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**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ**  
**OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES | KE'ENA HO'OLANA 'ENEHANA**  
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May 7, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
and Members of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha Senate President Kouchi, House Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

Pursuant to HRS section 27-43.6, which requires the Chief Information Officer to submit applicable independent verification and validation (IV&V) reports to the Legislature within ten days of receiving the report, please find attached the report the Office of Enterprise Technology Services received for the State of Hawai'i, Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services Branch, HI-THRIVE Modernization Project.

In accordance with HRS section 93-16, this report may be viewed electronically at <http://ets.hawaii.gov> (see "Reports").

Sincerely,

Christine M. Sakuda  
Chief Information Officer  
State of Hawai'i

Attachments (2)



# HI THRIVE IV&V MONTHLY STATUS DASHBOARD

## January 2025

### IV&V Monthly Executive Summary

This IV&V Monthly Activity Report (MAR) covers the January 01 – 31 2025 reporting period.

January 2025 IV&V Summary

- Technical Project Management IV&V Focus Area maintains RED for this period due to lack of an approved Project Schedule. The HI THRIVE PMO is reporting RED for January Monthly Schedule Scorecard as well.
- The Support Focus Area maintains YELLOW due to poor deliverable quality and multiple SI Vendor Deliverable rejections during January. The HI THRIVE PMO is reporting YELLOW for January Monthly Quality Scorecard as well.
- All other IV&V Focus Areas are Blue for not enough data to report.

#### IV&V Observations:

- No new Active Observations for the January reporting period.
- One existing High Observation and two existing Low Observations.

During the January 2025 reporting period IV&V continued Vendor Deliverable artifact review and collaborative involvement with the HI THRIVE PMO. The IV&V team has continued to observe acceptable Vendor management practices from the HI THRIVE PMO and acceptable processes for associated project management tasks. Even with the HI THRIVE PMO performing adequate Vendor Performance Management processes the SI Vendor has not been able to consistently provide acceptable quality Deliverables, directly contributing to the degraded Project Health Quality indicators.

The SI Vendor has continued the development and updates of contract defined deliverables through the reporting period and the IV&V and HI THRIVE Teams have provided adequate assessments to quality and conformity of those deliverables to contract and best practices. The results of the artifact reviews have continued to demonstrate that Vendor deliverable submissions do not meet expected levels of quality or conformity to contract expectations. IV&V has observed that the HI THRIVE PMO is consistently providing appropriate feedback to the Vendor for improvement of timing and quality of deliverables, including Controlled Correspondence for performance improvement. Contributing factors to the lack of deliverable quality can be attributed to misunderstandings by the Vendor on contract deliverable definitions and HI THRIVE deliverable expectations. IV&V has developed an observation on contract language disagreements and acknowledges that the HI THRIVE PMO is working internally with Stakeholders to manage this item to closure.

IV&V has continued to observe Vendor project activities fall behind dates that were planned/proposed at the execution of the project. The HI THRIVE CCWS Project continues to not have an approved SI-5 Project Work Plan and Schedule, five months after contract execution. IV&V acknowledges that the HI THRIVE PMO is actively working with the Vendor to achieve approval of the schedule and a version 6 of the SI-5 deliverable is currently under review by the team. The development and acceptance of multiple SI Vendor and IV&V deliverables are tied to an approved SI-5 Vendor schedule and are subsequently delayed day for day until approval is achieved. IV&V believes that a significant risk to the HI THRIVE PMO's ability to plan resources, assess project health, and assess viability of planned Go-Live dates exists without an actionable approved schedule in place. To reflect the severity of this issue, the HI THRIVE PMO has escalated the former IV&V issue related to the project operating without an approved schedule to a Project Level Issue.

IV&V is currently unable to contractually develop an IVV.4 IV&V Initial Report with baseline quality, schedule, and other health metrics without an approved schedule. IV&V is contractually unable to develop an IVV.1 IV&V Management Plan and Schedule without an approved Vendor schedule. As a result, without the baseline health metrics from the Initial Report the following monthly report does not include objective project health metrics. IV&V anticipates an approved SI-5 Vendor Project Schedule in the February reporting period and subsequently an approved IVV.1 Management Plan and IVV.4 Initial Report in the March 2025 reporting period.

The HI THRIVE PMO and the IV&V Team are continuing to collaborate on the improvement and increase in rigor of existing Project Management Office processes and reporting to ensure that adequate controls and measurements are in place and understood by all project participants to improve opportunities for project success.

IV&V will continue monitoring SI Vendor artifact quality and conformance to contract and best practices in the February 2025 reporting period.

