

# Helping Achieve Quality Care for Children in Foster Care

IDENTITY, a SaaS application, displays up-to-date health information that is **extracted near-real time** from a hospital's Electronic Health Record (EHR) and matched with information from the child welfare system, known in most states as the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS).

The proprietary deterministic matching technology is a solution to a large gap in information that currently exists between healthcare and child welfare agencies.



# Fractured System within Foster Care

Today, nearly half a million children are in protective custody and at high risk of suffering from emotional, behavioral, medical, and dental problems. Healthcare providers and child welfare caseworkers use different methods and technologies to store medical or case records. Information is often lost or inaccessible, leading to information disparities that are unique to foster care.

A team of leading researchers and physicians at Cincinnati Children's worked with Hamilton County Job and Family Services to close the gap in information and remove technical barriers. This led to the development of IDENTITY.

### Caseworker and Child Welfare Impact

#### **Prior to IDENTITY:**

- Paperwork and waiting for weeks
- Time consumed finding needed information in potentially hundreds of pages of scanned medical records
- Out of date information as soon as it is received
- Difficulty sharing information with caregivers

#### **Post IDENTITY Implementation:**

- Estimated 83 minutes saved per child in information gathering
- Youth available in IDENTITY within about 24 hours of entering custody
- Easy discovery of and access to needed health information
- Ability to fully inform caregivers of complex needs
- Seamless transition of care during placement changes

# **Healthcare System Impact**

#### **Information Gathering and Billing:**

- Estimated 53 minutes in pre-visit information gathering saved per new patient seen at a foster care clinic
- Estimated 10 minutes saved per patient in information gathering during clinic visits
- Complete, accurate information regarding child welfare history
- \$683 reduction in uncompensated care per patient

# Promise of Future Improvements in Child Wellbeing:

- 44% Increase in completion of mandated healthcare visits
- Improved attendance at scheduled appointments
- Reduction in placement disruptions resulting from unknown health information

#### Feedback from IDENTITY Users

"It has made getting information smoother & easier."

"It has been very helpful to know the clinic information." "It has added a positive outcome to our productivity."

"It is very easy to use. It is user friendly and easy to navigate." "It's nice that it's just one system that we can go into to access everything."