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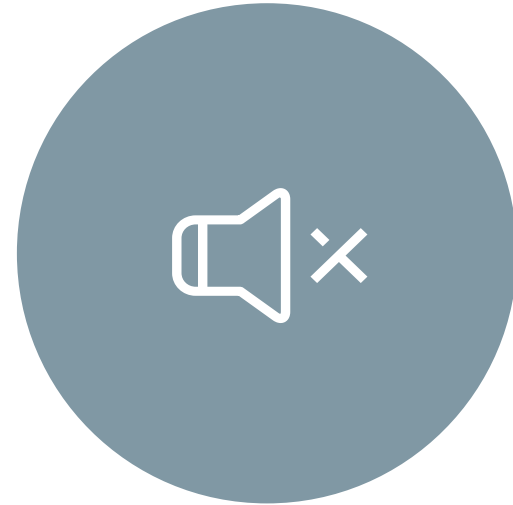
# Discovery Session: IZ Gateway: IIS-to-CDC for Routine Vaccine Data Submission

AIRA Discovery Session  
March 27, 2023  
4 PM EST

# AIRA Discovery Session



This meeting is being recorded  
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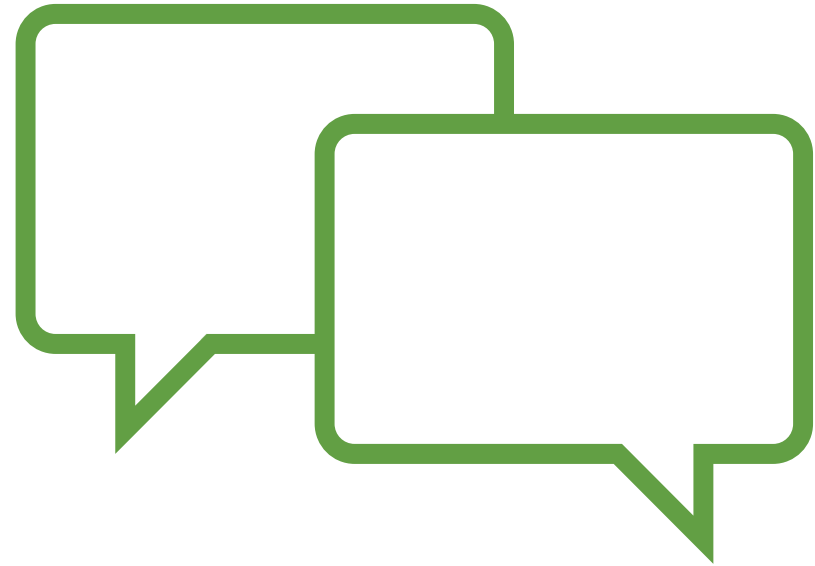


All phone lines  
are muted



# Technical Support

If you experience any technical issues during the meeting, please contact Kim Rutland via direct message in the Chat.

