Data Governance: Essential for Timely Decisions in an Era of Changing Social Policy

Getting Ready for Data Governance: Foundations and Decision Points

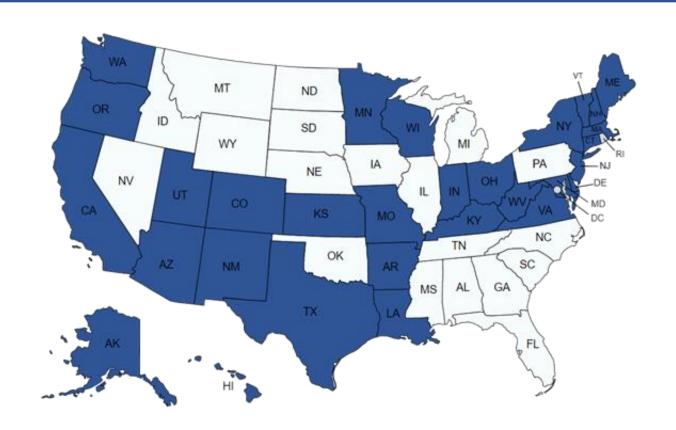
Jonathan Mathieu, PhD Senior Consultant

Elizabeth Koonce, MPH Cross Team Project Manager



About Freedman HealthCare

- Founded in 2005
- Focus on state and nonprofit health data initiatives
- Experienced APCD managers and data scientists
- APCD and health data lifecycle expertise:
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Statutes & rules
 - Data Management Vendor SOWs
 - Quality & validation
 - Analytics & reporting
 - Access & use policies
 - Funding & sustainability



FHC has experience in more than 30 states

FHC Team



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Agenda



Data Governance & why it matters

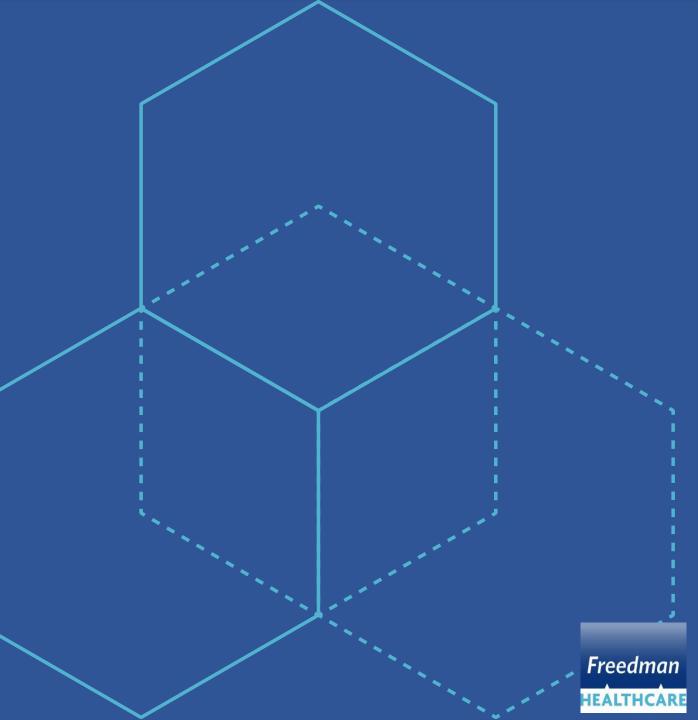


Elements of an effective approach

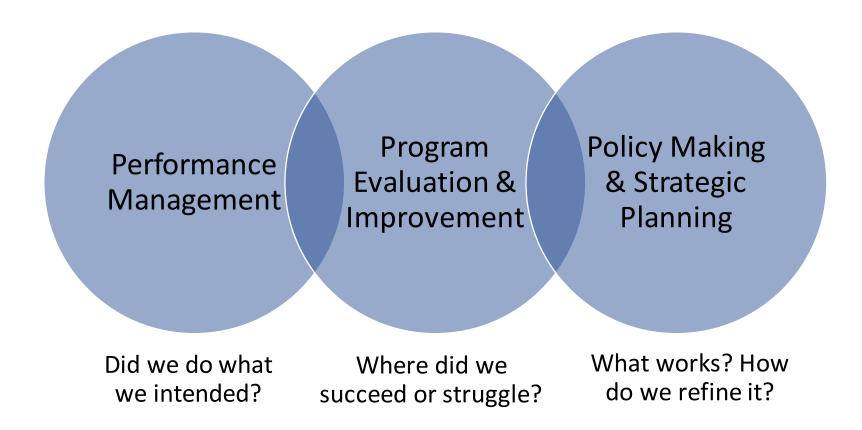


Guiding principles & lessons learned

Data Governance & Why It Matters



Key Questions for Every Agency



Your answers are only as good as your data.

