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**
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.

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 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.
O I Priorities

Over the next six months, O I 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