### IV&V Active Observations Summary

IV&V Observation Number	Observation Title	IV&V Recommendation	Priority	Observation Type	Status	Date Identified
2.5.1	HI THRIVE PMO Project Management Processes (Risk, Issue, Deliverable etc) may need refinement to conform to best practices and ensure appropriate level of rigor.	"Recommendation 2.5.1.1 IV&V recommends that the HI THRIVE PMO develop more robust and mature processes for project management that includes criteria for risks/issues and project performance related to project-wide management."	Low	Risk	In Progress	11/01/24
2.04	Incomplete Meeting Minutes Documentation	" The IV&V team recommends implementing the following measures to improve the quality of meeting minutes: Recommendation 2.0.4.1 Comprehensive Decision and Action Item Tracking: Ensure that all decisions and action items discussed during the meeting are explicitly recorded in the minutes, including assigned owners, due dates, and next steps.  Recommendation 2.0.4.2 Meeting-Specific Descriptions: Write unique and concise descriptions for each meeting that clearly state its purpose, agenda, and expected outcomes, avoiding repetitive content from previous minutes.  Recommendation 2.0.4.3 Validation Process: Establish a validation process where meeting participants review meeting minutes to ensure accuracy and completeness before finalization. "	Low	Issue	Open	12/01/24
1.1.3	Project Operating without an approved schedule	Recommendation 1.1.3.1 IV&V Recommends PMO establish a hard-date and communicate to the Vendor when the schedule must be approved or the Vendor will receive performance management actions or a Corrective Action Plan in accordance with the applicable conditions in the Vendor contract.  Recommendation 1.1.3.2 IV&V Recommends the HI THRIVE Team elevate this IV&V Risk to a Project Issue.	High	Issue	Open	12/01/24

### Project and Focus Area Health Summary

This area provides spotlight indicators of overall IV&V assessed Project Health and also individual Technical Process Areas that are evaluated by the IV&V Team during the reporting period.

The IV&V Project and Focus Area Health assessments have not formally started, pending the approval of SI-5 Vendor Project Schedule, SI-4 Project Management Plan and the subsequent development of the IVV.1 IV&V Management Plan that documents the metrics, processes, and data used to measure and report on the Project Health attributes. IV&V assumed the SI-5 Vendor Project Schedule would be approved in the December 2024 reporting period, however approval is now estimated in January 2025 and the IVV.1 Management Plan and supporting process approval occurring in February 2025, allowing IV&V to start a baseline Project Health assessment.

IV&V is currently performing a subjective (versus objective) assessment of Health based on the data observed to date, however no defined metrics have been created or approved for review at this time. The project is operating without an approved and actionable Vendor schedule and Vendor deliverables are rejected on a consistent basis due to quality and errors.

### IV&V Monthly Overall Project Health

Overall Project Status	Monthly Budget Health	Monthly Quality Health	Monthly Schedule Health	Monthly Scope Health
<span style="color: yellow;">●</span>	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">●</span>	<span style="color: red;">●</span>	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>

### IV&V Monthly Project Health by Focus Area

IV&V Focus Area	Previous Month's Health	Current Month's Health	Comments
1.0 Technical Project Management	<span style="color: yellow;">●</span>	<span style="color: red;">●</span>	Red due to no approved Vendor Project Schedule.
2.0 Support Process IV&V	<span style="color: green;">●</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">●</span>	Support process area has continued Yellow due to continued rejections of Deliverables.
3.0 Solution Architecture	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	
4.0 Continuous Delivery	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	
5.0 Product Increment Planning	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	
6.0 Development IV&V	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	
7.0 Implementation IV&V	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	
8.0 Project Closure	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	<span style="color: blue;">●</span>	

### IV&V Monthly Project Health Legend

GREEN	YELLOW	RED	BLUE
Satisfactory – No corrective actions necessary. All life cycle activities conform to requirements. Implemented processes are satisfactory. Risks or issues may exist and contain appropriate mitigation or resolution steps and the project is adequately addressing them. The current technical risk to the project and software quality is low. <10% Variance	Caution – There may be a need for corrective action now or quite soon. Some life cycle activities are not in alignment with requirements. Some processes may require process improvements. Risks or issues are often not identified or contain stale mitigation or resolution steps. The current technical risk to the project and software quality is moderate. > 10% and < 20% Variance	Critical – Escalated for immediate action. Many life cycle activities are not in alignment with requirements. Many processes require corrective action. Risk mitigation is not effective, or issue resolution is not timely. Critical processes are not effective and are resulting in delays or rework. The current technical risk to the project and software quality is significant. >20% Variance	Not enough data is available to make a determination about project health.

## Observations Active During Reporting Period

This section provides detail on all IV&V Observations that were opened, closed, or active and their type Risk, Issue, or Neutral.

