

Allegheny HealthChoices Automates Integration Delivery



Customer

Allegheny HealthChoices, Inc.
(AHCI)

Industry

Healthcare

Challenge

Automate integration of large amounts of EDI files at scale

Solution

Actian DataConnect automated the transformation of files and load data to DataWarehouse at scale

Benefits

Freed up to 5 developers working full-time on EDI jobs per day to work on more strategic and innovative projects

Non-profit behavioral health services agency leverages Actian DataConnect to streamline and automate data integration delivery to improve data-informed patient experiences

"We receive a large number of files (over 100 each day) from multiple customers that we need to process fast, and we wanted to automate the whole process. We found that DataConnect was easy to use, processed the files quickly and we were able to automate the file processing. This allowed us to transform the data and load it into our own data warehouse seamlessly."

*- Jody P. Wright, Manager of Applications and Data Systems,
Allegheny HealthChoices, Inc.*

Profile

Allegheny HealthChoices, Inc. (AHCI) was formed in 1999 by Allegheny County, PA to monitor the transition of Medicaid-funded behavioral health services to a managed care environment. Over time, AHCI's role has evolved from one of monitoring and oversight to that of a partner and consultant in system planning and evaluation, project management, data management and analysis and recovery. Today, they work with other agencies and organizations to ensure that people have ready access to recovery-oriented, high quality behavioral health services, and they help build capacity so that systems are able to respond to change and continuously improve. Allegheny's mission is to assure equitable access to quality, cost-effective behavioral healthcare that promotes positive clinical outcomes, recovery and resiliency.

Their team of experienced professionals use data and analytics and clinical expertise to evaluate and improve outcomes in behavioral health services. They work with county governments, managed care organizations, providers, service users and other stakeholders to look at challenges from every angle and consider all solutions.

Challenge

Behavioral health data is incredibly sensitive, and Allegheny County wanted a third-party nonprofit to oversee, monitor and handle the flow of Medicaid data between stakeholders. To facilitate this request, AHCI needed a data infrastructure that would allow them to ingest large amounts of EDI files at scale, including claims and program data, transform the files to be filtered into their data warehouse and then syndicated or distributed to various downstream insurance companies or government agencies. They receive a large amount of files – over 100 each day – from multiple customers that need to be processed, and wanted to create an automated procedure.

Solution

Actian DataConnect has been at the core of running AHCI's day-to-day business operations since its inception. Actian DataConnect automates and streamlines the whole process by allowing AHCI to collect and transform the large number of EDI files at scale and load them quickly into their data warehouse, thus making it available for distribution to downstream stakeholders. DataConnect helps eliminate the enormous labor costs that this would entail if it were to be done manually. Additionally, it streamlines AHCI's process and allows them to be more innovative and deliver better patient experiences.

Future plans

They provide consultation and training to assist providers with the implementation of clinically sound, evidence-based practices. They also provide public education to build awareness of behavioral health as an illness from which people can and do recover, so that people can

seek treatment without stigma. AHCI hopes to share the Allegheny County model with other behavioral health systems both inside and outside of Pennsylvania. They are also conducting technology consulting and training, and sharing best practices with other participants in the behavioral health space.

Results/Benefits

Early on, AHCI estimated that it would take up to five developers to facilitate their strategic vision. Instead, they made the decision to use Actian DataConnect to automate file transformations to minimize staff resources dedicated to EDI, thus freeing time to focus on more interesting and innovative projects aimed at improving healthcare services. Actian DataConnect is easy to use and processes the files quickly, automating file processing and transformation and doing the job of many tools.



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