

American Immunization Registry Association (AIRA)
National Meeting 2016

New and Existing Funding Mechanisms to Support IIS Strategic Initiatives

Anjella Johnson-Hooker, MS
Sharon Cunningham
Kim Spencer
Kafayat A. Adeniyi, MPH, PMP
Warren Williams, MPH

Wednesday, April 6, 2016 from 4:00 – 5:00PM

Agenda

Topic	Speaker	Time
Introduction and Opportunities for Efficiencies	Anjella Johnson-Hooker, MS , <i>Associate Director for Management and Operations, Office of Director (OD), National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</i>	10 minutes
Mechanisms Overview and Discussion	<p>Sharon Cunningham, <i>Public Health Advisor, Immunization Information Systems Support Branch (IISB), Immunization Services Division (ISD), National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</i></p> <p>Kim Spencer, <i>Public Health Advisor, Immunization Information Systems Support Branch (IISB), Immunization Services Division (ISD), National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</i></p> <p>Kafayat A. Adeniyi, MPH, PMP, <i>Immunization Information Systems Support Branch (IISB), Immunization Services Division (ISD), National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</i></p>	20 minutes
Future Opportunities	Warren Williams, MPH , <i>Immunization Immunizations Systems Support Branch Chief, Immunization Services Division (ISD), National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</i>	10 minutes
Q&A	All	20 minutes

Introduction and Opportunities for Efficiencies

Anjella Johnson-Hooker

Objectives of Today's Session



Provide an overview of NCIRD's funding mechanisms



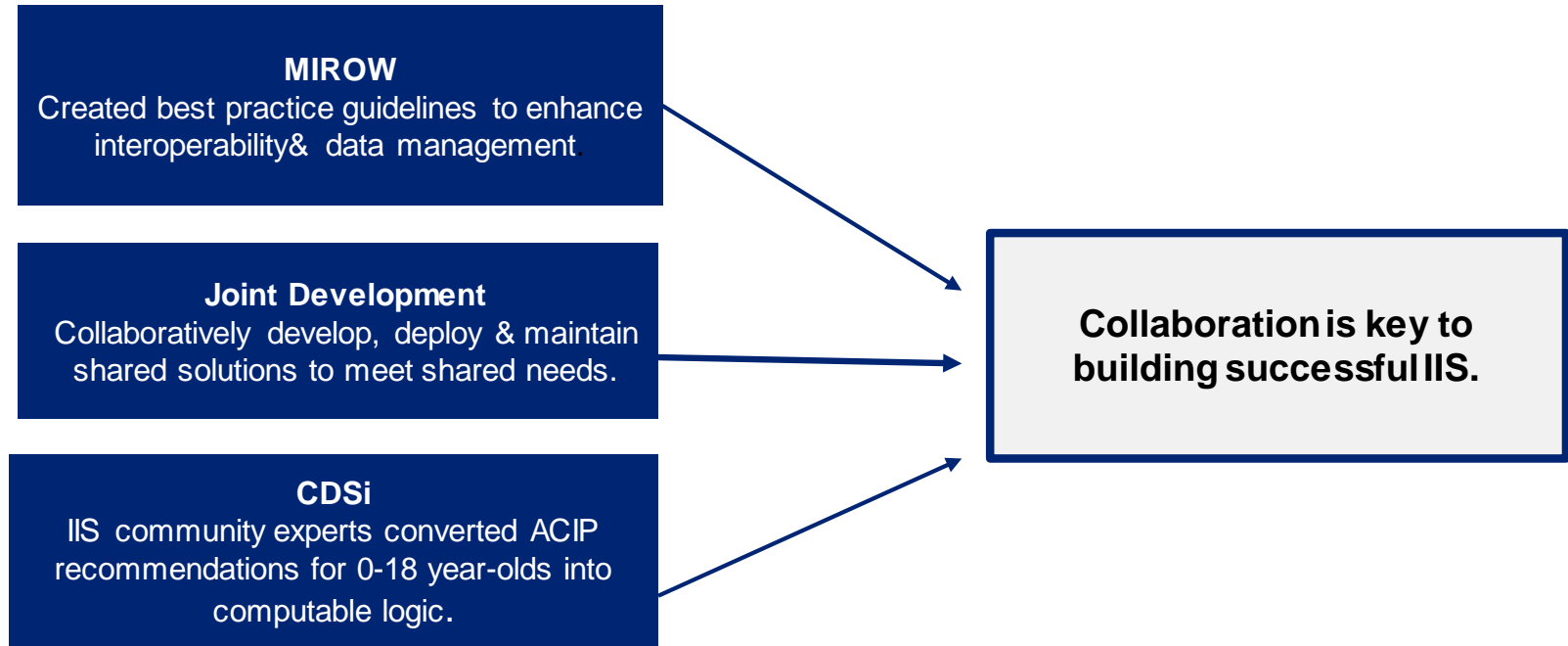
Highlight the various mechanisms NCIRD leverages to provide support to awardees