IV&V Observations Active During the Month							
Observation Title	IV&V Observation Description	IV&V Impact Description	IV&V Recommendation	IV&V Ongoing Update	State Initial Response	Observation Type	Priority
<p><b>HI THRIVE PMO Project Management Processes (Risk, Issue, Deliverable etc) may need refinement to conform to best practices and ensure appropriate level of rigor.</b></p>	<p>"Observation 2,5,1 The Project, Risk, Issue, and other Plans do not have the detail of processes or activities that are necessary for managing risks and issues in a complex development project. The existing "plans" are more of an instruction for forms for reporting individual risks and issues.</p> <p>IV&amp;V observes that there are some references to risk and issue management steps in the Communications Plan, there is not a clear link between those steps and the instructions for the associated forms and also the Project Management Plan, successful risk and issue management in a project the magnitude of HI THRIVE requires a more robust and better documented process."</p>	<p>"Impact 2,5,1 Without more robust and better documented processes related to the Project Management Plan risks/issues and project performance issues may not be identified or addressed in a timely manner."</p>	<p>"Recommendation 2,5,1,1 IV&amp;V recommends that the HI THRIVE PMO develop more robust and mature processes for project management that includes criteria for risks/issues and project performance related to project-wide management."</p>	<p>January Update: IV&amp;V performing review of the existing A-4 etc documents in comparison to the submitted SI-4 etc deliverable along with current project conditions to determine what (if any) updates to HI THRIVE or SI management processes may be recommended.</p> <p>December Update: IV&amp;V and HI THRIVE will table this item until January after the holidays.</p> <p>November Update: IV&amp;V met with the HI Thrive Team on November 21, 2024 to discuss IV&amp;V Observations and the Limited HI THRIVE Risk and Issue Management Processes. IV&amp;V acknowledged the work that the HI THRIVE Team has invested so far in the PMO Management and Support Processes and described that what was there served as a good baseline but some processes may need additional definition in addition to ensuring that there are clear expectations of what processes the Vendor will develop and/or support.</p> <p>The outcome was to establish a meeting between HI THRIVE and IV&amp;V at a later date after the Thanksgiving holidays to discuss Project Management and Supporting Plans (Risk, Issue, Communication, etc.) and areas that may need either refinement or clarification of Vendor roles in the processes.</p> <p>IV&amp;V will work the HI THRIVE Core Team to determine attendance and timing. IV&amp;V will publish this Observation the November IV&amp;V Report.</p> <p>This is considered by IV&amp;V a low risk item that if not resolved may increase the risk of miscommunication or misidentification of risk/issue trigger events and ownership. IV&amp;V does not believe that the future discussion or implementation of possible process changes would be resource intensive and should reduce resource loading for the PMO team during the life of the project.</p> <p>IV&amp;V working with HI THRIVE PMO to schedule a discussion time for the PMO Plans.</p>	<p>The HI THRIVE team acknowledges the IV&amp;V observation 2.5.1 regarding the Risk and Issue Management Plans and agrees that robust and well-documented processes are critical for effective risk and issue management in a complex IT project such as HI THRIVE (CCWIS). The HI THRIVE core team is committed to [OPTION 2] collaborating with IV&amp;V to further refine and clarify the processes and expectations around risk and issue management, including the roles of the vendor and the State.</p> <p>To that end, the HI THRIVE core team wishes to continue collaboration with IV&amp;V and will facilitate a meeting to review HI THRIVE project artifacts (Risk, Issue, Communication, and other related plans). During this meeting, we will discuss whether additional refinements are needed to ensure these processes sufficiently support the project's success.</p> <p>Michael Armstrong will be facilitating mitigation efforts and response to IV&amp;V Observation 2.0.1, Contract Management and common expectations.</p>	Risk	Low
<p><b>Incomplete Meeting Minutes Documentation</b></p>	<p>"Observation 2,0,4 The CCWIS SI Vendor meeting minutes during December 2024 provided a lack of critical details, including decisions and action items discussed during the meetings. Additionally, the descriptions of the meetings are copied from previous meeting minutes and fail to adequately explain the specific purpose of the meeting, leading to inconsistencies and reduced clarity. This finding was supported by HI CCWIS Contract Template T-6 Requirements Approach and Section 3.1.3 Project Kickoff and Planning 6th paragraph, deliverable SI-8 Meeting Minutes and Recordings, and WBS 1,8,2 Conduct Meeting and Record Minutes. Based on the contract requirements for Meeting Minutes by the Cardinality Vendor IV&amp;V would expect a greater level of detail, traceability, and actionability of items recorded from the Vendor meetings to ensure usability by future readers and value to the State of Hawaii."</p>	<p>"Impact 2,0,4 The incomplete and repetitive nature of the meeting minutes presents several issues: 1. Missed Follow-Up Actions: Key follow-up activities may be overlooked without clear documentation of decisions and action items, delaying progress and reducing accountability. 