DATE: December 8, 2022

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Regina M. Hoffman, MBA, RN
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report for December 8, 2022 Board Meeting

Event Reporting, Data Science & Research

Event Reporting

Please see supplements to the executive director report – Reporting Update to the Board, Workplan to Request and Review Facility Investigations, and Workplan to Evaluate Reporting Practices in Long Term Acute Hospitals.

PA-PSRS

The Authority successfully performed the following PA-PSRS AMOD software upgrade:

- AMOD Release 3.5 was implemented on 10/20/2022 with 13 enhancements and maintenance upgrades. Part of this release included new functionality to allow Acute Care facility users to upload PDF documents and store them as part of the event report.

- AMOD Release 3.6 was implemented on 12/07/2022 with 8 enhancements and maintenance upgrades.

The Authority and Gainwell continue to prioritize and schedule enhancements to PA-PSRS thru 2023.

To continue to improve application security the Authority and Gainwell have been actively working with facilities to sunset the use of Internet Explorer with PA-PSRS. The ability to access PA-PSRS with Internet Explorer was permanently disabled with AMOD Release 3.6 on 12/07/2022.

Data Science & Research

The Data Science & Research Team (DSRT) continues to perform work in accordance with its five core objectives:

1. Review and analyze patient safety and healthcare-associated infection data using accepted scientific methods to identify important trends.
2. Communicate key data insights and actionable recommendations to internal and external stakeholders.
3. Expand upon current literature and knowledge in the healthcare community by performing original research and authoring quality manuscripts for publication in *Patient Safety* and outside journals.
4. Strengthen the quality and reliability of PA-PSRS data.
5. Provide healthcare facilities with valuable feedback and tools they can use to glean new insights from their data.

MedStar Health Research Institute (MHRI)

MHRI completed a data analysis and manuscript regarding duplicate medication order errors. This was published in the September 2022 issue of *Patient Safety*.

High Harm Events

The executive director, director of data science and research, director of outreach and education, analysts, and field staff review all high harm events at each weekly clinical team meeting to identify opportunities for improvement, additional information, or other follow up with facilities.
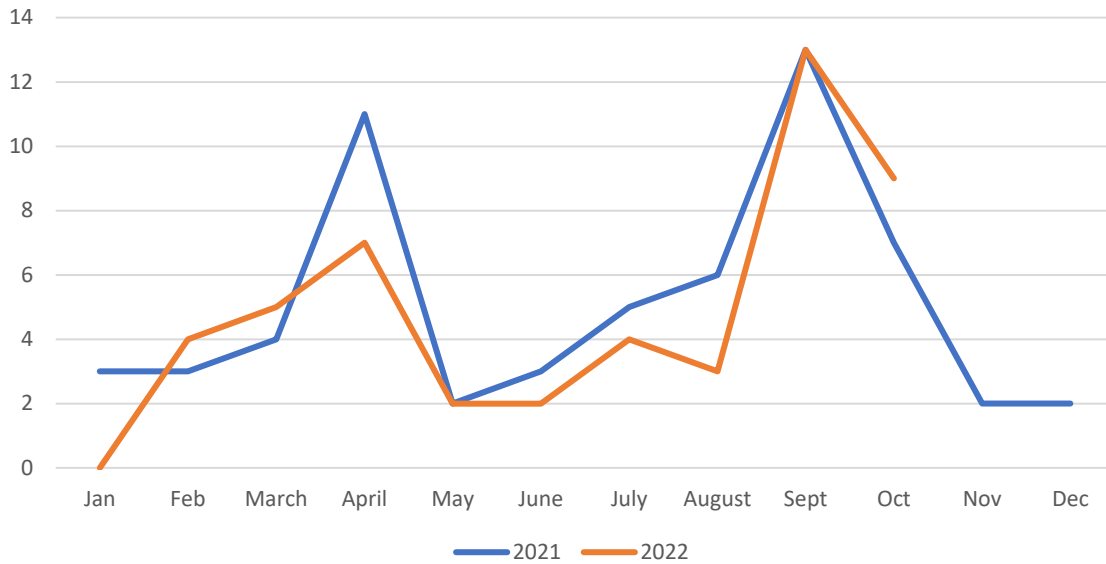
Center of Excellence for Improving Diagnosis

