## MN staffing model for IIS integrating Vaccines for Children functionality

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#### Outline

- Introduction to MnVFC and MIIC
- Our Questions
- Our Answer
- Staffing Model
- Benefits and Challenges
- Considerations for Your Program

# Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Vaccine Programs

- Minnesota Vaccines for Children (MnVFC)
  - Minnesota's version of federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) program
  - \$46 million of vaccines to ~820 enrolled sites
- Un- & Underinsured Adult Vaccine (UUAV)
  - Serves un- and underinsured adults (19+)
  - \$1.5 million of vaccines to ~180 enrolled sites



# The Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC)

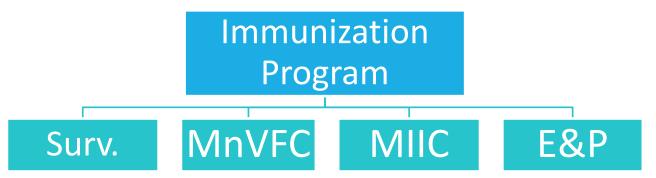
- Minnesota's statewide immunization information system (IIS)
- Supports management of MDH vaccine programs

#### MnVFC and MIIC

- Several tools built in MIIC to support MDH vaccine management
  - 95% of vaccine orders completed in MIIC
- Need MIIC enhancements to:
  - Meet federal requirements for VFC program
  - Improve provider experience
  - Continue to support MDH vaccine program tracking and monitoring

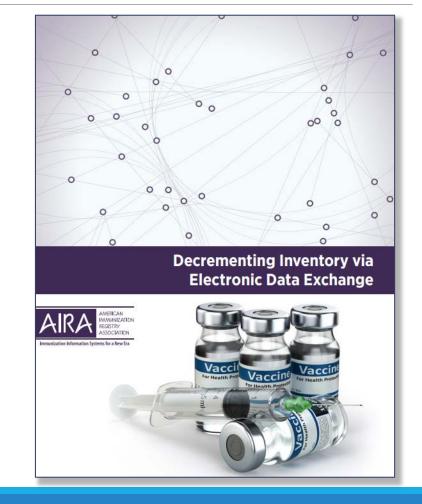
#### Our Questions

- How do we successfully make vaccine management enhancements in MIIC?
- Can we strengthen collaboration between MnVFC and MIIC?



#### **Best Practice**

The Modeling of Immunization Registry
 Operations Work Group (MIROW)
 "acknowledges that clarifying Immunization
 Program staffing roles is important to
 consider when implementing complex IIS
 integration projects."



#### Our Answer

- Immunization Program created Vaccine Management in MIIC (VMM) workgroup
- VMM workgroup:
  - Lives in MnVFC Unit
  - Builds experience creating and using VMM tools in MIIC
  - Works collaboratively with MIIC staff to support VMM projects
  - Members take on various roles
  - Liaison helps bridge MnVFC and MIIC Units

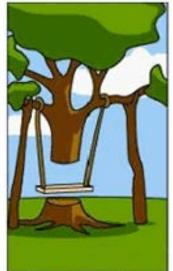
## Why this model?

- Programmatic knowledge
  - VFC requirements
  - MnVFC processes
  - MIIC/IT enhancement process
- Connection with MnVFC providers
- Comfort using MIIC
- Focus on continuous improvement

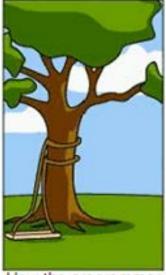




How the project leader understood it



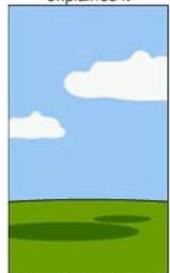
How the engineer designed it



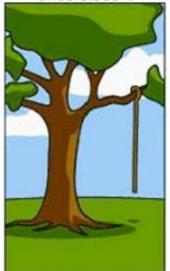
How the programmer wrote it



How the sales executive described it



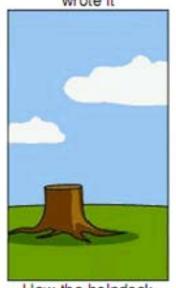
How the project was documented



What operations installed



How the customer was billed



How the helpdesk supported it



What the customer really needed

#### The VMM Workgroup

- Elizabeth Parilla (MnVFC Unit Supervisor)
- Lucy Cosgrove (MnVFC Coordinator)
- Karen Bolander (MnVFC Program Specialist)
- Elizabeth Muenchow (VMM Coordinator)
- Elena Rosenberg-Carlson (MIIC/VMM Communications Specialist)
- Me (Liaison)