Good governance leads to useful data and meaningful answers.

Useful data is...

High quality (accurate, complete)



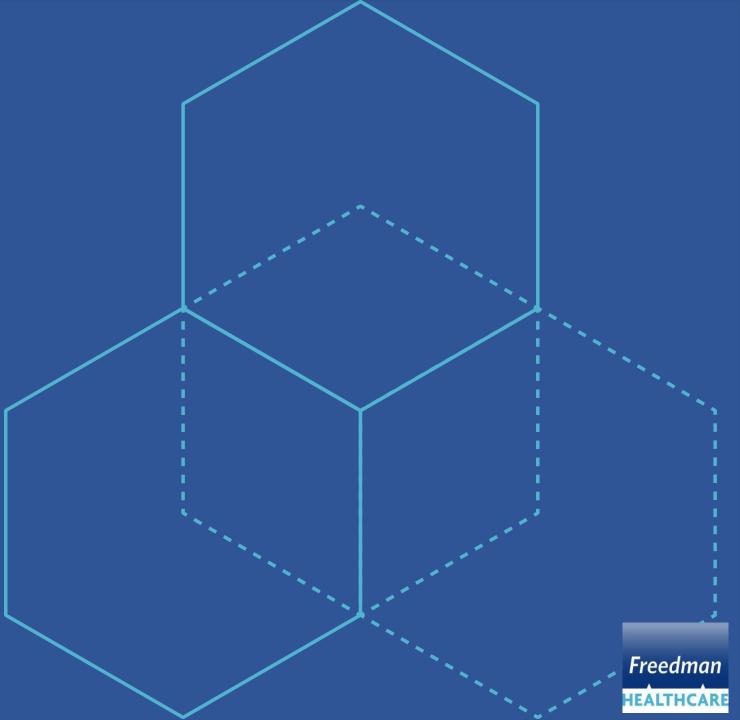
Convenient, timely, relevant



Low risk (private, secure, compliant)

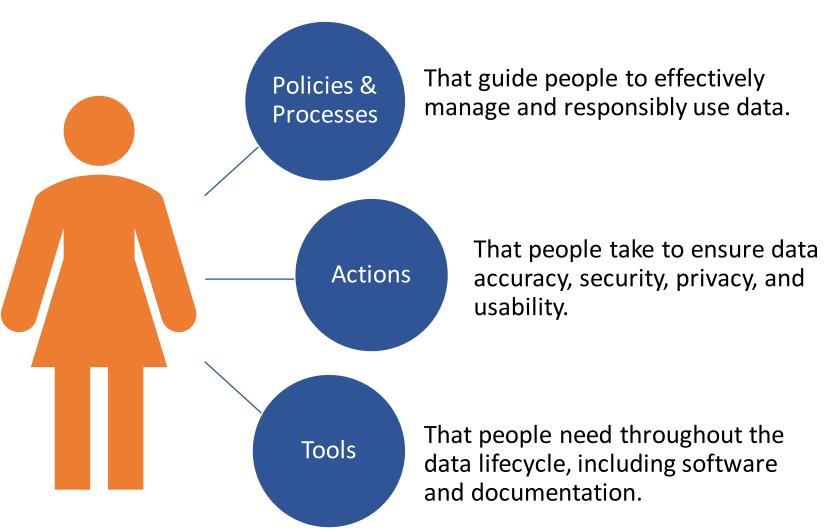


Untangling the Terminology



What *IS* Data Governance?

Data
Governance is
about people,
not (just)
technology.