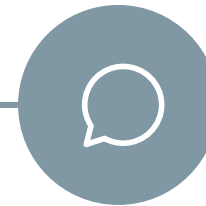


# Questions

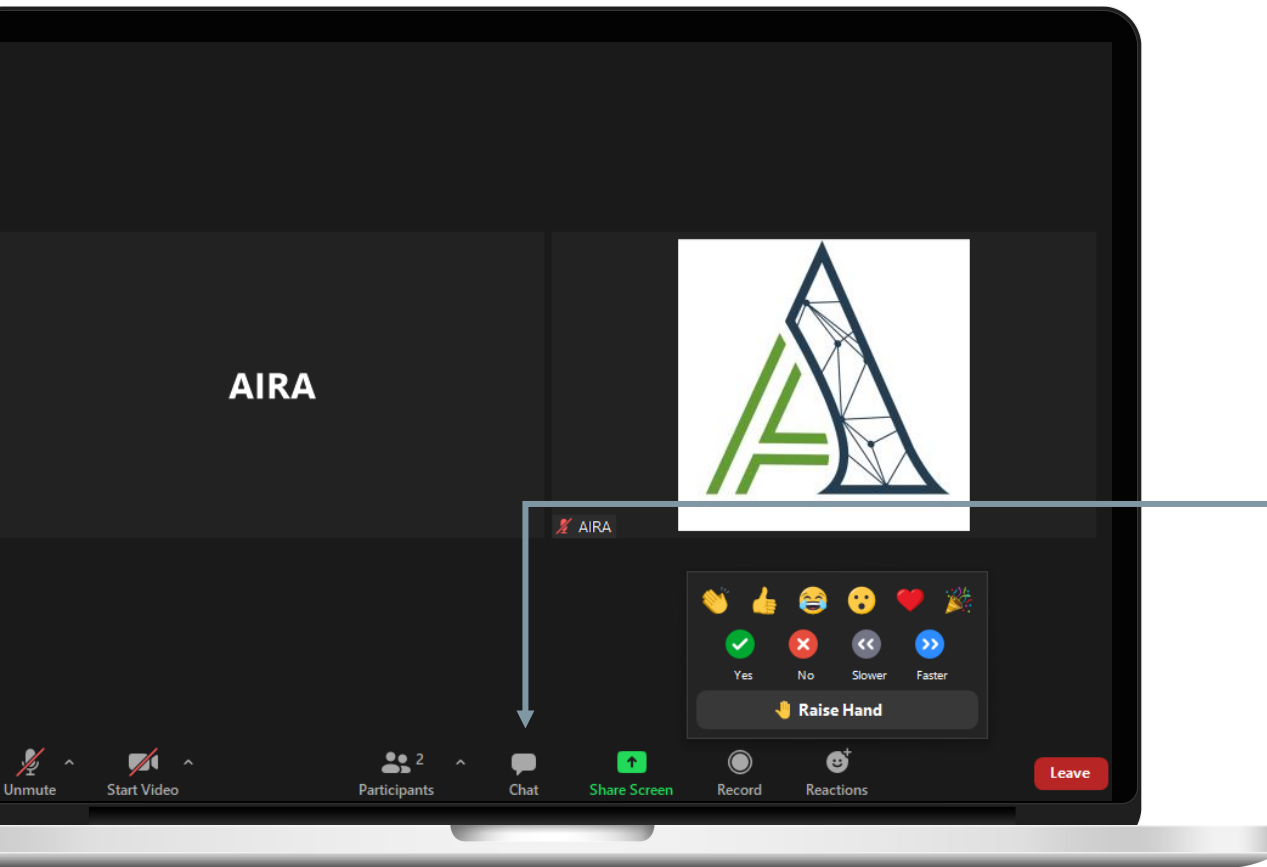
## How do I ask a question?

There will be time allotted for Q&A following the presentations.

If you think of a question during the presentations:



Select the chat icon and type your question into the chat box.





# Today's Speakers

- **LaTreace Harris**, Evaluation and Applied Analytics Team Lead, Informatics and Data Analytics Branch (IDAB), Immunization Services Division (ISD), National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- **Susan Pierce Richards**, CAPT, U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS), Nurse Practitioner
- **Nkenge Jones-Jack**, Health Scientist, CC4 Lead, IDAB, ISD, NCIRD, CDC



# Today's Goals

- To provide an overview of the immunization surveillance landscape
- To learn about CDC's data modernization efforts
- To get an update on the IZ Gateway's IIS-to-CDC use case
- To understand progress made by participating pilot jurisdictions
- To review how community engagement has informed IZ Gateway program process and technical enhancements



# **Immunization Data Routine and Influenza Data Submission**

LaTreace Harris (CDC)