## Many Responsibilities

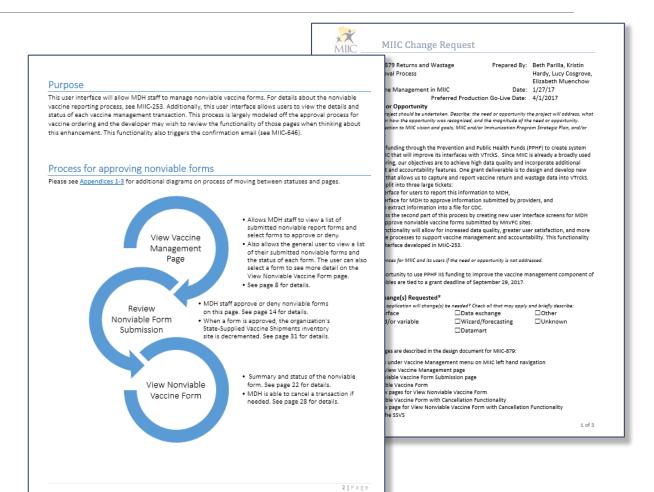
Vaccine allocation Vaccine ordering Training Questions from clinics Temperature excursions Improving data quality Flu pre-book Policies and procedures Vaccine budget
User guidance

### Enhancing the Workgroup's Skillset

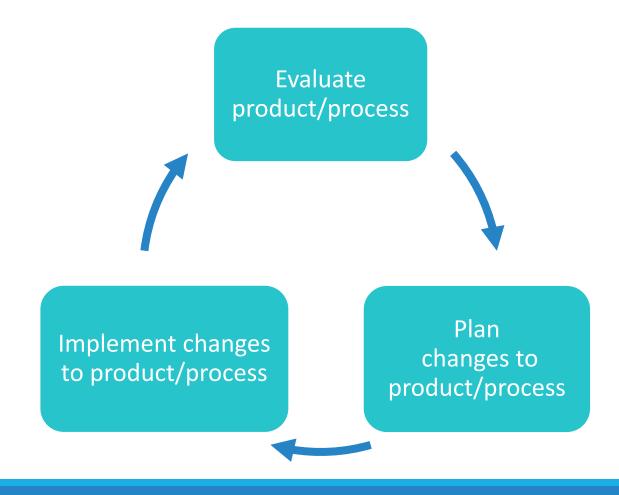
- Daily MIIC use
- Informatics course from Public Health Informatics Institute
- MIROW guides
- CDC VTrckS (Vaccine Tracking System) and ExIS (External Information System) user groups
- Collaboration with other awardees

## Model in Action: Vaccine Returns and Wastage

- Initiation and concept
- Requirements definition
- Design and development
- Testing
- Training and implementation
- Operations and maintenance



#### Continuous Improvement Emphasis



#### Benefits

- High quality products that meet provider needs
- High quality processes that meets MnVFC and MIIC program needs
- Structure for positive and efficient collaboration between programs
- MnVFC staff use/support/promote MIIC

## Challenges

- Competing priorities
- Communication
- IT staffing
- Base knowledge takes time to build



### Considerations for Your Program

- Model has great potential benefits
- Important to consider:
  - Appropriate collaborative structure
  - Resources
  - Staffing stability
  - Staff training/mentoring
  - Patience

#### Acknowledgements

- VMM Workgroup
- MnVFC Unit
- MIIC Unit
- Immunization Program Leadership
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#### Questions?

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