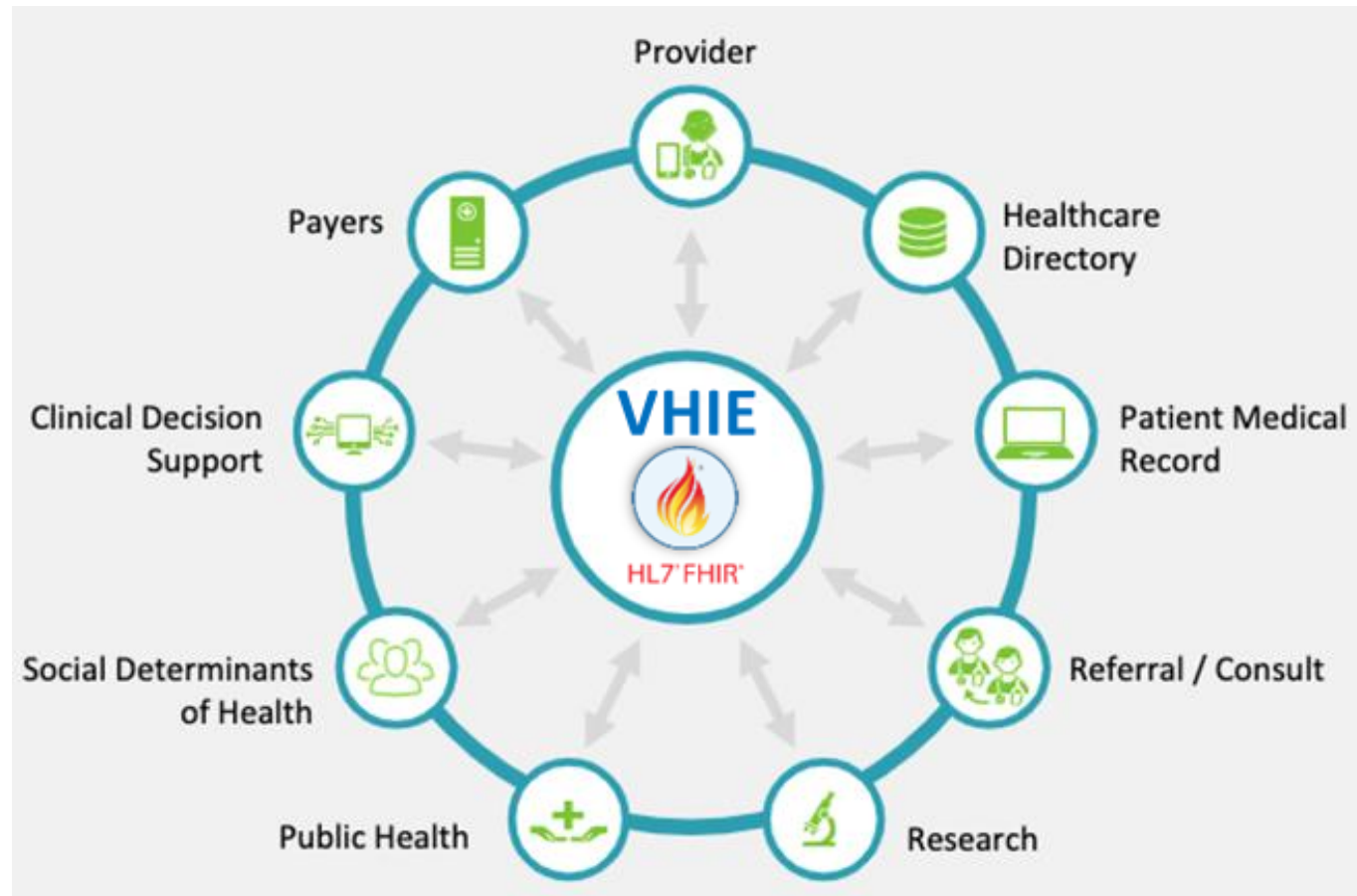
Electronic health information exchange (HIE) allows doctors, nurses, pharmacists, other health care providers and patients to appropriately access and securely share a patient's vital medical information electronically—improving the speed, quality, safety and cost of patient care.

