# NCIPC's Office of Informatics (OI)

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# Presentation Objectives

*This presentation will provide an overview of the creation of NCIPC's OI, public health informatics, and OI's involvement in agency-level initiatives*

**During this presentation, the BSC will gain an understanding of the following topics:**

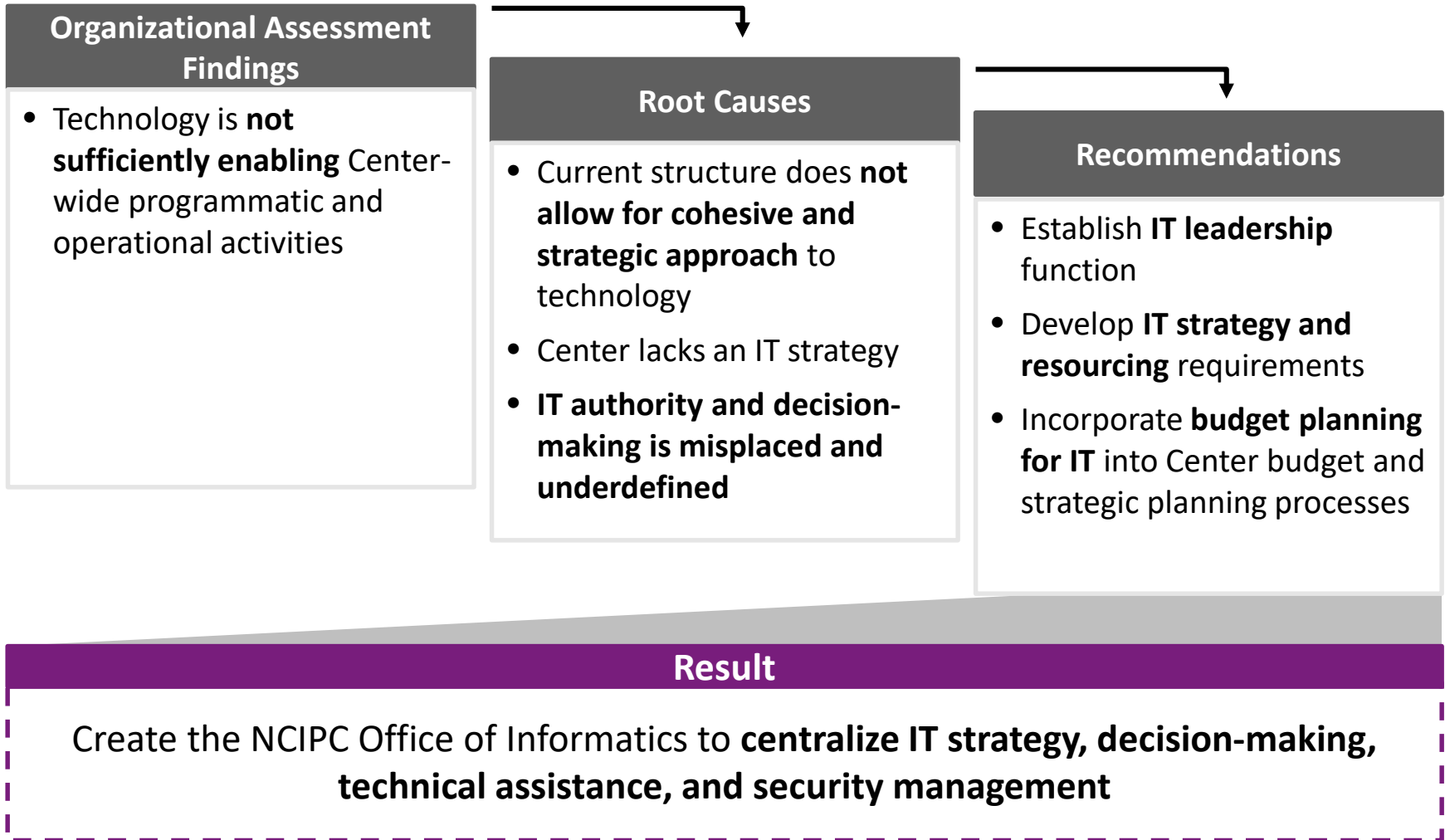The **creation and design** of NCIPC's OI