The Center of Excellence and PSL teams are piloting version 1.0 of a comprehensive assessment tool using a consensus building process to measure organizational maturity across key domains of diagnostic excellence in Pennsylvania hospitals. Despite some attrition due to competing priorities and limited resources within facilities, recruitment and engagement efforts continue. As of late November, 20 hospitals have completed their virtual orientation and 8 have completed the first round of assessments.
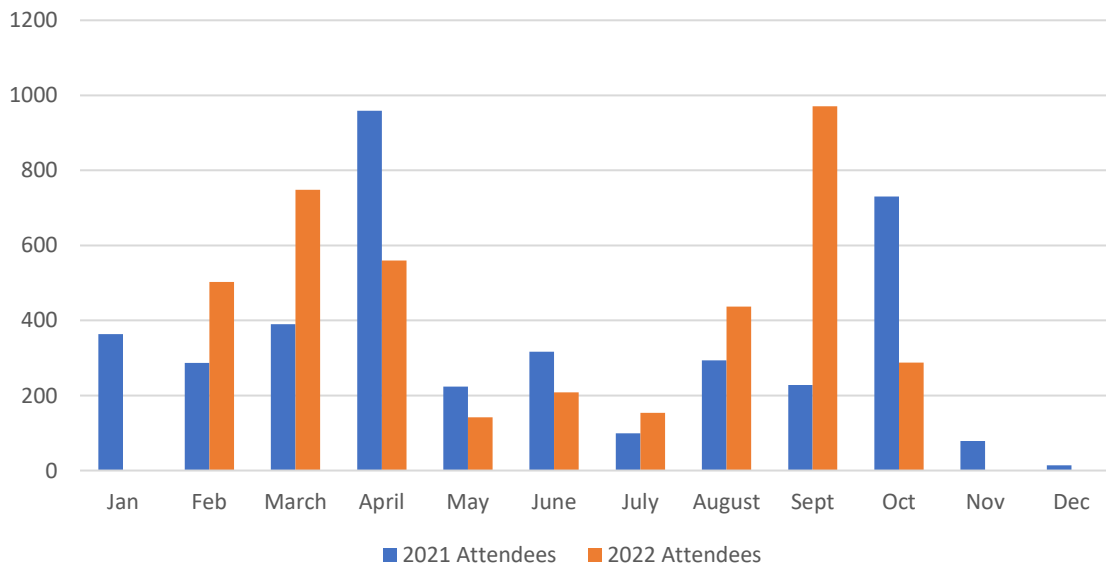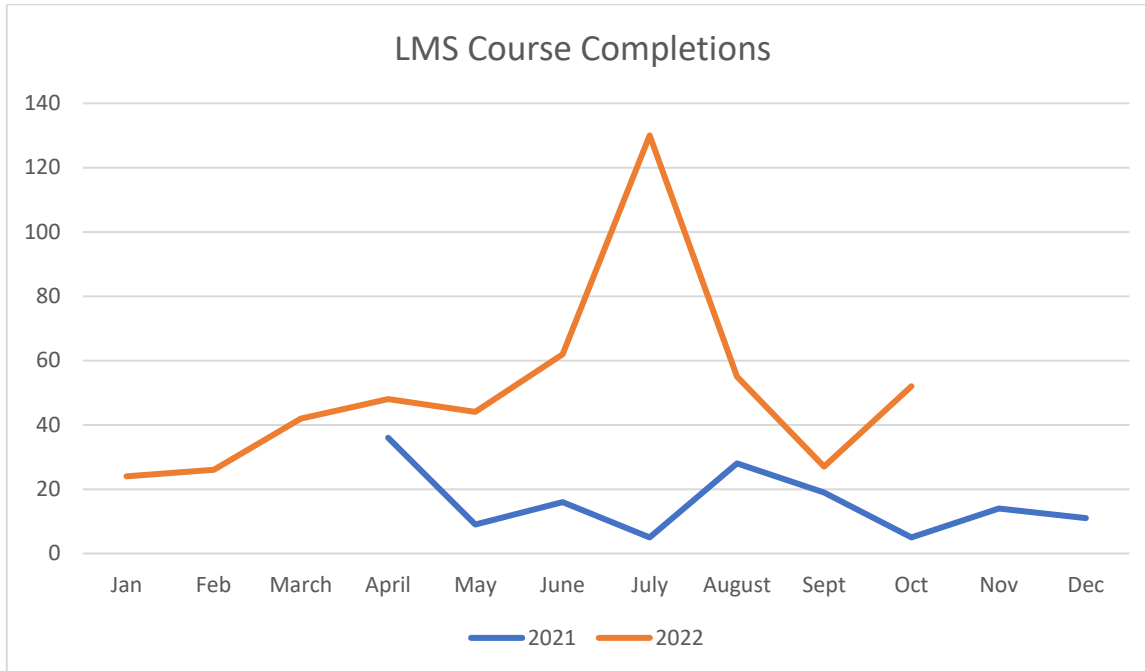
Education and Outreach