Despite the widespread availability of secure electronic data transfer, most Americans' medical information is stored on paper—in filing cabinets at various medical offices, or in boxes and folders in patients' homes. When that medical information is shared between providers, it happens by mail, fax or—most likely—by patients themselves, who frequently carry their records from appointment to appointment. While electronic health information exchange cannot replace provider-patient communication, it can greatly improve the completeness of patient's records, (which can have a big effect on care), as past history, current medications and other information is jointly reviewed during visits.

Appropriate, timely sharing of vital patient information can better inform decision making at the point of care and allow providers to

- Avoid readmissions
- Avoid medication errors
- Improve diagnoses
- Decrease duplicate testing

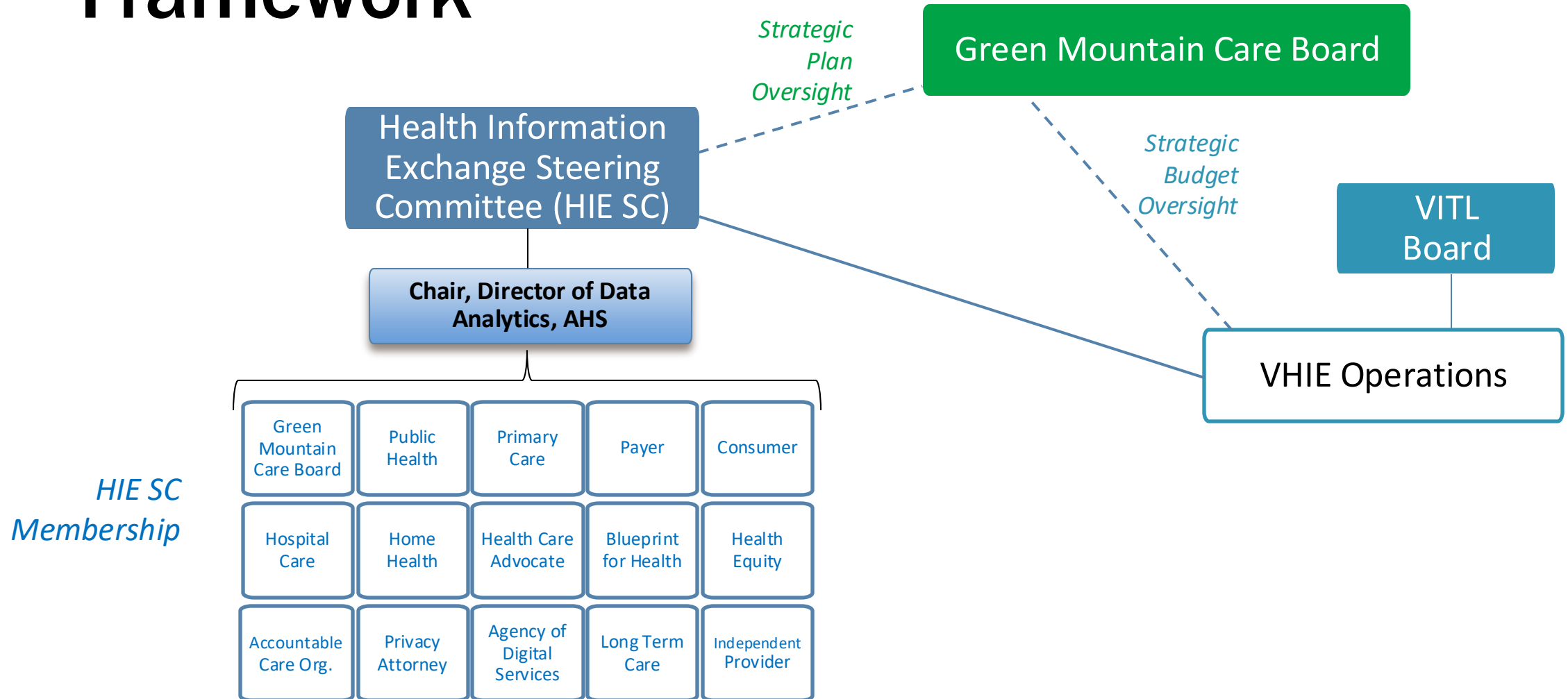
What is a Health Information Exchange (HIE)?



What does the HIE Enable?