Describe future opportunities for maximizing efficiencies

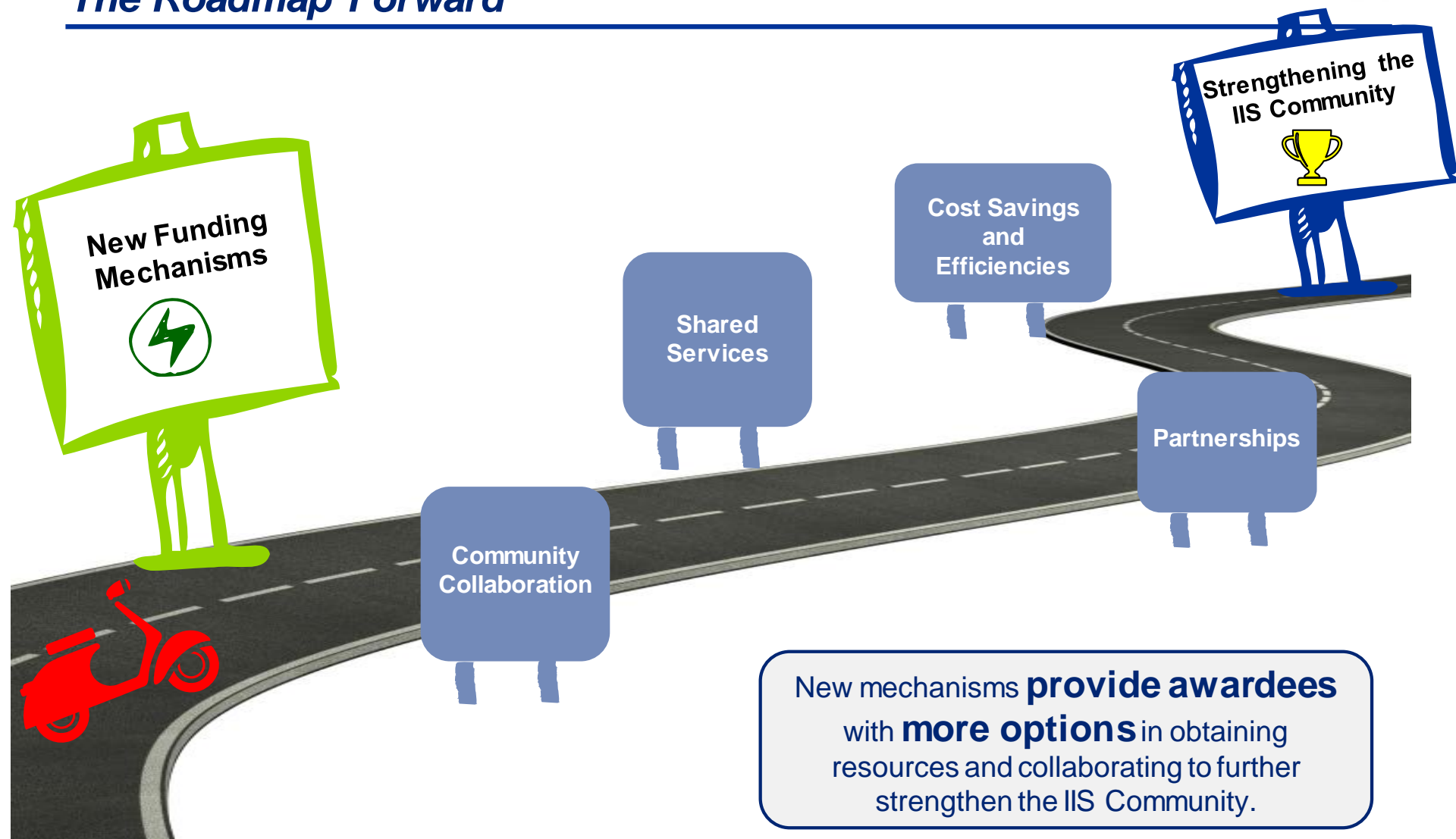
Collaboration among the IIS Community

There is a rich history of collaboration among the IIS community, which has served as a key component towards the success and evolution of IIS. Below are some examples.



CDC has **invested millions** to strengthen IIS and is committed to **continuing support and collaboration**.

The Roadmap Forward



Changes in Funding Mechanisms



Why is CDC changing funding mechanisms?

Funding mechanisms support the **use of the IIS collective wisdom** to address common issues and improve business operations.

- Provide options
- Emphasize collaboration and partnerships
- Achieve efficiencies together
- Enhance performance

Business Drivers to Enhance IIS

Key business drivers have increased the need to evolve the sustainability approach for IIS.