Data Governance Lifecycle

Data Intake

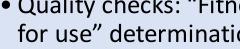
- Standardization: File formats, data fields, and definitions
- Quality checks: Focus on accuracy & completeness
- Timeliness: Fix problems early to avoid delays/lag

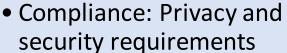
Data Processing

- Enhancements for usability
- Quality checks: "Fitness for use" determination
- security requirements

Data Use

- Policies: What data is available, for what uses, by whom
- Procedures: Data access request and approval
- Terms & conditions for data use

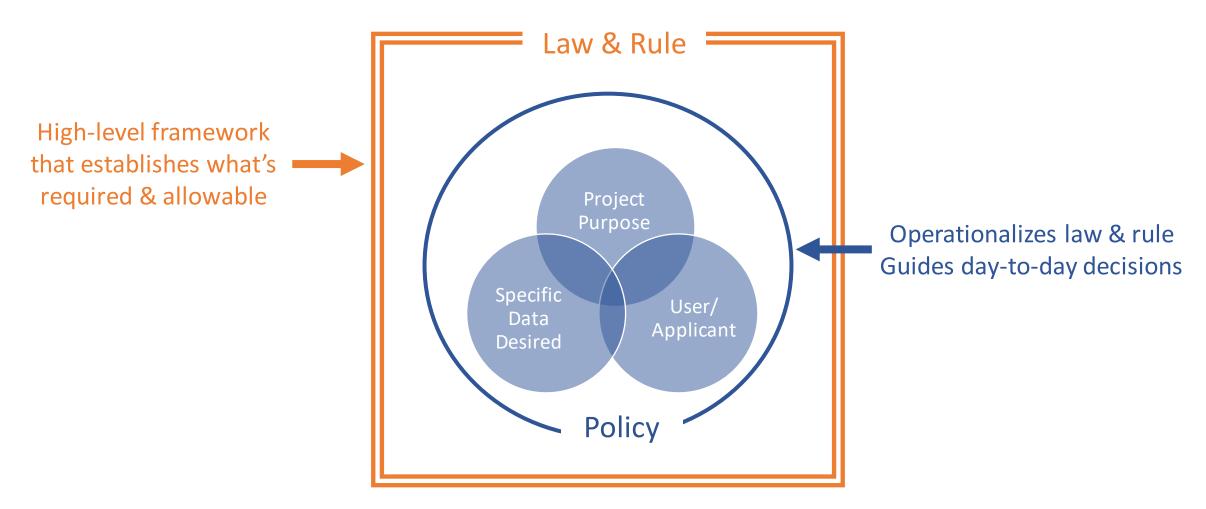






Documentation

Law, Rule & Policy – Data Use Example



Policies vs. Procedures

Policies

Operationalize law & rule

Change infrequently

Address who, what, when, and why

Broad in scope

Agency-level

Procedures

Implement policies

Continuously evolving

Address who, what, when, and <u>how</u>

Narrow, detailed in scope

Task-specific

VS.

Policies vs. Procedures – Data Use Example

Policies

Who can use the data

For what purposes

Under what conditions

How can results be shared

Procedures

Data request process

Internal application review

External committee review

Request fulfillment

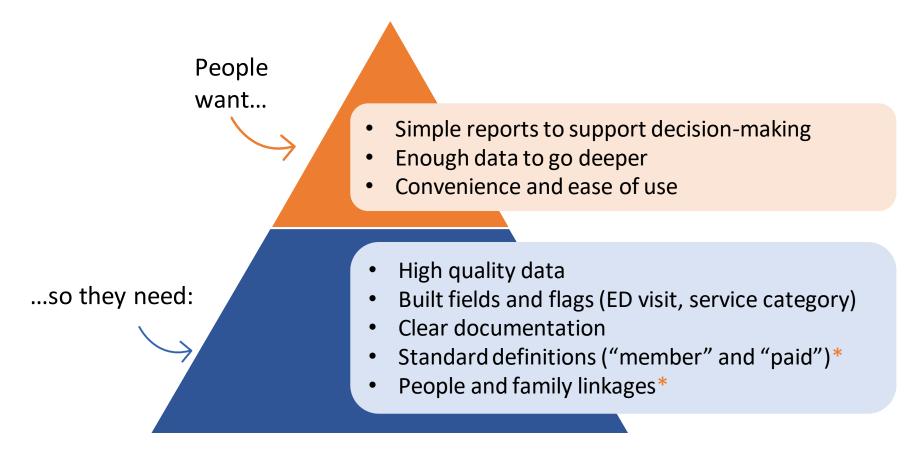
Project close-out

VS.