- ✓ **Comprehensive** electronic patient information when and where needed
- ✓ Allow physicians to have **complete and current information** upon which to base clinical decisions
- ✓ Test results and imaging results always available eliminating repeat tests/imaging & **reducing costs**
- ✓ Real-time data aggregation to detect patterns (e.g.; bio surveillance) and drive **preventative care**
- ✓ **Quality and payment information** derived from record of care – not separate reporting systems
- ✓ Patients' empowerment with **access** to their own health records

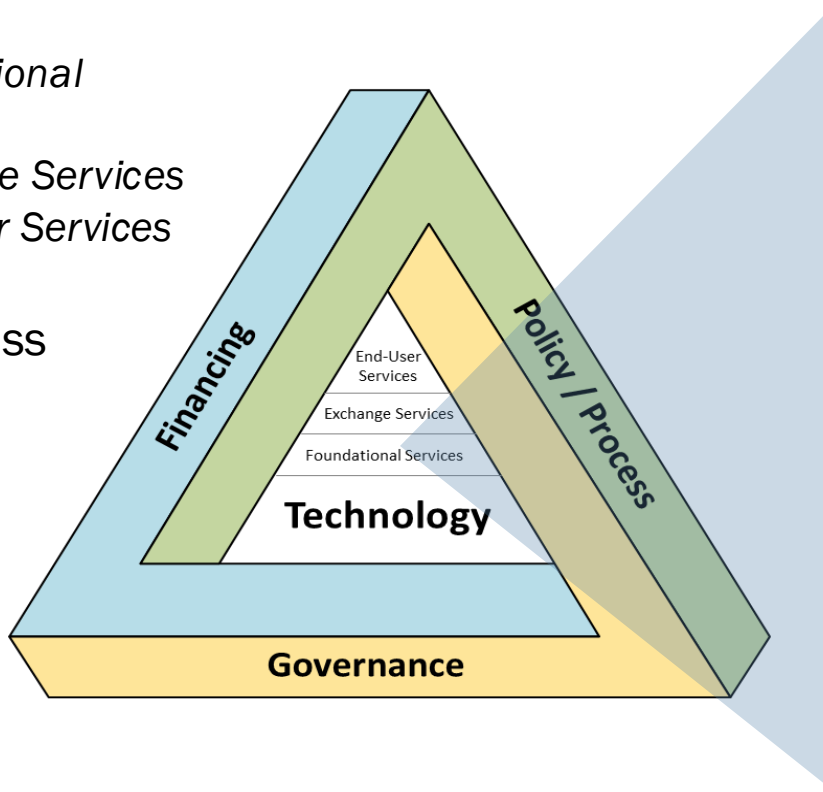
HIE Strategic Planning & Oversight Framework



Vermont HIE Ecosystem

Four Key Components:

- Finance
 - ❑ Foundational Services
 - ❑ Exchange Services
 - ❑ End-User Services
- Governance
- Policy/Process