- Changes in Meaningful Use (MU), HITECH, and greater visibility of IIS has helped highlight areas of opportunity.
- Will the funding be there tomorrow?

The funding mechanisms attempt to improve sustainable approaches going forward.

Maximizing Opportunities to Benefit Awardees

New funding mechanisms aim to provide opportunities to meet IIS priorities and goals through collaboration, and have several benefits for awardees.

Achieve Cost-Savings & Efficiencies	Realizes efficiencies from grouping development, operations and maintenance support services for multiple IIS together.
Enable Uniform Performance	Enables support and collaboration to encourage more uniform performance across all IIS.
Enhance Shared Services	Enhances shared access to applications, best practices, and data.
Promote Standardization	Reduces variable application of standards across IIS.
Leverage Economies of Scale	Using investments to serve and benefit many IIS.

Types of Funding Mechanisms in Use

There are two main funding mechanism to support awardees:



Cooperative Agreements



Contracts

Cooperative Agreements

Sharon Cunningham

Overview

A **Cooperative Agreement (Co-Ag)** is a legal agreement where CDC transfers funds to either an awardee or a partner (i.e. state government, municipality or private company).

Overall Goal

Provide capacity building assistance and operational support to awardees, whether direct or indirect.

Mechanism Logistics

Life Cycle depends on the Co-Ag terms.

Roles & Responsibilities

CDC provides support to awardees or collaborates with a partner to provide support to awardees. CDC holds substantial scientific or programmatic involvement.

Partners receive funds from CDC to provide support to awardees.

Awardees receive the IIS support from either CDC or a partner, funded by CDC.

Life Cycle – Phases of a Cooperative-Agreement

1. Pre-Award

- Release of FOA on Grants.gov, which contains eligibility requirements and salient characteristics of the Co-Ag
- Submission of applications
- Review of proposals by an external committee

2. Award

- Funding decisions are made
- Awardees are notified of their selection for a grant.

3. Post-Award

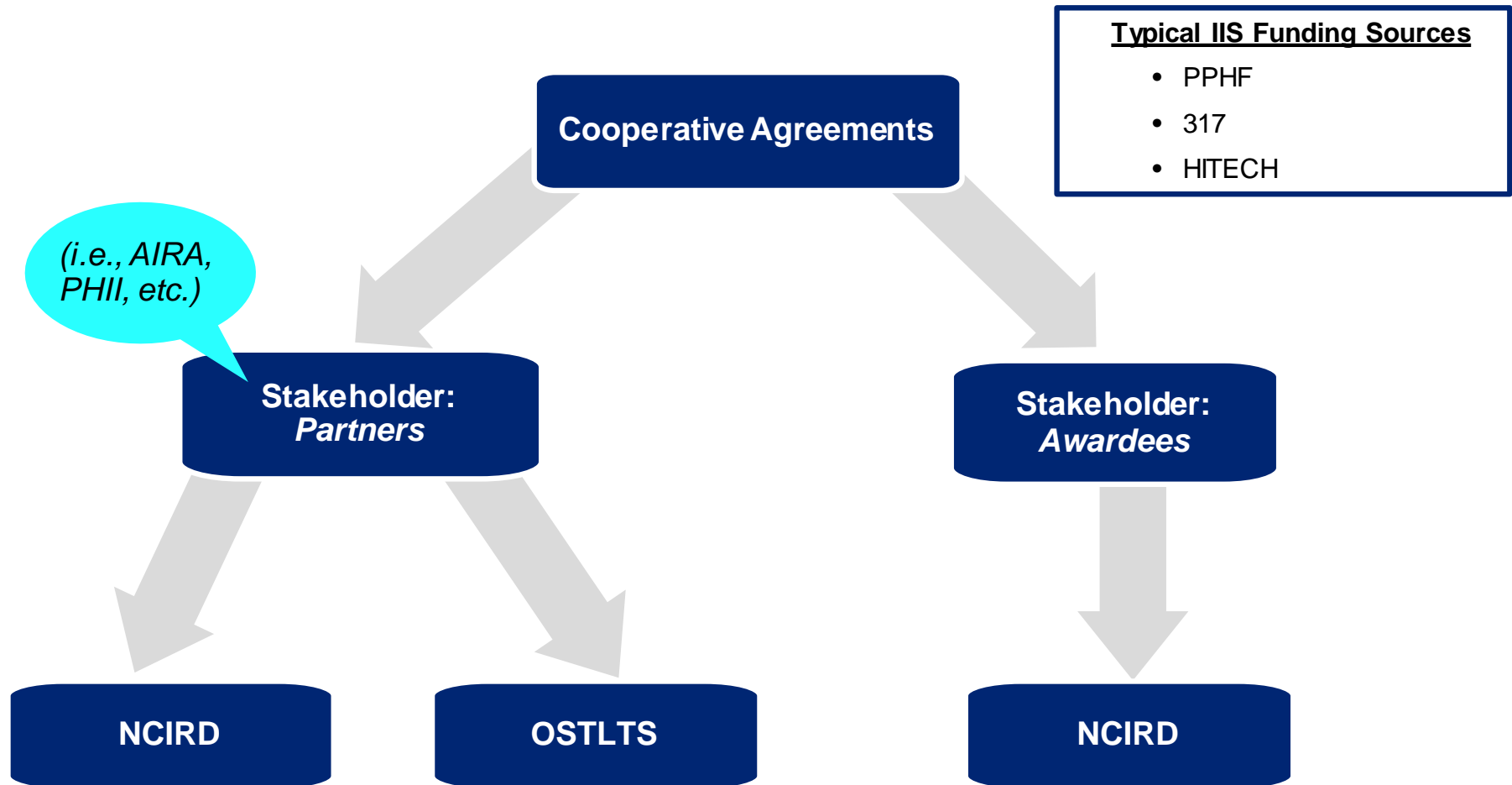
- Monitor awardees' activities for compliance with award requirements, specific program policies, regulations, and required reporting, including accomplishments reports

