

Projects in Alert – July–September 2016

Education, Kansas Department of – KN-CLAIM System Replacement – Suzie Sebring

- Why is the project in Alert? In other words, what is the root cause that is causing the problem?
There are several factors we believe are responsible for the KN-CLAIM project being in Alert status. The initial development estimates provided by the vendor have proven to be overly optimistic when considered with respect to the resources originally assigned to the project by the Service Provider, Dynamic Internet Solutions (DIS). KSDE's extensive testing model is another contributing factor of project delays. Each deliverable is tested first by a KSDE IT staff person who logs any issues found in the RTM. All issues must be resolved by DIS and approved by the KSDE IT staff person before the deliverable is moved on to KSDE program testing. For KSDE program testing, each deliverable is tested by a subject matter expert who logs any issues identified in the RTM. All issues must be resolved by DIS and approved by the subject matter expert before moving forward. Final approval for deliverables comes after the deliverable is approved by IT, Program and Leadership at KSDE. This has caused delays as issues as small as spelling errors are sent back to DIS for correction prior to acceptance. The original project plan did not accurately account for the extensive testing conducted by KSDE.
- What is being done to correct it, and when do you estimate to have the root cause resolved?
There are currently only two companies that service Child Nutrition Programs across the country. Of the two companies, one operates a COTS system that cannot be uniquely tailored to each state's needs and the code is owned by the vendor. DIS is the only company with this Child Nutrition program-specific knowledge that services Child Nutrition Programs that allows for states to uniquely tailor applications to their specific needs and for state ownership of the code once completed. This requirement is important for KSDE as we will manage and maintain the application internally once the project is complete, allowing local control and the ability to modify and enhance the application as State and Federal requirements require. This will ultimately be a more cost-effective solution for Kansas.

KSDE continues to have weekly status calls with DIS, and the IT Project Director and DIS Project Director visit at least twice weekly regarding the status of the project to help ensure that KSDE's project remains the priority at DIS.

KSDE Child Nutrition & Wellness Director met with DIS in person at the Child Nutrition Access & Accountability through Technology (CNAAT) National Training in September and reiterated the importance of completing the project in a timely manner. The vendor has been made aware that funds for this project will be non-existent at the conclusion of the grant period and work must be completed in order to receive payment.

This project is being funded with federal funds, the majority of which were awarded as part of an ART II Grant. KSDE recently submitted a no-cost extension request to extend the 3-year grant for an additional year, to September 30, 2017. This request was approved in September 2016 by the USDA. (See attached.) The current December 2016 completion date is unrealistic, and the project is being extended until June 30, 2017. This will ensure that there is sufficient time for the system to go live, KSDE can ensure that the system is functioning appropriately prior to payment and that these funds can be expended before the end of the grant in September 2017.

- Is there anything you need from the JCIT that would assist you in resolving the root cause?
The relationship with KSDE and the vendor continues to be positive. The vendor deliverables are quality once delivered. We do not believe we need any assistance at this time.

KDHE – KEES IV –

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The project vendor, Accenture, is still working to resolve defects identified during system test and Pilot activities which threaten to push the system implementation dates further out.
- What is being done to correct it, and when do you estimate to have the root cause resolved?
KEES Project State and Accenture leadership are analyzing the identified defects and working to determine the impact to the latest Accenture project schedule. Once these impacts are determined the most current Accenture plan will be revised and a recast accounting for remaining project activity will be submitted to the E-CITO in January. This recast will include an April 2017 Go Live date for the system.
- Is there anything you need from the JCIT that would assist you in resolving the root cause?
Not at this time.

Kansas Criminal Justice Information System (KCJIS) – Kansas eCitation II – Gordon Lansford

- Why is the project in Alert? In other words, what is the root cause that is causing the problem?
THIS PROJECT IS DEPENDENT ON THE PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WITH NO FUNDING FROM THE STATE; IT IS ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS. We now have commitments from a sufficient number of local law enforcement agencies to meet our original project goals.
- What is being done to correct it, and when do you estimate to have the root cause resolved?
WE HAVE PERSONALLY CONTACTED EACH LOCAL AGENCY TO DISCUSS THE BENEFITS OF IMPLEMENTING THIS SYSTEM, AND GAINED THEIR AGREEMENT. We will now move into the testing phase with the identified local law enforcement agencies committed to being our "early adopters".
- Is there anything you need from the JCIT that would assist you in resolving the root cause? *NO*