Education Programs

Number of Education Events

Number of Attendees at Education Events

LMS

LMS Course Completions

Joint Accreditation

The educational committee is continuing to meet quarterly. The winter meeting is being scheduled.

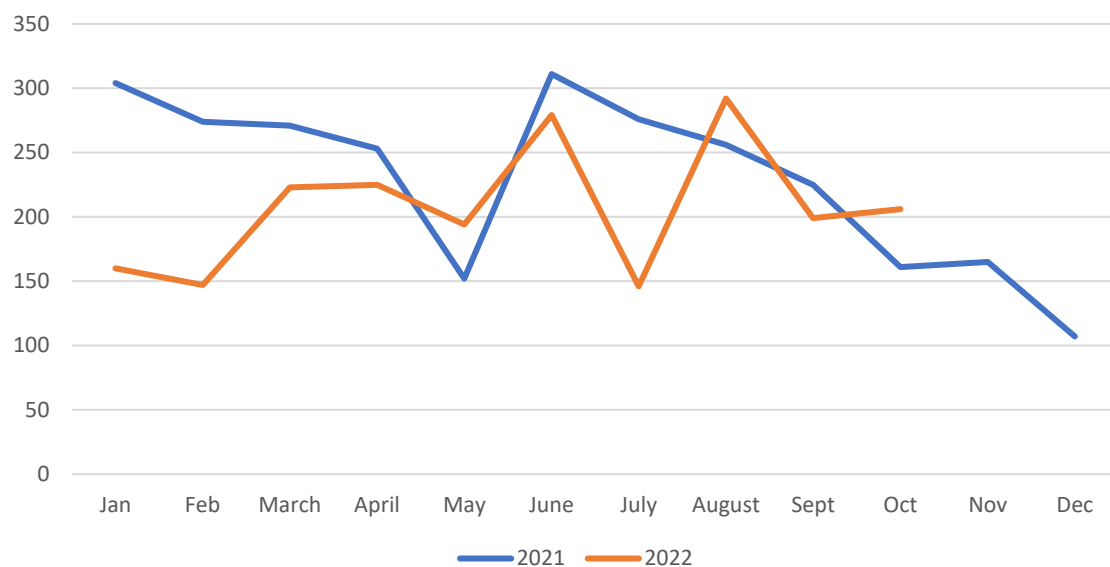*Upcoming Scheduled Educational Offerings*

Upcoming Education Programs		
Date	**Type**	**Title**
12/9	Webinar	DOH MCARE Review
12/13	Webinar	Mitigating Construction Risks in Long-Term Care: A Blueprint for Infection Preventionists
12/14	Webinar	Work Product Protection for Patient Safety information
1/17/23	Webinar	Pharmacists Role in Patient Safety- More than meets the eye
TBD (Jan-April)	Webinar	Thinking Outside of the Box – Reporting webinar series (4 sessions)

Facility Contact and Consultation

In person contacts are being phased in for facilities. Priority given to new PSO orientation and facility requested assistance. Approximately 10% of September contacts were done in person.

Field Staff Contacts

HAI Advisory Panel

Under Act 52 of 2007, the HAI Advisory Panel helps the Authority understand current infection-related issues, risks, and needs from the field. The fall meeting was held on November 1. The next meeting will be held in the spring.