4. Close-Out

- Submission, review, and approval of all final reports as required by specific program policies and regulations

Types of Stakeholders/Vehicles

NCIRD IIS-related Co-Ags are allocated toward the awardees and to partners to facilitate enhancing capabilities of awardees, directly and indirectly.



Partnerships and Awardees

NCIRD's IIS Co-Ags provide operational support to awardees and enhance capacity across the IIS community through collaborative partnerships.

IIS Cooperative Agreement: Partnerships

Project	Project Overview	Partner
Community Standards and Clarification to Support Functional Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement community standards. • Conduct business analysis. • Provide project management, evaluation support, and communication services. 	AIRA
IIS Capacity and Operations Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement data quality and assessment approaches. • Promote education and training. • Develop operational guidelines. 	AIRA
Specialized Technical Assistance and Training (STAT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance to improve performance of awardees struggling to meet metrics and functional standards. 	PHII

Partnerships and Awardees (Continued)

IIS Cooperative Agreement: Awardees		
Project	Project Overview	Awardee
Base Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall support for the Immunization Program 	64 Awardees
AFIX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support transition to AFIX assessment functionality to IIS 	25 Awardees
Interoperability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide capacity building assistance for infrastructure enhancements to meet interoperability requirements 	16 Awardees
VTrckS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support enhancement of IIS to Interface with CDC's VTrckS Vaccine Ordering and Management System 	24 Awardees
Sentinel Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports development of methodologies for IIS data analysis and evaluation of IIS functionality to identify best practices 	6 Awardees

Overall Impact on IIS Community

The accomplishments of the NCIRD IIS-related Co-Ags have led to positive impacts to strengthen individual awardees and the IIS community overall.

