



PHIX NETWORK
El Paso's Health Information Exchange

2019
Annual Report

Message from our Board Chair

In 2019, we grew our network exchange through the use of new partnerships, grants, and internal infrastructure advancements. From this we are able to celebrate the growth of our community partners and the achievements we have accomplished together.

The following partners are now exchanging data:

- ◇ The Hospitals of Providence
- ◇ University Medical Center of El Paso
- ◇ El Paso Children's Hospital
- ◇ Veterans Administration
- ◇ Department of Defense
- ◇ Emergence Health Network
- ◇ Centro San Vicente
- ◇ Project Vida
- ◇ Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe
- ◇ Sun City Pediatrics

We are immensely proud of our connection with Project Vida, Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe, and Centro San Vicente as well as the addition of Sun City Pediatrics. The addition of these partners marks a new chapter within our HIE related to the fact that their connections were established through PHIX and with PHIX employees in an effort to reduce cost and allow for smaller practices to have the option and ability to join. It is through these connections that PHIX will continue to grow not only into exchanges with larger facilities, but smaller community clinics and health centers as well.

We look forward to continuing to grow our data exchange network in 2020. This year we have already started the process of integrating the following organizations into the health information exchange:

- ◇ Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
- ◇ Department of Public Health
- ◇ El Paso Pulmonology
- ◇ Sunset ID
- ◇ Salud y Vida
- ◇ Jorge Ortiz MD PA
- ◇ West Wind Pediatrics
- ◇ Trinity Gastroenterology
- ◇ Appriss (State PMP)

Our community is benefitting in many ways from these data exchange collaborations within our Emergency Departments as they use PHIX resources to direct care. However, this year we grew our data so that select members now share mental health screenings for patients, imaging reports, and some community clinicals now have access to patient records from our partnered hospital facilities. These types of connections not only promote the safety and quality of care for patients in an emergency, but also for increasing the productivity of the healthcare continuum in being efficient and secure.

The success of a health information exchange is shared. Thank you to all of our partners, particularly the physicians, nurses, and IT experts who make this all possible.

Jacob Cintron

2019 Board Chair

PHIX



Who we are

PHIX is a non-profit, regional health information exchange (HIE) with the mission to improve health through collaboration and data technology.

PHIX centralizes health information from different hospitals and providers to create an electronic community health record for each patient. This community health record enables providers and care managers to see the full picture of patient's health history from across the continuum. Patient data shared through the HIE includes:

- Diagnoses and treatment
- Imaging reports
- Lab results
- Discharge summaries and other clinical reports
- Mental health screenings
- Demographics including Insurance information

Users query the HIE to access their patients' integrated clinical records.

Governance

PHIX's Board of Directors is composed of health leaders from across the El Paso region.

2019 Board of Directors



Jacob Cintron
Board Chair
University Medical Center



Frank J. Dominguez
Board Secretary
El Paso Health



Sally Hurt-Deitch
Past Board Chair
The Hospitals of Providence



Kristen Daugherty
Emergence Health Network



Dr. Juan Escobar
El Paso County Medical
Society



Dr. Richard Lange
Texas Tech University
Health Sciences Center
El Paso



Robert Resendes
City of El Paso
Department of Public Health



Allie Lozano
The Hospitals of Providence
Horizon Campus



Tracy Yellen
Paso del Norte Health
Foundation

2019 Highlights

PHIX's Internal Team Onboards New Community Practices

In 2018 PHIX started a technology pilot that involved building an internal technology team who could onboard new physician practices.

Traditionally with vendors, each new connection requires significant upfront costs for both the provider and HIE, as well as significant ongoing costs for providers. This is especially true for small practices. With PHIX's new technology team we were able to develop interfaces locally for a fraction of the cost. In 2019, PHIX offered to create connections with small physician practices for a \$50 set-up fee and reduced rates for larger practices, labs, imaging centers, and more. With this team PHIX onboarded:

- ◆ Project Vida Health Center
- ◆ Emergence Health Network
- ◆ Centro San Vicente
- ◆ Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe
- ◆ Sun City Pediatrics

The team also established an interface with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and is scheduled to go live in January 2020.

PHIX Pilots Notifications for El Paso Health

PHIX is sending El Paso Health daily reports on inpatient and ED encounters for their beneficiaries. PHIX is in the process of expanding notification reports to include outpatient encounters and exploring the expansion of this pilot to additional payers.

PHIX's Executive Director Is Appointed to the THSA Board Of Directors

PHIX's Executive Director, Emily Hartmann, was appointed by Governor Abbott to serve on the Board of Directors of the Texas Health Services Authority (THSA). In this role, Emily provide guidance on the future of health IT and data exchange across the state.

