NMSIIS history, and getting you up-to-date

By Rocky Lira
New Mexico Department of Health

On November 10, 2003, the Statewide Immunization Information System (SIIS) Steering Committee selected the Wisconsin Registry as the system to be implemented for New Mexico. This decision completed work and discussions that had been ongoing for several years. The selection of this public domain software solution places New Mexico on a path that has been followed by at least six other states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Georgia, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Maine, and Connecticut).

On November 21, 2003, several key staff from the Human Services Department (HSD), the Department of Health (DOH), and a representative of the State CIO met to begin initial implementation planning discussions. The discussion was framed within the context that the project would be divided into several areas of effort that would be executed in parallel, rather than as one single linear set of tasks. This recognizes that the implementation of the SIIS occurs through a collaboration of various stakeholders.

- **Systems/Software Implementation** One major effort, which HSD leads, is the actual implementation of the system software. This effort began with the acquisition of the software from the State of Wisconsin and includes current efforts to manage a contractor to implement and customize the software to meet the needs of the New Mexico. The system is named NMSIIS. As NMSIIS is rolled out to DOH Health Offices and the provider community, HSD in collaboration with DOH will provide the NMSIIS user community with a technical support mechanism for problem reporting and resolution. The DOH will serve as the first line of contact.

- **Data Preparation and Conversion** This major effort, which DOH leads, is equally vital to the successful implementation of the NMSIIS. It involves clean-up and conversion of 10-year’s historical immunization information to populate the new NMSIIS database. A significant effort is the identification of duplicate records, resolution of the duplicate records, merging duplicate records, and separating those records out that are un-resolvable duplicates. The sources of immunization information are the DOH Public Health Office system (INPHORM), Vital Records data, Medicaid data, and scanned Part-B forms provided by the Vaccines for Children (VFC) medical care provider community.

From the start, the NMSIIS database will be robust and will contain Medicaid historical data, scanned Part-B
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GlaxoSmithKline Vaccines
Greater Albuquerque Immunization Network (GAIN)
Indian Health Service
La Clinica de Familia Medical Center
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Voices for Children
Wyeth Vaccines

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forms from private providers, Vital Records historical data including Hep-B immunization data, and DOH Immunization data reflecting approximately 80% to 90% of the immunizations in the state.

• Outreach and Training Efforts A third component of the implementation effort, which DOH leads, is to coordinate the participation of the Medical Care Provider community and other users of the system. This effort is greatly leveraged with participants from the New Mexico Immunization Coalition and their respective constituents, as well as, schools, health plans, user groups, and parents. Participants from the provider community will be trained on how to use NMSIIS by experienced consultants and DOH Health Educator staff members. The training is organized into one to two-hour periods depending on anticipated registry usage.

The DOH contractor, STC, is currently planning numerous training sessions for this summer. The first round of training sessions will be held around the state over the next six months. To find out about training opportunities in your area, or to sign up for a training session, please contact Sonya Andron at 827-2415.

For more information, please consult the NMSIIS website: http://www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/nmsiis.html
NMIC minigrants wrap-up

By Maggie June
NMIC staff member

We’ve had some exciting minigrant projects this go-round, with proposals outlining innovative ways to increase immunization rates and awareness in local areas. Here’s a brief description of a few of the projects that were funded:

A “Happy Birthday Baby” project was developed by La Clinica de Familia Community Health Center. This is their second year of this project. At each “well child” visit, the baby’s photo is taken at and placed in a book. Moms love to see this book, which shows the baby at various stages of development. La Clinica’s minigrant covered the cost of photo paper and ink cartridges.

Quay County Maternal Child and Community Health Council has had success by broadcasting public service announcements on their local radio station reminding parents about the importance of timely immunizations. Part of this campaign, funded by Altrusa International of Tucumcari, provides for monthly drawings for dinner for two and $10 gift cards for babies who get immunized by 3 months of age. They’ve seen their immunization rates rise and attribute the increase to this media campaign.

Colfax County Health Council in Raton came up with the “Smart Start Bags” project where canvas bags filled with educational materials—including the importance of on-time immunizations—are given to all new mothers at Miners Colfax Medical Center.

The “Immunize our Kids” project was created by Sierra County Immunization Coalition and it focuses on providing a bilingual book or coloring books/crayon set to each child when they receive their immunizations.

Minigrant funding was also awarded to partially fund bigger projects. Doña Ana County Immunization Coalition used minigrant funding to partially pay for printing costs of their “resource guide” which details immunization provider resources in their county. Also, we partially funded the annual Wylder Lectures, hosted by The New Mexico Pediatric Society, which focuses on the needs of pediatricians and allied health professionals.

This is just a sample of the minigrant projects that are going on this year. If these ideas pique your interest, consider submitting an application this year. Our next minigrant application process will begin soon and all local coalitions/special immunization projects are welcome to apply. NMIC will be sending out new minigrant application materials in July.

“Whip the Whoop” campaign

NMIC is starting to rollout its campaign to Whip the Whoop. Phase I of the campaign aims to raise awareness among providers of the new recommendation for use of Tdap in adolescents and adults.

We will be distributing brochures and working to get the information out so that we can all help the fight against pertussis and “Whip the Whoop”. Check this space for updates.

SHOT BRIEFS

Mumps: Updated ACIP recommendations
May 17, 2006

Acceptable presumptive evidence of immunity to mumps

- Documentation of adequate vaccination is now two doses of live mumps virus vaccine instead of one dose for school-aged children, grades K-12; and adults at high risk (i.e. persons who work in health-care facilities, international travelers, and students at post-high school educational institutions).

Routine vaccination for healthcare workers

- Persons born during or after 1957 without other evidence of immunity: 2 doses of live mumps virus vaccine.

- Persons born before 1957 without other evidence of immunity: consider recommending 1 dose of a live mumps virus vaccine.

For outbreak settings

- Children aged 1-4 years and adults at low risk: if affected by the outbreak, consider a second dose* of live mumps virus vaccine.

- Health-care workers born before 1957 without other evidence of immunity: strongly consider recommending 2 doses of live mumps virus vaccine.

* Minimum interval between doses = 28 days.

Taken from MMWR June 1, 2006 / 55(Early Release); 1-2
**Calendar of upcoming events**

**June**

- 6/17, Juneteenth celebration

**July**

- 7/18, Shots for Tots to Teens kickoff mtg. in Las Cruces
- 7/27, NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30
- 7/28, Shots for Tots to Teens kickoff mtg. in Roswell
- 7/31, Shots for Tots to Teens kickoff mtg. in Albuquerque

**August**

- 8/1, Shots for Tots to Teens kickoff mtg. in Santa Fe
- 8/9-11 National Conference of Immunization Coalitions, Denver
- 8/12, Shots for Tots to Teens event
- 8/25, NMIC meeting, 11 am - 3 pm, Marriott Pyramid North, Abq.

**September**

- 9/21, NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30

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Representatives from Rehoboth McKinley Christian Health Center College Clinic receive their award, being given to them by New Mexico Secretary of Health Michelle Lujan Grisham (middle), for achieving an immunization rate over 90%.

**NM Immunization Coalition News** is published quarterly. Please contact Maggie June at 505-272-3032 or via email at mjune@salud.unm.edu if you have any questions or have an item to submit for the newsletter.