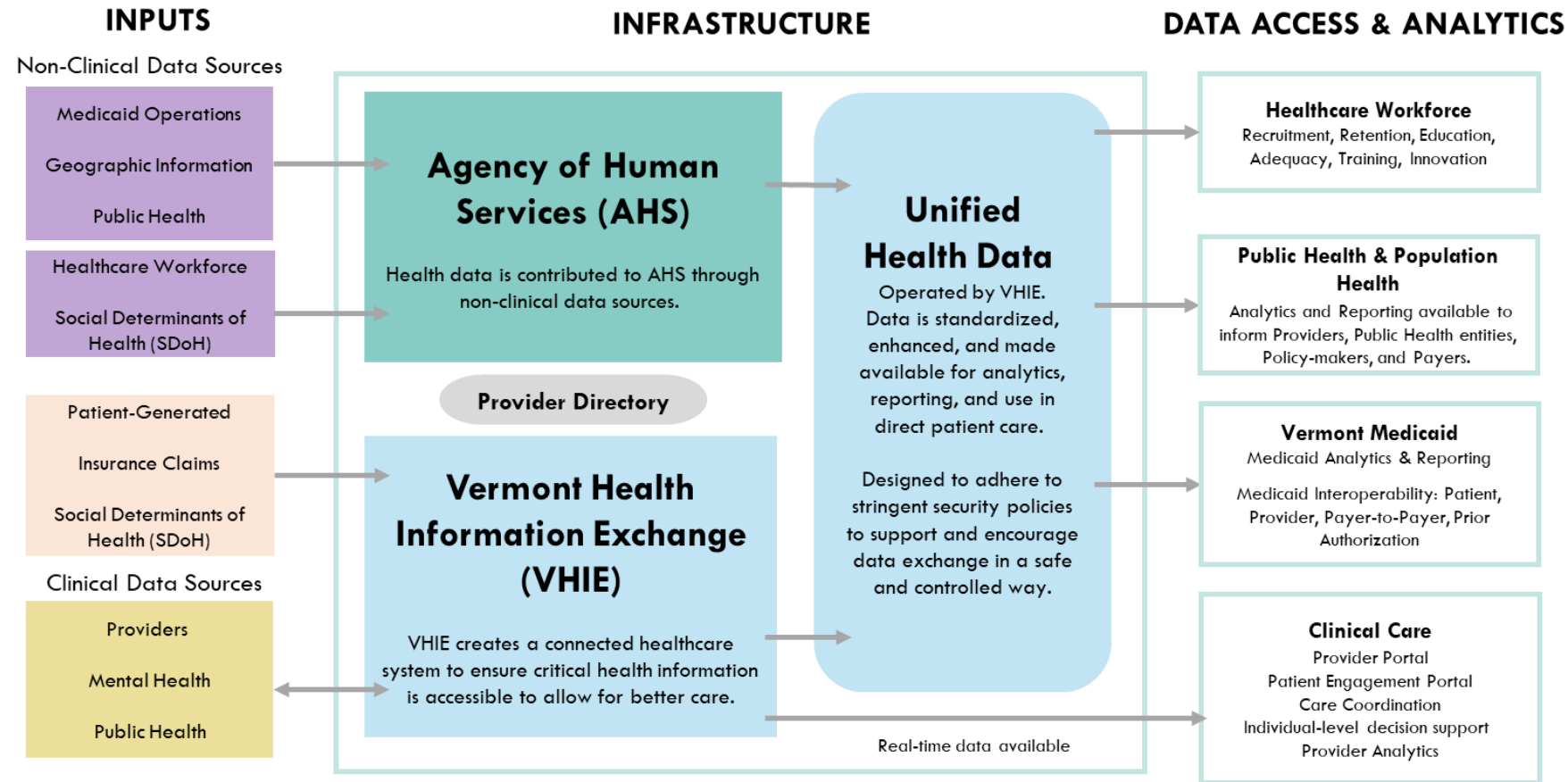
End-User Services		
Reporting Services	Notification Services	
Analytics Services	Consumer Tools	
Care Coordination Tools	Patient Attribution & Dashboards	
Exchange Services		
Data Extraction & Aggregation		Data Access
Interoperability	Data Quality	Data Governance
Foundational Services		
Identity Management	Consent Policy & Management	
Security	Provider Directories	

Goals of the Health Information Exchange

-  Create 1 health record for every person
-  Better health outcomes
-  Improved healthcare operations
-  Use data to enable investment and policy decisions

Vermont's Unified Health Data Space (UHDS)