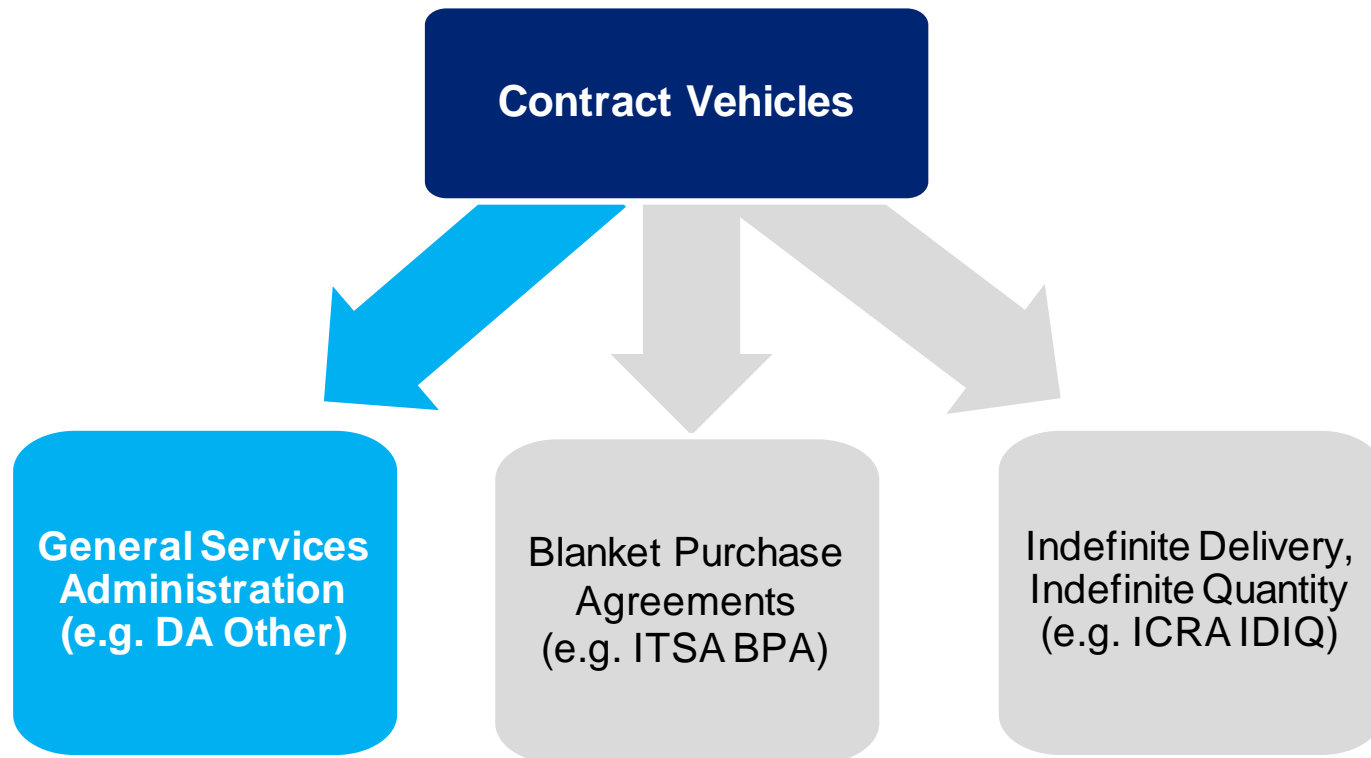
Impacts on IIS Community

- Create a community of practice for people to come under:
- Time savings and increased efficiency in generating reports directly from the IIS.
- Strengthen immunization information technology infrastructure and awardee capacity.
- Access to an increased amount of data for a variety of purposes.
- Improve data quality.
- Improve clinical decision support.
- Provide assistance in vaccine ordering and distribution.

General Services Administration (e.g. DA Other) *Kim Spencer*

Current Contract Vehicles

Three contract vehicles that NCIRD leverages for procurement purposes, include those shown in the graphic below.



GSA DA Other - Overview

General Services Administration (GSA) is an independent U.S. agency, which aims to manage and support the basic functioning of federal agencies. **Direct Assistance (DA Other)** is a financial assistance mechanism that is primarily used to provide resources for technical support to impact awardees.

Overall Goal

Provide resources for technical support for vendors.

Mechanism Logistics

Life Cycle: Includes acquisition planning, solicitation, negotiation, award, administration and closeout.

Eligibility/Limitations: Awardees, but it is not an option for use with PPHF. Minimum award is \$150,000.

GSA DA Other – Overview (Continued)

Roles & Responsibilities

CDC provides guidance in drafting of PWS, utilizing technical and procurement knowledge and experience. CDC advises on scope changes, invoice payment, funding allocations, and other contract management activities. CDC also holds COR responsibilities and supplemental SME expertise.

Vendors provide IIS and associated maintenance and support from cradle to grave of the IIS.

Awardees communicate the IIS need, work day to day directly with contractors and notify CDC/GSA of requirements changes including enhancements and improvements

General Services Administration (GSA) is an independent federal agency commissioned to manage and support the basic functioning of federal agencies. Through using Direct Assistance (DA Other), CDC works in conjunction with GSA to procure goods and services.

GSA DA Other – Scope of IT Schedule 70

IT Schedule 70 is the largest, most widely used acquisition vehicle in the federal government. Schedule 70 is an indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) multiple award schedule, providing direct access to products, services, and solutions from more than 5,000 certified industry partners.

Why IT Schedule 70?

- Wide variety of products and services
- Contractor team arrangements, allowing collaboration
- To procure IIS systems and associated maintenance and support

What is on IT Schedule 70?

- Cloud IT Services
- Computer and Networking Hardware
- Cyber Security
- Data Center and Storage
- IT Mandates and Initiatives
- Satellite Services
- SmartBuy: Commercial Software Solutions
- Software and Applications
- Sustainability
- Systems Life Cycles Integration
- Telecommunications, Wireless, and Mobility
- Telepresence

GSA DA Other – Activities

DA Other enables vendors to provide technical support to a sub-set of awardees.

DA Other Vendors and Awardees	
Vendor	Awardee
DKW Communications	Chicago
Upp Technology	Illinois
STC	Louisiana
STC	Ohio
Envision	Pacific Islands
HP	Puerto Rico
HLN	Rhode Island
STC	Tennessee
HP	Virgin Islands
STC	West Virginia

- Currently there is approximately \$28M invested through GSA for IIS activities
- The period of performance can be up to 5 years
- GSA fee ranges from 4-7% of contractor proposed/negotiated amounts

GSA DA Other – Overall Impact on IIS Community

Through DA Other, vendors support awardees, which positively impacts individual awardees, as well as the broader IIS Community.