CANDOR

CANDOR Cohort 2, Module 1 (Event Reporting, Investigation, and Analysis) ran from September through December. The last meeting will be held on December 20th. 17 facilities are participating in module 1.

HAI LTC

In response to the process measure survey of LTC facilities, the IP team has developed an educational series and is developing supporting tools related to Emergency Preparedness. This educational series held its final session on November 10th. Supporting tools are in development and will be made available to facilities in 2023.

The LTC HAI Workgroup held a meeting on October 31st.

HAI CAH

IPs have been working directly with the Critical Access Hospitals and the IPs at those facilities. Currently, individualized consultations are being done with each facility to identify risks and opportunities for improvement.

Engagement and Publications

Patient Safety
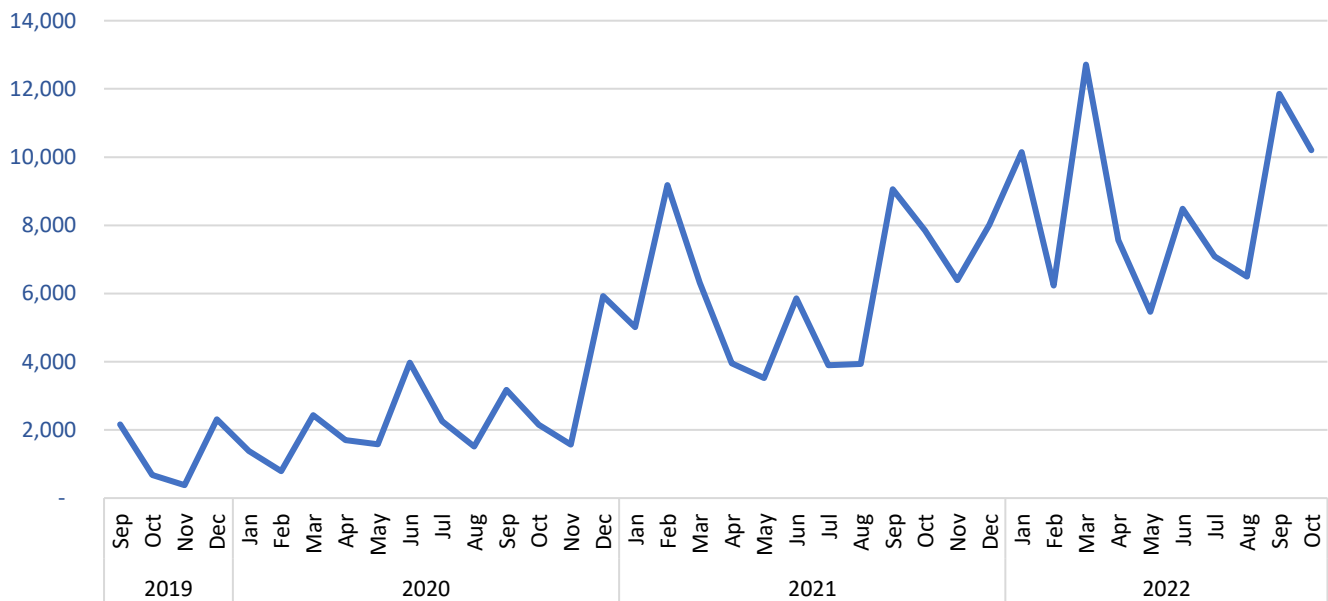Unique visitors to journal website (as of 11/09/22): 72,355
Article views/downloads: 285,241
Countries/Territories: 175 *(an increase from 165 in September, including Cuba, Belize, Guatemala, and Kyrgyzstan)*
States: 50 plus Washington, D.C.

The 14th issue of *Patient Safety* will be published on December 16, 2022.

Patient Safety Readership by Month

Highlights
Patient Safety was recently accepted for indexing in EBSCO, the largest supplier of academic papers to library systems in the world.