Built on Data Governance, Security, Patient Education, and Consent



Built on Data Governance, Security, Patient Education, and Consent

UNIFIED HEALTH DATA SPACE

Built on Data Governance, Security, Patient Education, and Consent

Legend

Current

In Progress

2025

2026+

INPUTS

Non-Clinical Data Sources

- Medicaid Operations
- Geographic Information
- Public Health

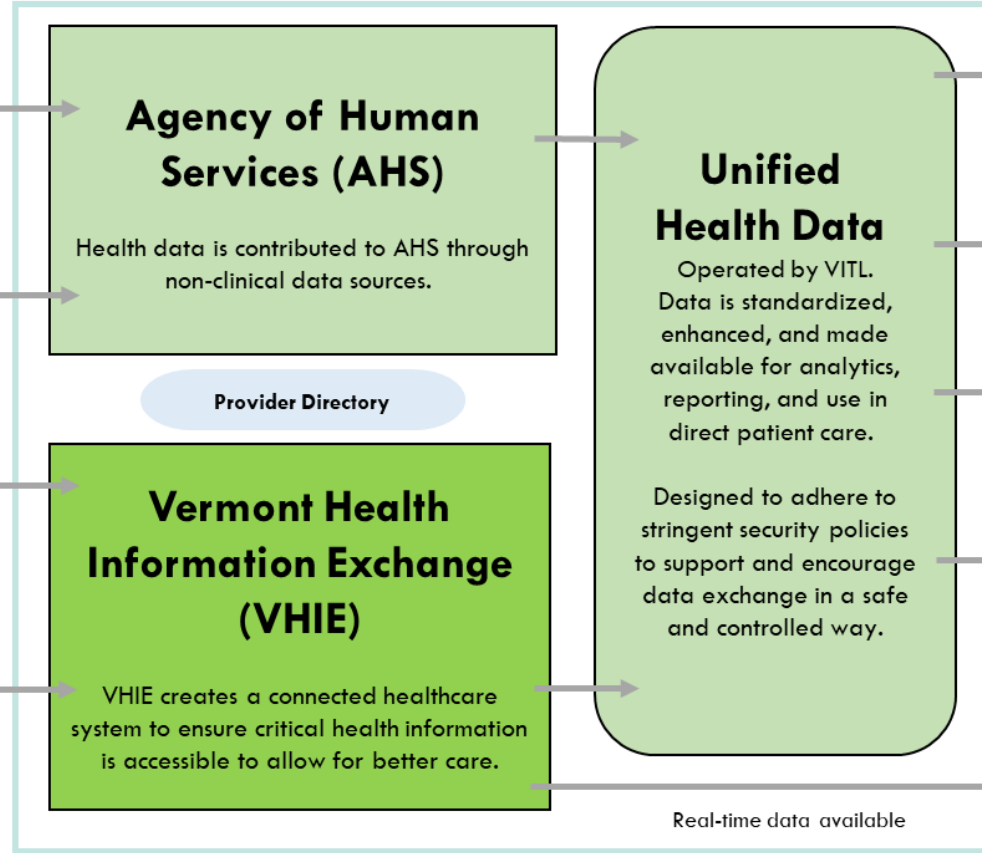
- Healthcare Workforce
- Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)

- Patient-Generated
- Insurance Claims
- Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)

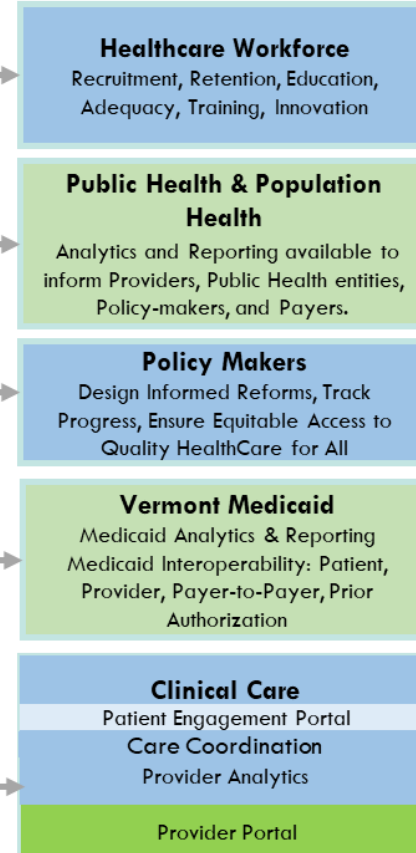
Clinical Data Sources

- Providers
- Public Health
- Mental Health

INFRASTRUCTURE



DATA ACCESS & ANALYTICS



Built on Data Governance, Security, Patient Education, and Consent

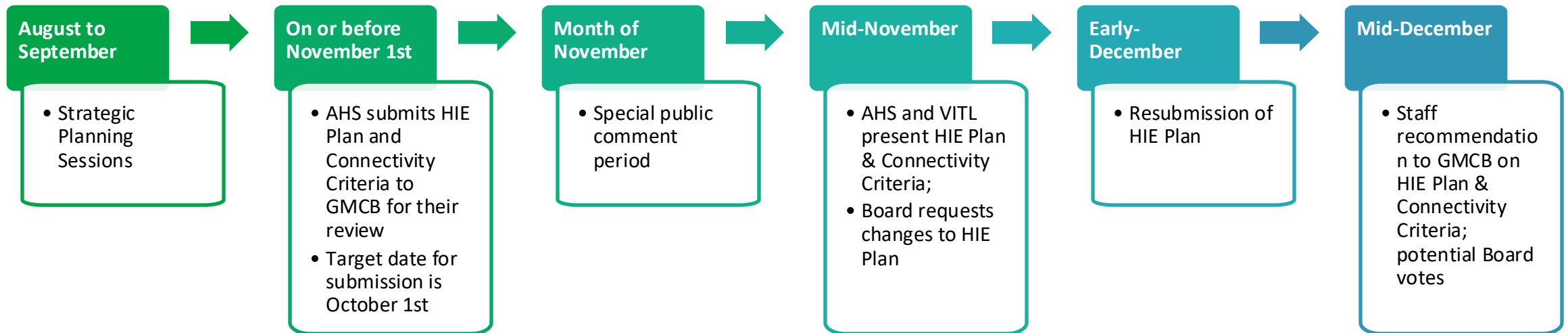
What Is Vermont's Unified Health Data Space (UHDS) ?

