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NEICE Wins Best of NIEM Award!

The [National Electronic Interstate Compact Enterprise \(NEICE\)](#) was recently awarded a [2021 Best of NIEM Award](#) for *Best Implementation of NIEM*, for its use of National Information Exchange Model Standards to translate data moving between participating states for the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children. Forty-three (43) states (including the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands) are currently using NEICE to exchange child placement information across the NEICE platform. The Best of NIEM awards showcase exceptional examples of NIEM's implementation across federal, international, state, local, tribal, territorial, and private sectors.

NEICE is an electronic system for transferring data and documents across state lines quickly and securely in support of interstate placements of children as governed by the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC). NEICE was developed by the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (AAICPC) and the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA), as secretariat for the AAICPC, through a cooperative agreement from the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children & Families, US Department of Health and Human Services. The technical vendor responsible for implementing NEICE utilizing the NIEM protocols is Tetrus Corporation, which has supported NEICE since its inception.

Acting Assistant Secretary JooYeun Chang of the Administration for Children & Families shares, "HHS has proudly supported NEICE as it evolved from a small pilot to a national data and documents exchange. NEICE helps move children across state lines more quickly and safely for foster care, adoption, and other placements. By using NIEM standards, NEICE has built a national data model that can further data interoperability across systems so we can better serve our children and families."

Associate Commissioner Aysha E. Schomburg, the Children's Bureau, Administration of Children & Families, HHS added her congratulations. "Since 2013, we have supported the NEICE project and the states in their efforts to modernize the ICPC process by using data standards to connect across state borders. The team has overcome significant technology, policy and security challenges to implement an interoperable solution that facilitates faster processing while ensuring children are placed safely."

The American Public Human Services Association advances the well-being of all people by influencing modern approaches to sound policy, building the capacity of public agencies to enable healthy families and communities, and connecting leaders to accelerate learning and generate practical solutions together.

INFLUENCE. BUILD. CONNECT.

“When a child needs a safe, stable home, whether for foster care, adoption or otherwise, sometimes the best option is across state lines,” says Tracy Wareing Evans, CEO, APHSA. “For too long, child welfare staff have had to manually process and mail piles of paperwork to assess a potential placement in another state. By using NIEM standards to translate the data between jurisdictions via NEICE, we have overcome decades of outdated processes, and dramatically sped up the time for children to be in the best place for them to grow and thrive.”

“NEICE has truly brought the nation closer together,” adds AAICPC President Mical Peterson, of Minnesota. “This innovative and exceptional technology, undergirded by the NIEM infrastructure, provided child welfare workers a nearly seamless transition to working from home during the current pandemic and offers a consistent yet agile piece of technology which has a positive impact on children and families!”

To learn more about NEICE, please visit www.aphsa.org/NEICE

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About the National Information Exchange Model

The National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) provides a model framework with rules and guidance designed to develop consistent, well-defined, enterprise level information exchanges. NIEM successfully supports communities of interest with a shared need to exchange data within federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial agencies, internationally, and in the private sector.

To learn more about NIEM please visit www.niem.gov

About the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children

The Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) establishes uniform legal and administrative procedures governing the interstate placement of children and is statutory law in all fifty-two member jurisdictions and a binding contract between member jurisdictions. Established in 1974, the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (AAICPC) was given the authority to carry out the rules and terms of the Compact more effectively.

To learn more about AAICPC, please visit www.aphsa.org/AAICPC/default.aspx

About the American Public Human Services Association

The American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) is a bipartisan national membership association representing state and local health and human services agencies and the subject matter experts that help execute their mission to improve outcomes for people nationwide. Building on long-standing relationships with health and human services leaders, APHSA focuses on generating pragmatic solutions that advance the well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

To learn more about APHSA, please visit www.aphsa.org