Impacts on IIS Community

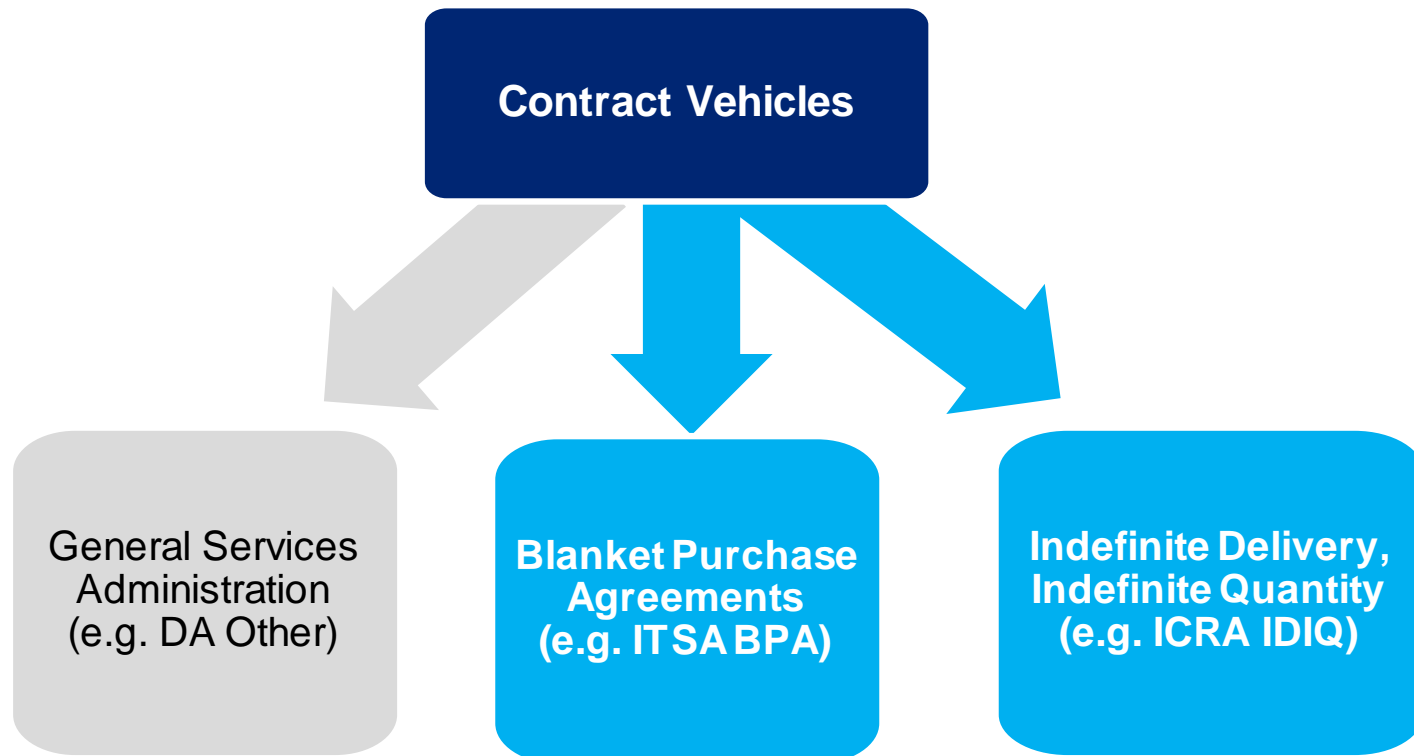
- Favorable pricing through volume of GSA Schedule 70.
- Streamlined process between GSA, CDC, awardees, and vendors with full access to pertinent documents.
- Ability to leverage synergies among awardees when using the same vendor.

ITSA BPA, ICRA IDIQ

Kafayat Adeniyi

Current Contract Vehicles

Three contract vehicles that CDC is leveraging for procurement purposes, include those shown in the graphic below.



ITSA BPA and ICRA IDIQ



ITSA BPA

Provides more efficient technical services for awardee by going directly to vendor.



ICRA IDIQ

Provides a way to implement shared services.

Both ITSA and ICRA aim to meet the strategic and tactical goals of the IIS Strategy.

ITSA BPA - Overview

A Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) is a simplified acquisition method that government agencies use to fill anticipated repetitive needs for supplies or services. The **Immunization Technology Support Arm (ITSA)** is an acquisition method that CDC uses to obtain IT-specific services related to IIS.

Overall Goal

Achieve greater standardization, cost-savings, and efficiencies for awardees.

Mechanism Logistics

Life Cycle: Up to 60 months.

Eligibility: CDC goes directly to vendors to provide enhanced support to awardees.