PHIX Receives Grant From The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

PHIX received the Data Across Sectors for Health (DASH) grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) in order to pilot the integration of mental health screening results into the health information exchange. In creating the project PHIX collaborated with the Paso Del Norte Health Foundation and El Paso Behavioral Health Consortium.

PHIX's team then worked with our colleagues at Emergence Health Network and Project Vida to incorporate their depression screening results into our clinical viewer. Our goal was to promote care coordination across primary care and mental health care settings..

Emily Hartmann presented the project outline above at a national RWJF meeting in Baltimore, MD.

PHIX Explored Ways to Support El Paso's Public Health Department

PHIX explored different ways that it could help support public health initiatives. This included automating the reporting of notifiable conditions, management of chronic diseases, and hosting a database management system that would support a survey tool for Epidemiologist to use in tracking outbreaks.

PHIX Receives Grant Funding Through Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center of El Paso From The Cancer Prevention & Re- search Institute of Texas (CPRIT) Grant

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center of El Paso 's CPRIT Grant is funding PHIX's connections with Project Vida, Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe , and Centro San Vicente. Though this collaboration, PHIX also provided an analysis of colorectal cancer screening rates at the federally qualified health centers.

Spotlights: Improving care

El Paso VA.

Melissa Portillo, Administrative Manager

How does PHIX's connection with the VA help Veterans?

PHIX is a great tool to share information back and forth between community providers and the VA. We send a lot of our patients to the community for care, and it helps a lot. Otherwise, we have to have veterans go-in to get their records and handle all of the releases.

Are Veterans participating?

Yes. The El Paso VA is proud to have one of the highest rates of Veteran participation in the nation for health information exchange.

Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe

Cesar Morales, PA-C

How does PHIX help?

I think currently it has helped me the most to track where patients are. For example, it helps me see if my patients were in the hospital and/or it helps me to make sure they made it to the hospital if I referred them there. Also, I see a large value in lab values through PHIX for patient treatment.

Do you think PHIX is efficient?

Its efficient in the matter of the interface access and what is on the screen is easy to utilize.

Can you give us an example of how you recently used PHIX?

I had a patient who I was wondering what the origin of their low blood pressure was and when I logged into PHIX I saw that they had a mildly elevated white blood cell count and that help me to understand that the patient could have been septic or that the origin of low blood pressure was of infectious origin. Because of PHIX I sent the patient to the hospital and the patient was found to be septic after all. **This was a lifesaving referral because of lab values I received through PHIX.**

City of El Paso Department of Public Health

Yvonne Vasquez, Epidemiologist

How does PHIX help?

PHIX helps in facilitating public health investigations. The system is used to access clinical and demographic data needed for public health investigations on notifiable conditions mandated by Texas laws.

Do you think PHIX is efficient?

Yes, it is. PHIX provides us with an efficient mechanism to obtain epidemiological data in a timely manner. Access to PHIX also improves our operational efficiency by avoiding delays in requesting a medical record and eliminating travel time to review medical records. The majority of the case investigations conducted by the local health department are time sensitive and access to PHIX helps obtain data in a timely manner. The system is also very user friendly.

Can you give us an example of how you recently used PHIX?

I recently used PHIX for a pneumococcal investigation I was conducting. I used the system to get quick access to medical records and obtain epidemiological data that helped my case investigation.

Project Vida

Rachel Quintanilla, Chief Behavioral Health Officer,

"The HIE is really what we have been waiting for. It is so helpful in tracking our patients and taking care of them. Adding the depression screening results is going to help with care integration across the community as well. We are so proud and excited to be part of this project."

Financials

Statement of Activities for Year Ended December 31, 2019

	Unrestricted	Total
Revenues		
Membership dues	\$555,200	\$555,200
Service revenue	\$38,841	\$38,841
Grants	\$42,493	\$42,493
Contributions	\$25,005	\$25,005
In-kind contributions	\$156,000	\$156,000
Net investment income	\$1,834	\$1,834
Total revenues, support and gains	\$819,373	\$819,373
Expenses and Losses		
Program	\$617,439	\$617,439
Management and general	\$152,869	\$152,869
Total expenses and losses	\$770,308	\$770,308
Change in net assets	(\$49,065)	(\$49,065)
Net assets, beginning of year	\$859,712	\$859,712
Net assets, end of year	\$908,777	\$908,777

Financials

Statement of Financial Position Ended December 31, 2019

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash	\$440,733
Receivables	\$3,247
Prepaid expense	\$82,867
Total current assets	\$526,847

Fixed assets, net	\$14,924
Licensed software	\$440,000
Total assets	\$981,771

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities

Accounts payable	\$42,951
Accrued payroll, vacation, and taxes	\$30,043
Total current liabilities	\$72,994

Net Assets

Without donor restrictions	\$908,777
Total net assets	\$908,777

Total liabilities and net assets	\$981,771
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