PSA's **Caitlyn Allen** and **Eugene Myers**, in partnership with Johns Hopkins' **Olivia Lounsbury**, facilitated a two-part Master Class writing workshop to teach the fundamentals of writing about a quality improvement study. Participants from five Pennsylvanian health systems noted a significant increase in their confidence to draft an academic paper. All five manuscripts are slated for submission to *Patient Safety* within the next few weeks. A follow-up webinar in the spring will provide an overview of how to conduct a QI project.

A redesigned biweekly communication will retire the monthly newsletter and weekly education digest. This reimagination will emphasis event reporting, PSA updates, and upcoming webinars and training.

The Authority in the News

September 1–November 15, 2022

Sept • Vegetarian vs. vegan diets (Cited) • Nursing 2022, Vol. 52, Issue 9 • https://journals.lww.com/nursing/Citation/2022/09000/Vegetarian_vs__vegan_diets.3.aspx

Sept 2 • SIDM Planning Committee (Becky Jones) • SIDM • https://www.sidmconference.com/sidm2022/sidm-planning-committee

Sept 7 • The Nurse's Role in Patient Safety: Reflecting on Our Oath and the Law • Eventbrite • https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-nurses-role-in-patient-safety-reflecting-on-our-oath-and-the-law-tickets-347361195687

Sept 13 • PONL 2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders • https://ponl.net/page-1639174

Sept 15 • The Impact of Electronic Health Record Interoperability on Safety and Quality of Care in High-Income Countries: Systematic Review (Cited) • NIH NLM • https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9523524/

Sept 23 • Patient Safety Essentials for My Nursing Career • UPMC • https://www.wolfflearningacademy.com/patient-safety-essentials-for-mnc/

Oct 2 • What's New in the Patient Safety World October 2022: "How Safe Are Wheelchairs?" • The Truax Group • https://www.patientsafetysolutions.com/

Oct 3 • Patient Safety and Quality Symposium • HAP • https://www.haponline.org/Event-Detail/id/1328

Oct 5 • 2022 Annual Medical Malpractice Seminar: Chris Mamrol • Pennsylvania Association for Justice • https://www.pajustice.org/m/event_details.asp?id=1665933

Oct 13 • Sepsis and the Importance of Early Diagnosis • PENNSYLVANIA PERSONAL INJURY LAW BLOG • https://www.alvindelevie.com/blog1

Oct 14 • Nurses Advancing Medication Safety in Pennsylvania Webinar Series • PA Action Coalition • https://www.paactioncoalition.org/events/item/705-nurses-advancing-medication-safety-in-pennsylvania.html

Oct 17 • Parents PACK Personal Stories – Polio • CHOP • https://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/parents-pack/personal-stories/polio

Oct 19 • Event: Substance Use In Inpatient Care Settings • PASHRM • https://www.pashrm.net/substance-use-in-inpatient-care-settings/

Oct 20 • Dire predictions follow Pa. Supreme Court's loosening of medical malpractice filing rules • Pennsylvania Capital Star • https://www.penncapital-star.com/health-care/dire-predictions-follow-pa-supreme-courts-loosening-of-medical-malpractice-filing-rules/

Oct 31 • University of Pittsburgh Medication Safety Final • Studocu • https://www.studocu.com/en-us/document/university-of-pittsburgh/safe-medication-use-and-pharmaeconomics/medication-safety-final/34809382

Nov 4 • 20 Best Patient Safety Blogs & Websites • FeedSpot • https://blog.feedspot.com/patient_safety_blogs/

Nov 4 • The Joint Commission, Patient Parity, and New Initiatives with Dr. Ana Pujols McKee • American Association for Physician Leadership • https://www.physicianleaders.org/articles/the-joint-commission-patient-parity-new-initiatives-ana-pujols-mckee

Nov 5 • Hospitals Don't Want Patients Who Wet The Bed • Excel Medical • https://www.excel-medical.com/hospitals-dont-want-patients-who-wet-the-bed/

Nov 10 • Event: "Getting to the "root" of the problem: Conducting an RCA • PSL Hub • https://www.pslhub.org/calendar/event/907-getting-to-the-root-of-the-problem-conducting-an-rca/

Nov 11 • Patient Safety Officer - Ephrata Community Hospital • WellSpan Health Careers • https://www.joinwellspan.org/jobs/Patient_Safety_Officer_-_Ephrata_Community_Hospital/Ephrata_Pennsylvania/101/307228/

Nov 15 • The 3-car pile-up of ethics, health care and advertising • Williamsport Sun-Gazette • https://www.sungazette.com/opinion/other-commentaries/2022/10/the-3-car-pile-up-of-ethics-health-care-and-advertising/

Administration

Anonymous Reports and Complaints
September/October/November 2022

Anonymous Reports

No anonymous reports.