# The Rationale Behind Data Submission

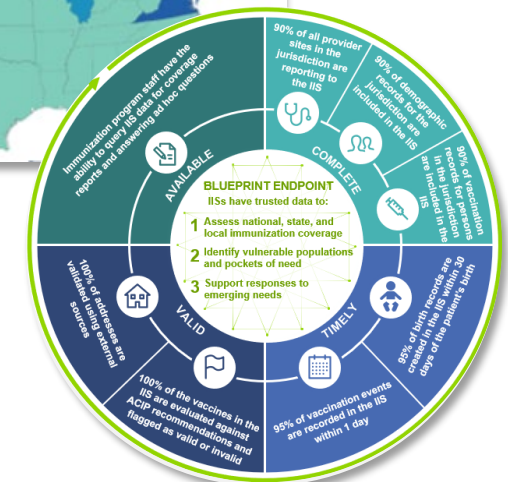
**Public Health Data Goal:**  
Strengthen the Core of  
Public Health Data

Building on the COVID-19 pandemic, we seek **to understand** the following important public health issues at the national level:

- Vaccination coverage at the national and jurisdiction level
- Areas of low vaccination coverage
- Populations at risk of vaccine preventable disease
- Characteristics of populations with high/low coverage
- Quality of IIS data (available, timely, complete, valid, accurate, consistent, unique)

Additional benefits:

- The effort takes advantage of data exchange infrastructure awardees are already using (IZ Gateway, CC4)
- CDC will provide regular feedback to help jurisdictions continue in their data quality improvement efforts





# Reviewing the Systems for Submission

## Secure FTP (SFTP)

The secure file transfer platform enables encrypted file sharing from jurisdictions to CDC.

### Quick Facts:

- SFTP is the **short-term solution**
- A login and password are required to access the secure FTP site