- The Unified Health Data Space (**UHDS**) is a collaborative initiative to streamline data services required to improve healthcare in Vermont.
- Costs/usage of technology will be shared among participants to avoid duplicative efforts and purchases.
- UHDS is an integral part of reform efforts supporting a broad spectrum of healthcare stakeholders/uses;
 - ✓ Point of Care (Providers)
 - ✓ Quality (ACO Provider Networks, Payers)
 - ✓ Policy Evaluation & Regulation (GMCB, Healthcare Reform, Blueprint)
 - ✓ Patients (Personal Health Responsibility)
 - ✓ Population Health (Health Equity, Public Health)
- UHDS will provide those with authorized access to needed information to key stakeholders in the healthcare arena including:
 - **Clinical** data
 - **Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder** data
 - **Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)** data.

HIE Strategic Plan

- The [Health Information Exchange \(HIE\) Strategic Plan](#) is required by [18 V.S.A. § 9351](#).
 - The purpose of the Plan is to provide a strategy for the implementation of an integrated electronic health information infrastructure for the sharing of electronic health information among health care facilities, health care professionals, public and private payers, and patients.
 - Also see - [HIE Strategic Plan 2024 GMCB Presentation](#)

Plan Submission Timeline (Annually)



VHIE 2025 Roadmap

WBS	TASK NAME	2025												2026
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
1	Data Governance													
2	Patient Education & Provider Outreach													
3	Connectivity													
4	Data Completeness, Quality, Standardization													
5	Analytics Layer													
5.1	Scoping & Requirements Gathering													
5.2	Procurement													
5.3	Implementation													
6	Maintenance & Operations Cost Focus													
7	Care Coordination & Referral Management													
7.1	Scoping & Requirements Gathering													
7.2	Procurement													
8	Strategic Roadmap - SDoH													
8.1	Analysis and Development of Strategic Roadmap Recommendation													
8.2	Implementation Recommendations from the Strategic Roadmap													
9	VDPH-HIE Integration													
9.1	Phase 1: Pilot (Birth Records, Manual & Bulk Upload Immunizations)													
9.2	Phase 2: (In Planning)													
10	Explore Options - Rural/Smaller Independent Providers													
11	FHIR APIs													
11.1	Implementation													
12	Security Tags													
12.1	Implementation													
13	Medicaid Data Access and Aggregation Program													
13.1	Implementation													
13.2	Closeout													
14	National Exchange Participation													
14.1	Scoping & Requirements Gathering													
15	Act 167 & AHEAD Model Support													
15.1	Scale data platform (including metrics and dashboards)													
15.2	Viability and impact assessment													
15.3	State-Wide EHR Feasibility and Readiness Assessment													

HIE Steering Committee Charter

- **Purpose** of the HIE Steering Committee
 - Serve the needs of HIE users by advancing HIE use cases;
 - Strengthen the relationship between authority and accountability; and
 - Engage a broad range of stakeholders in strategic planning and oversight activities.
- Steering Committee's **Vision & Mission**
 - **Vision:** To enable health information exchange that promotes quality health care in Vermont.
 - **Mission:** To work across organizations and disciplines to create and endorse a shared view of the definition, purpose, and goals of the HIE in Vermont
- The Steering Committee identified **four overarching goals** in the HIE Plan that are intended to guide the state's health information exchange work.
 - Create One Health Record for Every Person
 - Better Health Outcomes
 - Improve Health Care Operations
 - Use Data to Enable Investment and Policy Decisions
- Ultimately, the Steering Committee exists to support development of a **state-wide strategic plan (the HIE Plan)** and guide implementation of that plan.

