



MEDIA ALERT

Department of Human Services' Medicaid Division Launches Digital Security Environmental Scan as Major Step toward the Health Information Exchange

For Immediate Release: November 17, 2021

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS: *All healthcare providers invited to attend, "Creating Connections: USVI HIE Event for Medical Providers and Healthcare Leaders" on Friday November 19, 2021.*

St. Thomas, USVI – The [U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Human Services \(VIDHS\)](#) Medicaid Program in coordination with the Office of Health Information Technology (HIE), housed in the [Office of the Governor](#)

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_eDZZluzQSseJUSCuYYtMcg.

The Creating Connections event will focus on the Environmental Scan process as a foundational USVI HIE initiative. This event is intended to bring together members of the medical provider community to:

- Gain critical information regarding on-going health information technology projects
- Meet key leaders championing these projects from the Virgin Islands Department of Human Services' Medicaid Program office and Office of the Governor
- Provide details and answer questions on the scan, the surveys and the results and plan that will follow

Seating is limited, with food and beverages included. The event will also be livestreamed so that providers across the territory who want to participate in real-time but can't get to the venue still can attend. LINK TO LIVESTREAM: To join the livestream, you must pre-register at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_eDZZluzQSseJUSCuYYtMcg.

To RSVP for the in-person event or learn more, please get in touch with islandanalytics.vi@gmail.com. A recording of the event will also be made available for those unable to attend.

The Environmental Scan is a foundational step in the development of any HIE and for Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS') HIE Certification. It provides a clear understanding of the gaps, needs, and areas of vulnerable connections in the USVI healthcare system (physicians, offices, clinics, hospitals, relevant government agencies). VIDHS has contracted with CommunityHealth IT (CommHIT) to conduct the first-ever HIE Digital Security Environmental Scan (Environmental Scan) of USVI health-related entities to inform the development of the HIE.

Commissioner Kimberley Causey-Gomez stated, "We truly believe that a collaborative systems approach to healthcare in the Virgin Islands is crucial to serving the diverse needs of our community. Our most vulnerable rely on us to provide a voice for them. We are thankful to the Bryan/Roach Administration for their vision and outstanding support, as well as our public and private sector."

The Virgin Islands Department of Human Services (VIDHS) exists to provide social services to members in our community with diverse needs. In times of national uncertainty and hardship we act as a safety-net and exist to inspire hope and empower change through non-judgmental, quality delivery of needed services and resources. Please visit the Department of Human Services website, www.dhs.gov.vi for more information.

For more information on COVID-19, please visit covid19usvi.com, or text COVID19USVI to 888777. To report a suspected COVID-19 case, call (340) 712-6299 or (340) 776-1519.

he Bryan-Roach Administration is investing in the Territory's people, infrastructure, and future through transparency, stabilizing the economy, restoring trust in the government, and ensuring that recovery projects are completed as quickly as possible. Visit transparency.vi.gov.

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