2. Loss of Traceability: Inadequate documentation of meeting outcomes diminishes the ability to track decisions and their impact on project objectives. 3. Stakeholder Confusion: Stakeholders may struggle to understand the context and objectives of the meetings, leading to misalignment and ineffective participation in future discussions. 4. Reduced Documentation Value: Repetitive and generic descriptions undermine the utility of meeting minutes as a reference for project planning and execution."</p>	<p>* The IV&amp;V team recommends implementing the following measures to improve the quality of meeting minutes: Recommendation 2,0,4,1 Comprehensive Decision and Action Item Tracking: Ensure that all decisions and action items discussed during the meeting are explicitly recorded in the minutes, including assigned owners, due dates, and next steps.</p> <p>Recommendation 2,0,4,2 Meeting-Specific Descriptions: Write unique and concise descriptions for each meeting that clearly state its purpose, agenda, and expected outcomes, avoiding repetitive content from previous minutes.</p> <p>Recommendation 2,0,4,3 Validation Process: Establish a validation process where meeting participants review meeting minutes to ensure accuracy and completeness before finalization."</p>	<p>January IV&amp;V Update: IV&amp;V reviewing submitted minutes and documentation for improvement and will continue analysis through February.</p> <p>No updates for December,</p>	<p>Agree and State will mitigate (open). The HI THRIVE team acknowledges IV&amp;V Observation 2,0,4 regarding the incomplete and repetitive nature of meeting minutes and agrees that clear, detailed, and actionable meeting documentation is essential for the success of the HI THRIVE project. The HI THRIVE core team is committed to addressing this observation by implementing the recommended measures to improve the quality and usability of meeting minutes.</p> <p>The HI THRIVE PM will facilitate the mitigation efforts and lead the implementation of these process improvements. The HI THRIVE team will take the following next steps: -The HI THRIVE team will formally communicate with the technical vendor in email, outlining the recommendations from IV&amp;V.</p> <p>-At the end of the month (Jan), the HI THRIVE project team will conduct a review of meeting minutes to assess progress in addressing the IV&amp;V recommendations. This review will also help determine if a risk should be raised at the project level due to any ongoing deficiencies or gaps.</p>	Issue	Low
<p><b>Project Operating without an approved schedule</b></p>	<p>"Original Observation 1,1,3 HI THRIVE Project does not have an approved SI-5 Schedule and Work Plan. Contract execution was 9/1/24, current date without schedule 12/31: approximately 4 months without a defined plan for project execution, resource planning, or metrics on schedule performance of vendor is not acceptable project best practice.</p> <p>Not having an approved schedule 5 months after the start of the project creates situation where there is insufficient data to determine when future tasks will start, complete, and ultimately if the Go-Live is at risk due to no schedule.</p> <p>The Vendor has submitted the schedule multiple times with less than acceptable quality or detail. IV&amp;V has completed review of the current version 5 of the schedule for quality and conformance and has found the</p>	<p>"Impact 1,1,3 Inability to adequately plan future commitments, risk to timely delivery of subsequent deliverables, and/or inability to determine risks to Go-live timing."</p>	<p>Recommendation 1,1,3,1 IV&amp;V Recommends PMO establish a hard-date and communicate to the Vendor when the schedule must be approved or the Vendor will receive performance management actions or a Corrective Action Plan in accordance with the applicable conditions in the Vendor contract.</p> <p>Recommendation 1,1,3,2 IV&amp;V Recommends the HI THRIVE Team elevate this IV&amp;V Risk to a Project Issue.</p>	<p>January IV&amp;V Update: IV&amp;V has observed that the Version 5 SI-5 Schedule was rejected and a subsequent Version 6 is currently under review. The V5 Schedule showed multiple critical Vendor tasks including Go-Live falling outside of the SI Contract timeframe.</p> <p>V6 review so far shows that some previously identified Critical tasks such as Go-Live have been moved to within the SI Contract timeframe, however, there are still tasks and activities that fall outside the SI Contract timeframe: SI-42, SI-43, SI-7, SI-44, SI-45, Warranty Period, SM-1, SM-2</p> <p>The SI has offered a tentative request for a no cost change order to allow for work to be performed outside of the contract period and for payments to occur outside of</p>	<p>Agree and will be managed by State Issue (closes, with reference to Risk/Issue) The HI THRIVE team acknowledges IV&amp;V Observation 1,1,3 regarding the lack of an approved SI-5 Schedule and Work Plan and agrees that this situation presents significant risks to the overall health of the project, including the Go-Live timeline. The State agrees with the validity of this observation and accepts IV&amp;V's recommendations.</p> <p>The HI THRIVE PM will oversee these efforts to ensure prompt resolution. The HI THRIVE team will take the following next steps:  To address this observation Risk 37 has been deemed a project-level issue, Issue-8, and will remain focused on the quality and professionalism of vendor deliverables, while a new Issue, Issue-9, will be created per the observation, to address the</p>	Issue	High