Roles & Responsibilities

CDC employed ITSA to address technical capabilities, involving national level requirements, directly with vendors to provide IT services to the states.

Vendors work with awardees on relevant aspects of the analysis and software life cycle.

Awardees work closely with vendors, similarly to how they work with GSA vendors to address technical capabilities, requirements, maintenance and implementation issues.

ITSA BPA – Objective and Scope

Objectives

1. Enhance and upgrade IT infrastructure for IIS
2. Develop and implement IIS improvements that move systems/operations toward national standards
3. Enhance IIS to interface with CDC's VTrckS vaccine order and management systems
4. Implement national vaccine management standards for enhancing IIS
5. Plan and implement pilot projects that will enhance IIS

Scope of Services

The scope of work for the ITSA BPA covers the breadth of services required to support IIS IT infrastructure needs.

Contractors provide NCIRD with technical advisory and assistance in the following areas:

1. Information Management
2. Management Consulting
3. IT Infrastructure
4. Subject Matter Expertise

ITSA BPA - Activities

The ITSA BPA has enabled the operationalization of three activities to support the awardees.

	Project Overview	Vendor
Technical Enhancement of IIS for AFIX Assessment	<p>Standardizes vaccination coverage assessments for children and adolescents who are served by providers participating in Vaccine for Children (VFC).</p> <p>Provides a mechanism to efficiently report AFIX results to CDC.</p>	Scientific Technologies Corporation (STC)
Automated VTrckS ExIS Data Exchange – IIS Readiness and Rollout	<p>Prepares the vendor's vaccine ordering and inventory tracking solution for VTrckS ExIS data exchange reducing amount of manual effort.</p>	STC
Usability Best Practices for IIS Vendor Vaccine Ordering and Inventorying Solutions	<p>Improves the user experience for IIS clients that use the selected vendor's vaccine ordering and inventory solution while meeting VFC program accountability requirements.</p>	STC

ITSA BPA– Overall Impact on IIS Community

The ITSA BPA positively impacts IIS awardees, as well as the broader IIS community.

Impacts on IIS Community

- Enhance and upgrade IT infrastructure for IIS.
- Leverage economies of scale to achieve cost savings and efficiencies (quicker award contracts and vendor support).
- Provide a more streamlined approach to disseminate standards and address requirements.
- Enhanced technical support for awardees.
- Awardees remain engaged in implementation process.

ICRA IDIQ - Overview

An indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) is a government contract, which provides indefinite quantity of supplies or services during a fixed period. **IIS Consulting & Research Arm (ICRA)** is an acquisition method to obtain support from contractors/partners to provide a range of consultative, research, and support services around IIS.

Overall Goal

Achieve greater standardization, cost-savings, and efficiencies for awardees.

Mechanism Logistics

Life Cycle: Up to 60 months.

Eligibility: CDC is leveraging Vendors.

Roles & Responsibilities

CDC interacts **directly with the vendors** to implement a service that will benefit awardees.

Vendors collaborate with CDC to create a service that will indirectly or directly impact awardees.

Awardees do not interact directly with vendors or CDC, but they receive benefits.

ICRA IDIQ – Objective and Scope

Objectives

- Ensure CDC has efficient and comprehensive research and management consulting services
- Ensure related and interdependent functions and disciplines are covered in the contract services
- Provide nationwide, secure, information management service and support as needed
- Provide a comprehensive performance and solutions-based contract
- Contribute to the achievement of NCIRD's IIS program goals and IIS Strategic Plan.

ICRA IDIQ

Scope of Services

The following services are examples of what may be included in an ICRA IDIQ:

- Program/project management and execution
- Program evaluation metrics
- Strategic Communications
- Technical integration services
- Data analytics and evaluation
- Program certification methods
- Policy and legislative issues
- National and program standards development support

ICRA IDIQ - Vendors

The ICRA IDIQ was awarded to 13 vendors, in order to provide positive impact to the IIS Community.



ICRA IDIQ Vendors

- Abt. Associates
- Advanced Strategies Inc.
- Battelle
- Carter Consulting Inc.
- CNI Advantage, LLC
- Deloitte Consulting, LLP
- Econometrica
- Gartner
- Karna, LLC
- Northrop Grumman
- Scientific Technology Corporation
- SciMetrika
- Stone User Experience

ICRA IDIQ - Overall Impact Related to IIS Community

The ICRA IDIQ positively impacts IIS awardees, as well as the broader IIS community.

Impacts on IIS Community

- Improved access to vendors with specialized services*
- More efficient contracting process
- Improved vaccine ordering and management
- Increased vaccine ordering efficiency and vaccine management accountability
- Address key non-technical challenges that continue to pose barriers to IIS data quality, access, use, and exchange.
- Improved cost savings

* Improved access to vendors by CDC

Future Opportunities for Maximizing Efficiencies

Warren Williams

IIS Service Center - Overview

What is an IIS Service Center?