Complaints

Four calls were received. Two of the calls were regarding care outside of Pennsylvania and contact information was provided for resources in those states. One caller had a question related to nursing home reporting requirements and no additional assistance was needed. One caller left a voice mail and upon return call the next business day they stated their issues were resolved by speaking with hospital staff, no further assistance required.

Patient Safety Authority Budget and Patient Safety Trust Fund Balance Update

At its September 22, 2022 Board Meeting, the Board approved the Authority's FY22-23 budget totaling $7,700,000, a $200,000 increase of the FY21-22 budget.

Authority's FY21-22 expenditures completed with expenditures totaling approximately $6,933,016, with $4,646,046 in Personnel and $2,286,970 in Operations. The Authority ended FY21-22 with a budget surplus of about $566,984.

On November 18, 2022, the Treasury invested cash balance in the Patient Safety Trust Fund (PSTF) was $10,533,320.37. This balance includes $7,516,032.03 in FY21-22 MCARE Assessment transfers received from the department as of October 6, 2022. The Executive Director is confident the current PSTF balance is adequate to provide for the Authority's cash activities through FY22-23.

The Board plans to discuss and authorize the FY22-23 MCARE Assessments during today's meeting.

FY21-22 MCARE Assessment Authorizations and FY21-22 Maximums

At its December 9, 2022 meeting, the Board authorized MCARE Assessments for FY21-22 totaling $7,500,000, $6,360,000 for Acute Care facilities and $1,140,000 for Nursing Homes. FY21-22 MCARE Assessment levels represented no change from the Board's FY20-21 MCARE Assessment authorizations. Following that Board Meeting, the Assessment amounts were communicated to the Department which calculated acute care and nursing home FY21-22 surcharge rates based on the December 31, 2021 MCARE unit (Act 13 Acute Care) and bed (Act 52 Nursing Home) censuses. The Department sent MCARE surcharge letters and invoices to facilities with a payment due date of June 1, 2022, and both notices were posted in the PA Bulletin. The Department has continued to transfer MCARE Surcharge receipts to the Patient Safety Trust Fund as additional payments clear.

The FY21-22 Acute Care Surcharge rate is $150.74 per unit, a $2.17 reduction from the previous fiscal year's rate.

The FY21-22 Nursing Home Surcharge rate is $13.26 per bed, a 5-cent increase from the previous fiscal year.

The FY22-23 MCARE Assessments will be discussed at the December 8, 2022 Board Meeting.

Pursuant to the MCARE Act of 2002, as amended, Sections 305(d) and 409(b), assessment maximums are to be increased in each succeeding fiscal year according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). At its December 13, 2018 meeting, the Board authorized utilization of the Northeast Medical Care Services (NE Med Care) CPI to calculate changes in annual MCARE Maximum Allowable Assessments (MAA) beginning in FY18-19. From FY15-16 through FY17-18, the Northeast Medical Professional Services (NE Med Prof) CPI was used for the MAA calculation. Prior to FY15-16, the Northeast Regional (NE Urban) CPI was utilized in this calculation.

For FY21-22, the Authority's Act 13 Acute Care MAA is $8,203,696 and the Act 52 Nursing Home MAA is $1,324,445. The total FY21-22 MCARE Assessment MMA is $9,528,141, a underline decrease of 0.56% from FY20-21 based on the 12-month % change (June to June) in the Northeast Medical Care Services CPI.

For FY22-23, Maximum Allowable Assessments (MMA) increased by 5.42% to total MMA of $10,044,360, with an $8,648,159 MMA for Act 13 facilities, and $1,396,201MMA for Act 52 facilities.

