

# Inside eHHR

April 2014

## Birth Registry Interface Successfully Launches

VDH and eHHR have teamed up to create an automated Birth Registry Interface (BRI), which went live on March 19th. DSS is expected to be the first subscriber. The BRI establishes a birth reporting interface between the system of record for all birth records, the Virginia Vital Events and Screening Tracking System (VVESTS), and the Enterprise Service Bus.

This will allow VVESTS birth information to be published securely to active subscribers and consumed by programs and organizations as appropriate. The BRI will expand access to Birth Registry information and improve data sharing between systems, programs, and agencies. The solution will be offered state-wide as a shared service by the eHHR Program.



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## Vital Records Ancestry Index Underway

VDH and Ancestry.com have entered into a contract to digitize/scan over 17 million records and create an associated index for genealogy purposes. Ancestry has installed 25 scanning/imaging workstations at the Vital Records offices and the project is well underway. The team began with the older death records and anticipates finishing this group by April, 2014. The index along with the associated images will be available by December, 2015.

## Certified Birth Records Available at All DMV Locations

As of March 1st, certified birth records are now available at all 80 DMV locations (75 brick and mortar and 5 mobile units). To date, over 4000 birth certificates have been issued from various DMV locations. Phase 2 of the VDH and DMV collaboration calls for death, marriage, and divorce records to be available as well. The Phase 2 kickoff was March 24th, 2014. Phase 2 records will be available by January 1, 2015.



## VaCMS Processing Improvements

The combination of Virginia Case Management System (VaCMS) improvements, additional training sessions, site visits with local departments, embedded subject matter experts in local departments, and the commitment and dedication of Local DSS workers is leading to processing statistics improvements. VDSS expects each VaCMS deployment to contribute to more efficient processing. As of April 4th, VDSS has released the following metrics:

- ◆ 69% of all applications entered in VaCMS have been fully processed
- ◆ 16 FIPS have completed processing over 90% of applications received
- ◆ 48 others have completed processing over 80% of applications received
- ◆ The week of March 28th was the sixth consecutive week that more applications were processed than received statewide – but that trend reversed course the week ending April 4th
- ◆ The application processing rate increased by over 20% each week since October

There are plans in place to address applications that are pending in VaCMS. Statewide, approximately 53,000 Medicaid applications are pending and approximately 25,000 of these are more than 45 days old. VDSS' goal is to reduce/eliminate the applications that have been pending for over 45 days as early as possible, and reduce total pending applications to around 10,000 by mid-September. VDSS expects that a reduction to 10,000 applications will represent a steady state for on-going processing.

Since October, the number of incoming Medicaid applications has increased sharply. Statewide, the Medicaid applications have increased nearly 60% compared to September 2013. For some individual agencies the volume has increased even more significantly. In addition, states are receiving additional applications from the Federally Facilitated Marketplace (FFM). To try to provide relief, VDSS hired local staff to work FFM applications at the State level to prevent them from landing in LDSS and offset some of the local workload.

## All Payer Claims Reports Available in Late Spring



VDH and Virginia Health Information continue to work with the analytics/data submission vendor Milliman to collect claims data from the participating Health Plans and from Medicaid. VDH is pursuing data from Tricare as well. Efforts are underway to ensure data is consistent and accurate. Several meetings and conference calls have taken place with data submitters. An All Payers Claims Database (APCD) Advisory Committee meeting was held in February, 2014. During this meeting, several working groups were formed to handle issues related to exemption and special reporting requests. The first reports from the APCD will be public health-focused and are expected to be available in late spring.

## ConnectVirginia HIE Update

VDH received an Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) grant in 2011 to create Virginia's statewide Health Information Exchange (HIE). After the RFP process, VDH entered into a contract with Community Health Alliance to create the exchange. VDH, Community Health Alliance, and the HIE Governing Board have worked successfully over the past two years to stand up the exchange and associated services.

The ONC grant funding ended on February 7, 2014. In order to continue the HIE, a new company and governing board were created to manage the exchange going forward. The new company is called ConnectVirginia HIE, INC. The new governing board met for the first time in March, 2014. The focus going forward continues to be sustainability and funding through the next 30 months with full sustainability through services in Phase 3. VDH onboarded to ConnectVirginia for public health reporting purposes in January, 2014. Several hospital systems including Valley Health, UVA, and Mary Washington have either fully onboarded or are in the process of onboarding.

## eHHR Recognized in the 2014 ACT-IAC Excellence.Gov Awards

The American Council for Technology and the Industry Advisory Council selected the eHHR Program as one of five finalists for its 2014 ACT-IAC Excellence.Gov Awards. The reception and awards ceremony took place in Washington D.C. in late March.



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### Questions or Comments?

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