2025 HIE Steering Committee

★ New from last year

VOTING MEMBERS

- ★ Will Dempsey - Chair
(Agency of Human Services)
- Emma Harrigan
(VAHHS)
- Eric Schultheis
(Health Care Advocate)
- Jessie Hammond
(Vermont Dept. of Health)
- ★ Jodi Frei
(OneCare Vermont)
- Victor Morrison
(Person Advocate)
- Sandy Rousse
(Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice)



- Jimmy Mauro
(BCBS of VT)
- Mary Kate Mohlman
(Bi-State Primary Care)
- ★ Ken Gingras
(Vermont Care Partners)
- Helen Labun
(Long Term Care Advocate)
- Rick Dooley
(Independent Providers)
- ★ Song Nguyen
(Health Equity Expert)



NON-VOTING MEMBERS

- Beth Anderson
(VITL)
- ★ Andrea DeLaBruere
(Agency of Digital Services)



- ★ Steven Andrews
(Green Mountain Care Board)
- John Saroyan
(Practice Innovation Lead)
- vacant
(Privacy Expert)



Logistics & Operational Support

Committee Logistics

- **Steering Committee Meetings** are held quarterly, both in-person and virtually via Microsoft Teams
- **2025 Meeting Schedule** –
 - January 27th, 2025
 - April 14th, 2025
 - July 14th, 2025
 - September 9th, 2025 [*Strategic Planning Session*]
 - October 20th, 2025
- **Subcommittee** meetings are scheduled separately
- **Meeting materials** are posted on the committee’s website and included in meeting invitations
 - <https://healthdata.vermont.gov/HIESTEERINGCommittee>
- **Steering Committee members are asked to provide a photo & bio to be posted on the website**

Ops. Support - *HIE Program Team*

Name	Role
Will Dempsey	Director of Data Analytics
Tim Tremblay	Data Integration Lead
Bechir Bensaid	Program Manager
Inna Podgornaya	Project Manager
Mahesh ThopaSridharan	Project Manager
Alice Stecko	Project Manager
Heriberto Troche	Health Care Workforce Data Center Manager
Eli Hawgood	Medicaid Operations Administrator
Heather Kendall	Medicaid Operations Administrator
Abhilash Sasidharan	Business Analyst

<https://healthdata.vermont.gov/HIESteeringCommittee>

Home

Vermont's Consent Policy

Health Information Exchange Strategic Plan

Health Information Exchange Steering Committee

Steering Committee Members

2022 HIESC Meeting Materials

2021 HIESC Meeting Materials

2020 HIESC Meeting Materials

2019 HIESC Meeting Materials

Education and Resource Materials

PIP/EHRIP

Contact Us

HIE Steering Committee

In partnership with the Agency of Human Services, the Health Information Exchange (HIE) Steering Committee works across organizations and disciplines to create and endorse a shared view of the definition, purpose, and goals of HIE in Vermont. Each year, the Steering Committee supports the Agency in updating a strategy for improving and developing state-wide health data infrastructure. The strategy is called the HIE Plan. Throughout the year, the Committee works to serve data users by advancing their needs; strengthen the relationship between authority and accountability; and engage a broad range of stakeholders in strategic planning and oversight activities.

The Steering Committee meets quarterly. If you have any questions regarding the Steering Committee, please email [Kristin McClure](mailto:kristin.mccclure@agency.vermont.gov), Health Information Exchange Program Director, Agency of Human Services.



HIE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MATERIALS



HIE STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Vermont Information Technology Leaders (VITL)

- VITL was statutorily authorized in 2007 to be the exclusive operator of the state-wide HIE network
- VITL is
 - a Non-profit Organization
 - based in Burlington, VermontPlease visit <https://vitl.net/about-the-vhie/> to learn more about VITL and the VHIE
- In January of 2021, VITL provided a webinar session for AHS and other stakeholders including HIE Steering Committee members, and their constituents - [VITL Education Series](#). The presentation includes the following and much of the information contained is still relevant to date
 - How VITL serves
 - Who participates
 - Data & services
 - Data sharing volume
 - Recent projects

Vermont's Medicaid Agency: Agency of Human Services