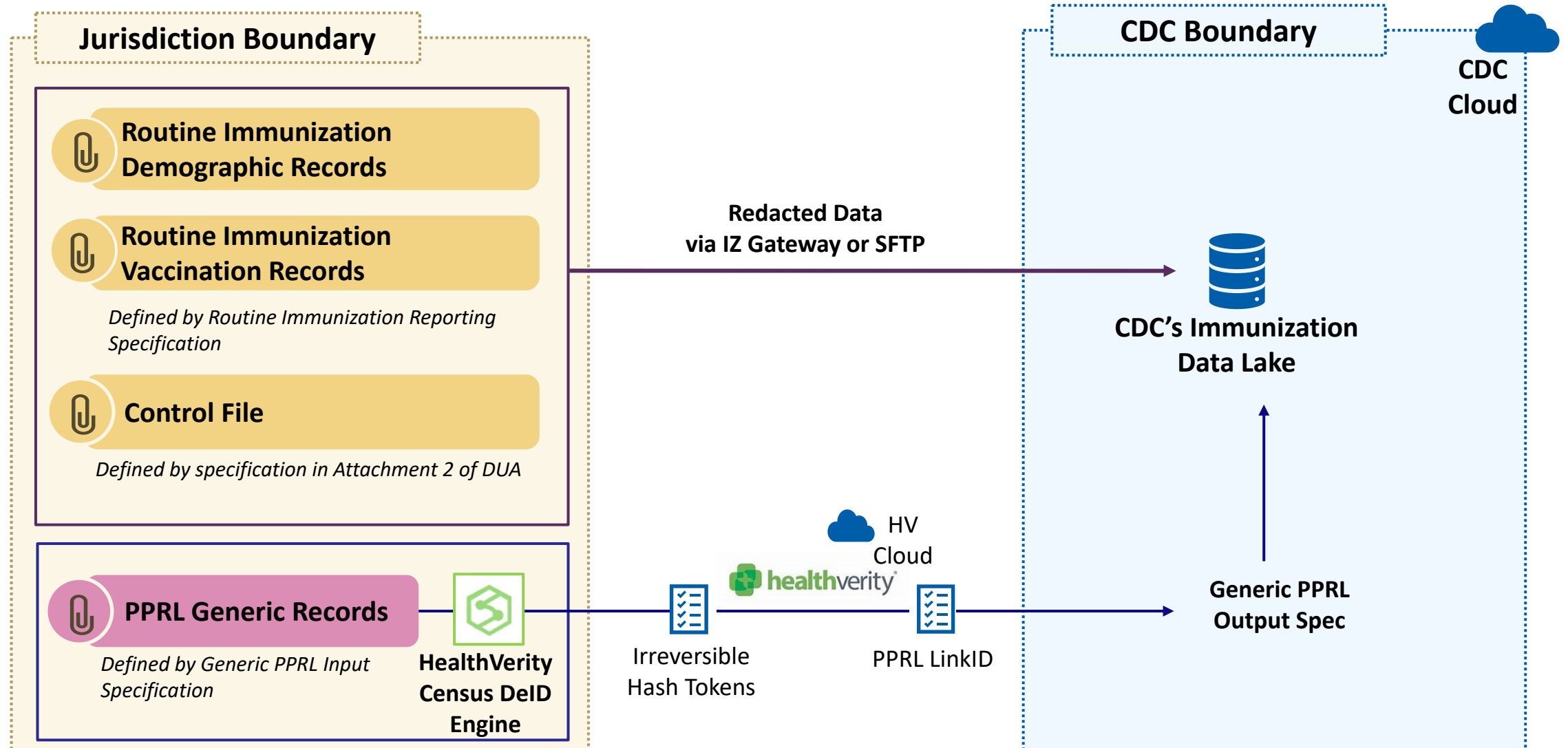
## IZ Gateway

A cloud-based message routing service intended to enable data exchange between IISs, other provider systems, and the Immunization Data Lake (IZDL).

### Quick Facts:

- IZ Gateway is the **long-term solution**
- Enables centralized data exchange and eliminate the need for multiple, individual, point-to-point connections
- Seven awardees are currently enrolled in a pilot program

# Routine Vaccination Data Submission Process



# Next Steps

Jurisdictions that **have not** signed the Routine and Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Data Use Agreement (DUA) should

- ✓ **Update their IIS SME on when we can expect to receive their signed DUA**
- ✓ **Review, sign, and return the DUA as soon as possible**
  - ✓ Regardless of their anticipated reporting start date, jurisdictions should be progressing toward routine vaccination data submission, which includes returning the signed DUA
- ✓ **Work with their IIS SME to address questions hindering their from signing the DUA**
  - ✓ The DUA and all DUA-related documents, including a list of FAQs, are available in the Routine Vaccination DUA folder on the ISD Awardees and IIS Partners SharePoint sites
- ✓ **Confirm when they will start submitting quarterly routine vaccination data**

## Current Status

**35** jurisdictions signed the DUA

**24** jurisdictions submitted flu data in March

**23** jurisdictions submitted flu data in February

**12** jurisdictions submitted quarterly vaccination data in January

**7** jurisdictions are IZ Gateway pilot sites

# Next Steps

Jurisdictions that **have** signed the Routine and Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Data Use Agreement (DUA) should

- ✓ **Submit monthly influenza vaccination data**
- ✓ **Confirm when they will start submitting quarterly routine vaccination data and aggregate flu data**
- ✓ **Continue progress on PPRL implementation**
- ✓ **Inform CDC of if/when they expect to transition to the IZ Gateway**

## **Prepare for quarterly routine data submission**

- Send contact information for the person who will oversee the data submission process for their jurisdiction
- Confirm their staff who will oversee business processes related to data submission (e.g., preparing test files, preparing production files, troubleshooting, and executing submission)
- Work with their IIS technology partner to:
  - Create a demographic record file using specifications in Appendix C of the DUA
  - Create a vaccination record file using specifications in Appendix D of the DUA
  - Create a control file using specifications in Attachment 2 of the DUA

# Upcoming Data Submission Deadlines

33 jurisdictions are expected to submit aggregate influenza and line level routine vaccination data on the following dates:

- ✓ Aggregate influenza data by **April 9, 2023**
- ✓ Routine vaccination data by **April 28, 2023**