Hospital, ASF, Birthing Center, and Abortion Facility – Act 13 Acute Care Assessments

FY21-22 Acute Care Assessments – Through October 6, 2022, the Department transferred $6,379,714.78 (100.31%) in Acute Care Assessments to the Patient Safety Trust Fund. This amount appears to have included some amount of prior year facility arrearages, and the Department may still be receiving late FY21-22 MCARE Acute Care surcharges.

Act 52 Nursing Home Assessments

FY21-22 Nursing Home Assessments - Through August 18, 2022, the Department transferred $1,136,317.25 (99.7%) in Nursing Home Assessments to the Patient Safety Trust Fund. The Department informed the Authority that the FY21-22 Act 52 collections and transfers are complete.

Vendor Contracts

Medstar Health Research Institute (MHRI)

The MHRI contract was fully executed on June 18, 2019, and commenced on July 1, 2019, running for 5 years (including 2 option years) through June 30, 2024. The total 5-year MHRI contract value was set at $3,419,185.

MHRI submitted FY19-20 invoices from July 2019 through June 2020 totaling $571,359. MHRI ended FY19-20 (PY1) with a budget surplus of $86,770, 13.2%.

A Change Order (CO) was agreed upon between the Authority and MHRI, effective July 1, 2020, reducing the remaining contract value (PY2-5) by $224,105, and reducing the FY20-21 (PY2) budget by a net change of $41,129. The MHRI FY20-21 (PY2) budget under the CO was $617,000, averaging $51,417/mo.

MHRI submitted invoices in FY20-21 (PY2) from July 2020 through June 2021 totaling $458,559 and completed PY2 $158,441 under the CO budget, resulting in a 24-month budget surplus of $245,211.

At its September 2021 meeting, the Board approved the exercise of the MHRI 2-year option extension covering FY22-23 and FY23-24 (PY4-5). MHRI was notified by the Executive Director of this extension.

A second MHRI Change Order (CO2) was entered on September 27, 2021, to establish standard job categories and role descriptions with consistent hourly rates for MHRI staff performing work in accordance with the contract. Hourly rates will remain the same for the Principal Investigator and Sr. Physician through the end of the contract. Hourly rates will increase by 3% on July 1 each year through the end of the contract for all other job categories. The annual total budget amounts agreed to in the Change Order dated July 1, 2020, remain unchanged.

MHRI submitted invoices in FY21-22 (PY3) from July 2021 through June 2022 totaling $609,434 and completed PY3 $18,906 under budget, resulting in a 36-month budget surplus of $264,116.

MHRI has thus far submitted invoices in FY22-23 (PY4) from July 2022 through October 2022 totaling $186,868, and is currently $26,4346 under budget for PY4, resulting in a 40-month budget surplus of $290,550.

Gainwell Technologies LLC, previously DXC MS LLC (Gainwell)

The DXC/Gainwell contract was fully executed on June 18, 2019, and commenced on July 1, 2019, running for 5 years (the final 2 being option years) through June 30, 2024. The total 5-year DXC/Gainwell contract value is $7,071,540.

Through October 2022, PSA approved invoices from DXC/Gainwell totaling $4,134,742 covering the first 40-months activity under this agreement, resulting in a budget surplus of $432,989 thus far under the contract.

On July 1, 2020, DXC Technology Service LLC's State and Local Healthcare and Human Services (S&L HHS) division was spun-off and named DXC MS LLC. This occurred in anticipation of the sale of DXC MS LLC to Veritas Capital, a NY-based private equity firm. The Executive Director's approval of the assignment of PSA's DXC Technology Services LLC contract to DXC MS LLC was given after several meetings with representatives from DXC Technology, DXC MS, and Veritas Capital. The Authority, under Mr. Akers counsel, received assurances that the DXC contract commitments will continue under DXC MS LLC and Veritas Capital, and that the Authority's DXC staff will remain in place.

On October 1, 2020, DXC MS LLC became a wholly owned subsidiary of the newly formed Gainwell Technologies, a holding of Veritas Capital. DXC is now referred to as Gainwell.

At its September 2021 meeting, the Board approved the exercise of the Gainwell 2-year option extension covering FY22-23 and FY23-24 (PY4-5). Gainwell was notified by the Executive Director of the extension.