WorldVistA Organization and Governance

WorldVistA
www.worldvista.org

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WorldVistA Organization and Governance

- Mission

- Goals

- Objectives

- Structure

WorldVistA Mission

"to improve healthcare worldwide by making medical information technology better and universally affordable"

WorldVistA Goals

- to establish and provide ongoing coordination of a Worldwide collaborative, open-source development of the ***WorldVistA EHR***

- to bring about the widest possible use of ***WorldVistA EHR*** throughout the world.

WorldVistA Objectives

- Software development

- Business development

- Community development

Software Development: objectives

- Specify and publish the framework of technical standards, administrative processes and licensing required to ensure a coherent development of a single code base

- Provide and manage a software lifecycle, integration and release facility to enable and ensure:
  - Incremental, open collaborative development
  - Conformance with WorldVistA EHR technical architecture
  - Software subject to recognized software quality management standards.
  - Compliance with international medical informatics standards in respect to data syntax, semantics and exchange, coding systems, and interoperability.
  - Compatibility between the *WorldVistA EHR* and VA VistA (as long as this provides benefits to both organisations)

- Initiate and coordinate development projects

- Provide central technical support (levels 4 and 5) to WorldVistA users worldwide

Business Development: objectives

- Raise the profile of WorldVistA among governmental & intergovernmental organizations and healthcare providers

- Establishing partnerships with healthcare providers of different types in different parts of the World

- Establish reference implementations for prospective and new adopters of *WorldVistA EHR*

- Establish links to Universities and other educational establishments .

- Maintain the WorldVista Web site as the "shop window" for the organization.

- Implement an accreditation scheme for companies supplying WorldVistA EHR services.

- Increase funding stream

Membership Development: objectives

- Increase membership of WorldVistA

- Increasing the pool of **_WorldVistA EHR_** technical experts:
  - Make training material and expert advise easily accessible.
  - Develop a training and certification scheme for WorldVistA EHR developers

- Encourage establishment of Regional Chapters

- Support WorldVistA community:
  - Organize community meetings
  - Provide for discussion groups and forums
  - Maintain the website as the focal point for WorldVistA members activities.

WorldVistA Structure

Articles of incorporation specify:

- Membership
- The Board of Directors
- The Executive Team

Others allowed for

- Committees of the Board
- Advisory Councils
- Working Groups
- Regional Chapters
- Projects

Membership: individual

- Open to everyone: on-line registration

- Annual membership fee – determined by Board

- Rights and services:
  - May also be WorldVistA employees
  - Participation in Members Discussion Groups
  - Serve on the WorldVistA Board
  - Access to and right of comment on all WorldVistA Documents
  - Propose Projects
  - Sit on Advisory Councils.

- Obligations:
  - Accept and act according to the WorldVistA ethical code of conduct
  - Contribute as much as possible to the aims of WorldVistA by sitting on Working Groups, working on Projects and/or donating money.
  - Participate where relevant in the activities of Regional Chapters.

Membership: organizational

- Open to any organizations, commercial or otherwise

- Annual fee – determined by the Board

- Rights and services
  - Acknowledgment on the Web site and elsewhere
  - May be contracted by WorldVistA
  - Send representatives to sit on Advisory Councils
  - Participation in Members Discussion Groups
  - Access to and right of comment on all WorldVistA Documents
  - Propose Projects

- Obligations
  - Accept and act according to the ethical code of conduct
  - Contribute as much as possible to the aims of WorldVistA by donating staff time on Working Groups and Projects, facilities and money.

The Board of Directors

- Made up of members elected by the Board

- Composition, duties and obligations set out in the By-laws:
  - Directors serve without compensation.
  - Responsible for the management and allocation of assets
  - Sets the overall strategic direction and priorities of WorldVistA
  - Delegates decision making to Executive Team
  - Three to eleven members who serve for a fixed two-year term.
  - Elects a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

- Current Board Members:
  - K.S Bhaskar
  - Joseph DalMolin
  - Rick Marshall
  - Gus Landis
  - Maury Pepper (Chairman)
  - Chris Richardson (Secretary)
  - David Whitten (Treasurer)

The Executive Team

- Develops and implements the WorldVistA Operational Plan

- Comprised of:
  - Chief Operating Officer: K.S Bhaskar
  - Chief Technical Officer: Rick Marshall
  - Chief Information Officer: Gus Landis
  - VP Business Development: Joseph Dalmolin
  - VP Membership Development Officer:
  - VP Government Liaison (US): Peter Groen
  - Treasurer: David Whitten.

- Officers may be Directors of WorldVistA, but need not be. All officers are officially vice-presidents of WorldVistA.

- Currently no paid posts, but this is an aspiration

- Establishes Working Groups from among the membership

Advisory Councils (aspirational)

- May be established by the Board from among membership

- For example:

    - Organizational Council
    - Clinical Advisory Council
    - International Advisory Council

- Councils will be self organising within terms of reference provided by the Board.

Working Groups

- Extension of the Management Team.

- Made up of volunteers from the Membership.

- Members of Working Groups are not be paid, but may be reimbursed expenses.

- Currently Working Groups are:
  - Software Development WG, Chair: CTO, Rick Marshall
  - Education and Training WG. Chair: Valerie Harvey
  - FileMan Chair: David Whitten

- Need
  - Business Development WG
  - Community/Membership WG
  - Funding WG

Regional Chapters (aspirational)

Group of WorldVistA members resident within a defined geographic area who work together to promote the use of **WorldVistA EHR** in their Region

- Provide a focus for discussion and mutual support for local users and suppliers.
- Provide Regional representation on Working Groups
- Work with WorldVistA to improve **WorldVistA EHR** skills in the Region
- Seek funding from local or international sources to meet the cost of implementations of **WorldVistA EHR**

Note the area covered by a Chapter is not defined – it could be a single country, a group of countries, or a subdivision of a country

Proposed chapter rules – see Organizational Plan

Project Management (aspirational)

WorldVistA would like development and implementation projects that it sponsors to:

- Be initiated only when resources are identified
- Have defined deliverables, objectives and timescales
- Lead by a Project Manager reporting appropriately.
- Subject to periodic progress review
- Develop Software Products that comply with WorldVistA technical and quality standards
- Implementations in healthcare facilities should follow the WorldVistA Implementation Guidelines

Discussion

- Membership
- Advisory Councils
- Working Groups
- Regional Chapters