Jurisdictions Submitting Data in April			
Alaska	Houston*	Missouri	Puerto Rico
American Samoa	Indiana	Montana	San Antonio*
Arkansas	Iowa	Nevada	Tennessee
California	Kentucky	New Mexico	Texas*
Connecticut	Louisiana	New York State	Vermont
Delaware	Marshall Islands	North Dakota	Wisconsin
District of Columbia	Maryland	Ohio	
Georgia	Michigan	Oklahoma	
Guam	Mississippi	Philadelphia	

\* Submitting routine vaccination data in aggregate in compliance with the jurisdiction’s citable policies

Let their IIS SME know if they expect delays.

# Update on Data Submission via IZ Gateway IIS-CDC Pilot

Susan Pierce Richards (CDC)

# IIS-CDC for RVDS Pilot Overview

The IIS-CDC use case replaces the Routine Vaccination Data Submission (RVDS) manual upload of routine and flu files via SFTP.

- Leverages established IZ Gateway integration and certificates
- Routes a jurisdiction's routine quarterly and monthly flu files to CDC via the IZ Gateway
- Is an "opt in" feature & requires APHL DUA Task Order signature prior to onboarding to the IZ Gateway IIS-CDC use case



## Pilot Participants

**7 jurisdictions with 4 technology partners are pilot testing data submission.**

- AK, KY, NV, NM – Envision
- NYC – HLN
- LA – STC
- CA – self supported



## Pilot Status

**Technical development is complete.**

### Testing progress:

- 2 vendors testing in developer's test system
- 5 jurisdictions/2 vendors ready for onboarding testing

# IIS-CDC Use Case Timeline

Activity	Date
IZ Gateway IIS-CDC proof of concept development and test with NDLP	Completed January 2023
Pilot Kick-off - complete	Completed January 2023
IZ Gateway Release 1.4 in IZG Onboarding environment	Completed February 23, 2023
Pilot testing in test environments	In progress
IZ Gateway Release 1.4 in IZG Production Environment (for use by pilot jurisdictions)	End of March 2023
Pilot testing in IZG Production environment (submission of test files)	End of March 2023
Pilot sites will submit <b>production routine and flu</b> files to CDC via the IZG	April 2023*
Non-pilot begin onboarding to IIS-CDC – schedule to be determined	May 2023

\*IIS-CDC supports delivery of RVDS files to the NDLP Azure blob and DEX API ("CDC Front Door"). IZG will route files to the NDLP Azure blob until the DEX API obtains their authority to operate at which time the IZG/NDLP/DEX teams will migrate the end point.



# Next Steps

If jurisdictions **have** completed the following activities **and** are interested in onboarding to the IZ Gateway's IIS-to-CDC use case\*, they should contact [IZGateway@cdc.gov](mailto:IZGateway@cdc.gov).

\*Jurisdictions can begin onboarding to the IZ Gateway after the pilot concludes, which we estimate will occur in May 2023.

- ✓ Signed the CDC DUA for routine vaccination data submission
- ✓ Signed the IZG APHL DUA Task Order for IIS-CDC
- ✓ Obtained external client-side security certificate for the IZ Gateway\*\*
  - Note: If a jurisdiction is participating in IIS-to-IIS data exchange via the IZ Gateway, they already have this certificate.
- ✓ Submitted flu and/or routine vaccination data files to CDC via SFTP?

## **\*\*Concurrent jurisdiction activities:**

- Continue to submit routine quarterly and flu files via SFTP until they are connected to the IZ Gateway IIS-to-CDC.
- Continue progress on implementing/reporting PPRL.