- One or more organizations (private, public, or hybrid) that facilitate and/or provide services to more than one jurisdictions' immunization information management activities across multiple platforms.
-

Vision

- IIS nationwide are standardized and can achieve efficiencies through shared services and support in order to meet the needs of the Immunization community.
-

Mission

- To facilitate enhanced collaboration, support, and sharing of services to enable efficient, cost-effective, standardized and high quality services and support to multiple IIS.
-

Goals

- Facilitate and/or provide shared services to awardees to enhance or support IIS.
- Promote adoption of IIS best practices and lessons learned.
- Enable reduction of variability among IIS.
- Reduce costs and increase efficiency and effectiveness of IIS operations.
- Provide mechanisms to “raise the bar” within the IIS community through shared services that assist awardees in reaching IIS goals.

IIS Service Center – Service Categories

The services to be offered by an IIS Service Center can be broken into three (3) major categories:
Software Store, Technical Support Services, and Programmatic Support Services.



Software Store

Software made available via a “software store” repository that is directly accessible by IIS.

i.e. Software modules in support of AFIX and CDSi



Technical Support

Services provided via service provider-managed personnel and tools, accessible to IIS by request and as scheduled.

i.e. Data management and quality, software customization



Programmatic Support

Services provided via service provider-managed personnel and tools, accessible to IIS by request and as scheduled.

i.e. Project management, software development staff, and onboarding

IIS Service Center – ITSA BPA AFIX Task Order

The AFIX Task Order represents a baby step towards the establishment of an IIS Service Center.

What is Assessment, Feedback, Incentives, and eXchange (AFIX)?

Quality improvement program used by awardees to raise immunization coverage levels, reduce missed opportunities to vaccinate, and improve standards of practices at the provider level.



Issue:

- In the absence of standardized outputs, AFIX assessment outcomes will differ across IIS.
- This impacts:
 - Integrity of results reported.
 - CDC's ability to evaluate the program.



Guidance Documents:

- To support AFIX assessments, IIS need to implement:
 - Standardized AFIX assessment outputs
 - User interface that allows authorized users to generate the outputs
 - Standardized export capability to uploads results to the CDC AFIX Online Tool.

IIS Service Center – ITSA BPA AFIX Task Order (Continued)

Funding for implementing AFIX assessment functions occurs through two primary streams.

1

Awardees

25 awardees received PPHF funds.
Awardees include:

- Connecticut, Colorado, Delaware, Kentucky, Idaho, Iowa, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, NYC, NY State, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin

2

STC

STC won the contract to build an AFIX Assessment Module. Awardees who have agreed to work with STC include:

- Alaska, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming

IIS Service Center – ITSA BPA AFIX Task Order (Continued)



Benefits to AFIX

- Access to an increased amount of data – ability to assess 100% of the provider records.
- Time savings and increased efficiency in generating reports directly from the IIS – no manual data entry or export/import step.



Benefits to IIS

- AFIX interactions with providers to increase participation and reporting
- Improved data quality resulting from AFIX assessments.



Benefits to Providers

- Ability to update patient lists and review missing data prior to official AFIX assessment.
- Periodic informational assessments.
- Improved clinical decision support through increased participation.

IIS Service Center – Future Potential Services

Three potential services are under consideration. The IIS Executive Board is refining the scope of the services below.

**Data/Vocabulary
Standardization and
Translation**

**Interoperability
Configuration
Services and Provider
Onboarding**

**IIS Workforce and
Training Curriculum
Development**

Data/Vocabulary Standardization and Translation

- Support IIS and other targeted users in comprehensive mapping and translation of vaccine codes.
- Codes reflect components of vaccine ordering, inventory management, and documentation of vaccines administered to patients.
- Codes are managed by diverse governmental and non-governmental agencies such as CDC (CVX and MVX codes), FDA (NDC codes), AMA (CPT codes), etc.
- IIS (and EHRs and HIEs) could tap into this service when vaccine products and related resources (VIS) are initially released on the market or updated.
- This could increase the efficiency by which their HIS are updated and the accuracy of the data.

Summary



Questions?

Contact Information

Anjella Johnson–Hooker, MS

Associate Director for Management and Operations,
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, CDC

ACV6@cdc.gov

Sharon Cunningham,

Contract Specialist, COR, Immunization Information Systems Support Branch
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, CDC

CUX0@cdc.gov

Kim Spencer

Public Health Advisor, COR, Immunization Information Systems Support Branch
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, CDC

xlp8@cdc.gov

Kafayat A. Adeniyi, MPH, PMP

Project Manager, Immunization Information Systems Support Branch
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, CDC

KGA9@cdc.gov

Warren Williams, MPH

Immunization Information Systems Support Branch Chief
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, CDC

wxw4@cdc.gov