Elements of an Effective Approach



Build a Strong Foundation



*Across multi-agency integrated data systems

Start Small





What are you already doing that you can codify?

Formalize

What is the <u>most</u> important question/problem?

Choose a Use Case

What is the next priority?

Refine and Expand

Continuous Stakeholder Engagement

Engage Stakeholders – Outreach

Ongoing communication is essential to encourage participation and promote buy-in.



Program Champions

Promote initiative

Make initial decisions



Data Owners

What is their view on the current state?

What are their concerns about sharing

data?



Data Users

What are their pain points? What is needed to do their jobs more effectively?



Internal Experts

Who has expertise on specific topics? Would they contribute to draft policies, procedures, and documentation?

Engage Stakeholders – Buy-In









Begin Internally

1



What can be improved in your agency?

- Better data quality?
- Clearer documentation?
- Streamlined access/use processes?

2



Develop flexible policies & procedures with an eye towards future expansion

3



20

Create uniform legal agreements & templates whenever possible

Slowly Build Partnerships and Trust

Obtain explicit permission to use and share data

Involve partner agencies in all decision-making processes

Reiterate that all levels of engagement are welcome

Emphasize mutual benefits

Data from each agency must be documented, standardized, and controlled.

All partner agencies and the system itself should align under a comprehensive framework that is streamlined and scalable.



Lessons Learned

Your approach must be informed by agency needs, priorities, and current state.

One size doesn't fit all



This is an ongoing effort, not a one-off. Iterate and improve.

It's a program, not a project



A modest start and steady progress will get results.

Go slow to go fast



Don't let perfect be the enemy of good.

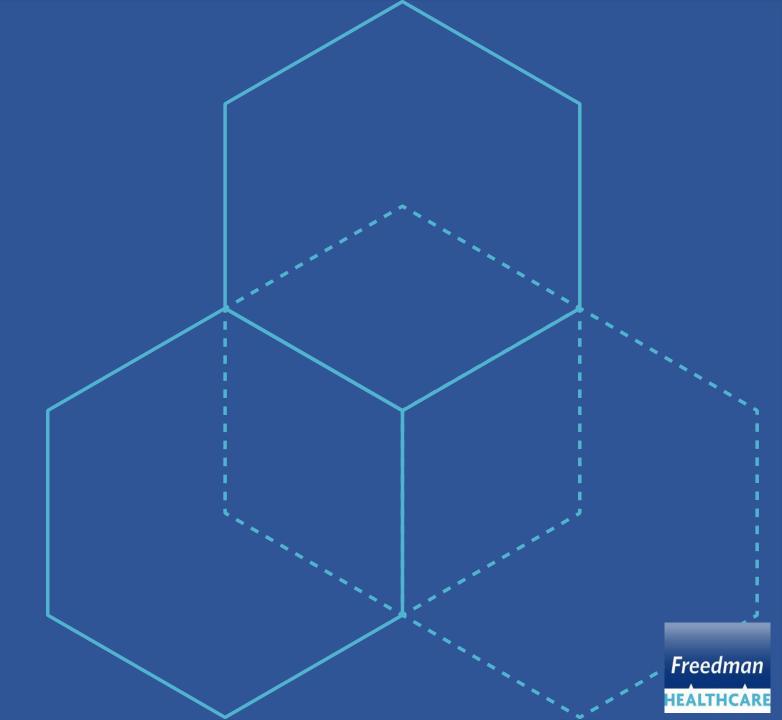
Upcoming Webinars in this Series

Date	Topic
May 24	Data Governance is About People: Essential Roles & Responsibilities
June 28	Rules of the Road for Data Use: How to Maximize Value & Manage Risk
July 26	A Plan for the Future: Considerations for Growth & Securing Federal Funding

Register at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN d-sofKILR1m5jM6IRc41Cg

Watch for our follow-up email with slides and registration information. Materials will also be available on the FHC website after each session.

Questions?



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