# Prioritizing the Future of IZ Gateway through Community Engagement

Susan Pierce Richards (*CDC*)

# IZ Gateway Community Engagements in 2022



## Collection methods:

### IZ Gateway Independent Verification & Validation (IV&V)

- Community partner engagements

### IZ Gateway Operations and Maintenance (O&M) technical team

- Proposed enhancement feedback engagements
- Pilot site engagements
- Help desk requests

### IZ Gateway Operations and Maintenance (O&M) implementation team

- Awardee and technical partner forums
- Onboarding and testing engagements
- IZ Gateway project calls



## Engaged stakeholders:

- CDC staff & tech partners
- External federal partners
- Jurisdiction partners
- IIS technology partners
- Public health, provider, & tech consortia
- Community standards organizations
- Community subject matter experts

# High-Level Findings



**Improve Communication**



**Leverage Modern Architecture & Tools**



**Simplify Connection Process**



**Add Features to Reduce Burden**



**Expand Use Cases**

# Improve Communication



## What we heard

- Resources are hard to find
- Users need more timely system up-/down-time notifications
- Users need better software release messaging



## What we are doing

- Standardized communications for outages and releases
- Implemented IZ Gateway help desk status page
- Providing key messaging in branch communications channels
- Updating All-Awardee and Tech Partners SharePoint folders
- Providing recurring technology support calls

# Leverage Modern Architecture & Tools



## What we heard

- Users need a modernized platform architecture
- APIs should be exposed to developers
- CDC's IZ Gateway team should offer central services and leverage emerging tools (e.g., Bulk FHIR)

## What we are doing

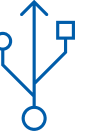
### **Building on CDC's data exchange capabilities that are part of the DMI and in alignment with the NSA**

- IZ Gateway 1.3 released key infrastructure to enable a modern, containerized, microservices architecture to support current and future data modernization needs
- Using IZ Gateway as the first system to connect IIS to CDC's Front Door (DEX API)

### **Planned / Exploring**

- Seeking to identify and/or develop central services that will accelerate IZ Gateway connections and reduce IIS and provider burden
- Exploring how IZ Gateway can utilize new tools like Bulk FHIR

# Simplify Connection Process



## What we heard

- Onboarding process has improved, but is still too resource-intensive
- Need to increase multi-state provider connections
- Need accessible, low-burden testing tools



## What we are doing

- Implementing simplified legal agreements
- Distributing National IG Companion Guides and policy, functional, and technical readiness checklists
- CDC's direct vendor support contracts
- Facilitated connect-a-thon testing for federal partner connections
- Began developing the self-service configuration portal

### Planned / Exploring

- AIRA-facilitated IIS-to-IIS connection process analysis
- Further expansion of national provider connections (e.g., DoD, EDN, etc.)
- Additional testing tools for jurisdictions, providers, and vendors

# Add Features to Reduce Burden



## What we heard

- Need single-sign-on
- Make IZ Gateway connection status more visible
- Jurisdictions and providers need more configuration and testing tools
- Automate security certificate renewal
- Retain option to use IZ Gateway as “route only”



## What we are doing

- Developing self-service configuration portal
- Developing single-sign-on functionality
- Ensuring new use cases/services will be “opt-in” and IZ Gateway’s “route only” functionality will remain as an option

### Planned / Exploring

- “Ping testing” capability for connected partners
- Automated security certificate renewal