**Public health informatics** and its importance

OI's **alignment to Agency**-level initiatives

# Organizational Assessment Overview

*The 2018 NCIPC Organizational Assessment identified a need to centralize technological processes and strategy across the Center, which led to the creation of the Office of Informatics*

## Organizational Assessment Findings

- Technology is **not sufficiently enabling** Center-wide programmatic and operational activities

## Root Causes

- Current structure does **not allow for cohesive and strategic approach** to technology
- Center lacks an IT strategy
- **IT authority and decision-making is misplaced and underdefined**

## Recommendations

- Establish **IT leadership** function
- Develop **IT strategy and resourcing** requirements
- Incorporate **budget planning for IT** into Center budget and strategic planning processes

## Result

Create the NCIPC Office of Informatics to **centralize IT strategy, decision-making, technical assistance, and security management**

# Public Health Informatics

*As one of the five core sciences of public health, informatics broadens knowledge through learning, improves population health in daily practice, and furthers public health research*



**What is Informatics?**

The systematic application of information, computer science, and technology to public health practice, research, and learning (CDC, 2014)

**What is the value of an Informatics Office?**

Establishing a mature informatics office sets organizations up to provide services and consultation that help increase efficiency, accelerate work, and inform decision-making for information technology (IT) resources

*CDC (2014) Public Health 101 Series: Public Health Informatics, https://www.cdc.gov/publichealth101/informatics.html.*

# NCIPC OI Mission & Functions

*Based on the importance and interconnectedness of informatics in NCIPC's daily work, the Center designed OI to collaborate with programs to effectively accomplish their goals*

## Mission Statement

The NCIPC Office of Informatics provides **informatics resources governance, leadership, and consultation** offering innovative technical and business solutions to enable effective data-driven decision-making across the Center.

## Functions

### Strategic Guidance

Provides support related to **strategic decision-making** for IT governance, enterprise representation, and communications

### Technical Guidance

Provides **consultation related to technical assistance** (e.g., resources, training, maintenance of OI-developed products and systems)

### Operational Management

Provides guidance associated with **managing compliance, privacy, security, and contracts**

# OI Alignment to Agency Initiatives

*OI is aligned to two major agency-level initiatives: Information Technology and Data Governance (ITDG) and the Public Health Data Modernization Initiative (PHDMI)*

## What is the ITDG?

The CDC IT and Data Governance (ITDG) is a **new governance approach and structure** that will **support enterprise-wide accountability for IT and data investments**

## What is the PHDMI?

The CDC Public Health Data Modernization Initiative (PHDMI) is a strategic imperative bringing together **technology, partnerships**, and a deep bench of **scientific expertise to harness the lifesaving power of data**

## OI Alignment

OI **develops governance processes** in accordance with ITDG and PHDMI policies

OI **leadership serves** on the ITDG and PDHMI

OI supports ITDG and PHDMI initiatives by **reinforcing objectives at the local level**

# OI Priorities

*Over the next six months, OI will prioritize the following activities:*

**Governance**

- Develop **Center-wide IT contract mechanism** to reduce duplicative efforts and overhead costs
- **Facilitate Information Resources Governance Board environment** to encourage Center-wide IT and data collaboration
- **Operationalize new SOPs** to improve efficiency of operations and processes

**OI Infrastructure**

- **Manage SharePoint migration and remediation** to comply with HHS policies
- **Conduct systems inventory** for the Center to identify redundancies

**Workforce Training**

- **Develop training recommendations** for the OI and Center to increase the tech-savviness of NCIPC staff