# Expand Use Cases



## What we heard

### IIS-to-CDC

- Only if it simplifies reporting
- Must support more file types

### Multi-jurisdiction Query

- Should fill gaps in data needs
- Requirements are complex



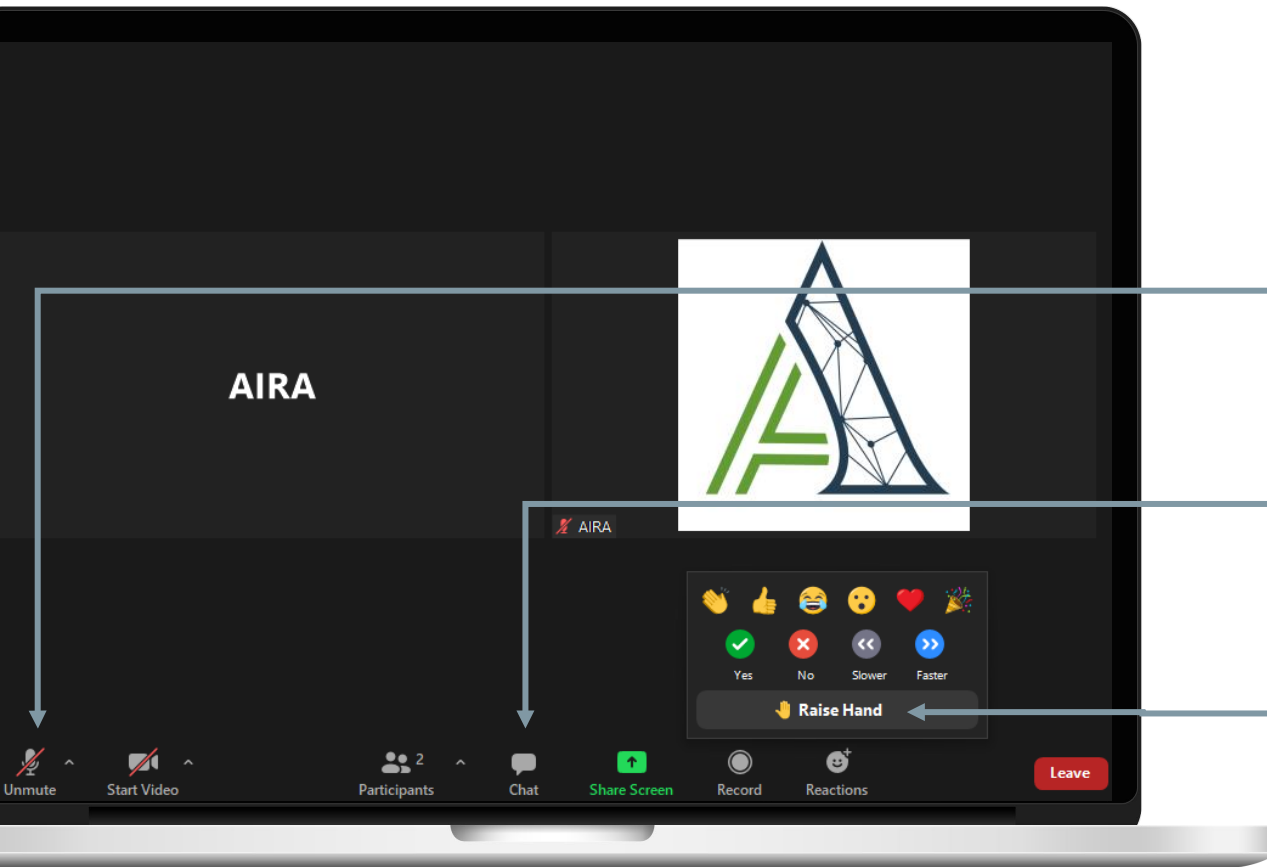
## What we are doing

- IIS-to-CDC for routine vaccine data submission is in pilot testing

### Planned / Exploring

- Multi-jurisdiction query will restart later in 2023

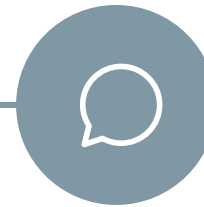
# Question & Answer



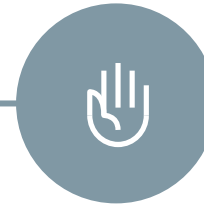
## How do I ask a question?



Select the unmute icon and ask your question verbally.



Select the chat icon and type your question into the chat box.




Select the reactions icon, select "Raise Hand," and you will be called on.



Watch for Discovery Session announcements and registration links in the AIRA Weekly Update!





# Thank you to our presenters, and thanks to all of you for joining us!

Please complete a brief evaluation survey.

The next Discovery Session  
will be on April 24, 2023